



The Mission of Patrick: The Fullness of the Gospel

America is at the tipping point between the two major conflicting law systems of men and nations: King's or Ruler's Law and God's Law. America was founded upon a simple and yet profoundly effective infrastructure built upon voluntary obedience to God's Law. The result was blessing, prosperity and personal liberty as the world had never before experienced. Taxes were low, laws were few and life and charity were focused at the family and community level.

But the past few generations have been seduced back toward the oppressive, top-down "Ruler's Law" which has dominated most nations of the world. This system always enslaves a people through an elaborate network of bureaucracy and statutory law, eventually leaving them dependent upon government for everything. The rulers often make god-like promises, often exempting themselves from their own onerous laws and taxes. The answer to this

juggernaut of Ruler's Law has always been the same throughout history. The story of the rise of liberty has been often repeated for two millennia. First, a people find themselves in misery under the strong arm of their government. Then God raises up a small minority, sometimes one individual, who rediscovers that the only source of liberty is God and His Word. Working together with God, they then proceed to liberate millions with His truth.



Be encouraged that we can restore our nation against all odds! There is no better place to start to see what can be done than to track the impact of early believers as they faced the cruelty of Rome on the one hand and the anarchy and barbarity of the pagan tribes

of Europe on the other.

Photo: Old Dunlewy Church at the foot of Errigal Mountain, Ireland

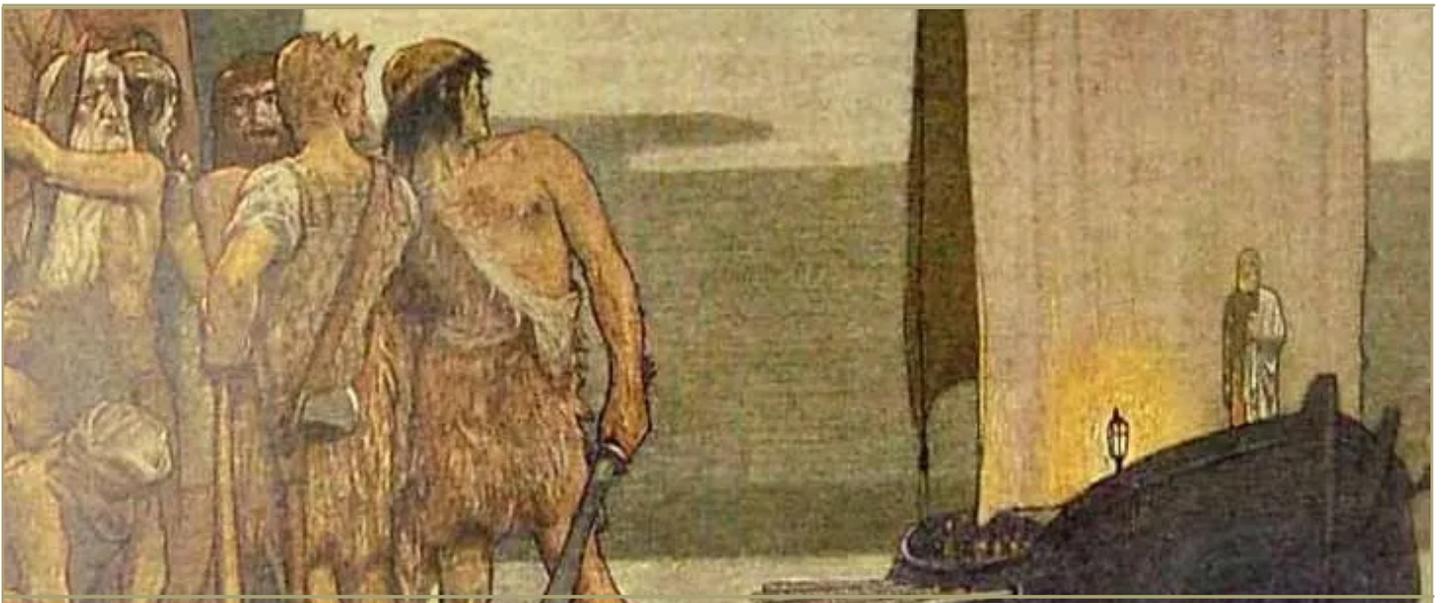
"The greatest works are done by the ones. The hundreds do not often do much, the companies never; it is the units, the single individuals, that are the power and the might."

Charles Spurgeon

THE MISSION OF PATRICK

WORLD HISTORY INSTITUTE

Journal No. 2 | 2024



THE LANDING OF SAINT PATRICK IN IRELAND

Frederick Cayley Robinson

These fearless individuals, armed with the Gospel, ultimately outlasted and defeated the Roman Empire and laid the foundations for Western Civilization. They turned the world upside-down by following their Lord's strategy of servant leadership [Matt. 20:25]. They started by first living out God's Law in their homes, businesses and church fellowships. Then they extended charity in many ways, including feeding the poor and saving abandoned babies, left to die. They evangelized the unbelievers, and established God's Law as the basis for all of their societal institutions.

In the first century, when these believers arrived in England to evangelize the Celtic people, England was still a Roman colony. Over time, Rome and its Ruler's Law crumbled and the Roman legions left England. But the Celtic believers continued to follow the laws of the Scripture to create a simple, fair legal system and societal structure. These English believers followed this biblical infrastructure to progressively displace the pagan traditions of the Celtic clans and the

heavy-handed tyranny of the Roman Empire.

In the fourth century, pagan Druid pirates from Ireland raided a village of Celtic Christians in Scotland. They captured a sixteen year-old boy named Patrick. Patrick became a slave who tended sheep for a cruel Druid chieftain in the frozen fields of Northern Ireland for six years. The boy, who was a near atheist when he was captured, cried out to God in his despair. He prayed over one hundred times, both day and night. He grew close to Christ in his suffering. Patrick became repulsed by the witchcraft and human sacrifice of the Druid priests. Eventually, God provided an escape back to England where he prepared for the ministry.

Three decades later, Patrick returned to evangelize the lost people of Ireland who had enslaved him. His fearless courage and faith in Christ impressed the king so greatly that he was given free passage to minister throughout the island.

REBUILDING NATIONS

Patrick converted and baptized over 120,000 Irish people and planted 300 churches. He led in the conversion of the nation of Ireland to Christianity without bloodshed. Patrick was the first well-known figure in history to condemn slavery as evil. He abolished the slave trade in Ireland.

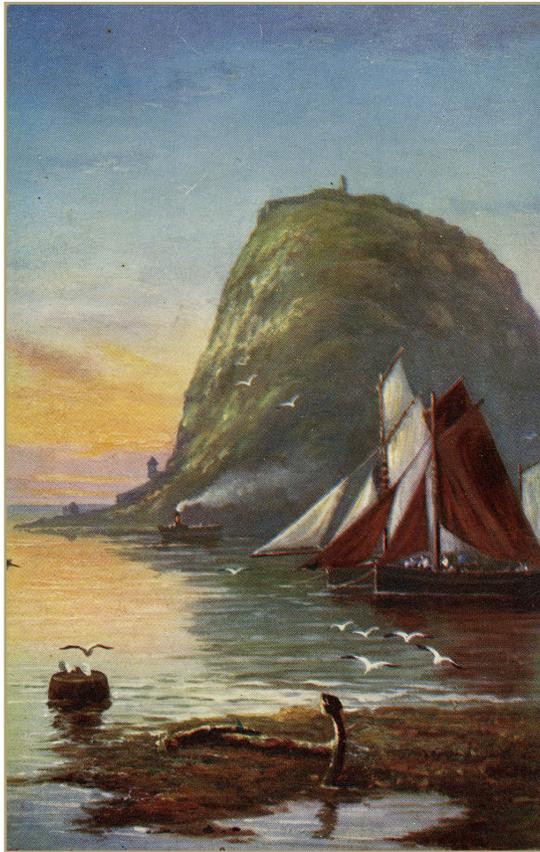
Wherever he set up a church, he left them with the books of the Law of Moses, along with the books of the Gospel.

The decentralized, God-centered life of the Christian Celtic peoples avoided hierarchy and gave glory to God.

What was the result of Celtic Christianity in the British Isles? The Irish, who had been barbarians controlled by Druid priests, now became Christians. The Scottish, English and Irish believers became the founders and evangelists for the early development of the Christian world. For the first time since ancient Israel, the following became the law of the land, which was accomplished with few laws: civility, charity, monogamous marriage, successful family life, limited civil government, limitation on the power of kings, private property rights, the development of learning and the publication and preservation of the books of antiquity. Could God and His people rebuild nations

today as He did then? Of course! In fact, He did it again and again through the centuries with Alfred the Great, William Wallace, John Knox, John Calvin, the Pilgrims, America's Founders and others.

May we be encouraged that if God can use a formerly unbelieving, teenage slave to bring liberty and civilization to the barbarous Irish, He can use us to restore liberty to the most well established Christian nation in history.



Abraham Kuyper was the Christian prime minister of Holland in the 1890's and led the revival of that nation, which had been mired in skepticism and modernism. He left us this challenge: **“When principles that run against your deepest convictions begin to win the day, then battle is your calling, and peace has become sin; you must, at the price of dearest peace, lay your convictions bare before friend and enemy, with all the fire of your faith.”** Let's do it!

-Dr. Marshall Foster (1945-2022)

*Photo: Dumbarton Castle
- Raphael Tuck & Sons*

“Let us stand fast in what is right and prepare ourselves for trial. Let us neither be dogs that do not bark, nor silent onlookers, nor paid servants who run away before the wolf. Instead, where the battle rages, let us find ourselves. Run towards the roar of the lion! Run towards the roar of battle! That is where Christ's most glorious victories shall be won!”

- Boniface 675-754
