

Oral Presentation – Bob Barney

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today.

I have watched the video produced by the ministers who are today lobbying you to remove the Confederate Statue from the courthouse yard. They want you to remove it because they say that they are offended.

As a Christian there are many things in our society that offend me.

I see moral decay everywhere. We are told that in order to not offend those spreading the immorality that we must be silent.

Have these ministers come together to speak against this immorality?

Public schools are being used to indoctrinate children with all manner of non-Christian ideas.

Have these ministers organized to oppose that?

The 10 commandments are not allowed to be displayed in public places because they are religious

Are these ministers offended by that?

Probably not, because they have bought into the myth about the separation of church and state,

And yet here they are today, religious leaders telling our political leaders that they are offended by a statue that is a memorial to dead Confederate soldiers.

If these ministers were working hard, spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ, they themselves would be offending people every day.

The Bible teaches us that a follower of Christ, preaching the gospel, is going to offend people because the message of the cross is offensive to those who are not saved.

Do these ministers keep their mouths shut because they know the gospel is offensive? Are they prepared to be silent in order to maintain harmony in our society?

How far will these men go in the interest of not being offensive?

In my written presentation to you I show that of the 1,000 Democrats that I surveyed in 2020, 71% do NOT want the Confederate statue removed from the courtyard. 19% said that they wanted it removed, and 9% said that they were undecided.

Are these ministers prepared to offend the 71% who want that statue left alone?

How far have they spread the gospel of statue removing in our county? I called and spoke to 1,000 Democrats. I didn't tell them what to think, I asked them what they thought.

What have these ministers done to "listen" to the people of our county?

What I do know is that these ministers are not telling you the truth. The group of statue removers they represent are NOT even in agreement with each other.

They say they want you to "move" the statue. For many of them that is a lie.

Many of them do not want it "moved", they want it "destroyed".

Why?

Because, they tell us, it is a symbol of racism, hatred and slavery.

Really? Is it?

If that is true why would we want it displayed ANYWHERE?

Are these ministers saying that they will pay the cost of moving this statue to Maple Grove?

Move it to the cemetery and it is only a matter of time before it is vandalized or torn down.

Will the ministers pay to have it repaired if it is vandalized?

Of course not.

These religious leaders want all the taxpayers of Jessamine County to pay so that they are not offended.

My question for the ministers: Will you join me and support a county wide referendum? Put the matter of the statue's removal onto the next election ballot and ask the people what they want.

To the members of the Fiscal Court: I believe that these ministers will not support a referendum because they know they would lose that referendum. And that is why you should ignore their demands.