

# GATEWAY INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES REPORT

**“A Passion for Souls”**

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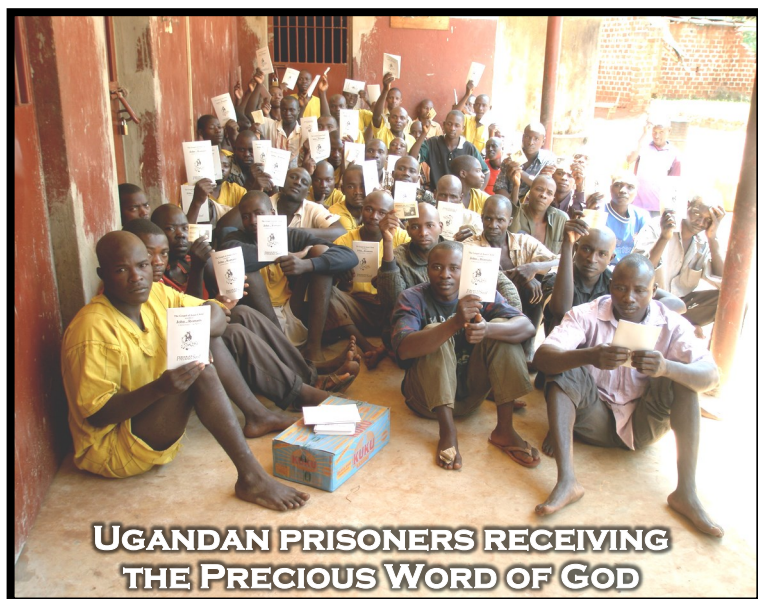


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**UGANDAN PRISONERS RECEIVING  
THE PRECIOUS WORD OF GOD**

## **FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK...**

Dear Beloved GIMI Team Members,

Blessed mid-summer greetings to you in the precious name of Jesus! I trust that you are well and that you are very busy trying to win people to Christ in these last days just before He comes again! One doesn't have to look around himself or herself very long today in order to see that this world is spiraling out of control, and with the evident counterfeit church which we are now seeing everywhere, we must believe that Jesus will soon come to rapture His church, and then the Antichrist will be revealed. Yet, I am so happy to report that according to **II Thessalonians 1:7-8**, there is comfort for those of us who are saved and ready to meet the Master. Please pay attention to these verses. ***“And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from***

***heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*** We may not often want to think about the eventual judgment of God which is coming to this earth during the Great Tribulation period, but it is truly going to happen. But, for the genuinely saved child of God, there is nothing to fear for we will be raptured out just before the Great Tribulation begins. Of course, our main concern should be that we stay busy trying to win as many people to Christ as we possibly can before Jesus does return for His bride. I would sincerely hope and pray that every one of you readers of this newsletter is truly ready to meet Jesus in the air because of your personal salvation and relationship with Christ. If you don't get to know Jesus now, you will be mightily embarrassed and ashamed if the first time you meet Him is in judgment after He comes again! Please, please make sure that you are genuinely saved and ready for Christ to come again!

## **THE HARVEST IS GETTING BIGGER AND BIGGER**

In our last newsletter I talked about the great harvest of souls that we were able to reap on our last trip to Uganda back in April, but today I want to share with you that God is so good because He is giving GIMI another year of great harvest on our African fields through the ministry of our national workers and, of course, through the mission team that we took to Africa a few months back. As you may remember, during our trip in April, we shared the Gospel message with 7,302 prisoners and students. From this large number of people, 1,292 people gave their hearts to Christ in first-time decisions. With these results from our mission trip,

and through the efforts of our national preachers, God has given us the privilege this year, through the month of June, of sharing the Gospel message with over 400,000 people, from which just over 59,000 people have prayed to receive Christ as their personal Savior. This is a 14% harvest rate from the multitudes that we have shared the Good News with this year. We just want to give Jesus the glory for His mighty saving power!

Also, I am thrilled to tell you that our nationals on the fields are doing a wonderful job visiting the prisons and schools monthly to follow up on the new decisions for Christ. They are teaching the Bible in order to disciple those who genuinely get saved. I am very proud of our ministry workers and volunteers who take so seriously their responsibility to help people grow in the Lord once they come to Christ. And, it is such a joy to see the large number of Muslims who are giving their hearts and lives to Jesus once they hear the true message of our Lord Jesus Christ. Truly, there is mighty (dynamite) power in the proclamation of the Gospel. You see folks, we don't have to change the Gospel to oral stories and then try to argue people into the Kingdom of God. All we have to do is to present the Gospel message in the power of the Holy Spirit, draw the net with strong invitations, and then leave the results up to our Lord. It always amazes me how this generation of Christians has believed the lies that proclamation and preaching won't work any more! The Word of God says, ***"For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."*** (Romans 1:16). And then Paul the Apostle said in another place, ***"For our Gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake."*** (1 Thess. 1:5). So, the proclamation of the Gospel should not be by the means of dialogue, arguments, apologetics, and oral stories, but it should be through the powerful preaching of the Word of God by servants of God who have genuinely clean lives and whose testimonies back up what they preach.

## THE OPERATION COVER UP BLANKET PROJECT IS GROWING

Most of you who read our newsletter regularly know that a few months back we started the "Operation Cover Up" blanket project to raise the funds for GIMI to purchase 10,000 blankets over the next many months to provide these warm coverings for scores of prisoners in

many of our prisons in Africa. We decided to begin the project by concentrating on the women's prisons where there are many children in prison with their moms. Then too, we will provide numbers of other blankets for our male inmates, as well, in helping to alleviate a lot of the suffering they endure, especially during the cold, damp nights in many of the African hills and mountains. We began the distribution of these blankets a couple months ago, and now as the money comes in to purchase these blankets, we will continue to distribute them to hundreds and hundreds of people as God provides. By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have already distributed over 1,000 of these blankets. We are thrilled about providing these, but we do know that we still have a long way to go.

Our goal is to eventually buy 10,000 blankets at the cost of \$10.00 each, which will bring the total funds needed to \$100,000. I want to thank many of you who have already helped toward this project, but I would like to encourage more of you to help us provide this warmth for a lot of cold suffering people in African prisons. We have provided some really good photos of some of the distribution of the blankets in Kenya and Uganda. We sincerely hope that these photos showing the excitement of the people when they receive these blankets will inspire you to help us raise all the funds we need. And, I would remind you that with every blanket we distribute, we give the Gospel message so that the people can also be covered by the blood of Jesus in order to wash away their sins and to cover their spiritual nakedness. I would appeal to all of you to please help us share the warmth of God's amazing love with these suffering people!



LADY PRISONERS  
RECEIVING BLANKETS FROM GIMI IN UGANDA

## **A TRIBUTE TO A GREAT SERVANT OF GOD**

Most of you know that I have been working in Africa for over 33 years. During these three plus decades of ministry, I have had the privilege of working with some of the most dedicated servants of God that I have ever met. In recent years, GIMI has been in partnership with a tremendous Baptist preacher whose name is Israel Ngirababo. He lives and works in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. He is stationed in the eastern capital city of Goma. It is just across the border from Gisenyi, Rwanda. Pastor Israel is not only the pastor of local churches, but he is the director and overseer over 100 other Baptist churches. Israel is truly a great preacher, a dynamic soul winner, a church planter, and a tremendously compassionate servant of God who loves to share the love of Christ in one of the most dangerous and difficult parts of the world. Israel preaches and teaches in an area where there are many militant Guerrilla groups who are constantly raiding villages, killing masses of people, and yes, sexually assaulting and raping scores of young women.

Just about one and one half years ago, these blood-thirsty monsters raided the village of Djugu in the Ituri province, which is located northeast of Goma. They killed over 40 people, including the husbands and fathers of numbers of women and young women. In this horrible massacre, these thugs, and some State soldiers, raped 60 women and girls. Many of them became pregnant by the rapists. After this terrible ordeal, many of these girls and women carrying these babies found themselves living alone in a refugee camp. Pastor Israel and the Baptist Church in Ituri took in 27 of these violated women and girls and began to share Christ with these pregnant ladies. Many of them got saved, seven of which were recently baptized in the church there.

In recent months, after these violated ladies had their babies, many of them brought their new babies to the local church there in Ituri on a Sunday just a few weeks back. Pastor Israel conducted a baby dedication service where these moms gave their new children to Christ. Then, he and the church family decided that they needed to properly train these new moms in sewing classes so that they would have a means to make some money to support their new babies. While doing this special training, Pastor Ngirababo and his people made an appeal to us for some help to purchase new sewing machines for these dear ladies. After receiving this appeal, I presented the need to our Gateway

International Baptist Church, which is a small relatively new church work. Our dear people raised over \$1,700 in just two Sundays! This made it possible for Pastor Israel to purchase 15 new sewing machines. I am still praising God for the sacrificial giving by many of our people, and I would like to appeal to you, our support team members, to consider helping with this special project. The cost per machine is \$120. We still need to buy 12 more so that all 27 women will have their own sewing machine to make some money to take care of their new baby and even other kids. So, if more of you could help with this small project, please send your gifts to GIMI and designate them for these sewing machines. I would also beg you to please pray for these dear ladies, who have been so traumatized by this horrendous ordeal, and for their children.

Before closing this tribute to Pastor Israel, let me share with you that in 2016, he and one other pastor baptized over 2,000 converts in just twelve months. Would you say that truly God is using this special man of God? I surely would, and I sincerely believe you will as well. Please pray for Preacher Israel and all of the pastors sharing the Gospel in this dangerous part of Africa. GIMI is very proud to have this dear servant of God on our team! Please notice the photos of this pastor, some of his church work, some of his prison ministry, and yes, even photos of these dear ladies who gave birth to these babies. And, please, please, pray for the futures of these children that they will get saved at an early age and spend the rest of their lives serving Jesus!



## **WE NEED TO SHIP ANOTHER CONTAINER TO KENYA!**

All of you GIMI friends know that for the past 19 years, Jo Anne and I have raised the funds over and over to ship many containers to Africa loaded with thousands of Bibles, Scripture portions, children's clothes, Bible study materials, and even a lot of medical equipment. Truthfully, I can't remember just how many containers we have shipped. But, I do know just how important these containers full of materials have been to the African people as we have tried to provide literally several million copies of God's Word, Bible studies, clothing, and many other items. Because of our friends at Bearing Precious Seeds in Milford, Ohio, Pastor Wayne Holder in Beckley, West Virginia, Samaritan's Purse in Boone, N.C., and several other ministries, we have been able to keep providing these wonderful items to our African countries. Without a doubt, hundreds have come to Christ through these written materials and because of our humanitarian assistance to so many people. So, I want to thank every ministry that has so graciously helped us with this effort. Truly, God has used your work to embolden our work as we have shared the Gospel message with over nine million people down through the past 19 years. May God richly bless all of you for being such a blessing to GIMI.

I also want to thank the scores of you who have helped us raise the funds to ship these containers. The cost of shipping these containers has continued to rise year after year. Without your generosity, we never could have shipped these items and materials. So, thank you from the depths of my heart.

Please know that recently we shipped another 20 ft. container full of materials for the Kingdom of God to Uganda. The cost to ship that container was almost \$12,000. That included shipping and the clearing costs once it arrived in Kampala. This effort was truly costly, but just today, I received an e-mail from a prisoner who got saved in a large maximum security prison in Uganda while reading one of my Gospel tracts he received as the result of shipping this last container. So, hallelujah to God for the privilege of taking His written word to the lost world.

Now, we desperately need to ship another container to Kenya. In our warehouse right now, we have a huge amount of Bibles, New Testaments, John, and Romans which we need to get to our workers in Kenya. The cost of shipping and clearing this container will be about \$8,000 or \$9,000 to ship it and then clear it with

Customs once it arrives in Nairobi. I would like to appeal to all of you, our GIMI team members, to do your best to give sacrificially. These materials are ready to go, but we must raise these funds before we can get it on a ship headed for Kenya. If you would like to help us, please send your gifts to GIMI, P.O. Box 667, Taylorsville, N.C. 28681 and designate your gift for the Kenya Container. We really need to get the container there just as soon as we can. It usually takes almost 60 days to get a container to Nairobi. Therefore, I ask you to help us with this very soon. Sammy Mbugua and our team in Kenya really need your help with this endeavor!

## **PLEASE HELP US RETURN TO THE RADIO MINISTRY!**

Most of you know that a few years ago GIMI had a weekly radio broadcast on 17 radio stations here in America, and also in Africa. God really blessed this weekly ministry with many people getting saved, and hundreds of people studying the weekly Bible studies on a regular basis. Many of our African preachers would go to their prisons and listen to my Bible teaching on the radio on Saturday mornings. Then, they would have discussion groups and answer scores of questions to help our new converts grow and become good disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ. Due to my heart problems and diabetes getting worse, I had to discontinue the radio ministry about two years ago.

I feel strongly that we need to get back to broadcasting the Word of God on the radio again. I would love for us to be able to be on 100 radio stations to get the Word out with the presentation of the Gospel, but right now we can't go that far. However, if we could raise about \$1,300 per week for the broadcast, we could be on over 40 radio stations. Folks, this would be a potential audience of over 20 million listeners all over the world. We could probably see hundreds and hundreds of people get saved, and scores of new converts grow up into great disciples of Christ. So, will you please help us pray for God's will to be done in this matter, that He will supply the financial needs, and that He will continue to improve my health so I will be able to sit for hours and do these broadcasts.

By the way, if we are able to do the 40+ broadcasts, it will cost us about \$68,000 per year. Now folks, this sounds like a lot of money, but if we can do these broadcasts and win hundreds of people to Jesus, then truly it will be worth the cost.

Before I move on with this newsletter article, let me give you a great story from our previous Saturday morning broadcasts in Uganda. During those days we were on a station in Kampala, the capital, and another station, 60 miles away in the town of Jinja, just near the Nile River. One Saturday morning a distraught and depressed man from the country of Kuwait was in Uganda in a tremendous state of despair. This particular Saturday morning, he was in a vehicle on his way to the Nile River for the purpose of committing suicide. While in his vehicle he turned on the radio station only to hear our broadcast on that particular Christian station. Near the end of the broadcast that morning, I did as I often do, I said that if there were people who wanted to be saved, for them to join me in the sinner's prayer and ask Jesus to save them. I also stated, "if you are driving a vehicle, just pull over beside the road and pray the sinner's prayer with me." That morning, this man from Kuwait stopped his car along the Jinja Road and prayed the prayer with me. Instantaneously, he got gloriously saved and began to praise the Lord. Then first, he called the radio station in Jinja and told them what had happened and how God had not only saved his soul, but that He had saved his life that morning as well. The people at the radio station were so excited that they instantaneously e-mailed me to share the good news. So, is the radio a great tool for the proclamation of the Gospel? You bet it is! This is just one of many testimonies of people who have gotten saved by the means of radio. Therefore, let me ask you to pray for the renewal of this ministry and for the financial need we have to get back on the air. I can also tell you that doing radio broadcasts in our radio room is far easier than getting on planes and travelling thousands of miles. I am praying that this return to radio might be used mightily by God ! I hope you will be able to help us! Please consider this and send your gifts to GIMI and designate them for the Radio Ministry.

## **MY NEW BOOK IS BACK FROM THE PRINTER**

A lot of you know that I have been blessed by God to write over 50 books and booklets down through the years, plus scores of written sermons and Gospel booklets and tracts. Recently, after working on another book for the past 18 months, I completed my 51st book entitled, "A Passion For Souls In Africa". In this book I tell about how Jo Anne and I got started in Africa, over

33 years ago, and about how this work has grown so marvelously. I also talk about many of the problems that we have faced through the years, and of course, some of the many victories God has given us. In addition to the story line written in the book, we have included scores of colored photos of our work in Africa, which I believe you will enjoy.

If you would like have a copy of this brand new book, just e-mail us your order at our office, [office@gatewayinternationalmissions.com](mailto:office@gatewayinternationalmissions.com), and request your copy. The cost of the book is \$20.00. All of the proceeds from the sale of the book go right back into our African mission work. So, if you would like to have a copy of this beautiful new book with a photo of the Nile River on the cover, just please contact our office. We are sure that you will really enjoy the story and the photos.

## **ONE FINAL THOUGHT!**

As I close my article for this July/August GIMI newsletter, let me encourage you to please read carefully my written sermon entitled, "**Can America Be Saved?**" **This is an exposition of Deuteronomy 6:10-25.** In these verses, God was using Moses to share with Israel these words from God Himself telling them how they needed to apply Biblical principles in their lives once they started into the Promised Land. Please bear in mind that they had been wandering in the wilderness for over 40 years. Now, it was time for them to get serious about obeying the commandments of God so that they could enjoy the blessings of God upon them and their families, once they got into the land. In giving these wonderful verses to Israel, God has also given us some wonderful Biblical principles by which to live our lives. I encourage you to read this study and see what God requires for us to save our great American nation and to preserve its legacy for years to come. Once you read this message, I would love to know what you got out of it and if God blessed your life through it. Just contact me at: [gimi@charter.net](mailto:gimi@charter.net). I will respond to your observations! Thanks for reading the content. This matter is strongly on my heart! Have a good rest of the summer! Jo Anne and I love and appreciate you!

In the King's service,

*Dr. Stan A. Frye*  
President of GIMI  
Matthew 9:35-38

# DR CONGO



**PASTOR ISRAEL AND MORE LADIES  
WITH THEIR NEW SEWING MACHINES**



**PASTOR ISRAEL  
PREPARING FOR A BAPTISMAL SERVICE**



**PASTOR ISRAEL  
WITH CHILDREN AND THEIR SCRIPTURES**



**PASTOR ISRAEL  
MINISTERING TO WOMEN PRISONERS**

# UKRAINE



**CHILDREN  
PRAYING**



**SUMMER  
VBS**



**PRISONERS  
DISPLAYING THEIR SCRIPTURE PORTIONS**



**PASTOR DIMA  
MINISTERING AT A PRISON**



**CHILDREN AT A BLIND SCHOOL  
REJOICING OVER THEIR NEW BLANKETS**



**A LARGE GROUP OF PRISONERS  
ASSEMBLED TO HEAR THE GOSPEL**



**BROTHER SAMMY DELIVERING  
BLANKETS AND SUPPLIES TO A MEN'S PRISON**



**THREE PRISONERS  
HAPPILY RECEIVING FOOD PROVIDED BY GIMI**



**PASTOR STAN  
GIVING PRISONERS SUPPLIES PROVIDED BY GIMI**



**BROTHER SAMMY  
SHARING JESUS IN A VERY NEEDY PRISON**



**BROTHER SAMMY  
DISTRIBUTING MATTRESSES IN A WOMEN'S PRISON**



**LADY PRISONERS AND THEIR CHILDREN  
RECEIVING BLANKETS PROVIDED BY GIMI**



**MAMA JO ANNE  
GIVING BLANKETS TO LADY PRISONERS**



**A LARGE ASSEMBLY OF SCHOOL CHILDREN  
ANXIOUS TO HEAR THE GOSPEL**



**FRED NATO  
SHARING THE GOSPEL WITH SCHOOL CHILDREN**



**REV. SSENTUMBWE  
SHARING CHRIST IN A PRISON SERVICE**



**BROTHER JOHN SSENTUMBWE  
SHARING CHRIST IN A SCHOOL ASSEMBLY**



**LADY PRISONERS AND THEIR CHILDREN  
RECEIVING BLANKETS FROM GIMI**



**PRISONERS  
RECEIVING BLANKETS PROVIDED BY GIMI**



**A BEAUTIFUL PRISON BABY AND HIS MOTHER  
RECEIVING BLANKETS FROM GIMI**



# "Can America Be Saved?"

"Effective Expositions For Life"

An Expository Sermon

Scripture: Deuteronomy 6:10-25

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## Introduction

During this past month of July, we as Americans have been celebrating the 242 anniversary of our great nation. Truly, God has seen fit to really bless this country because our forefathers built this nation on the principles of His Word. Yes, many of those original founders were not born again believers, but they still had a genuine respect for the truth of the Word of God. And when you put these God-respecting founders with all of the truly born again Christians, we can with affirmation say that our nation was truly founded as a Christian nation. Of course, there are scores of people today who are saying that we were not founded as a Christian nation, but they are so wrong. Please notice the following information about the founding of our great nation. These are the words of John Jay, selected by our first President, George Washington, to be the first Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. **"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."**<sup>1</sup> Folks, did you read these words? Our nation was indeed founded as a Christian nation upon the

truth of the Word of God.

This same John Jay, the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, was also elected as the president of the Westchester Bible Society in 1818 and the president of the American Bible Society in 1821. Pay attention to what he said about the Bible. **"By conveying the Bible to people thus circumstanced, we certainly do them a most interesting kindness. We thereby enable them to learn that man was originally created and placed in a state of happiness, but, becoming disobedient, was subjected to the degradation and evils which he and his posterity have since experienced."**<sup>2</sup>

**"The Bible will also inform them that our gracious Creator has provided for us a Redeemer, in whom all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; that this Redeemer has made atonement 'for the sins of the whole world,' and thereby reconciling the Divine justice with the Divine mercy has opened a way for our redemption and salvation; and that these inestimable benefits are of the free gift and grace of God, not of our deserving, nor in our power to deserve."**<sup>3</sup>

**"In forming and settling my belief relative to the doctrines of Christianity, I adopted no articles from creeds but such only as, on careful examination, I found to be confirmed by the Bible...At a party in Paris, once, the question fell on religious matters. In the course of it, one of them asked me if I believed in Christ? I answered that I did, and that I thanked God that I did."**<sup>4</sup>

So hopefully, we will demonstrate enough common sense and honesty to admit and say that, "Yes! Our country was established as a Christian nation." But, there is a problem! And, that problem is that this nation has strayed so far away from the principles upon which it was founded that it seems evident that the serious judgment of God is hovering over this nation while millions try to say that God doesn't even exist. But, we definitely know that God does exist, and if He brought judgment to His own nation of Israel years ago, He definitely will bring it down on us if we don't repent and turn back to Him! Can America be saved and survive as a nation after its 242 years of existence? I say that it can, but if it does, it will have to obey God's plan for the salvation of any nation. Before I give you the plan for God to bring about revival in America and save this nation, let me share with you some of the extremely serious and horrible things that are going on here which cry out for revival and the salvation of our country.

<sup>1</sup> America's God and Country", Fame Publishing, page 318.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

First, let me tell you that since the Roe versus Wade 1973 decision of the Supreme Court, over 61 million babies have been murdered by abortion. Yet, while people are screaming about protecting the children that crossing our southern border illegally, very few people are saying anything about the butchering of millions of babies by abortions and these so-called doctors. This abortion fact cries out for the salvation of our land.

Secondly, in the last recorded year of 2016, here in America over 45,000 people died from over-doses of opioids and other drugs. This is many more than the 37,000 plus people who were killed in automobile accidents. This horrible truth cries out for the salvation of our country.

Thirdly, according to statistician, George Barna, only 30% of those in America who claim to be believers attend church regularly. Barna also states that over 60% of Americans say that they did not pray to God once in the last year. Would you say that America needs revival or salvation if we are to survive as a nation? I would!

Fourthly, presently in our country, the divorce rate for professing Christians is over 50% just like the divorce rate for unbelievers. This is another indication of the need for America's salvation.

Fifthly, over 70% of African American children that are born in America are born out of wedlock. Over 50% of Hispanic children are born without their parents being married. Almost 30% of white children are now born out of wedlock. People don't like to hear this, but folks, this is sinful behavior which will ultimately destroy our homes and ultimately our nation.

Sixthly, recently we have had Justice Anthony Kennedy resign from the Supreme Court at the age of 81. It was Kennedy who was the swing vote on the right for Gay Couples to get married. Isn't it ironic that this man now steps down after Satan used him to approve the horrible, unbiblical idea that a man can marry a man and a woman can marry a woman. So folks, it is very obvious that America is in deep trouble and in need of national salvation lest we die as a nation.

I could just go on and on listing serious reasons why we desperately need a revival and a return to Biblical principles and practice if our nation is to survive. But, I believe I have given enough negative reasons to hopefully redirect our attention from the bad results of sinful behavior back to the Biblical principles which God gave the nation of Israel that they had to obey if their nation was to remain a good and prosperous nation. I want us to take a look at our Scripture passage from Deuteronomy and discover the last hope we have for survival as a nation. And, I will tell you that following these principles is the only way for any nation to survive. Now, let's study the Biblical passage together.

Our text comes from God's Word in the Book of Deuteronomy which was given to Moses in turn for him to give God's Word to the Israelites His requirements for successful and prosperous living once they got into the Promised Land. These people had been wandering in the wilderness for 40 plus years, and now God was giving them another chance to survive and prosper as His chosen nation. Of course, the success of God's plan for all of us is that we obey and put into practice what He tells us to do.

## **I. THERE MUST BE A RECOGNITION OF AMERICA'S NEED FOR SALVATION. vs. 10-12**

I believe it's understandable without too much emphasis that if we are to contribute to the welfare and prosperity of our country, then we do need to go back and reflect on the goodness of God to us down through our 242 years of existence. We don't have the time to mention scores of things, but instead, let's just take a look at our text and see how God reminded His Jewish nation that they must never forget His goodness to them. So, in order to see the need for national salvation, we must reflect upon God's goodness to us.

### **A. There must be a recognition of our origin. v. 10**

#### **1.Our origin includes a knowledge of our Founder. v. 10a**

Truly, America is a God-ordained nation, although we must never forget that we are not God's chosen nation. Israel is God's chosen people, but surely we as a nation have been blessed in and through God's sovereignty since our founding. God did have a plan for our nation, and we must never forget how He in so many supernatural ways brought this country into existence. And truthfully, we would not still be a nation if God had not come to our rescue so many times, starting all the way back at the Battle of New Orleans during the war of 1812. Over and over again, God has supernaturally intervened on our behalf, all the way up through even our modern conflict with ISIS.

So my friends, we must stop and reflect on Who founded this nation. We must humble ourselves, get on our knees, and gratefully acknowledge our appreciation to our holy God for His blessings upon us as a nation. Moses told God's people that, and I, as God's servant, am telling all of you this today.

#### **2. Our origin includes a knowledge of our fathers. v. 10b**

The second thing we must do if we are going to truthfully recognize and reflect on our origin as a nation is to look back and reconsider the tremendous price that

was paid by our country's founding fathers who worked so hard to establish this great nation. In our text, Moses listed such men as Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to whom God promised His blessings if they would obey His commands and teach the people to do so as well. In our American situation, we need to remember the numbers of great leaders whom God used mightily to establish and develop our land. Maybe they were not all truly born again believers, but they were truly God respecting and God fearing people. Just think of the people like George Washington, James Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, James Madison, and Abraham Lincoln. Also, think about some of the leaders in the Southern Confederacy who were truly God fearing men like Robert E. Lee and Andrew Jackson. Then, we need to remember the many pastors who served both in the North and South as chaplains during this horrible civil war. Of course, one of the most known ones was Dwight L. Moody who served faithfully as a Northern Chaplain until revival broke out in the northern army like it did in the south. Just like Moses told Israel, we too must never forget the faithful servants God used to establish our nation.

## **B. There must be a recognition of our opportunities. vs. 10c-11**

### **1. There is the opportunity to enjoy what God gave our fathers. v. 10c**

In the last part of verse 10, Moses told the Israelites that they must never forget the great opportunities that God gave to their fathers. Sad to say, this is truly what is happening so vividly in our country. People seem to have such a short memory when it comes to remembering the great blessings on our fathers and mothers from a past generation. It would seem that most people are caught up with enjoying the pleasures and privileges that have been passed down from past generations, but they never seem to stop and reflect on what these pleasures and privileges cost our ancestors. Moses emphatically told the people of Israel that they must never forget that it was God almighty who gave great and goodly cities to the fathers of Israel. Therefore, we too must remember that it has been God Who has blessed our nation with so much prosperity and blessings down through the years. It is truly sure that we will never see the need for salvation in our country unless we sincerely reflect upon and think about how far removed we are from the blessings of God upon our forefathers. God richly blessed the founding fathers of America because of their faith and trust in Him. We must resolve to never forget how God blessed our fathers' faith, and we must never forget why He poured out His blessings upon our ancestors.

### **2. There is the opportunity to enjoy what God gave our families. v. 11**

Verse eleven in this text is just a wonderful verse. In this verse, Moses is reminding the post-wilderness generation of how God had blessed their fathers and families by providing water, places to live, food to eat, and the daily necessities of life without the people even having to work for them. Of course, this was referring to the way God took care of their families during the 40 plus years in the wilderness. The climate and environment of the wilderness were not conducive to providing the necessities of life, so God through His sovereign grace chose to meet every need. Therefore, Moses told them that if their fathers and families were provided these items, then as they were getting ready to go into the Promised Land and eventually face some fierce enemies and hard times, God would surely meet their needs as well. Of course, the blessings of God would be dependent upon the obedience of the people.

It is very clear to me that Moses was just trying to let the people know that if they were to enjoy the full blessing of God, as had their fathers and mothers, then they would have to abide by His rules for living. And yes folks, this still holds true today. If we want to continue to receive the bountiful blessings of God, we too must live by the principles of God's Word. We just need to realize that if we ever move away from God's plan and principles, like America is right now, then we will receive the judgment of God as did Israel. So, if we don't get the picture of the wickedness of our American culture and society, we too will experience the judgment of God as did God's chosen people.

## **C. There must be a recognition of our obligations. v. 12**

Now as we come to verse 12, Moses gives his people a firm warning. He tells them that if they ever forget who it was that had blessed their fathers and mothers in past generations, then they would lose the blessings of God. Moses was just reminding them of how faithful God had been to save the people from Egyptian bondage and slavery. Therefore, if they kept a clear memory of what God had saved them from in the past, they would be more inclined to serve God faithfully in the present. In this verse, God reminds us of two things.

### **1. He reminds us that we are obligated to remember our Source. v. 12a**

In the Book of Philippians we find these words, "*But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus*" (Phil. 4:19). In this verse, Paul the Apostle reminds the Philippian church that their Source for meeting all their needs is none other than the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus alone knows all of our needs, and He is the one to meet our needs. Yet, as we look around us in America, it seems that our people don't even

recognize God as our Source, but instead, they depend upon the abilities, techniques, and resources of mankind to have their needs met. But, I assure you that it is so easy for us to lose everything if we don't remember Who is our true Source and give Him the praise and thanksgiving for His goodness.

## **2. He reminds us to remember our salvation. v. 12b**

My friends, do you ever forget what it means to be gloriously saved if you are in fact born again? Do you remember the day you got saved, and the change that Jesus brought to your heart? Do you remember the feeling of peace, the emotion of joy, and the thrill of having your sins forgiven? I do! It seems that it was just yesterday, and it has been 60 years. I pray that I will never forget what Christ did for me when He set me free from the bondage of sin and gave me personal liberty. Truly, this was the greatest day in my life, and it will always be so until Jesus comes again for all of us. There is nothing any sweeter than to reflect upon our eternal redemption brought about by Jesus' dying on the cross for our sins. Our deliverance from sin is just an eternal imitation of what God did for the nation of Israel when He brought them out from the bondage of slavery in Egypt. Moses told them to never forget God's deliverance, and we too must never forget our deliverance as well. If we do remember God's saving power, then we surely can see the need in our sin-filled society for deliverance and liberty if this nation is to survive. We must remember that our Declaration of Independence talks about "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness." For sure, the only way to life, liberty, and happiness is through our Lord Jesus Christ. So, as we enjoy the reality of salvation from our on bondage of sin, let us pray for genuine deliverance for the spiritual bondage that our country is now in.

Please take notice of the following words from Dr. C.I. Scofield when he makes an analysis of Israel, and then, this analysis is quoted in the book entitled, "The Rebirth Of America", written and compiled by Nancy DeMoss. Please notice this analysis of man's failing in his analysis of Israel. **"A four-fold cycle of rebellion, retribution, repentance and restoration."**<sup>6</sup> "God's people, whether in the Bible or in post biblical times, have lived this cycle repeatedly. First, God blesses His believers with abundance, peace and joy. Then, man soon forgets that it all came from God. Pride sets in."<sup>7</sup>

"From pride comes rebellion, as each new generation thinks that it is great because it is wise, and then comes sin (which each generation says is not sin 'in these modern times' but instead liberation from the 'overly restrictive ways of the past.' ")<sup>8</sup>

"God, being long-suffering and patient, allows His people to drift away and sin because He knows what is coming. Sin leads to sin and the corruption of man

increases. After matters have come to an accelerated state of decay, our Lord could let it all continue to fester and grow worse: however, His love for us requires that He call us back to repentance. The call to repentance is then given prior to the third stage, retribution. History shows that the call to repentance is nearly always 'preceded by a period of gross iniquity, disgrace, and consequent fear.'"<sup>9</sup> And then my friends, it is wonderful to know that when God's people do repent, the Lord will restore the land. Surely, surely, this is what America needs right now.

May I tell you also that even after Moses gave this great passage of truth to his people before they went into the Promised Land, along came the Judges who, believe it or not, followed the same cycle which Dr. Scofield described. This cycle written another way was, salvation, sin, slavery, and then, salvation again. The sad thing, however, was and still is that when a society or culture follows this brutal cycle, it never completely recovers after the time of restoration. Why is this true? Because so much hurt and pain, and too many scars remain behind. Therefore, we must resolve to stay close to Jesus and never forget how good He has been to us, lest we make the same mistakes that Israel made.

## **II. THERE MUST BE A RETURN TO AMERICA'S PLAN OF SALVATION. vs. 13-18.**

Hopefully, by now we have come to see how desperately America needs to be saved as a nation. We are in great trouble. Although I do believe in the imminent return of our Savior, I also believe that if there is a revival and a return to God's principles as shown here in Deuteronomy, we can preserve this great nation for a little while longer. But if this is to happen, there must be some very courageous Christians who will not only pray for revival, but they must also be willing to pay the price and stand up for Biblical truth and principles, even in the midst of the criticism and persecution which seems to be getting worse every day. Let's take a hard look at God's plan to save our nation and to restore the spirituality that has been forsaken.

### **A. There must be a return to spiritual solemnness in our land. v. 13a**

In the first part of verse 13, Moses told Israel that they must fear God in a reverential way. There must not be any other god above Him. They needed to have a solemn and righteous fear daily if they were going to prevent God's judgment and keep His blessings coming. It is worth noting that Moses told them that their fear of God was a personal matter because he called God "their

<sup>6</sup> The Rebirth of America", By Nancy DeMoss, page 153.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid, page 154.

God". Therefore, if we are to save our nation, then we must repent of our sins to our God, and recognize that if the nation is to experience revival, then we must experience it personally before it can come to the nation.

#### **B. There must be a return to spiritual service in our land. v. 13b**

The second part of this verse tells us that not only did Israel need to fear God, but that they were to serve Him faithfully, singularly, and yes, with much labor and commitment. In other words, serving God was not to be an alternative to other matters of attention.

And yet folks, that is truly what has happened in America. If the children in the home of professing Christians have travel ball to play, recreation to enjoy, or just any other precedence, then God, the study of His Word, worship, church attendance, and all spiritual matters must be put on the back burner of our lives. Why, even right now as I write this message, only 30% of those who said they are believers attend church regularly. What about the other 70% of professing Christians?

Also, if our nation is to experience a revival and be preserved for a few more years, then, there has to be a willful separation from the world, and a new commitment to putting the things of God first in our lives. This fact is not even debatable, just like it was not arguable for the nation of Israel. Either we return to God through repentance like Jonah commanded Ninevah, or we will lose this nation, and no doubt very soon! If you think this is an "either or" proposition, then just stop and take a look into the faces of your children and/or your grandchildren. Just imagine what is going to happen to them if America is not saved.

#### **C. There must be a return to a spiritual stand in our land. v. 13c**

The last part of verse 13 says that God's people must be willing to swear by His name. This actually means that God's children must be willing to take a solemn oath, even with sacrifices that they will be loyal to Jehovah God. I see this as a matter of total surrender and complete sacrifice to the Lord of heaven. We must be willing to stand up for Jesus regardless of the cost that it may require. We must not and we cannot be intimidated by ruthless and Godless Americans who seem to have no fear of God and no tolerance for those who do. Yes friends, it might even cost us our lives or freedom. Will you join me in making a solemn commitment or vow to stand for God and His Word in this "easy believism" age when so many preachers and church leaders are trying to coexist peacefully with every kind of damnable religion and false doctrine coming down the pike? I pray that you will because we can stand more readily if our numbers are larger. Rather than standing with evil people like some of

the liberal "left-wingers" these days, let's stand up strongly for the Word of God and its Divine principles. Let the wicked scream and holler while we shout the praises unto God, even unto our death like our Christian forefathers of years gone by!

#### **D. There must be a return to a spiritual separation in our land. v. 14**

Verse 14 is a profound verse in our text. I say this because in this verse Moses once more emphatically tells the children of Israel that they are absolutely to stay away from the worship of any other gods or even anything that might even be construed as a god. This certainly refers to the gods of other religions, but it might also refer to hobbies, recreation, games, personal items, or any other thing that might become a god in a person's life and take the place of their real God. This means that nothing or no one should ever be worshipped in the place of Jehovah God. Yet today, I look around at multitudes of the so-called Christian churches. And what do we see? We see the world's religions mixed with the Christian churches. We now have yoga classes in our churches, when this damnable meditation comes from Hinduism and Buddhism. We also have worldly entertainment and performance in our churches trying to draw crowds, when in fact it has become nothing more than a god in the mind and lives of many people.

And I might say, with the proliferation of Roman Catholicism and the mixing of Protestant Evangelical church, we now have professing believers observing Catholic rituals and ceremonies trying to keep peace between Satan and our Lord. Roman Catholicism is a counterfeit religion that should be rejected at all costs. There is not one Catholic doctrine that can save a soul from hell. And yet, millions of people have been led astray to this ritualistic religion making a god of it themselves. Separation from the gods of this world means that we will not associate with, attempt to worship with, or mix true Bible believing Christianity with any of the gods of this world. According to this verse, if we worship other gods, it is because we have been influenced by evil people and religious systems that surround us. Paul said in **II Corinthians 6:17**, *"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you."* In other words, there can be no peace between those who genuinely worship the true and living God and those who are false or counterfeit gods of the religious world.

#### **E. There must be a return to a spiritual singularity in our land. v. 15**

As we now look at verse 15, we suddenly see a strong warning from Moses to the Israelites concerning the seriousness of singularly serving God, and none other.

Moses tells the people that because their righteous God is a jealous God, He will not tolerate their giving their love and devotion to any other god. In fact, Moses tells the people that if they don't serve God only, then He will literally wipe them off the face of the earth. The truth is that because God is a jealous God, He demands total and complete loyalty, and if He doesn't get this kind of reverence and worship, then the nation of Israel would be completely destroyed. This sounds a lot like God is a mean angry God, but the truth is that because He created us and has our very breath in His hands, then He does indeed control everything about us. This is why we must give him our utmost devotion and not even attempt to share our love with the gods of this world.

Applying this to our present situation here in America, we must recognize that our great big loving God does have the right to demand our complete obedience because we belong to Him. In fact, Jesus paid the price of our redemption on the cross when He died for our sins. Therefore, because He has purchased us, we do indeed belong to Him. We must realize that if we don't give God our singular devotion, then He might just destroy us as a nation because if He promised to destroy Israel, His chosen people, then surely He will not restrain Himself from taking away our nationhood if we don't repent and turn back to Him. So my friends, let me admonish you to check out your level of devotion to Christ and the Kingdom of God. See if you need to help restore our land by personally repenting and returning back to Him. There can never be revival collectively in a church or a nation until there is revival in the hearts of individual believers. May we make a new commitment to only serve God and no one else!

#### **F. There must be a return to a spiritual submission in our land. vs. 16-18a**

In verses 16-18a, we are admonished by God, through Moses, that we must not test God's patience by being less than totally submitted to Him in every area of our lives. Because it is a very serious matter to try or test the Lord, we must make sure that we are 100 percent surrendered to Christ in every area of our lives. In New Testament terminology, we must make Christ the Lord and Master of every area of our lives. In other words, God and His kingdom must take priority in our lives every day.

The word Massah in verse 16 is the same place also known as Meribah where the children of Israel had rebelled against God when they ran out of water. Then, Moses lost his temper and rather than speaking to the rock as God commanded, he smote the rock with his rod in order to get water for the people. The Israelites got the water they wanted, but because of Moses' rebellion and disobedience, this sin kept him out of the Promised Land. The rock Moses smote the second time was a picture of

Christ who would one day come and die on the cross for our sins. But, because God told Moses to speak to the rock this time, and Moses disobeyed and smote the rock again, it is a revelation that Jesus doesn't have to be smitten or crucified the second time for our redemption. So, the truth of these verses is that when God commands us to do something, we must do it the way He instructs us, or we might just lose the promised land of spiritual blessings.

When we obey the voice of God and do the things He commands, then we will receive the water from the rock of our salvation. We must forever remember that total submission is required and not partial obedience. If we become totally committed or submitted to the will of God, there will be no rebellion of Massah or Meribah. We will gladly and willingly submit ourselves to every command of God. And, this submission will produce three important things in our behavior.

1. First, we must refuse to tempt (try) the Lord. v. 16
2. Secondly, we must revere or respect the testimonies of the Lord. v. 17
3. Thirdly, we must respond to the truth of the Lord. v. 18a

Folks, a totally surrendered or submitted believer to Christ will conduct himself or herself in such a way that he or she will not put God to the test, nor lose respect for the testimonies and statutes of the Lord. He or she will do that which is good and right according to God's Word. There will be no arguing with God, no rebellion toward God, and no disdain for the commands of God. And, I need to tell you that a fully surrendered man or woman of God will hold nothing back from the Lord, but instead, will be a joyfully serving servant of God looking only to please the Lord. If our nation is to be saved and return to the faith of our forefathers, then there must be multitudes of completely surrendered people who serve God without restraint or regret! This must not be a time of rebellion like Israel experienced at Meribah. Full surrender is willful, joyful, and yes, rewarding.

#### **III. THERE WILL BE REWARDS FOR EVERY BELIEVER FROM AMERICA'S SALVATION. vs. 18c-25**

Now in these last verses of this great chapter, Moses tells the people that if they pay the price and revival comes to God's people, then there will be many rewards for the obedient servants of God. And the wonderful thing is that every child of God who abides by God's plan for the salvation of our nation will not have to wait unto the Judgment Seat of Christ to be rewarded for their faithfulness. In fact, God will provide some wonderful rewards for every faithful child of God right here on earth until He takes us home or comes again. Let's look at some

of these promised rewards for those who follow God's plan for the salvation and preservation of our nation.

#### **A. There will be the reward of lasting happiness. v. 18c**

In the introduction to this article, I mentioned the third phrase in the Declaration of Independence where we are told that every man America citizen has the right to pursue happiness. And truthfully, I believe this is a God-given right because every human being should desire to be happy. In the third part of verse 18, we are told by Moses that if God's people obey Him and His commands, then it will be well with them. Of course, I believe this is talking about obedient servants of God having peace and happiness in their souls as a result of their obedience to God and their reverence for Him. Truthfully folks, this is what our American nation needs so much right now.

As I observe the situation in our land, everywhere I look I see people trying to find peace and happiness. Yet, it would seem that most people are looking in the wrong places. I believe this is because people are empty on the inside and just trying to find something to give them peace and a sense of security in a world of phonies and losers.

For instance, our opioid crisis in this country is totally out of control because people are seeking peace and happiness in a fantasy world of drugs and unreality. They begin to use drugs to get a personal high and feel good, only to end up in absolute bondage and imprisonment. Then of course, when they have been on these drugs for a long time, they can't even exist in the world of reality. So, this lasting happiness they are pursuing is only found in a relationship with God the Father, through Jesus Christ the Son, and in a life of complete obedience to the commands of our Lord.

Also, if you have looked around you recently, you surely have seen how so many Americans have tattoos on their bodies. We are told by statisticians that 41% of men, and 58% of women now have tattoos on their bodies somewhere. The question is, "Why would right-minded people want to wear these?" Well, I believe they want to wear these tattoos to prove that they are somebody, or they want to prove just how cool they are in an uncool world. Some wear them to make a statement, while others do it to draw attention that they just don't seem to be getting. And then, there are those that are trying to prove their masculinity or femininity so that people will observe or look at them. So, if you really sit down and try to find the main reason for these marks on people's bodies, I believe they are doing it because they are empty on the inside and they are seeking happiness in their insecure world. Yet, most people don't have a clue how these marks on the body, according to the Bible, are signs of paganism. Pay attention to **Leviticus 19:28**, where we find these words, *"Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh*

*for the dead, nor print any marks upon you: I am the Lord."* In this passage God is telling Israel that they should not do anything that would give them the appearance of pagans or worshipping of other gods. They were not to cut their hair or mark their skin as the cultists did, because they belonged to God and to no one else.

Also, in the New Testament we are told that as born again believers, our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit. Please notice these verses. **I Corinthians 3:16-17**, *"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are."* Also, please notice another verse from I Corinthians. *"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" (I Cor. 6:19)* Therefore folks, when people desecrate their bodies in any way, they bring reproach on the name of Jesus and on the temple (their bodies) where Jesus the Holy Spirit dwells. So, once more, let me ask, "Why do people desecrate their bodies (the temple of God) by using tattoos and marks?" I believe the sincere reason is that they are looking to find attention and happiness the way the world does. But, we need to tell the entire world that when we get truly saved and live according to the principles of God's Word, we will find that lasting happiness we are so desperately searching for.

#### **B. There will be the reward of lasting fruitfulness. v. 18d**

In the last part of verse 18, God speaks through Moses the mighty man of God and tells the people that if they want to go into the Promised Land, which is ahead of them after 40 years in the wilderness and take possession or ownership of that land, then they needed to live in obedience to the principles of God's Word by demonstrating a life of faith which will overcome the enemies of Satan who is always there trying to destroy the lives of every child of God, and for sure, to keep these lives from being fruitful. Therefore, if we are going to have a life of fruitfulness and productivity, then we will need to obey God and put into practice His plan for the salvation and preservation of our great country.

Right now, I believe that America is dying spiritually. We are looking more and more like the deteriorated countries of Europe which have spiraled out of control down into almost spiritual oblivion because they have turned against God. If we implement God's plan for salvation in America, then we will be rewarded with a lasting fruitfulness that we can enjoy now, and also, our children and grandchildren can enjoy in the future. If we want the future generations to prosper in their lives, then we must return to God immediately and start living by the principles God gave Moses for Israel. May I ask you,

"Are you bearing lasting fruit?" If you aren't, why don't you return to God and implement His plan for the preservation of our lives and country.

**C. There will be the reward of lasting effectiveness. v. 19**

Let me begin this verse exposition by asking, "Do you enjoy winning? Do you love to be victorious in your life?" Well if you do, then this verse reveals God's promise to Israel that if they would live by the principles of God's Word, then when they entered the Promised Land, they would be victorious over all of their enemies. Of course, what God is saying here through Moses was that if the people would live according to God's will, they would defeat all the enemies that would oppose them once they got into the land of blessing. These victories were promised to the Israelites, and that promise is still given to us today as well. When we live by God's rules and His righteous ways, then, there will be victory over the many opposing enemies of Christianity here in our land of America. Just a few minutes ago on my Sunday afternoon TV programs, I heard a great conservative pastor in Dallas, Texas say, "Time may be running out, but if America would repent and turn back to God, then He will preserve our country for a few more years so that we can win as many more people to Christ as we possibly can." In other words, God tells us that He has a plan for us to enjoy victories and the effective defeat of our enemies if we will follow that plan. And the marvelous promise God gives us in this verse tells us that not only will we be victorious over our enemies, but we will even be able to cast these enemy tribes out of our land. Would that not be a blessing? What if we could get rid of the abortion murderers, the atheistic professors in our colleges and schools, the HGTB supporters in our communities, the false religions and cults in society, and many other diabolical people who oppose God and His people? Well, this is truly possible if we will return to God, repent of our sins and wickedness, and then begin to live according by God's plan for America's salvation or preservation. Folks, it can, and will happen, if we will give God His first place in our homes, our churches, our schools, our communities, our culture, and yes, in our personal lives. Victory surely came for the Israelites, and it can come for us if we will follow God's plan. Truly, there will be great rewards for the obedient children of God.

**D. There will be the reward of lasting persuasiveness. vs. 20-24**

Now my dear friends, the verses before us are some of the greatest verses in all of the Bible. I will try to be brief, but these verses have so much wonderful truth. They tell us that God through Moses told the Israelites that if they would follow God's plan for living according to His principles, in the years to come their children would begin

to ask questions about why their parents had obeyed the Word of God. And when they asked these questions, then the parents would tell them that living by the truth of God's Word and all of His laws and statutes had brought tremendous blessings to them and their families. When the children heard about these blessings from God, then the children would be mightily persuaded to follow the example of their parents. In other words, the blessings of God which had been given to the parents would also pass down to the next generation, if the next generation would continue to practice the principles which the parents had lived by.

Then in verse 23, we find one of the greatest promises that was ever given to the Israelites, and this message is given to us today as well. This verse 23 tells us that God's people were brought out of the bondage of Egypt in order for God to in turn bring them into the promised land of blessing. Of course, we do know that the arrival in the Promised Land could have taken only three weeks, but because of the obstinate will of the people and because of their rebellion, these people wandered in the wilderness for over 40 years. Yet, our compassionate God remained faithful to His people, even when they were unfaithful to Him. Thus, after 40 plus years of going around in circles in the wilderness, God fulfilled His promise and took the remaining remnant of the people into the land of blessing.

May I tell you that this is what God wants to do for America right now! This nation was founded upon Biblical principles but as the 242 years have come and gone, our people have slowly but surely slid down the slippery slope and have become a people of Godlessness and secularism. Our nation has tried so hard to get rid of God. The end result has been a huge escalation of every kind of sin, and ultimately the absence of God's conditional blessings upon our nation. If we want to have a positive influence on our children and grandchildren, then we, as God's people, must return to Him, repent of our backsliding, and begin to implement the principles of His Word in our lives, our homes, and yes, even back in our churches. We as Christian leaders must begin to get across to our people clearly that God saved us from sinful bondage that He might eventually get us into a victorious type of promised land living as we continue to march on toward our final resting place of heaven. There is just no way that we will ever be able to positively persuade our children and grandchildren to live the way they should if we don't get back to the truth of God's Word in our daily lives.

**E. There is the reward of lasting righteousness. v. 25**

The final promise from our Lord in this text is found in verse 25. Here Moses tells the people of God that if they do implement God's plan from His Word for the

right kind of living, the end result will be a life of righteous living. In other words, if we put into practice the principles of God's Word daily in our lives, then we will not only have a righteous relationship with God, but we will also have a righteous influence on everyone around us. The point is that whatever it costs us to return to God's plan and purpose in our personal lives, the wonderful result will be that we will provide a righteous example for everyone in our families, for our friends, and for those who need to come to Christ for salvation. It is truly impossible to win others to our Lord Jesus Christ and to collectively change our nation for the good if we don't have a righteous testimony before those around us.

There is one more thing that we see in verse 25. God doesn't just suggest that we return to Him and repent, but in truth, He commands us to do so. Why does He do this? Because mankind is a fallen depraved character who doesn't do much of anything without being admonished to do so. Thus, this is why that these modern day professing preachers who try to steer people away from strong pulpits into these non-confrontational dialogues cannot provide genuine hope for people. You see folks, unless people are confronted with the truth that they are sinners and need to be forgiven and get saved, all of the mere suggestions in the world will not produce the fruit of changed lives and a changed society. I believe the greatest need in our American culture today is genuine righteousness. But, this righteousness will never come unless there is repentance, and there will not be repentance without God's Word commanding us to repent. So, as one of God's men, I want to preach to every American, like Jonah preached to the Ninevites, that there must be repentance from the pauper in the street all the way up to the king in the palace. In other words, we need repentance from the homeless drug users on the streets of San Francisco all the way to President Donald Trump's house on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. God has great blessings for His obedient people, but we must never forget that these blessings are indeed conditional, based upon our obedience to His Word, and manifested in a life of practiced righteousness every day of our lives.

## Conclusion

Throughout this writing we have been discussing with you the thought of whether America, this great nation, might be saved from its soon coming destruction under the mighty chastisement of God. We started out talking about the vital importance of seeing the need for America's salvation or preservation. Then, we discussed the plan that God has given us to bring about the salvation from the impending judgment of God which is coming if this nation doesn't repent and return back to God. Of course, this plan is the same plan that God gave Israel through the prophet Moses as they were getting ready to

leave the wilderness and enter the Promised Land. Through God's instruction via Moses, God's people were told that in the Word of God and in his statutes there are tremendous principles by which God's people must live their lives if they are to prosper as individuals and collectively as a nation. The people of God in Moses' day and yes, even today, must learn that the tremendous blessings of God are conditional based upon the faithful obedience to God's commands. The requirements are strong and many, but the end results of blessings and rewards certainly make the cost very worthwhile.

I must tell you that after having studied God precious Word for more than 60 years, I don't know of any other passage in the Bible that is more precise and practical for God's people to live by than our Scripture passage in **Deuteronomy 6:10-25**. In this passage God gives His truth explicitly to Moses to share with the Israelites what they must do in order to move into the promised land of blessing and be victorious over the many enemies and opponents that Satan will bring their way. When God told Israel, in verse 15, that He is a jealous God and demands total and singular worship, they were also told that if they rebelled against His Word that the consequences would be utterly severe. He literally told them if they didn't repent and walk or live by His principles which He had given through Moses, then He would destroy them from the face of the earth. Now, I can hear some of you screaming, "I THOUGHT GOD WAS A GOD OF LOVE." He is truly a great God of love, but He is also a God of righteousness. He wants all of us to know that it is truly a serious matter to respond negatively to His strong commandments and words of instructions for us to live by. To respond this way will ultimately bring the destruction of a life or a nation, and the only thing that can stop the coming cataclysmic judgment of God is for individuals to return to God with brokenness and repentance. This has always been God's plan for revival and renewal, and it always will be. We must stop and seriously consider the fact of how much our attitude of rebellion and our disobedience to God's Word has contributed to the collective national problem. Truthfully, we might genuinely be saved, but in our carnality and worldliness, we might be sowing the seeds of rebellious anarchy by our obstinate and selfish wills. So, I plead with you to please humble yourselves and get on your knees before God in a willful act of submission and repentance. If we do this honestly and sincerely, God is more than ready to forgive our sins, cleanse us from all sinful rebellion, and then, to once again pour out His blessings upon us and our nation as He promised Israel. But if we don't return to Him, surely the judgment of God is coming as it did years later when Israel was carried away again into Babylonian captivity. May this never have to happen to get our nation to repent!!!!

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Given in Honor  
and  
Memory of Others*



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Gene Crawley  
Justin, Ashley, and Thea Rose  
Pastor Stan and Jo Anne  
Earl Sweet  
Dr. Stan and Jo Anne Frye

**IN MEMORY OF:**

Randall Wood  
Glenn Cole  
Gladys Crawley  
Maggie Jolly  
Mary P. Bunton  
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