



Broadcast Transcript

Broadcast: How to Defend Our Nation Before It's Too Late – Part 1

Guest(s): Alex McFarland

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Dr. Dobson: Well, welcome everyone to Family Talk. I'm your host, James Dobson, doing what I've been doing for 43 years. I'm still loving every minute of it, but honestly it would not be as much fun if you are not out there listening and reacting to what we have to share with you. Today is an extremely important program as we're only two weeks away from what I consider to be the most important election since 1864, because everything is on the line this time around. The presidency, obviously. The House of Representatives, the US Senate, the Supreme Court, the entire judiciary, the bureaucracy, those unelected people who run nearly everything. The military, the healthcare system, the public schools, the economy, just about everything that makes up this great nation will be determined by what is going to happen two weeks from now. And it's all on the line.

And yes, I'm nervous as a cat about it. I wouldn't be nearly as concerned if I believe that the majority of Christians would come out to vote, but the history there is pretty dismal. About half of them just flat out don't bother to go to the polls or to send in a ballot. Of the remaining half, 25% are not registered. So, the question is, will this nation that was designed by our founding fathers 224 years ago in a miraculous moment, will we come out of this election with our constitution intact, and with a government of the people by the people and for the people?

Are we headed for another form of government based on socialism and tyranny? I think that's what's at stake. And that's what we're going to talk about today. My guest is Alex McFarland, a brother that I love, and I just appreciate him so much. I've worked with him first at Focus on the Family and then here at Family Talk. He has written many books. He's a noted Christian apologist. He's a best-selling author. He's a commentator, he's a minister, he's a popular speaker and people love to hear him. He's done many things. If I took the time to give all of his credentials, we wouldn't have time to do this very important broadcast. So, I'm so glad he's here. Alex, thank you for coming. And you came from Greensboro, North Carolina today.

Alex McFarland: Yes, sir. And I appreciate you and in all seriousness - and I know you're very humble and you do what you do for the glory of God, I know that. But I would say second only to Billy Graham for a man that's given his life for the Great Commission.

Dr. Dobson: That's rare territory and that's embarrassing.

Alex McFarland: Brother, you're there. And I thank God for you. And I consider the work you do with Family Talk and just the legacy of ministry that you and Shirley have invested in the world is some of the most significant of our lifetime. And I thank God for you.

Dr. Dobson: Well, we're going to talk today about your new book and it is such an important book for this time. I'll explain it in a moment. But you heard my introduction a minute ago. Am I right? Do you agree that we're on the edge of a cliff as a nation?

Alex McFarland: I do. I do believe that this is the most consequential election of our lifetime, and that's why I would implore all of your listeners, number one, to pray, to pray for America. But if they're not registered to vote and planning to get out and vote, I would beg and plead with the 100 to 130 million American adult evangelicals to please vote. And as Phil Robertson of Duck Dynasty says, "Vote godly." Dr. Dobson, what's at stake, among other things, is the ability to practice Christianity or not, our constitutional representative republic or some form of a Marxist regime.

Dr. Dobson: Religious liberty.

Alex McFarland: Religious liberty, freedom of religious expressions.

Dr. Dobson: I wouldn't be surprised if organizations like this will be so harassed that we will not be able to continue.

Alex McFarland: Do you know, during the second Obama term - my wife and I were living in Charlotte, North Carolina - ministers all over Charlotte, myself included, got audited by the IRS. Now we came through it clean as a whistle. But yeah, even during the Obama years, ministers and ministries like Family Talk and myself, we were singled out. Why? Because we were saying things that went against the politically correct narrative.

Dr. Dobson: Yeah.

Alex McFarland: And I would say this too, Dr. Dobson. For moms and dads, the ability to parent, and to impart biblical values to your children. The day might come when children are monitored, families are monitored, and parents are not given the right to raise their children.

Dr. Dobson: Oh, that day has come, Alex.

Alex McFarland: Yeah.

Dr. Dobson: I mean, parents are cut out of the process. They don't even know what's being taught in the schools. And foolishly, parents are not demanding to know what's being done. They hear from their children, but they don't get it from the schools.

Alex McFarland: Over 2020, as many schools have had to go to Zoom and Skype classes and students are at home and not at public school, there've been a number of cases in the news documented where the teachers were coaching the kids and saying, "Make sure your parents aren't listening to this next thing I'm about to say." Even as you and I record this broadcast, our mutual friend, John MacArthur, is in California being threatened with jail time.

Dr. Dobson: We just aired one of his sermons.

Alex McFarland: Yeah. Dr. MacArthur is brilliant, he's a godly man. And he is being persecuted for simply being the Christian leader that he is.

Dr. Dobson: Yeah. The governor of California is doing everything he can to close down the church.

Alex McFarland: Yeah. So all that is, or was America could effectively be ended within a matter of weeks. I mean, really, it is that consequential. And let me just say this, we often take it for granted that the America we have known just would always be there. Benjamin Franklin once said, "Everybody loves the fruits of freedom, but few are willing to tend the tree that bears the fruits." This is one of those times, folks, when we have to get in the fray and we have to nurture and guard the tree that bears the fruits of freedom or that tree and all of our freedoms might be lost.

Dr. Dobson: Well, you've written about this subject. We're talking to Alex McFarland. He's written a book called *The Assault on America: How to Defend Our Nation Before It's Too Late!* Do you really feel like it's nearly too late? I mean-

Alex McFarland: I do.

Dr. Dobson: ...who knows what's going to happen in two weeks? We're at a crisis point right there.

Alex McFarland: We really are. And may I remind people that only a matter of weeks ago, all across America monuments were coming down, including in the City of Washington DC, there was a group calling for the removal of the Washington Monument. There are groups that want Mount Rushmore blasted away. The Lincoln Memorial has been vandalized several times this summer - Abraham Lincoln! But see that is one of the socialist revolutionary's tactics to create

disorder, to introduce new order, but they try to wipe away and expunge from people's memory the existing order. Our history is being washed away.

Dr. Dobson: They love chaos, don't they?

Alex McFarland: They do.

Dr. Dobson: They get power out of chaos. So everywhere you look, they're attempting to create it.

Alex McFarland: Yeah.

Dr. Dobson: And that's part of the danger that we're in.

Alex McFarland: Dr. Dobson, let me say this. And again, I want to thank you for devoting some time to talk about these very important subjects. I'm a Christian and you are, and maybe the vast majority of your listeners are believers. I'll get letters from ministers even. I wrote a book, *The Assault on America*, and Christian leaders will email me and they'll say, "Alex, your home is in heaven. You know and remember this world is passing away, why all the focus on the USA because your home is in heaven, Alex?" I know that our home is in heaven with Jesus, but listen, the Bible is very clear about the responsibility of Christian citizenship.

And we know Christ is coming back and it may be very soon, or it may be a 100 years from now. Augustine lived 354 to 430. And he wrote a book called *The City of God*. And he said, "Every Christian has one foot in two different worlds, the City of God. But until we are in the City of God, we have an obligation to the city of man to be salt and light." And I would say to people, you need to care about the United States of America. You need to pray. You need to vote. You need to do the heavy lifting of staying informed because until we are in that City of God, we absolutely have a responsibility to this country.

Dr. Dobson: Abraham Lincoln said at the Gettysburg address, that this is a government of the people by the people and for the people. He did not say of, by, and for all the people except Christians.

Alex McFarland: Amen.

Dr. Dobson: This is a government of the people. Why do we not have the right and the responsibility to play a role in the selection of who is going to lead this great country?

Alex McFarland: Amen. Well, we really do. In fact, the first chief justice of the US Supreme Court was a man named John Jay. And John Jay said, "In this Christian country." So notice he presupposed that this was a Christian country. But he said, "We have the duty and the responsibility and the privilege to select and prefer Christians for our leaders." Dr. Dobson, before I came to your office today, I did an

interview with a news program out of New York City. And they were asking about Amy Coney Barrett being nominated to the Supreme Court. And they were saying, "What about the fact that, because she, as a Catholic, believes in moral truth, will her religious bias make her unfit to serve?" But I said, "Look, if Amy Coney Barrett, because of her belief and morals, it's called natural law, object of morality. If she is unfit to serve, then let me tell you who else would be unfit to serve, Abraham Lincoln, the First Chief Justice, John Jay. My goodness, Adams, Franklin, Washington, Jefferson, even JFK, LBJ, and RFK."

Dr. Dobson: I really don't understand this argument. I do, but I don't. Because there are eight justices sitting now on the Supreme Court, I believe five of them are Catholics. So how come we select this one and say, "You can't be included in that body because you're Catholic." So are the most of the rest of them.

Alex McFarland: Exactly. And by the way, let me say at this juncture, we Protestants are very indebted to the Catholics right now. And in the book I talk about natural law. And I would say this folks, here's a very fine distinction that people need to be aware of. We need to understand that morals and religion, though they're very closely intertwined, but they really are two different things. Now here's my point. The first amendment says Congress will make no law regarding the establishment of religion. And so the non-establishment of religion has been construed in our day to mean the abolition of all moral boundaries. That's what we teeter on the brink of anarchy, really?

Dr. Dobson: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Alex McFarland: Because in the quest to not show preferential treatment to any one religion, what the result has been, Dr. Dobson, has been really the eradication of belief in morals.

Dr. Dobson: Yeah. What a country it will be if we lose the moral foundation. You have written this book. I want to recommend it to everybody, The Assault on America, we are under assault. I want to ask you to explain that. But on page 39, you wrote this, "I am absolutely convinced that within 10 years or less, the US constitution will be substantially rewritten, if not abolished completely. As a nation, we truly are at the moment of decision. The America that was built on moral truth and godly principles is about to drift beyond the point of restoration, perhaps it already has." Do you think two weeks before this election that we may step over that line? Where is this going, Alex? What is the post-election going to look like if the far left wins?

Alex McFarland: That is a great question. And as a Christian, look, we always have hope. Our God and our Savior raises the dead. We serve the God of the empty tomb and so we always have hope. But I will say that we need to pray. One of the exciting things about the history of our country and one of the thrilling things about being an American is we have been a nation when at the climactic moment, God did show up.

Dr. Dobson: Yeah.

Alex McFarland: God sent a great awakening. And I am praying that this dire moment, for one thing I'm praying that those who love God and country will get it. And they will realize how close we are to the judgment of God. Now, Dr. Dobson, it's been 47 years since Roe V. Wade. The number of babies killed in America very often with government subsidy funding it, would equal Adolf Hitler times about 15. I have to believe God cares about that. The good Lord in His mercy has stayed His hand for way longer than we deserve.

It really is a moment that if judgment falls and if our constitution is rewritten or abolished, if religious freedom is lost, if the family is relegated to irrelevance. If America turns into some sort of third world anarchy society, that the summer of 2020 has portended, we deserved it. I would beg everyone to take some personal investment in let's just call it citizenship, that I serve God by being salt and light in my country. I'm going to participate in the great commission by casting a vote for religious freedom. I'm going to invest in the America my grandkids will inhabit by getting out of my comfort zone and influencing my neighbors and voting.

Get up early, go stand in the rain and vote. Because heaven forbid that those who are more committed to error than we who are committed to that which is true, heaven forbid that they would have the proactivity for their false cause rather than we have for God's true cause.

Dr. Dobson: Alex, do you sometimes wonder why God has stayed His hand because there is such wickedness and has been for many years. We've been going downhill morally with 62 million babies murdered in cold blood. I have speculated, I'm not a theologian and I'm not a prophet, but if this election goes the wrong way, we may know more about God's timetable and where we are in judgment than we do right now, two weeks before.

Alex McFarland: Indeed.

Dr. Dobson: Does that make sense to you?

Alex McFarland: Absolutely. And let me say in a way, this is so thrilling to be a Christian at this moment. It is so thrilling to be an American at this moment. Dr. Dobson, God has withheld his hand of judgment, I believe, a judgment that we deserved from 1962, prohibiting prayer in schools, and 1963, forbidding the posting of the 10 Commandments, and so many court decisions that have led us away from God. So why has God continued to sustain America? And look, even in the midst of COVID, the S&P 500 in August of 2020 was the strongest August in 30 years. For those of you that wonder if Trump's economy has been good for the country, even in spite of the lockdown, we just experienced the best economic August of 30 years.

But here's why God has been merciful and patient and long suffering with America. Two things: the great commission and our friendship with Israel. For all of our failures and foibles, the United States of America has done more for world missions than any other country of the last 200 years. My wife is a nurse and goes on medical mission trips. She's gone to the Sudan and multiple trips to Africa. And I have too. When you go deep in to the interior of Africa and you find a well in a village, it's always from Franklin Graham and Samaritan's Purse-

Dr. Dobson: World Vision.

Alex McFarland: World Vision, Compassion International. It's funny Dr. Dobson, when I go to developing nations and I'm in the midst of villages of abject poverty, I never find a well or a school or a hospital that's been built by Americans United for the Separation of Church and State. I've never found something to better the human condition that was constructed by American atheists or the ACLU. Whenever I find a cup of cold water and the betterment of the human condition, it's always, and even the Red Cross was founded originally as a Christian organization, it's always an American Christian entity that has taken the love of Jesus and the basic human needs around the world.

Dr. Dobson: So, it's been the remnant that has stood for a righteousness, but we're losing ground on it.

Alex McFarland: We are. It's interesting, 172 years after the birth of America, something happened in May of 1948. And President Harry Truman said, "The United States recognizes the sovereign nation of Israel." Part of the reason that God has been very patient with us, I believe, is our friendship with the Jewish people. We have lived in the day that the fig tree has budded, that Israel was reborn. And that is why, let me just say to everyone listening, you need to have your house in order. And I would just say this: number one, if you've never trusted Christ as your savior, the predominant message we have today is to open your heart and turn to Jesus because Jesus is as close by as a prayer. And you can call on Christ today and be saved and know that your sins are forgiven.

But for believers, Dr. Dobson, the Bible talks about being ready when our redemption draweth nigh. I mean, Israel's 72 years now, they in 72 years have become one of the world's strongest military powers, potentially the greatest intel of any military in the world. There's a lot I could say about the powerful economy that Israel has. But regardless of if you don't like President Trump or you think he's brash or whatever, I've had a lot of Christians say that they didn't like President Trump for this or that reason. Let me say this, Dr. Dobson, the greatest favor that any president could ever do the American people is to be a friend to the nation of Israel.

Dr. Dobson: And he has done that.

Alex McFarland: All day. Genesis 12:2, God told Abraham, "I will bless them that bless thee. Curse them, that curse thee." And that's why, let me say heaven forbid that we have a government that stands with Israel's enemies. Because God blesses those who stand with Israel and God is not done with the nation of Israel. They are hugely significant in biblical prophecy.

Dr. Dobson: What do you think about President Trump bringing the US embassy to Jerusalem?

Alex McFarland: The single greatest act of presidential courage we might've seen in our entire lifetime. And everybody said, "Oh, this'll be world war three." It wasn't. All of our other international embassies are in national capitals. And really, to have the embassy outside of Jerusalem was really kind of a cop-out. It was really appeasement. And so, one of the reasons that I have thanked God for this president, and I do pray for him and the vice-president as well, they are men of courage. And I think we've seen that in the appointment of judges, in moving the embassy to Jerusalem, as you pointed out.

Dr. Dobson: Golan Heights.

Alex McFarland: Exactly. What he's done for the economy, what he's done for tax cuts that have helped middle America. This is a man that said what he was going to do. And in spite of unrelenting backlash, he's done it.

Dr. Dobson: What frustrates me is that people say they're going to vote because of a personality characteristic, aggressiveness, rudeness, what have you. When there are all these policy issues that will change America forever, we need to make the decisions of how we vote on the basis of the platform and not on the basis of the personality.

Alex McFarland: Exactly. Here's the question. Would you rather have a polite person to lie to you, or would you rather have an abrasive bombastic person to tell you the truth?

Dr. Dobson: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Alex McFarland: Because there are many on the left that would be very smooth and very polished, but they would say things that are faults, that are ungodly, and would be destructive to the country. Whether it's a judge on a bench or the occupant of the Oval Office, we need someone who's a constitutionalist. We need someone who believes in morals and someone who loves this country. And I do think the president loves this country, I really do.

Roger Marsh: Well, we hate to interrupt this lively discussion, but unfortunately we've run out of time for today's broadcast. You've been listening to Dr. James Dobson's recent interview with apologist, author, and speaker, Alex McFarland. Learn more about today's guests by visiting our broadcast page at drjamesdobson.org.

Once you're there you'll find more information about Alex's ministry and also his new book, *The Assault on America*. That's D-Rjamesdobson.O-R-G, and then go to the broadcast button at the top of the page.

Mentioning our website, some of you may have noticed that we've made some major renovations in recent weeks. Drjamesdobson.org now has a fresh and new look that is much more user-friendly. You can now quickly access our newest broadcasts or easily read Dr. Dobson's latest newsletters. Right on the front page, you can follow trending videos and blogs from our growing field of experts. This updated layout directs you to helpful materials on the topics of marriage, parenting, family, and culture. Check out Family Talks new website now by going to D-Rjamesdobson.O-R-G. That's drjamesdobson.org.

And be sure to join us again tomorrow for the conclusion of Dr. Dobson's conversation with Alex McFarland. They'll discuss the impact of America's first great awakening and identify the liberties that are in jeopardy this November. That's all coming up on the next edition of Dr. James Dobson's Family Talk. I'm Roger Marsh. Hope you'll join us then.

Announcer:

This has been a presentation of the Dr. James Dobson Family Institute.