

Independence Day 2016

“Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD and the people whom He has chosen for His own inheritance.” **Psalm 33.12**

Blessed... Blessed are all they that put their trust in the Son. **Ps 2.12** Blessed are they that dwell in Your house. They will always praise You! **84.4** Blessed are they that keep and promote justice and practice righteousness at all times. **106.3** Blessed are the blameless who follow the instructions of the Lord. Blessed are they that keep His testimonies, and that seek Him with the whole heart. **Ps119.1,2** Blessed are all they that wait for Him. **Is 30.18** *“Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.”* **Romans 4.7,8**

We the People... Of America have been a blessed people... Founded on the word(s) of God! Revisionists would love to dissuade us from our knowledge... But the early records stand for themselves!

“It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor!” **–George Washington**

“We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other!” **–John Adams, founding father**

“I’ve lived, sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth: that God governs in the affairs of men. If a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid? We’ve been assured in the sacred writings *that unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it!*” **–Benjamin Franklin**

“Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty, as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers.” **– John Jay, 1st Supreme Court Justice, 1789-1795**

“I verily believe Christianity necessary to the support of civil society. One of the beautiful boasts of our municipal jurisprudence is that Christianity is a part of the Common Law. There never has been a period in which the Common Law did not recognize Christianity as laying its foundations.” **–Joseph Story, Supreme Court Justice 1812-1845**

“Faith in (Jesus Christ) goes hand in hand with the highest civilization, and all realize that the more His spirit enters into one’s life the better that life becomes. In the light of this admitted fact, can any one look thoughtfully upon the future of this nation without believing that if His spirit shall become more and more potent, not merely the individual citizens, but the nation as a whole will rise in all the elements of moral grandeur and power?” **–David J. Brewer, Supreme Court Justice 1905**

“I looked for the genius and power of America and not until I went to her churches and heard her pulpits aflame with righteousness did I understand; America is great because she is good and if America ever ceases to be good America will no longer be great!” **–Alexis de Tocqueville, 1831**

We the People... Of America have been a blessed people... But the blessedness of any people can be rejected, revoked and replaced...

If We forget... It will be, if you do at all forget the Lord your God, and walk after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day that you will surely perish. As the nations which the Lord destroyed before your face, so will you perish; because you would not be obedient unto the voice of the Lord your God. **Deut 8.19,20**

If We Exchange... “Consider this diligently and see if such a thing has happened; has a nation changed their gods, which are no gods? But My people have exchanged their glory for what cannot deliver. Be astonished and afraid for My people have committed two evils; they have forsaken Me, the fountain of living water, and, hewed out cisterns, broken ones, that can hold no water! **Jeremiah 2.10**

If We Reject... “The land I have given them and the house I have cleaned for My name I will cast out of My sight. My people will become a haunting proverb to all people. When they see the nation that I lifted high, they will be stunned, and will whistle and ask, How did this happen to them? And the answer will be, they rejected the Lord their God, who brought them out of bondage, and have taken hold of other gods to bow down to and to work for. That’s why the Lord brought upon them all this evil. **1K9.7-9**

“Can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; that His justice cannot sleep forever!” –**Thomas Jefferson**

We the People... Of America have been a blessed people... And while the blessedness of any people can be rejected, revoked and replaced... **There’s another nation, within the nation, mightier than any earthly nation!**

The “nation” of God’s-own, His fully-owned people! We, Those People... Redeemed with precious price... are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, *a holy nation*, a peculiar people; that should show forth the praises of Him who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light! We are now the people of God, having obtained mercy! **1Peter 1.18, 2.9 1Cor 6.19,20**

We, Those People... Still have the blessing of God! We have been reconciled to Him and have an inheritance in Him! We trust Him, live in Him, and we are His temple! We promote His ways and practice His words with praise! We are blameless in Him, wait on His instructions and “follow” Him!

We, Those People... Who are blessed by God to have our sins forgiven and covered... Are the only ones who can redeem our broken nation... By bringing good news of sins forgiven and covered... To the people on our streets, our neighborhoods and our homes who need good news!

This Independence Day let us lay aside the sins that attack us and the things that distract us to be freedom fighters who live to please the One who called us...

Prayer... “Lord, on this day... as we remember our nation’s independence, we pause to honor You. We thank you for the blessings of liberty. We know that our country and its many freedoms come from Your hand. Our land is in need of You. Our people are in need of You. Lead us as a nation in the way we should go and grant us the opportunity to lead others into the freedom that can be found in knowing You. Today our hearts and souls are free to praise You and for that we are thankful!