

GOD'S BLESSING
PART 2-GOD HAS BLESSED AMERICA
PSALM 33:1-22

Introduction

Even with all her faults, I believe that America is still the greatest place on Earth to live! **God blessed America so that she might glorify Him!**

When I think of America's blessings several things come to mind:

I. AMERICA WAS BLESSED BY GOD WITH HER BEAUTY!
(Vs 5-6)

She Has Been And Continues To Be Great In Her Beauty!

From sea to shining sea her beauty is evident and enjoyed!
But her beauty is not what makes her so great!

II. AMERICA WAS BLESSED BY GOD WITH HER BOUNTY!
She Has Been And Continues To Be Great In Her Bounty!

Such as her great store of natural resources!
God has deposited in America almost everything that a nation could ever imagine or need!
But her bounty is not what makes her so great!

III. AMERICA WAS BLESSED BY GOD WITH HER BEGINNING! (Vs 12)

She Has Been And Continues To Be Great In Her Beginnings (Her Foundations)!

A. America's Foundation Of Freedom!

The real trend today in America is toward anti-Americanism, anti-patriotism.

Most of our schools today are teaching more toward our nation joining together in World unity than in exercising our national uniqueness and sovereignty.

Our nation's involvement in the UN has been pivotal in the attacks and attempts to strip our nation of its sovereignty.

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Some in our land have tried to revise our history to undermine the character and integrity of our founding fathers, saying they weren't who we know them to be.

The history revisionists say that our founding fathers were not motivated by principle but by property—i.e. they accuse them of being motivated by greed and desire for wealth.

But that's not true...the men who signed the Declaration of Independence had far more to lose than to gain by signing it!

Most were very wealthy already. 24 were lawyers and such, 9 were landowners or rich farmers, 11 were merchants, the others were physicians, ministers, politicians, etc. All but 2 who signed had families.

These men were educated men of standing in their communities. They knew security and prosperity, but felt there was something more important to them than security—and that was freedom from tyranny!

They knew that the penalty for treason was death by hanging, yet they signed!

John Hancock—[signed twice as large as all others] "*Now his Majesty can read my name without his spectacles!*"

Stephen Hopkins—Was so old when he signed that his hand shook as he signed...but as he signed he looked up and is recorded to have said, "*Gentlemen, my hand trembles, but my heart does not!*"

4 delegates from NY were particularly wealthy. British ships were nearing just a few miles off the coast when they signed.

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Most of NY had already evacuated...they and others were pursued, some were captured and tortured, and of course, many of them died for the cause of freedom!

Young people of our day need to know when they look at our flag that those red stripes stand for blood—the price paid for us to be free! That’s the greatness of America—great for her freedoms!

America’s Foundation Of Freedom!

B. America’s Foundation Of Faith! (Vs 12, 18)

Just as the revisionists want to rewrite history in order to undermine the character and integrity of our founding fathers, they also want to undermine our Godly heritage.

They try to tell us that this blessed nation of ours was not really founded upon **faith** and **reliance on God!** And there are efforts underway to obliterate the name of God from our foundations and eradicate it from our history!

Why is it that some Americans can’t just accept their roots? Could it be that an acknowledgment of God stings their conscious because of the blatant sin they find themselves in?

The reality is that our nation was founded on faith as our forefathers both acknowledged God and sought to exercise their faith in Him in freedom!

In 1620, 156 years before the birth of our nation, the first pilgrims arrived. They were a rather small band of people who crossed the Atlantic in a sailboat that was 26 feet X 113 feet. They landed on the Atlantic coast in the bitter cold of winter.

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As they stepped off the boat they signed a compact {Known as The Mayflower Compact}, the 2nd paragraph of which begins: *“for the Glory of God and advancement of the Christian Faith.”*

That first winter was rough...at times the daily ration of food was 5 grains of corn per person, per day! 44 died in the first 5 months and 58 survived. In the fall of 1621 they reaped their first harvest: 21 acres of corn. Their immediate response was to thank God.

In fact, it is recorded that they marched through the corn fields singing, *“the earth is the Lord’s and fullness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein!”*

On December 13th of that year, those 58 pilgrims gathered with 80 friendly Indians and celebrated 3 days of thanksgiving which was recorded as involving three days of preaching, praying, singing, and eating.

Check your kid’s textbooks, most of which now say the pilgrims and Indians met to thank each other! [NO!!!]

Years later, in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national thanksgiving day. Listen to this: *“We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand, which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own.*

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Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us."

The Puritans gave their reasons for coming to America as well. In the opening sequence of the NE Confederation it says: *"Whereas we all came into these parts of America with one and the same end and aim, to advance the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ and to enjoy the liberties of the gospel in liberty and peace."*

Benjamin Franklin, when once challenged about having a political session opened with prayer said, *"I've lived, Sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing Proofs I see of this Truth —That God governs in the Affairs of Men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an Empire can rise without his aid? We have been assured, Sir, in the Sacred Writings, that except the Lord build the House they labor in vain who build it."*

Some Christians have been intimidated...and they've heard the ACLU talk so much about the separation of church and state—that they've actually started to believe in it.

In case you don't know, that phrase never appears in the Constitution! (However it is found in Karl Marx's Communist Manifesto!)

It was coined in the U.S. from a letter that the principle framer of the Constitution and Third President, Thomas Jefferson wrote to the Danbury Baptist Association assuring them that he would keep the Government out of the Church (NOT the Church out of the Government).

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He was saying, never again will there be a government sponsored Church like you had back in England, where everyone is forced to attend and support!

Check it out for yourself, the first amendment actually says: Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...

If there IS such a thing as separation of Church and state, it is intended as a one-way street! Keeping the state out of the Church!

Some say, no, they wanted to keep both separate! Well, let's think about that. The assembling of the first Continental Congress in September 5, 1774 began with a three hour prayer meeting inspired by the reading of Psalm 35 by a minister.

Our first president, George Washington, took the oath of office and put his hand on what? (the Bible)

What was his first official act as President? (kissed the Bible, then held a 2 hr. praise/worship session in Congress)

How did they determine to open sessions of Congress? (prayer)

Who would lead in those prayers? (chaplains)

How would they be paid? (tax dollars)

Does any of that sound like they wanted to keep God out of government?

Who decided to put *"In God We Trust"* on our coins? It was adopted by Congress in 1956!

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- *In 1776, 11 of the 13 colonies required that one had to be a Christian to be eligible to run for political office.
- *In 1777, the Continental Congress voted to spend \$300,000 to purchase Bibles for distribution in the nation.
- *The GETTYSBURG ADDRESS states "...this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom..."
- *94% OF THE WRITINGS OF THE FOUNDING FATHERS OF THE U.S. CONTAINED QUOTATIONS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES.
- *THE STATE CONSTITUTIONS OF ALL 50 STATES MENTION GOD.
- *The famous "Liberty Bell" has part of Leviticus 25:10 inscribed on it: *"Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof."*
- *Part of the Scripture Proverbs 14:34 is inscribed above the L.A. city hall door: *"RIGHTEOUSNESS EXALTETH A NATION: BUT SIN IS A REPROACH TO ANY PEOPLE."*
- *An image of Moses carrying the tablets of God's Law faces the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- *The entering President takes his OATH OF OFFICE with his right hand on the Holy Bible, and concludes his vow *"So help me God."*
- * The Supreme Court itself begins each of its sessions with the phrase *"God save the United States and this honorable court,"*

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- *First Vice President and Second President, John Adams wrote in 1798: *"Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."*
- * President Thomas Jefferson: *"I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; that His justice cannot sleep forever."* - 1781
- *Our sixth President, John Quincy Adams said: *"No book in the world deserves to be so unceasingly studied, and so profoundly meditated upon as the Bible."*
- *The Christian writings and pronouncements of our 16th President Abraham Lincoln would fill an entire book.
- *Theodore Roosevelt, America's 26th President, wrote: *"In this actual world, a churchless community, a community where men have abandoned and scoffed at, or ignored their religious needs, is a community on the rapid down-grade."* - 1917
- *Woodrow Wilson, our 28th President and Governor of New Jersey, said this: *"America was born a Christian nation. America was born to exemplify that devotion to the elements of righteousness which are derived from the revelations of the Holy Scripture."* - 1911
- *Calvin Coolidge, our 30th President, said this about our founding fathers: *"They were intent upon establishing a Christian commonwealth in accordance with the principle of self- government. They were an inspired body of men. It has been said that God sifted the nations that He might send choice grain into the wilderness..."*

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Who can fail to see it in the hand of destiny? Who can doubt that it has been guided by a Divine Providence." - 1923

*Franklin Roosevelt prayed this prayer on a national radio hookup on D-Day, June 6, 1944, as our troops stormed the beaches of Normandy, France:

"Almighty God... with Thy blessing we shall prevail over the unholy forces of our enemy. Help us to conquer the apostles of greed and racial arrogance. Lead us to the saving of our country. Thy will be done, Almighty God. Amen."

*Harry Truman, our 33rd President, not known to be a committed believer, understood the spiritual heritage of this nation: *"If men and nations would but live by the precepts of the ancient prophets and the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount, problems which now seem so difficult would soon disappear"*

*Gerald Ford, our 38th President, quoted a 1955 speech by Dwight D. Eisenhower on December 5, 1974: *"Without God there could be no American form of government, nor an American way of life. Recognition of the Supreme Being is the first - the most basic - expression of Americanism. Thus the founding fathers of America saw it, and thus with God's help, it will continue to be."*

*President Ronald Reagan: *"If we ever forget that we are 'One nation, under God', then we will be one nation gone under."*

*George W. Bush was asked to name the philosopher that had the greatest influence on his life, this was his answer: *"Christ, because he changed my heart"*

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It's time for those who desire to obliterate God off the face of our land to wake up and realize that their warped view of our foundation is inaccurate as to the facts!

The greatness of America is found

1. In her freedom
2. In her foundation!

AMERICA WAS BLESSED BY GOD WITH HER BEAUTY!
AMERICA WAS BLESSED BY GOD WITH HER BOUNTY!
AMERICA WAS BLESSED BY GOD WITH HER BEGINNING!

IV. AMERICA WILL BE BLIGHTED BY GOD FOR HER BACKSLIDINGS!

A. We Have Forsaken The Source Of Blessing!
(Jeremiah 2:11-13, 17, 19, 28)

What was bad and ultimately disastrous for Israel and Judah is bad and will be ultimately disastrous for us!

B. We Have Embraced The Path Of Cursing!

Genesis 12:3- "And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed."

To the extent our country joins with Israel's enemies in her condemnation, our country has provoked God's anger!

C. What's Wrong With America As A Whole Is A Reflection Of What's Wrong With America's Churches!
(Revelation 3:14-22)

2 Chronicles 7:13-14- "If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people; 14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."