

## CAN GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS AMERICA?

Proverbs 14:34

(Not entirely original with me)

**Introduction:** There is no doubt that America was started by God and has been blessed by God for its existence, however things have changed drastically in the past few years. Today, America is nothing like it was founded to be and is going farther and farther away from God and its original constitutional ways. The question can be asked "Can God continue to bless America" and there is obviously a very clear answer.

### I. PRICELESS AND DEAR THINGS ARE BEING BROKEN BY TODAY'S GENERATION

#### 1. America's foundations are changing:

- The crime, social unrest, economic turmoil, political weakness, gross immorality has left America weak, broken and totally bewildered.
- It seems that today success is measured by the number of one's possessions.
- The Prayer and the Bible have been removed from the public schools and replaced with evolution teaching.
- Marriage and the importance of the home have been devalued and divorce and abuse is rampant.
- Abortion has taken the life of more unborn children than all American soldiers that have been killed in all the wars America has been involved in.
- Sexual disease is wide spread and reflect a degenerate society along with homosexuality becoming a popular and accepted way of life.
- There is little respect for authority while greed, pride, self-indulgence and dishonesty are greater than ever before in America's history.
- Many religious organizations have cut themselves off from the authority of the Bible and even within Christianity there is a lack of clear preaching in many pulpits as preachers have moved away from the plain, sin-condemning sermons to pleasing and non-prejudiced ones.

#### 2. *"...Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people..." (text)*

- America seems to have accepted the statement but pay lip service to it without applying its truth.
- Ask the question: "Can/Will God continue to bless America?"
  - America sings "God Bless America" frequently.
  - In the past, God has blessed America abundantly.
  - Will God continue to bless America?

### II. WHAT IS THE ANSWER TO "CAN GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS AMERICA?"

#### 1. It is "righteousness" that exalts a nation - nothing else -

- What is "righteousness?" - Psalm 119:172
- Israel illustrates the truth of Proverbs 14:34:
  - Blessings were pronounced and promised IF Israel was righteous - Deuteronomy 28
  - At first Israel served and obeyed God and were blessed and protected but later they turned away from God, disobeying but upon repenting, there followed God's exaltation.
- Other nations remind one of the truth of Proverbs 14:34
  - God promised to preserve Sodom and Gomorrah IF 10 righteous people could be found.
  - The people of Nineveh were preserved because they repented at Jonah's warnings.

2. America must recognize that **"...sin is a reproach..."**

- From the very beginning Gk God has punished those who were a REPROACH.
  - In Noah's day the **"wickedness of man was great..the thoughts of his heart were only evil continually..."** (Genesis 6:5) and God sent the flood to clean the earth.
  - God destroyed the Amorites because their iniquity was full and God gave their land to Israel.
  - Sodom and Gomorrah became so corrupt that they were destroyed - Genesis 18, 19.
- The nation of Israel was punished many times for their sin:
  - God told them that they would be cursed if they failed to obey Him and driven out of their land - Deuteronomy 28:15, 10-24
  - In spite of God's warnings, Israel did the very things God had punished others for -
    - Leviticus 18:24-30
    - Hoseah - 9:7-9
    - Jeremiah shows how corrupt Judah became and suffered the same fate as the Northern Kingdom.
  - Other nations suffered the Lord's retribution in the same way as did Israel:
    - God used Assyria against Israel, then punished Assyria - Isaiah 10:55
    - God used Babylon against Judah, then destroyed Babylon - Habbaka 1:6; 2:8
    - Jerusalem and the Jewish nation would suffer for their rejection of God and Jesus and would be taken by Rome - Matthew 24
    - Rome would eventually be brought down - Revelation 17-19
- This same just truth of God applies to America as well as other nations.
  - **"...any people..."** says the text.
  - Many think America is too great, too mighty to fall.
    - "We are God's chosen nation" or "It wouldn't be fair."
    - "We have been blessed and protected before and it will continue on."
  - Ancient Rome fell because of five (5) failures and America is committing the same ones:
    - Rapid increase of divorce, sanctity of the home was destroyed.
    - Higher and higher taxes, spending money for free things (welfare).
    - Mad craze for pleasure and sports with sports becoming more brutal.
    - Building of gigantic armies when the real enemy was inside (decadence)
    - Decay of religion, faith fading into a mere formality.
  - America is taking the very same course as did Rome and the other fallen nations:
    - America, like ancient Greece and Rome, is following the same path of pleasure, luxury and vice to national ruin.
    - America is losing a terrible war that will destroy America that is not being fought on some foreign soil.
    - A generation has risen which has no God and feels no need of one and America has never been so spiritually illiterate as this day of today.
  - Can God continue to bless America? That depends on what America believes and how America lives in the days to come.
    - America must REALIZE that it is not able to guide itself.
      - David called for God to help people know their place - Psalm 9:19-20
      - Jeremiah 10:23
    - America must RECEIVE God's teaching and correction:
      - Jeremiah said: **"...This is a nation that does not obey the voice of the Lord their God nor receive correction. Truth has perished and has been cut off from their mouth..."** 7:28
      - America must receive God and His teaching or receive the coming judgment.
        - Revelation 18:3; 4-5

- America must REMEMBER God and serve Him faithfully:
  - David said: Psalm 9:15-17
  - Nehemiah preached - Nehemiah 4:14
- America must RETURN to the old paths of righteousness:
  - The same plea is made today as with the prophets of old:
    - **"...Return ye now every one from his evil way..."** - Jeremiah 25:4-5; 6:16

## CONCLUSION:

1. Each Christian needs to determine to do his/her part to love and abide in the Lord.
  - **"...As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord..."** said Joshua - 24:15
2. **"...If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?"** - Psalm 11:3O)
  - Guard against becoming cynical and contaminated with sin.
  - Become salt and light to the world around us - Matthew 5:13-16
3. American Christians can plan and work for heaven - Hebrews 11:13-16
4. What about it Christian? What can YOU do to help get America back where it belongs with God?
5. If America does not return to God, then America is doomed.