

AMERICA, WAKE UP!

Ezekiel 3:17-19

(I preached this sermon in the 1960's, please feel free to make adjustments.)

Introduction: If any country has had an opportunity to witness for God, America has been that country. God helped this country get started and God has had a purpose for this wonderful country but now our America is in the most critical time it has ever faced since it's beginning.

Since World War II, America has plunged into an orgy of wickedness, corruptness, and sinfulness that would amaze the pagans and heathens of the Old Testament history. Turmoil, unrest and fear grips our nation. Standards have been lowered, sex has become lust, holy days have become holidays, crime of all kinds are being revealed by newspapers, television, magazines, books. Crimes are being committed by teenagers that not too long ago were committed only by the most hardened criminals. Lying, cheating and stealing have invaded school classrooms, governmental agencies and businesses. Churches have become social clubs, and amusement centers. The cause of Christ has been demoted to a secondary position in life.

I. WE ARE UNSULTING GOD IN OUR HOMES

1. A revival is needed in the home first. Millions of homes have been broken, ruined, destroyed.
2. Millions of mothers and children have been deserted by the husbands/fathers.
3. No question that the great percentage of our nation's delinquents come from broken homes.
 - A small boy described his "home" as a place where you eat and sleep, where your mother and father fuss and fight and where your big brother beats you up.
4. People of the 20th century have been able to conquer space, land on the moon, circle the sun, able to forecast the weather in advance, change the course of rivers, build mountains, walk on the sea, yet with all this knowledge, the power to build strong, healthy homes has been lost.
5. Only in sound and happy homes can the juvenile misconduct be prevented. Only in spiritual depth can the strength be found to overcome the hazards of building a home.
6. Unless the family turns back to God, unless the parents abide by the rules of decent living, unless parents are willing to place God first in their homes and then in turn be a proper example for their children, unless they do these things, America is in deep trouble.

II. WE ARE INSULTING GOD IN OUR DAILY HABITS

1. This is a generation of profane tongues (you know what I mean). You hear it on the streets, public places such as grocery stores, garages, shops, factories, offices, any place of employment and any public place. Men, women, teenagers, little children each as bad as the other uttering words of profanity. One would think that "God" and "Jesus Christ" were the worst beings that ever have lived by the way their names are dragged through the filthy talk.

2. Sadly, there are Sunday School teachers and yes, even Pastors who have taught and preached on Sunday mornings who have been guilty of this very offense of filthy, dirty, profane language. "Bitter and sweet water cannot flow from the same spring..." *"Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain."*
3. Profanity, cursing used to be confined to the barber shops, taverns and where the "rough" people hung out but today in America it is found everywhere and even little children swear and curse like an old drunkard of yesteryear.
 - If you are guilty of this offense, ask God to forgive you for God is going to bring judgment upon this country if it doesn't straighten out and come back to Him.

III. WE ARE INSULTING GOD IN OUR SCHOOLS

1. School teachers and coaches are setting the wrong examples for the students by their attitudes, language, morals and insincerities.
2. Prayer and God's Word, the Bible have been taken out of our schools. This great country was founded on the very things which have of late been removed, prayer and the Bible. Even our coins carry the slogan, "In God We Trust." Yes, God at one time blessed this country.
3. God's Word teaches that God created the heavens and the earth and man. But now the great minds of this country are teaching our children in our schools that mankind has evolved from a tiny speck of protoplasm floating out in space and that the universe gave life all by itself. Unless we come back to God in our schools, our country is in great danger.

IV. WE ARE INSULTING GOD IN OUR CHURCHES

1. There are denominations who teach that Jesus Christ was just a "super-human" and that He was not divine. They also teach that we are not saved by God's salvation or by the blood of Jesus Christ but by our own good works. They deny the death of Jesus on the cross as anything redemptive. They deny the resurrection. They deny the ascension. No wonder so many churches are spiritually dead. A lost, unsaved person cannot be revived for that person is dead. But, a Christian can be revived. America's Christians need reviving.
2. In America, once "God's Country" there are more church members at the movies and watching television on Sunday nights than there are in church services. Thousands of church members know very little about their "doctrine." Many are content to go to Sunday morning services from Sunday to Sunday without any thought at all about winning a lost person to Jesus Christ. Only 25% of a church membership attends services of any kind on any given Sunday. Hundreds of churches have had no one saved during worship services throughout the year. God is being insulted with our careless, indifferent attitude toward His Church, toward the lost, and toward the backslidden Christian. God is going to do something to this country.

CONCLUSION:

1. From insulting God in our homes, our daily habits, in our schools, and in our churches, over three out of five marriages end in divorce for there are few biblical marriages anymore.
2. Juvenile delinquency is rampant and a crime committed every 18 seconds and a murder committed every 40 minutes or less. If all the murdered people were placed in funeral cars, the funeral procession would reach for almost 100 miles. Suicides in our country are around 100 a day.
3. God warned the people in Noah's day - in Sodom and Gomorrah's day - often in Israel's time but none would listen and each time God's judgment fell upon the people.
4. God has warned our country, just look around at where we once were with God and where we are today.
5. What is the answer? God is surely going to bring judgment upon America unless we as Christians get ourselves right with God first, and then try to get our nation back to God where it started.
6. America is NOT immune from God's judgment, it is coming!