

**The Introduction**  
*America 09, Part 1*  
*Slide Notations*

**Part One... Putting the Filter in place! A Metaphor!**

Father says to his son... There are three things that need to happen before we go to Disney World... First, you have one last heart surgery that will ensure your healthy future! You know it's just another routine procedure, that it's not more than you can handle and that you have the Dr's guarantee for success! I am telling you this in advance so you will not have even one moment of fear!

The second thing is that we have bugs in our house and it has to be fumigated... it's an involved process and we're going to be inconvenienced for a while but we want a clean house! I am telling you this so that you won't have to ask, "Is it time yet? When are we going?" You will know how close we are to going to Disney World for the-very-best-family-time-ever just by what's happening in our lives!

The third thing is that we are in a very active storm season and there's a huge hurricane coming in from the far Atlantic. We're going to be fine, but as an emergency services worker I can't leave until the storm makes landfall. Once the storm hits, and we've helped all the people we can, we'll be packing up to go on the very best trip ever! I am telling you all this so you will know right where we are and not be anxious about going!

**The Reality:** Just because there are serious things going on that don't sound happy... It doesn't mean life is not good and that we aren't joy-full! In fact, knowing that just beyond the "serious list" is the promise we desire most, the events become little more than line items to be checked off on the way, as our joy builds!

**The Reality:** The Word of God is our Dad's speech to us: telling us things in advance so we are informed, forewarned, alert, and looking forward, not surprised and fear-filled! When we talk about the signs of the times it shouldn't be depressing... It's how we know where we are what needs to happen, what kind of people we should be and how soon we get to go!

*The way we receive the "headlines" of our day is a strength of heart issue determined by the filter we have in place over our eyes!*

*If we have Heaven in view our headlines are little more than line items to be checked off on our way!*

**Part Two... Headlines!**

**July 19 Headline:** "Geithner travels globe, pitching U.S. debt. Treasury secretary must convince foreign governments investment is safe." "Geithner, who traveled last week to the Middle East and Europe, has to convince foreign investors to keep buying Treasury bills, notes and bonds; they hold nearly half of the government's roughly \$7 trillion in publicly traded debt.

**July 20, ABC:** Schwarzenegger on \$26b budget deficit: "Yes we are taking money from cities and counties but they can borrow against the I.O.U.'s because they know we'll pay it back!" (?)

Questioned about Federal bailout money: "California may have to bailout the federal government."

**July 24:** "Millions wait for delayed jobless checks. Cracks in unemployment system widen under strain of recession." 16 states, w/exhausted benefit funds, paying w/borrowed cash/# could double. \$100b 2009 est/people losing houses waiting for approval of benefits... *The rule of Mammon is a hard one!*

**July 24:** Pence Bill struck down Friday that would have withheld HHS funds for Planned Parenthood. (\$350m last year) Binding us to abortion funding! It's one thing to guarantee a person's human rights – to do anything lawful – but completely different to force us to pay for things we know break God's laws! *This is a moral issue for the Church!*

**June 30:** LGBT dinner: "I will not only be your friend, I will continue to be an ally and a champion and a president who fights with you and for you. By the time we leave office, I think you guys will have pretty good feelings about the Obama administration." "Many Americans still disapprove of homosexuality. There are still fellow citizens, perhaps neighbors or even family members and loved ones, who still hold fast to worn arguments and old attitudes."

**Weekly**, if not most daily, reports inform us new cabinet, advisors, judges, "czars" stacking up against American values and Christian principles! Media has made the headlines: Newsweek editor Evan Thomas/MSNBC interview: "I mean in a way Obama's standing above the country, above – above the world, he's sort of God."

**WWW – Michael Jackson!** World-wide worship not world wide web! Every network/newspaper/ magazine carried the stories of MJ's worship services/saga's. Confused, very stoned/ pop star? J.K. Rowling's Revelation/ABC. Potter books written from her depression... \$b from millions of doses of darkness!

**"If the incorruptible Word of God replaces corrupted thinking... what does reading a notably corrupted word do?"**

Rick Warren calls Christians, Muslims and Buddhists to war w/global giants...war, poverty, corruption, disease, illiteracy! Jesus only way to peace/pros/health **J10.10** Devil's presence guarantees "giants!"  
Episcopalian Bishop decries personal salvation as complete heresy... PA legislature bans the mention of "Jesus" in prayer... CA town voting next. Atheists sue to stop "In God We Trust" new Capital Visitor Center...  
2% v 98%

**America is no longer what she once was simply because she lost her power and gave away her place...**

*America was great because God was in His place and He gave us His power, and prosperity...*

**Once we lost our focus on God and His mission, the power of heaven began dissipating and we began the fall into the shadows!**

*America, the Christian Nation, was set in the earth to rescue and transform the human culture... but instead we started "conforming" to the world!*

**Romans 12.1,2** Don't be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind!  
Conformation requires nothing! When the Church does nothing, we are back in the world, looking just like it!  
Transformation comes "by" intentionally renewing our minds – as we relate to the will of God – beginning with humility!

**Part Three... If the Church is the key factor for America's defeat, then the Church has the key role in bringing it back to health!**

**What happened?** We exchanged the bleeding edge for the cutting edge! **Lk 9.23, Gal 4.9, 5.1** We wanted to be like the world, have the things that world has (stuff, supply, style, etc) instead of what God has for us (training in righteousness/trans character)

**Forgot**, invited into the kingdom, to die before we can experience the fullness of His life. **2C4.10**  
We must mortify the deeds of the flesh to live! **R8.13, Col3.5**

**Forgot**, We gather together the 1st day of the week for worship, encouragement, empowerment - 2hrs to meet 166 others! We come to wash off the dust/world in the rain of worship! Soak up the Word til' filled up so we can go! Energize for the coming week activities! Too many come to do a duty to God! Naturally leave bored, unchanged, hungry for another mouthful of world candy...

**Forgot**, We need daily dosings of the Word of God to keep our faith built up! **R10.17** We need regular interactivity w/the Spirit of God; praying/listening! **Jude 20, J16.13** We need to express the great things God has done for us to unbelievers! **Mk 5.19** We need to do good things; proving the love of God and our faith! **Jam1.22, 2.18,26** Salt/earth, city/hill, lamp/stand, let light shine/men see/glorify Father! **Mt5.13-16**

**Forgot**, I will cut off 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 to and work for. That's why the Lord brought upon them all this evil. **1K9.7-9**

**What religionists, atheists, compromised Christians have forgotten is that America's faith foundation is what everything else has been built upon!**

*While it may seem like a good idea at the time to dumb us down – finally subdued, the whole thing comes apart and the whole earth mourns!*

**The recorded history of Revelation 18 tell us that – like the devil at the Cross didn't know – the world at our graveside doesn't realize they committed an act of suicide!**