

## THE GREAT LAND OF AMERICA

**Matthew 22:21; Mark 12:17; Luke 20:25**

**Introduction:** America has always been known as the "land of opportunity" and the whole world has tried to imitate America's ways. Think of all the countries that have adopted some of America's life styles. Think of all the people who have become naturalized citizens. Think of all the illegal people who have secretly made their way into America. One doesn't see a mass exodus of American hurrying off to some other country that has a better way of life. America was founded upon the principle that Jesus spoke of when explaining who had which priority when He told the people to *"...render to Caesar the things that are Caesars and to God the things that are Gods..."* America was found on rendering to God the things that are Gods.

### I. AMERICA GUARANTEES EQUAL RIGHTS FOR EVERYONE

1. Any American youth can one day become President.
  - Lincoln went from a log house to the White House.
2. Talent, perserverance, ability can take a poor person and make him/her a millionaire.
3. Equal rights for all has caused many immigrants reaching America with NO money, to rise to positions of great influence in finance, science, politics and religion.
4. When Paul wrote to Philemon (text), he encouraged Onesimus, the runaway slave, to be received back by his rich owner to be treated as a brother and no longer as a slave.
5. God is no respecter of persons and the Gospel is offered to all, regardless of who or what they are.

### II. SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE IS WHAT MADE AMERICA GREAT

1. Jesus said to *"...give to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's..."*
2. America recognizes NO State Church, NO single, particular Church as the Nation's Church.
  - America's forefathers left a land controlled by religion.
  - America's forefathers fought and died for the right to worship as they wanted.
  - America's forefathers knew the evils of a Church governed by civil authority and of a nation controlled by religious powers.
3. America protects all religions and favors no particular one.
  - Americans should be grateful for freedom from religious dominance which has proved so disastrous in other countries.
  - State-controlled Churches always mean darkness, spiritual deadness and ritual hypocrisy.
  - Christianity thrives in America because it is free! One can worship God as his/her conscience prescribes.
  - It will be indeed a tragedy if Churches ever lose this freedom.
  - America stands for the protection of all religions, even those which are unpatriotic.

### III. CHURCHES AND THE STATE (GOVERNMENT) FUNCTION DIFFERENTLY

1. The State's (Government's) functions are:
  - To preserve order, to see that right and justice prevail, to protect the weak and punish evil doers.
  - To uphold morality and decency.
2. The Church's functions are:
  - To preach the Gospel for the redemption of souls.
  - The Church is the conscience of the State (Government).

- The prestige and influence of a State (Government) are never higher than the spiritual power of the people (Church).

#### IV. THE BEST CITIZENS OF AMERICA ARE CHRISTIANS

1. Christians are not free from obligations to the State (Government).
  - Christians should vote, become involved in politics, engage in the defense of the great country.
  - Christians should enjoy all the benefits of the great land of America.
  - It is not only a matter of duty that Christians be obedient to governmental and civic regulations, but it is a command from the Lord Jesus, Himself: *"...render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's..."*
2. Christians do not exist to produce loyal, law-abiding citizens.
  - Christians exist to win the nation of America to the Lord Jesus Christ, for spiritual regeneration ALWAYS results in national purity.
3. There are traitors, however, to America's constitution.
  - Racketeers and crooks.
  - Selfish, unjust politicians.
  - Spies who sell out their country.
  - Those who infiltrate America by becoming "citizens" with the intent of bringing harm.
  - All of the people who work against our nation's welfare and safety are despicable and should be de-naturalized and extrodited.
  - As long as these kind of people exist in America, they are a menance and a threat to the grandest and freest country in the world - America.
4. Let every citizen of America bless God for this great country.
  - It is a paradise of plenty.
  - It is the bread basket of the world.
  - There is no beauty in all the earth that excells the beauty of America.
  - America is the land of the free amid a world of aggression and violence.

#### CONCLUSION:

1. The Liberty Bell in the old Independence Hall in Philadelphia is symbolic of all that the constitution of America stands for.
2. The Constitution of the United States of America is founded upon the Word of God, therefore Americans can praise God for the spiritual freedom He has made possible.
  - *John 8:36*
  - *2 Corinthians 3:17; Galatians 5:1*
3. Americans need to praise God for their Christian heritage and dedicate themselves anew to His service, remembering that they are Christians first and Americans second.
4. IF America ever leaves its founding principles, America is lost and doomed.