

The most-read In the World posts

December 29, 2014

Here are Steve Thorngate's most-read posts of the year:

- 1) **[Is this church attendance study all bad news?](#)** Commitments can wane, but they can also change form.
- 2) **[On White House press releases and being a Magnificat Christian.](#)** Shortly after the election, someone asked me if I was more of a John 3:16 Christian or a Matthew 25 Christian. I'm both, and neither.
- 3) **[Ugh, Christian wedding mills.](#)** This does more to undermine Christian marriage than gays and lesbians could ever do even if they were trying to.
- 4) **[A primetime TV character thumps the *Book of Common Prayer*.](#)** It would have been epic TV if the protester had crafted his taunt in collect form.
- 5) **[That word "Bible-minded."](#)** Who is more Bible minded? I'd say that's a complicated question, and not a very useful one. The Barna Group disagrees on both points.
- 6) **[How Ken Ham's mind hasn't changed.](#)** No one is ever going to convince him to understand the Bible differently? Not new information, experience, or even revelation?
- 7) **[Day by day, Hour by Hour.](#)** If some Job-like tragedy wiped out all but one brother, he'd still show up for the Divine Office that day, singing antiphonally with the cloud of witnesses.
- 8) **[A broad decision or a narrow one?](#)** Is *Hobby Lobby* about freedom of conscience broadly, or just a few contraceptives? It can't really be both.
- 9) **[We mostly like Jews, Catholics, and evangelicals! Do they like us?](#)**
Mainline Protestants aren't necessarily viewed coolly, like atheists and Muslims. We just aren't viewed at all.

- 10) Tolerating Brendan Eich**. It would have been interesting to follow Eich's work leading such a progressive company. Now we'll never know.
- 11) The (slight) Chipotle difference**. Chipotle's scale gives it rare power to move the needle in those ethical-food areas it prioritizes. But that scale also prevents the company from even trying in others.
- 12) How not to act in solidarity with Ferguson**. Show up, ratchet up tensions with police, tangle with local leaders, and insist that the problem at hand is everything everywhere rather than this thing here.
- 13) All together now: The National Day of Prayer Task Force and the National Day of Prayer are not the same thing**. It's not quite fair to *blame* the task force for the fact that *Roll Call* refers to it simply as "the National Day of Prayer." But something tells me they don't mind much.
- 14) In qualified defense of the Gilbert & Sullivan mass**. Probably better not to close a Dylan service with "Most Likely You'll Go Your Way and I'll Go Mine, to Love and to Serve."