

November 2021

Dear Friends and Supporters,

You may have heard that Samford University invited Jon Meacham to speak at the Inauguration of Samford's newly elected president, Beck A. Taylor. We learned from several sources that Mr. Meacham is an abortion supporter and has spoken at Planned Parenthood Fund-raising events. We, along with others, questioned the reason that a Christian university would invite a supporter of abortion.

One of the responses from Dr. Taylor was that he was unaware of Mr. Meacham's support for abortion at the time he was invited, but rationalized that, "as an institution of higher learning, Samford stands at the crossroads of culture, society, and the church. As such, we enjoy hearing from noted public intellectuals on a variety of issues".

Keep in mind this is not a discussion on the sanctity of life but giving credibility to a supporter of mass murder. As Dr. Joe Godfrey said, "If it were a panel discussion it would be different and you can bet if Samford learned Meacham was a supporter of the Ku Klux Klan, his invitation would have been immediately revoked." How can this serve as a foundation for critical thinking when it ignores the reality that is it giving a statue to a hypocrite of faith? Taylor even suggested that Meacham "purports to be a man of faith." We find it difficult to understand the shallowness of Taylor's thinking and causes us to wonder about the future of Samford under his leadership.

We certainly that Alumni and supporters of Samford will comment about this. Meacham was to speak on November 3, and at the time of the publication of this newsletter, we expected that to happen. We hope it did not, but if it did that there will be future developments that will correct this tragic misstep by Samford.

This month's Educational Update is an APLC Memo on the abortion issue and one of the unfortunate aspects of it, i.e., minor girls obtaining abortions. While we try to end abortion as a so called right, we are continuing to do all we can to regulate abortion, to save the lives of the unborn, and to provide the best healthcare we can to women regardless of age.

Thank you for your continuing support. With personal regards, I am,

Yours very truly,

A. Eric Johnston