

TROUBLE IN A GREAT NATION

Isaiah 5:8, 11-12, 18; 20:23 Proverbs 28:13

Introduction: We don't have to be reminded that our nation is in a deplorable condition. What we do need to know is what can we do about it? Is it too late to do anything at all?

Someone once said, "The greatest thing anyone can do for God and mankind is to pray. It is not the only thing, but it is the CHIEF thing. The great people of earth are the people who pray. I do not mean those who talk about prayer; not those who say they believe in prayer; nor yet those who can explain about prayer; but I mean those people who take the time to pray."

So, how do we go about praying for our nation?

I. CONFESS TO GOD THE SINS OUR NATION HAS COMMITTED (*Nehemiah 1:6-7*)

1. The sexual perversions being tolerated as legitimate, alternative lifestyles which are homosexuality, living together unmarried, illegitimate children, Gay couples adopting children. The pornography invading all ages of our people.
2. The foundations of our families have been destroyed. Marriage vows are no longer sacred and way over one half of marriages end in divorce within just a very few years. Marriage partners are unfaithful to one another sometimes both. Children end up with only one parent.
3. Legalized murder of millions of unborn babies each year, all of course created in the image of God and some of the murdered babies being only a couple months from their birth time.
4. Allowing our children to be indoctrinated with secular humanism in public schools, teaching evolution but not allowing prayer or Christian influence of any sort.
5. The attitude and open declared public stands our nation has taken contrary to God's standards of right living. What God given thing has our nation not ruined?
6. We must plead with God to have mercy on our nation and to bring about a national movement of prayer of repentance and obedience to His laws our nation once had.

II. PRAY SPECIALLY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE AUTHORITY IN OUR NATION (*1 Timothy 2:1-2*)

1. Americans have neglected their right to influence people by prayer for God can move people to do good or bad.
2. Because of our neglected prayer, God has allowed us to be led by those who are motivated by selfishness, worldly thinking and peer pressure. We have remained silent and haven't prayed, just complained.

3. Here are some people we need to pray for and ask these things:

- Our president, our Senators, our Congressmen/women, our Governor, our State Senator, our State Representative and our Supreme Court Justices.
- Pray for them:
 - Pray that they would realize their personal sinfulness and their daily need for cleansing of their sins by Jesus Christ.
 - Pray that they would recognize their personal inadequacy to fulfill their tasks and that they should depend upon God for knowledge, wisdom, and then take the courage to do what is right for the whole nation.
 - Pray that they would reject all counsel that violates spiritual principles, trusting God to prove them right.
 - Pray that they would resist those who would pressure them to violate their conscience.
 - Pray that they would reverse the trends of socialism and humanism in their nation, both of which lifts up man rather than God.
 - Pray that they would be ready to sacrifice their personal ambitions and political careers for the sake of this nation, if doing so would be in the best interest of this country.
 - Pray that they would rely upon prayer and the Word of God as the source of their daily strength, wisdom and courage.
 - Pray that they would restore dignity, honor, trustworthiness, and righteousness to the office they hold.
 - Pray that they would remember to be good examples in their conduct to the fathers, mothers, sons, and daughters of this nation.
 - Pray that they would be reminded daily that they are accountable to Almighty God for the decisions they make.
 - Pray that if any of our elected leaders does not know Jesus Christ as savior and Lord that he/she would come to know Him as such.

4. Let us not forget those God has raised up to lead His people in the fight against Satan and his forces within this nation.

III. PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR NATION WHO ARE ENSLAVED IN SIN

1. It is easy to sit inside our Churches and criticize and condemn the sins and sinners that are destroying our nation.
2. We **MUST** care about and pray for all those who are slaves to drink, drugs, sex, money and self.
3. Our nation needs Christians to stand in the gap between God and the sins and sinners that are destroying this once great nation.

CONCLUSION:

1. Our nation is on the brink, the edge of disaster. Freedom is at stake, our freedom, that of our children, grandchildren and their grandchildren.
2. No nation should ever need look at us and have to ask, "where is your God?"
3. Our nation needs forgiveness and healing from God.
4. Are you willing to bend your knees and heart and meet God's conditions?
5. Are you willing to pay the price of humility, repentance and persistent, prevailing prayer?
6. Our nation is but one generation from paganism. Our grandchildren may very well raise their children without God. It is up to OUR generation to see that they don't.
7. May God have mercy on our nation.