

AMERICA

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TEXT:

"The crown of the wise is their riches: but the foolishness of fools is folly."
(Proverbs 14:24)

PURPOSE: To give some guidance to help make America a great nation.

INTRODUCTION:

1) America in many ways is a great nation.

- (1) First people who came to the country made great sacrifices.
- (2) Separated from their old home and fought many battles.
- (3) July 2, 1776 Declaration of Independence adopted. Accepted & celebrated on July 4th, 1776.
- (4) Within Declaration: right of "life, liberty and pursuit of happiness."

2) Question: Does God have anything to say relative to:

- (1) Life
- (2) Liberty (freedom)
- (3) Happiness

3) A nation that forgets God is not going to be blessed nor exalted.

- (1) "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God." (Psalm 9:17)
- (2) "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people."
(Proverbs 14:34)
- (3) "Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Moab, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because he burned the bones of the king of Edom into lime:" (Amos 2:1)

4) We learn from the days of Nebuchadnezzar:

- (1) That God rules in the affairs of men.
- (2) "This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men." (Daniel 4:17)

5) Do we have an influence and **responsibility** toward making the nation godly?

I. THE CURRENT SITUATION.

1) Mostly, evil is that which is being promoted - not righteousness.

2) Homosexuality:

- (1) Marches are held to demand attention and rights.
- (2) Many if had their way would be allowed to marry, adopt children.
- (3) God destroyed Sodom & Gomorrah for such wickedness.

Genesis 18-19.

(4) "Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire." (Jude 7)

3) Television is filled with violence & immorality.

- (1) **WHY?** That is what people want.
- (2) This reveals an attitude??

4) Abortion - the killing of unborn babies is legal.

(1) Over 4000 a day killed in America.
 (2) "Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward." (Psalm 127:3)

III. AMERICA NEEDS REVIVING IN HER MORALS.

1) We need to recognize there is a divine standard of right and wrong.

2) Situation in first century and God's comments.

(1) "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them." (Romans 1:18-32)

(2) "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor

revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.” (1Corinthians 6:9-10)

3) Home life in America (its very fiber), needs improving.

(1) Husbands, fathers; wives, mothers - need to respect the home - fulfill responsibility.

(2) Home is the inner-core of society.

4) What can change the situation?

(1) The Gospel.

(2) “Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.” (Romans 1:16)

(3) The gospel changed the Corinthians.

(4) “And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.” (1Corinthians 6:11)

III. THE CHURCH'S ROLE/RESPONSIBILITY.

1) Must not allow itself to be corrupted.

(1) “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.” (Romans 12:1-2)

(2) Put God first in our lives always.

2) Error (whether doctrinal or moral) has a numbing, creeping effect upon us, if left unchecked.

3) Pray for leaders.

(1) “I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;” (1Timothy 2:1-3)

(2) “...pray for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” (James 5:16b)

4) We must proclaim & uphold the truth to ourselves & to the world.

(1) Truth in morals, the church, etc.

(2) “And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8:32)

CONCLUSION:

1) Are you concerned about the morals - the fiber of our country?

2) Are you concerned about the salvation of Americans, the world?

3) Then become a faithful Christian - be a light. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)

4) Hold up Jesus as the light of the world. "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." (John 8:12)