

THE DAYS OF NOAH HAVE COME BACK

(This sermon preached in the 1960's. Feel free to adjust it for today.)

Matthew 24:37-39

At the turn of every page of our newspapers, at every news broadcast, the fact of our nation being morally and spiritually degraded becomes more evident.

We are living in a day when all value and purpose of living has disappeared from human living. Our sole objective seems to be success, status, security, self-indulgence, pleasure and comfort.

It has been said that if we could judge our time by the paintings produced by our "modern" artists, the crazy, incomprehensible mixture of colors denotes the confused minds and values of our day.

The same goes for our movies, television programs, books and plays. It would appear that all that the American people want is violence, sex and killings.

Our generation is sick and in need of salvation. A wise man has stated that, "We have very little conviction of our own essential dignity, or even of our essential decency."

With all of this evidence in plain view, no wonder a Washington correspondent remarked, "unless there is a change deep down in the American people, a genuine crusade against self-indulgence and immorality, public and private, then we are witness to the decline and fall of the American Republic.

The crack in the moral dam is widening, but like the people of Noah's day before the flood, life goes on as usual with only a few concerned and scarcely anyone alarmed. But being unconcerned will not detour the catastrophic future of our country. The people of Noah's day were not expecting judgment, but it came.

We have become soft, comfortable and numb. Today whenever almost any crisis arises, the people ask for a drink. When our papers' headlines become dark with danger, the sale of alcohol and drugs sky-rocket. One woman said that every time she and her husband had a disagreement, he made a dash for the corner bar.

Millions of barbituates are swallowed every night to help the nation sleep. Millions of pep pills wake us up in the morning and millions of tranquilizers keep us calm during the day. We are trying to escape from the grim realities instead of facing them.

It has been asked of our country, "Is our society in the process of dying without our knowing it?" Time after time the prophets warned the people of old, but the Bible says that the people's hearts became hardened and their ears deaf. They were deliberately deaf to the Word of God.

1. The words of Paul addressed to the Roman society might well apply to us - **Romans 1:21**.
 - If ever a nation was bequeathed the knowledge of God, our nation have been. Yet we are throwing away our heritage on lust and passions.
2. Paul also wrote - **Romans 1:22**.
 - The will to believe, to resist, to contend, to fight, to struggle is gone. In place of this will to resist, is the desire to conform, to drift, to follow, to yield, to give up. This happened to Rome and it is happening to us. The same condition that prevailed in Rome's day, exists now in America.
 - Before Rome fell, her standards were abandoned, the family disintegrated, divorce prevailed, immorality was rampant and faith at a low ebb. There was much talk of religion but few practiced it. How many "professing" Christians are "practicing" Christians in our country?
3. Again Paul wrote - **Romans 1:28**.

- Humanism has become the god of our times. The creed, "I believe in man, I believe in what man can do," has become our cry. We have left God for man. Left perfection for imperfection. Left love for hate. Left peace for unrest.

4. Once again Paul speaks - **Romans 1:24.**

- God didn't give up, He gave man up. When this happens we are in a terrifying danger. God gave man up three times:
 - God gave man up when he turned to immoral lust and practices.
 - God gave man up when he turned to vile affections and immoral deviations.
 - God gave man up when he turned to a reprobate mind and became filled with all unrighteousness, fornication and covetousness.
- When God gives man up, there is only one thing left - Judgment!

5. **Romans 1:32.**

- When Sodom and Gomorrah became guilty of the same sins that our nation is committing daily, God judged them with fire and brimstone. The Bible says, "**...God spared them not...**"
- When the people of Noah's day became guilty of the same identical sins which the American people are guilty of, the Bible says, "**...God spared them not...**"
- We are not God's "pets" nor can we claim special consideration on judgment day. The moral law says "**...the wages of sin is death...**" and if our country continues on its present course, it will mean ultimate death to our society.
- How ironic it is that a civilization such as ours, so advanced, with the best automobiles, the best appliances, the best televisions, the best everything has forgotten God.

6. **Romans 1:20.** "**...they are without excuse...**" said God.

- We as a nation are without excuse. We are now finding out how true the statement is, "When America ceases to be good, it will cease to be great."
- We are setting the stage for personal and national dissolution and ultimate judgment. We are building for destruction and we are begging for God's judgment.
- Thomas Jefferson said, "I tremble for my country when I remember God is just."

7. **Matthew 10:15.**

- In the King Tut museum in Cairo, Egypt, there is a grain of wheat over 5,000 years old, taken from the tomb of one of the great Pharaohs. It is said that if the seed were planted, it would grow.
- The seeds of morality, reverence, integrity, and righteousness are not dead in our people, they are dormant. But there is still time for us to avoid the fires of judgment.

8. **2 Peter 3:9.**

9. **Hebrews 3:7-8.**

- In times of national problems, such as we are having today, we should be hearing the voice of God. Many times we miss the purpose of national catastrophes. Someone said, "We turn to God for help when our foundations are shaking, only to learn that it is God who is shaking them."
- The foundations of our nation are being shaken. God is warning us. Man was not made to be

empty. We were not made to be bored. We were not created to live a life of fear and anxiety. You and I were made for better things.

10. *Psalm 8:5-6.*

11. *Mark 8:36.*

- In the eyes of God, we, as individuals, are all-important. Jesus Christ can bring our nation back. He can revive the sleeping seeds of morality, righteousness, integrity and of love. He can make us somebody.

CONCLUSION:

1. Look at yourself! Is your life confused, jumbled up and seemingly useless? Have you no goal in life? Are you simply living day to day like a vegetable?
2. Does nothing seem to affect you? Does nothing seem important to you? If so, then you need the Lord Jesus Christ. Our whole nation needs HIM.
3. Why not help our nation get right with God by each of us, individually, getting right with His Son, Jesus Christ. It must start somewhere, let it start with us.