

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."