

“What Is America’s Future?”

Text: Proverbs 14:34

“Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people”

Introduction:

- This morning we want to ask the question, What Is America’s Future?
 - We want to know what is it that makes America great or any nation great for that matter.
 - We want to discover what America’s continue greatness is dependent upon.
- I believe the answer is found in our verse.
- The answer should not be of any surprise to God’s people.
- However, the majority of Americans would disagree with what the Word of God has to say.
- How soon America has forgotten that our nation was founded upon the Holy Bible.
- America was founded as a Christian nation not the heathen nation that it has become.
- Just listen to what great American’s of the past had to say about the Holy Bible.
 - **George Washington** - “It is not possible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible.”

- **Thomas Jefferson** – “A serious perusal of the sacred volume will make better citizens, better fellows, and better husbands.”
- **Patrick Henry** – “There is a Book worth all other books which were ever printed.”
- **Andrew Jackson** – “The Bible is the rock on which our republic rests.”
- **Abraham Lincoln** – “In regard to this great book. I have but to say, it is the best gift God has given to men. All the good Saviour gave to the world was communicated through this book. But for it we could not know right from wrong. All things most desirable for man’s welfare, here and hereafter, are to be found portrayed in it.”
- **Ulysses S. Grant** – “Hold fast to the Bible as the sheet anchor of your liberties; write its precepts in your hearts, and practice them in your lives. To the influence of this book we are indebted for all the progress made in true civilization, and to this we must look as our guide in the future.”

I. “Righteousness exalteth a nation”

- The first part of our verse tells us what it is that exalteth or elevates and makes a nation great.
- Notice –

- It is not wealth.
- It is not power.
- It is not education.
- It is not science.
- It is not military might.
- It is not medical advances.
- It is not its people.
- It is not its climate.
- It is not its geographical location.
- It is not its religion.
- What makes a nation great is its righteousness!
- What kind of righteousness are we taking about?
 - It is certainly not self-righteousness, something generated by man.
 - The Bible tells us that “...**all our righteousness are as filthy rags;**” – **Isa. 64:6**
 - **See Deuteronomy 9:4.**
 - **See Proverbs 30:12**
 - It is certainly not based on man’s accomplishments.
 - The Bible tells us in **Psalm 39:5** – “...**verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity.**”
 - Again, in **Psalm 39:11** – “...surely every man is **vanity.**”

- Notice it does not leave anyone out – **“every”**
 - Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ tells us **“...for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.” Luke 16:15.**
- So, then what kind of righteousness is it that exalteth a nation?
 - It is the righteousness only obtain through the shed blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
 - **See 2 Cor. 5:21.**
 - **See - Romans 10:3-4**
 - **See Phil. 3:9**
 - What makes America great and having the greatest standard of living is the fact that its founders were believers in the Jesus Christ and the Holy Bible.
 - America’s future greatness is not dependent upon its achievements and accomplishments.
 - It is not dependent upon how many social programs America establishes to deal with the ills of society.
 - It is not dependent upon how many hand outs America gives to foreign nations to keep the peace.
 - It is not dependent upon the interest rate being cut by Alan Greenspan.

- It is not dependent upon keeping unemployment and inflation down.
- It is not dependent upon the Gross National Product.
- No, my friends it dependent upon the righteousness of its people.
- America does not need to establish any more social programs but it needs to establish many more independent Bible-Believing, Bible-Preaching, Bible-Teaching Baptist Churches.
- For America to remain great it must be a people whose majority is saved and born-again.
- It must be a country that not only sends food and guns abroad but also more importantly a country that sends missionaries aboard for the sole purpose of winning the lost to Christ.
- America to remain great its people must be **“children of God who will humble themselves, and pray, seek God’s face, and turn from their wicked ways”**
- God has promise if we will do that then **“He will hear from heaven, and forgive our sins and heal our land”**
 - I believe for America to continue to be great its people need to turn to God for the solutions to their problems and not the Government.
 - I believe the answer is not bigger Government for the people but a bigger prayer life for its people.

- I believe the greatness of America is not so much dependent upon on its elevation of the constitution as it is on the elevation of the Word of God, the Holy Bible.
- I believe the greatness of America is not so much dependent upon on its elevation of the doctrine of toleration as it is on the elevation intolerance for evil and wickedness as defined by the Word of God.
- I believe the greatness of America is not so much dependent upon its redefining – What a family is, as it is in promoting – What the Bible defines a family as!
- I believe the greatness of greatness of America is not in its promotion of taking the life of the unborn but in preserving it!
- Our verse tells us that **“Righteousness exalteth a nation”**
- Now we want to look at the second part of our verse.

II. **“But sin is a reproach to any people”**

- The Bible Defines sin –
 - All unrighteousness
 - Transgression of the law
 - Knowing and not doing
 - Doing, but from a motive other than faith
 - Pride and wicked works
 - Foolish thoughts.
- Our verse tells us that **sin is a reproach.**

- In other words sin brings with it shame and disgrace.
- According to our verse it has the opposite effect upon a nation.
 - God's Righteousness obtain through faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ exalts, elevates, uplifts a nation and its people.
 - Sin on the other hand brings down a nation through shame and disgrace.
 - Just like the Bible tells us in **Proverbs 6:33**, that a man who commits adultery his reproach or shame shall not be wiped away.
- I am here to tell you that America's future is growing dimmer and dimmer by the moment.
 - Regardless of what our Government, President, and Economic Analyst may be telling you.
- America's greatness is being diminished as I speak.
- Why?
- Because its degree of Righteousness has declined greatly and its degree of sin has greatly increased.
- Look at the evidence –
 - Abortion on demand is legal in this country.
 - The traditional Family – Husband, Wife, & Children has been demoted and same sex marriages have been promoted.

- To commit homosexual acts is fine but the preach against it is considered a hate crime.
- In our schools you cannot find the Bible, the Ten Commandments, or the Golden Rule.
- Instead you find dope, guns, knives, condoms and the promotion of the homosexual life style.
- In our schools the children no longer dress like gentlemen and ladies but pimps and prostitutes.
- In our schools no more is discipline and self-control taught.
- Instead what is being taught is if it feels good do it.
- Our schools no longer teach right from wrong but it depends.
 - What might be wrong for you might be right for someone else – “Situation Ethics”
- Marriage is no longer a time-honored institution – One man and one woman for a lifetime.
 - Instead it has become the exception not the rule.
- How about what is being preached from the majority of our churches today.
 - Something other than God’s Words (AV1611 KJB) is being preached from.
 - What is the message that is being preached?
 - Love
 - Tolerance

- Social Gospel
 - Man bringing in the kingdom by his own efforts.
 - What does the church have to offer –
 - It is not Bible.
 - It is entertainment and social programs
 - The world has come into the church and is sitting very comfortably in the front pew.
 - The churches have lost their power because they are no longer preaching the gospel of Christ which is the power of God unto salvation.
- The Word of God tells us **“But sin is a reproach to any people”**

Conclusion:

- As we look back to the day that the Declaration of Independent was signed, we can see the awful and devastating effect that sin has had on America in such a short time.
- The Bible says, **“The wages of sin is death”**.
- My dear friend America is dying before our very eyes.
- What can you do individually about it?
 - Starting telling as many people as you can how they can obtain the righteousness of God through the faith in the shed blood of His Son.

- And may be just may be if enough us do it then the death of America can be slowed down.
- As Christians, we can comfort one another with the promise that the Lord is coming back very soon for us.