

Link digest

By [Steve Thorngate](#)

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State budget issues aren't about a bunch of different things getting too expensive. They're about [health care costs](#).

The budget solution is [simple, just, and politically impossible](#).

The labor gap among voters is [as big as the God gap](#)--and the race gap remains much bigger.

This just in: political liberals who look to scripture [are heretics](#).

[Rodney King, 20 years later](#).

The 8-1 ruling on Westboro Baptist offers Adam Serwer evidence that Justice Alito is ["wrong, but sweet."](#)

Here's a [revisionist defense](#), in light of Mideast turmoil, of the U.S. invasion of Iraq. As if that war was all about establishing democracy—and as if it was a great success.

The U.S. lost its [last World War I vet](#) this week.

A peace activist on the need for a [no-fly zone in Libya](#).

The bishops are [urging](#) the Illinois governor to sign the death-penalty repeal into law.

"If you're dying, of course it hurts" -- A [lovely article](#) that captures the day-to-day passion of dying and of accompanying a loved one on the journey.

Nice gesture from the pope, but his explanation of John's gospel is [unsatisfying](#).

A [thoughtful defense](#) of online M.Div. coursework.

Did Huckabee [really misspeak](#) in his birther moment?

What will it take for Newt to lose his [unearned reputation](#) as a deep thinker?

Where CBS apparently [draws the line](#) for Charlie Sheen.