

PRINCIPLES THAT MADE AMERICA GREAT

Matthew 5:21-48

Introduction: There is no doubt that America has been the nation to which people from all over the world has been drawn. Countless have left their homeland and came to America to start a new life, to have things that they never had or would have where they lived. America has been the envy of the world. Why? What has drawn people to America through the years? How long will America be great? Is America's reputation changing? What are some of America's founding principles that has made it so different from the rest of the world?

I. DIGNITY OF HUMAN LIFE

1. *Matthew 5:21-22*

- Jesus taught that people should not murder not even be angry without just cause.

2. Every person is someone that God loves and has value.

3. America was founded upon that principle. People are important.

II. COMMON DECENCY

1. *Matthew 5:27-28; Ephesians 5:3-5*

- Each person has his/her own property and shows respect for that which belongs to another.

2. Every person has equal rights and freedoms and each person is to respect the freedoms and rights of others.

III. THE PRINCIPLE OF LOVE

1. *2 Thessalonians 3:10*

- Every person has the right to work as he/she desires.

2. All who work are to be paid a fair wage.

IV. THE COVENANT OF ABRAHAM PRINCIPLE

1. *Genesis 12:1-3*

- Total trust in Almighty God for direction, provision and blessing.

2. God will bless those who obey Him.

V. A GOD-CENTERED EDUCATION

1. *Ephesians 6:4*

- Bring up the children to obey God.

2. Every person has the freedom to obtain an education.

VI. DIVINELY ESTABLISHED INSTITUTIONS

1. The HOME: People build houses, but it is God who builds HOMES.
 - The first institution man ever had was the home.
 - Families living together under God's directives in His Word are what has really made America great.
2. GOVERNMENTS: After the flood, God gave mankind government.
 - Americans elect their own representatives and they pass their own laws - not dictated to.
 - American governments exist solely for the people.
3. RELIGIOUS PRINCIPLES: America was founded upon religious principles. Men and women wanted to worship God as they felt they should and not be dictated to about how or when to worship.
 - All Americans are free to worship as they want.
 - No religion has the freedom or right to force it's beliefs upon a single American.

CONCLUSION:

1. America was founded upon Godly principles.
2. Have things changed? YES!
3. Would that God's Church be as strong as it once was.
4. Would that God's people stand up for God's Word as they once did.
5. How long will America last?
 - As long as America is loyal to its founding principles!
6. Is America going away from those founding principles? YES!
7. Is there hope for America?
 - ONLY if America turns back to Almighty God.