

America 2014 "In Danger but not Despairing!"

"Our country is in danger, but not to be despaired of... (not if you) act worthy of yourselves" –Dr. Joseph Warren

There were ominous moments in Jesus ministry time... Times when He dealt with troubling topics...
Forewarning, forearming, locating discussions!

America, 238 years old! We are the late born child of the Christian nations... Middle East was the first born...
Then N/E Africa (Philip), Europe and Asia (Paul)... Then the "dark ages" of stagnation, rebellion, self-
interpretation, misrepresentation... then the America's...

Our Christian faith made us a very unique place... "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 **"God bless(ing) America" was a reality!**

*"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,
founding father*

*"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*

*"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." – First Supreme
Court Justice John Jay, served from 1789 to 1795*

In 2014 our once unique place is becoming a very "common" place! We are still the "might" of the world... But
we are no longer the financial power of the world... Our political system has fallen into derision... And our moral
position is now becoming laughable among many nations... The kill has been made and now the carrion feeders
are approaching...

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

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**

"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 changed 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**

*"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, founding father

Is there a way to turn this around, for America to regain her former glory? Yes! And more!

"If there is a drought in the land I have chosen for Myself, if there is a time when its resources are consumed from use, if there is an epidemic among My people; If My people who are called by My name will *humble* themselves and *pray* and *seek* My face and *turn* from their wicked ways then I will hear from Heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land... and with wide open eyes and ears I will listen to the prayer that is made!" **2Ch7.13-16**

But let me ask, "Do you see the American church... Humbling before God for waywardness... Repenting of ease/comfort/"sleep..." Praying night/day... With all forms of prayer – stopping/ waiting to hear His voice... Searching for God's face, presence, like He really was the all in all... Turning from it's pursuit of world/ways?

The point isn't doom, but that in every situation, under every leader, a string of faith has survived... With the failure of every institution, and every person, the church has continued... Thru people who were affixed to Christ and not any man or system! You can be that person!

What keeps us affixed? The belief *and tangible experience* we have with a resurrected Savior! Without the resurrection realization there would have been no second generation... Without the very real, life changing, presence of Jesus as Savior believers would soon have quit... Just another religion would have died with its leaders! **A5.34ff But Jesus comes walking into our lives!**

You are not safe until you move beyond the "free ticket to eternity" stage!

Ever more people coming into the salvation experience! Our faith is renewed by "multitudes" coming into salvation! People of all backgrounds able to minister to people of all backgrounds! Opens the door to "syncretism..." But if we teach them to hold fast to the gospel as it was once delivered... OK!

Asides... Lots of current controversy about the Bible as we have it today... Thanks to National Geographic/A&E. No later than 200 A.D. we had the NT canon we have today... Except for Hebrews, 1& 2Peter, 3John (accepted at Council of Carthage 397) All of Paul's letters were used immediately and the gospels were brought together by 150 A.D. Our Bible is not a modern construct!

You are not safe until you engage your mission!

Believe it or not, persecution and martyrdom! Every effort to kill the faith has resulted in people being forced to sort it out! Deny it to save ourselves! Repent of denial to return! Willing to die for it! Which continues to validate it! And continues to empower us supernaturally!

Polycarp...

"O Father of the beloved and blessed son, Jesus Christ, thru whom we have come to know you, the God of angels and powers and all creation, and of the whole family of the righteous who live in Your presence; I bless you for counting me worthy of this day and hour, that in the number of martyrs I may partake of Christ's cup, to the resurrection of eternal life of both soul and body in the imperishability that is the gift of the Holy Spirit..." and then he was burned!

It may never happen while you're alive but while you are you should be prepared in case it is!