

# GATEWAY INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS REPORT



"A Passion for Souls"

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Dr. Stan A. Frye, President

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Issue 1



**DR. FRYE AND MAMA JO ANNE  
WITH THEIR NEW GREAT-GRANDSONS**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK...

Dear Beloved GIMI Team Members,

Blessed New Year's greetings to you in the precious name of Jesus! I trust that your New Year has gotten started off well and that you are still excited about winning people to Jesus in these days just before the Lord returns to establish His earthly millennial Kingdom here on Earth. I certainly don't know the day, nor the hour, when He will come. But truly, as we begin this New Year, I believe any genuine child of God should be able to look at all of the signs around us and know with certainty that we are in the last days, which Jesus promised would come in the precious Word of God. I believe so strongly that we are living in the last days, that I get out of bed each morning looking for and longing for His return. Yet, I know that there are multitudes of people who are not yet saved, and there are at least two billion people in the world that have never heard the simple plan of salvation. So, as we long for and anticipate the return of Christ, I want to be very busy trying to reach the lost world with the only hope

that man has, and this is the Gospel message, which I have tried to preach for over 54 years. There are hundreds of religions in the world, but there is only one way for a person to ever get to heaven, and this is through the precious Lord Jesus! In **John 14:6, Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."** Either Jesus is truly the only way to heaven, or He was one of the greatest liars Who every lived. If we are genuinely saved, we know He has never lied about anything.

So my dear beloved GIMI Team members, if we do believe that Jesus is the only way to heaven, then surely, we must be about the business of taking the message of Christ to as many people as we can in whatever time we have left. In order for us to do this, we must have the fervent prayers of God's people, and we must have the faithful financial support of God's people, God's pastors, and God's local churches in this upcoming year as we push on only by the strength of the Lord to keep on reaching people with the Good News of Jesus Christ!

## Taking The Gospel To The Lost World Requires Sacrificial Giving!

As we move forward with this great ministry in the New Year, I am very much reminded of the great sacrifice that many of you have made financially to help us during the past 20 years, since Jo Anne and I took over this great work for Jesus. As I often say in my thank you letters to contributors, there is just no way that we could, or can, carry on this great work without the gracious sacrificial investment of many of God's people. And, as I have often said, we see a soul come to Christ every time we spend just \$3.00 through our ministry. Yet, with the International Mission Board of the

Southern Baptist Convention, last year the budget for the IMB was \$278,755,000, which resulted in 54,762 people who came to Christ and were baptized on the foreign fields. Using these numbers, this means that for every soul that is saved and baptized through IMB, it costs \$5,090.29 each. I do believe that whatever it costs to get a person saved is well worth it, but we are taught in the Word of God to be good stewards over that which God has provided. So, this is what we at GIMI are trying so hard to be!

Then, I want to share with you that according to mission statistics found in "About Missions", Evangelical Churches worldwide spend \$330,000 per soul that is saved and baptized. And yet, GIMI sees one soul come to Christ for every \$3.00 we spend. Folks, the reason this is happening is because GIMI is using the national preachers and teachers to share the love of Jesus within their own countries. Then, instead of placing a lot of American missionaries on the fields, we just send American preachers and teachers who make short term mission trips to help us train our nationals. Believe it or not, with God's help, He sends us some wonderful Country Directors who do an outstanding job overseeing and directing the work of all of our national workers. Thus, we see so many more people saved through the preaching and teaching of our nationals, with far less money spent.

Many years ago, I read a wonderful book, entitled, "Revolution In World Missions". This book was written by a preacher from India who was blessed to come to Texas for his Biblical training. This preacher who became a world missions specialist is named K.P. Yohannan. In this, his first book, he emphatically states in several places that the best way to do world missions is to use the nationals on the fields and help support their ministries. Therefore, after reading many books written by this man, I came to understand that the most efficient and frugal way to do missions is to use the nationals.

I might add that Brother Mickey Parrish and his wife, Alice, who had our ministry in the prisons and schools of Africa for several years before Jo Anne and I took over this work, also, believed strongly in using the nationals. So, in following the advice of Mr. Yohannan and Brother Mickey Parrish, we are now seeing some person come to Christ for every \$3.00 we spend! In Bible terminology, this is called good stewardship!



## What Percentage of Active Church Members Tithe?

Before moving on to another subject matter, I would like to mention an additional thought about sacrificial giving. Recently on a Sunday morning before Jo Anne and I left for church, we were watching Dr. Jack Graham's program on television, which we do about every Sunday. During his great sermon, Dr. Graham brought out a truth that needs to be shared with every Christian and every church in America. Of all of the professing born again evangelical church members in our country, only 8% of active church members tithe. May I say that I am literally appalled at this percentage. I say this because tithing is still taught in the Bible, unless of course, we have chosen to throw Divine Principles in the Old Testament out the door and just forget about the seriousness of this matter.

Many people, and even some preachers, tell us that tithing is not taught in the New Testament because it was under the Law. Well friends, tithing started 600 years before the Law of Moses was given. Thus, tithing is one of those Divine Principles which never changes. If we do away with tithing in the New Testament, then, we have to do away with the family, government, and even capital punishment. All of these are Divine Principles, and they never, ever change.

Oh yes, tithing was included in the Law of Moses, and truthfully, the followers of Moses and the Law added a larger percentage to the tithe. If a person tithed like Abraham did in the Book of **Genesis, Chapter 14**, then, he gave 10%. However, if a person tithed under the Law during the time of Moses, then he might have to give up to 33 percent of his income to the Levites to take care of them, because they were not permitted to own property. You can find this information about the tithe under the Law in **Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy**. So, tithing from the income that God provides for you is still required by our Lord. And, because I believe that the Church is the Bride of Christ, I believe that the first 10% of our income should be given to the local church. But, that local church must be engaged in taking care of the pastors and staff; and, I believe every local church should be involved in missions around the world. The tithe should be given to the local church, but beyond this, our giving should include giving offerings above the tithe to missions around the world. But, my dear friends, please notice that the average church member in our Evangelical Churches in America only gives one penny

per day to missions. This, my friends, is truly an indictment against any believer who never sees the importance of taking the Gospel to the world in fulfillment of the Great Commission!

## **During The Year Of 2019, GIMI Shared The Gospel With 1,032,000 People!**

Now, I know that some of you reading this newsletter report might not be too much in tune with numbers in the work of the Lord, but the Word of God surely does list a lot of numbers throughout the early part of the **Book of Acts**. Therefore, I think it is very proper for us to list the great number of people, which GIMI has shared the Gospel with, and also, the huge number of souls that have been saved from these numbers. These numbers encourage me tremendously because they give me more incentive to reach more and more people with the Gospel message. Why, I remember just two years ago that when Dr. Billy Graham died, it was reported that he preached the Gospel to 285 million people during his lifetime. So, I believe it is very proper and very Biblical to give a report about the number of people we are getting the Gospel to, and also, the number of those first-time decisions of people's coming to Christ. Therefore, I count it a great privilege to share this information with you for our sharing the Gospel during 2019 and the huge harvest of souls.

So, my dear friends, will you rejoice with us in knowing that during this past year, our GIMI national workers and our American mission teams preached and taught the Gospel to the largest number of souls in our 20 years of history. During 2019, we were privileged to tell 1,032,000 people about our Lord Jesus Christ, and of this number, God gave us over 172,000 people who prayed a first-time prayer to receive Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. May I just shout, "Praise God for His saving power!" By God's giving us this great harvest of souls, we are just inspired to work harder, be more diligent, and raise more funds so that we can see even more people come to Christ during this New Year! I hope all of you will rejoice with us. And, I pray that everyone of you will even consider giving more to help us take the Gospel message to more and more people that need to hear a message of hope in this hopeless world of bad circumstances!



## **Our Christmas Cows And Christmas Parties Helped Us Reach A Tremendous Number Of People During This Past Year!**

Christmas has now passed, but the tremendous harvest God gave us during this Christmas season is truly related to the Christmas Cow Project in Uganda, and of course, because of the numbers of other Christmas parties our national preachers and teachers did in all of our countries. Our national workers did a wonderful job of presenting the Gospel message during all of our Christmas party distributions. Hundreds and hundreds of inmates and school students gave their hearts to Christ in the weeks leading up to Christmas, and now we are in the process of calculating just how many people did get saved through this large effort.

I do want all of you to know that because of your faithfulness this year in helping us purchase cows for the Christmas meals in the Ugandan prisons, we were able to purchase 50 cows this year. Of course, one of the reasons that we were able to buy so many cows this year was because our Uganda Director, Rev. William Ssentumbwe, was able to negotiate the price of the cows down from \$350 to \$200 per cow. Because of Williams's efforts and because so many of you sent funds to help us purchase the cows, we were able to send well over \$10,000 for the cows this year. I just want to thank you from the depths of my heart for your giving spirit, which has helped us feed the most people we have ever fed during this Christmas meal in the Ugandan prisons. Rev. Ssentumbwe has told me that based upon whether the individuals are adults or teenagers, each cow we purchased was able to feed between 250 and 300 people. With the number of 250, this means that we provided stew beef this year for almost 15,000 inmates. And, because of this humanitarian effort, we saw hundreds and hundreds come to Christ. We are still just praising God for the way He blessed this effort through those of you who gave to this project. It is our sincere prayer that God might richly reward all of you who helped us feed thousands of people, and also, win scores of people to Jesus. There is no way that we could ever have seen so many people getting saved, were it not for your kind generosity and sacrificial spirit of giving! So, thank you so much for your love for Jesus, and love for souls!





## God Continues To Bless Our Radio Ministry!

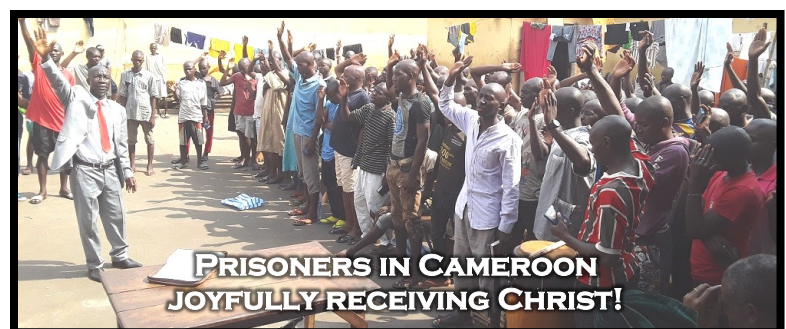
All of you should know that last May, GIMI was able to restart our radio ministry. Since that time, we have grown until our weekly 30 minute broadcast is on over 60 radio stations, 12 of which are in different countries in Africa. Since we restarted this great arm of outreach, we are getting many, many contacts from our listeners. And, because so many of these contacts come with requests for help in the areas of Christian counseling, requests for materials, prayer requests, and many other inquiries, I believe we are really making a difference with this ministry. Also, most of our Country Directors tell me that hundreds of inmates tune in each week to study the Bible with the Bible studies which I do each week on the broadcasts. I am thrilled to be able to continue to teach the Bible to hundreds and hundreds of inmates, in addition to the at-large audience which tunes in each week. I would ask all of you on our GIMI prayer and support team to spend a lot of time each week praying for the radio ministry and for those who are being touched by the preaching and teaching of the Bible studies. Also, I would like to appeal to all of you to consider helping us more with the radio expense, especially including the opportunity for us to enlarge this ministry into some additional towns and villages in our African countries. There are literally thousands and thousands of people in sub-Saharan Africa that are begging for the Gospel. Through our radio ministry, we can get the message of Christ to these spiritually hungry people. I do pray that God might touch your hearts about investing more of His money in this very large endeavor! Just send your gifts to GIMI at Post Office Box 667, Taylorsville, NC, 28681, and designate your gifts to the radio ministry.



## We Are Reopening Our GIMI Ministry In Some Countries Where We Used To Work!

I believe that all of you on our mailing list know that back in 2015, GIMI was carrying on a ministry in 15 African countries. It was during this time that I got so sick that Jo Anne and I had to stop a lot of our travel here in America, going from church to church trying to raise funds. So, we were forced to stop our ministry in some of our countries. But, because of the continuing requests to return to some of our countries, I have made the decision to take a big step of faith and reopen some of the countries where we used to work. It is my sincere prayer that God might supply everything we will need to restart the work in some of our previous countries, and maybe we can even start a work in some new African countries. However, in order for us to accomplish this, we will need to enlist some new supporters who love souls and want to help us win multitudes to Christ. Folks, more and more countries in Africa are being taken over by the wicked Muslims. In fact, North Africa is already under the control of the Muslims. So, it is my sincere desire and prayer that with our small GIMI Ministry, we might help to win sub-Saharan Africa to Christ before the wicked wealthy Muslim religion moves in to completely destroy this beautiful continent and send millions to hell. There are 54 countries in Africa with almost one billion people. The majority of the countries in North Africa are already gone, but there is very much that can still be done in sub-Saharan Africa. So, I want to appeal to you to come on board our team and help us reach multitudes to Christ! I just can't wait to see what Jesus is going to do through our efforts in these reopened and new countries!

So that you can begin to really pray for these reopened and new countries, let me mention the names of these countries where we hope to expand. These countries are: Liberia, the Ivory Coast, Togo, Ghana, Benin, Tanzania, and possibly some other countries in South Africa. So, let me thank you in advance for your help with this enlarged work for Jesus!



**Our GIMI Work  
In The South Sudanese Refugee Camps  
In Northern Uganda  
Is Going Wonderfully Well!**

Dear folks, I believe all of you know that back in the month of May of this past year, we started a brand new special project in the South Sudanese Refugee Camps located in Northern Uganda, just south of the border with South Sudan. Many of you know that since 2013, there has been an on-going civil war in South Sudan. The people have talked about peace, but it has never really come. Because of this civil war, almost 500,000 people have been killed, and over one million people are now living in the refugee camps just over the border in Uganda. We have two great preachers, Mogga Leju and Patrick Ogaba, who are regularly holding evangelism services in the many makeshift churches in these camps. Since last May, these two wonderful men of God have preached the Gospel to over 21,000 refugees with 7,064 of this large number of people making first-time decisions to follow Christ. Many of those who have given their hearts to Christ, came from Catholic, Muslim, and African animism backgrounds. We are just praising God for this wonderful harvest of souls. I hope you will join us in thanking God for this huge harvest of people getting saved! This is truly the reason Jo Anne and I keep pushing on with this great Modern Day Book of Acts ministry!

Let me give you a special prayer request concerning this ministry in the camps. If God will graciously give me some better health, Jo Anne and I are planning to make another trip to Uganda during this upcoming March. If this trip can come to pass, we are planning to work our way up to Northern Uganda and visit the camps. In fact, I hope to preach the Gospel in those camps. Please pray that God will grant this desire of my heart!

**We Are Available To Share  
Our GIMI Africa Ministry  
With You And Your Friends!**

Dear Beloved Christian Friends, as you know, we are all getting older and older every day! As it has often been said, "If I had known getting old would be so hard, then, I would have tried to take better care of myself." Well, this is a true statement for me. Over the past several years, I have had so many health problems that I rarely have a day without pain. Yet, when I see so many people getting saved through GIMI, my old mind and my old body get excited. I just want to do more and more to win people to Christ. So, when we can't do what we have done for so many years, we try to work smarter, take better care of

ourselves. We just pray for more of God's grace and strength to keep on going.

Therefore, right now, I am the most excited about what God is doing in Africa than I have ever been in the past 35 years since Jo Anne and I started working on this beautiful continent. As I stated earlier in this newsletter, there are presently 54 countries in Africa with almost one billion people. When I think of the potential of winning thousands of these people to Christ, I just ask God for better health, more wisdom, better understanding, and a clearer vision of His divine plan for taking the Gospel to this huge continent of people. Every day, Jo Anne and I pray for our work and ministry, not to be easy, but maybe just a little easier, so that we can continue on with this work after our total of 35 years working in Africa and after 20 years of trying to supervise this ministry. Because of the tremendous blessings of God upon this world missions endeavor, we want to tell the entire world about what our Lord Jesus Christ is doing. We do this already through our newsletters, over 3,000 personal letters and emails every year, and most recently, through our GIMI Radio Broadcast on 60 stations.

So, now that we can't travel internationally like we did, we would like to make ourselves available to all of our supporting churches to return to your churches and give an update on the African work, or, maybe some of you church members will encourage your pastors to let us come and share this great work for Jesus!

Also, maybe some of you Christian friends would set up a date and invite us to come to your house, a local restaurant, a church fellowship hall, or even some other place, and let us connect with some of your friends who love Jesus and who might seriously consider helping us financially. In this process, we will also invite these friends or church members to make a short-term mission trip with one of our teams going out to Africa. And truly, not as an afterthought, but we really need an army of new Christian friends who will pray for the work every day. In addition, we would love to share some personal prayer requests with your pastor, your church family, your personal friends, and also, with some of your friends who might be sold out Christians in the business world.

Now, if you, your pastor, your church friends, or even some of your Christian business people would like to hear about our work, just contact Sister Patsy Little at our office by phone at 828-632-2344, or e-mail her at [office@gatewayinternationalmissions.com](mailto:office@gatewayinternationalmissions.com). If you would like to contact me personally, my personal e-mail is [gimi@charter.net](mailto:gimi@charter.net). We would count it a privilege to come visit with your churches and your friends, if you would so desire. I do hope we can hear from some of you very soon!

Happy New Year!

*Dr. Stan Frye*

President of GIMI and GIBC

Luke 2:11

# *Loving Gifts Given in Honor and in Memory of Others*

## IN HONOR

Alice Parrish	Cynthia Harris
Bob & Brenda Ferguson	Kenneth & Janet Hill
Jeremy & Stephanie Brougher	Kevin & Daleine Wade
Nathan & Danae Sellers	Kevin & Daleine Wade
Caleb Wade	Kevin & Daleine Wade
Jordan Wade	Kevin & Daleine Wade
Stan & Jo Anne Frye	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Mitch & Lori Friar	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Veronica & Kyle Sherrill	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Andy & Missy Hines	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Michelle & Terry McCrary	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Jeff & Lorraine Swagger	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Karen & Bart Grant	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Mark & Amy Lail	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Abby Frye	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Regina & Rocky Millsaps	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Junior & Freida Miller	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Dennis & Margaret Hames	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Kelly & Karen Pope	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Tony & Angela Johnson	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Donnie & Chrissy Hicks	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Matt & Wendy Dobbins	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Jeff & Clara Kanupp	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Roger & Karen Greene	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Charles & Denise McNeely	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Larry & Phyllis Wright	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye
Haley & Brent Cowles	Pastor Joel & Tricia Frye

## IN MEMORY

Mickey Parrish	Cynthia Harris
Randall Wood	Debra Wood
Nicole Calfee	Annie Wyatt
Carolyn Propst	Calvin Propst
Ruby Propst	Calvin Propst
Jessica Jeanne Howell	Scottie Lutz
Earl Sweet	Judy Sweet
Earl McComas	Mildred Catron
Gail Presnell	Stan & Jo Anne Frye
Bill Little	Patsy Little
Nicole Tomaszewski Calfee	Teresa Wagoner
Susan Mead	Larry & Linda Bradshaw
Marie McMahan	Larry & Linda Bradshaw







**BROTHER ISRAEL NGIRABABO  
AND BORA**



**FOOD PROVIDED FOR PRISONERS  
BY GIMI**



**A BAPTISMAL SERVICE  
AT LAKE KIVU**



**PASTOR ISRAEL  
PREACHING A CRUSADE**



**A LARGE GROUP OF MUSLIMS  
ATTENDED THE CRUSADE**



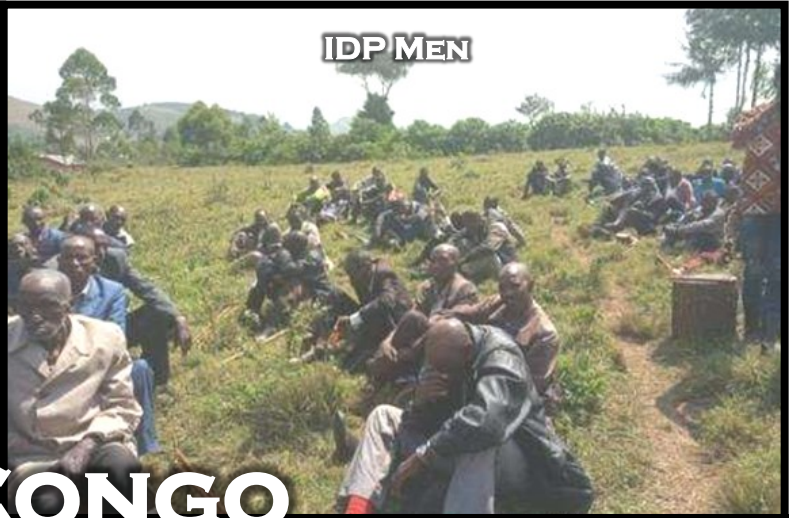
**MORE FOOD FOR PRISONERS  
PROVIDED BY GIMI**



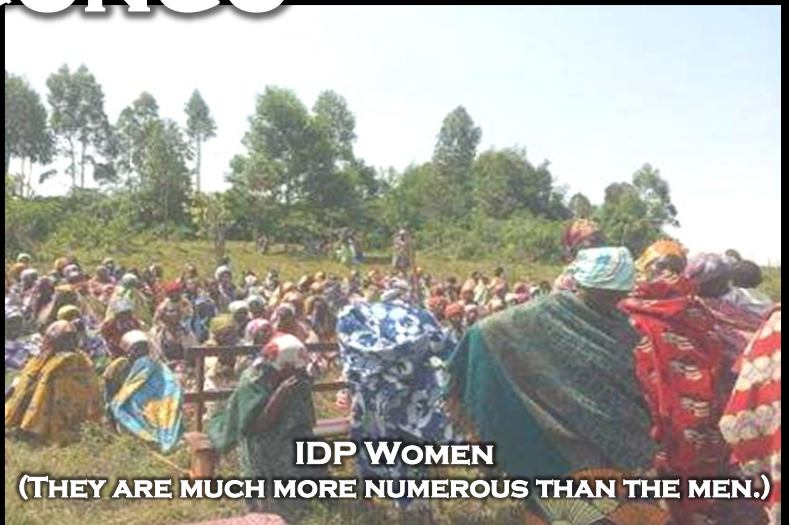
# DR CONGO



**BANYAMULENGE  
INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS**



**IDP MEN**



**IDP WOMEN  
(THEY ARE MUCH MORE NUMEROUS THAN THE MEN.)**



**FOOD FOR THE IDPs  
PROVIDED BY GIMI**



**IDPs RETURNING TO THEIR MAKESHIFT HOMES  
WITH THEIR FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS**



**PASTOR ISRAEL  
BRINGING MESSAGES OF COMFORT TO THE IDPs**







**BROTHER PATRICK OGABA  
PREACHING TO THE REFUGEES**



**A SUNDAY MORNING  
WORSHIP SERVICE**



**MAMAS AND THEIR CHILDREN  
IN THE CAMPS**



**PASTOR OGABA RECOGNIZING  
A YOUNG LADY WHO GOT SAVED**



**PASTOR OGABA MINISTERING  
TO CHILDREN IN THE REFUGEE SCHOOL**



**PASTOR MOGGA  
GIVING BIBLES TO HAPPY RECIPIENTS**



**PASTOR OGABA SHARING JESUS  
WITH REFUGEES IN A CHURCH SERVICE**



**Due To The Horrible Wickedness And Deep Division In Washington, D.C., We Are Printing A Revised Edition Of An Exegetical Written Sermon I Put In Our Newsletter Before!!!**



## **"Can America Be Saved?"**

**"Effective Expositions For Life"**

**An Expository Sermon**

**Scripture: Deuteronomy 6:10-25**

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## Introduction

Last July, we as Americans celebrated the 243rd 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 243 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.

First, let me tell you that since the Roe versus Wade decision of the Supreme Court back in 1973, over 61 million babies have been murdered by abortion. And yet, while people are screaming about protecting the children that are 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 2018, here in America over 70,000 people died from overdoses 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 they did not pray to God once in the last year.

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

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

Would you say that America needs revival or salvation if we are to survive as a nation? I would!<sup>5</sup>

Fourthly, presently in our country the divorce rate for professing Christians is over 50%, just like the divorce rate for unbelievers. 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, and almost 30% of white children are born out of wedlock. People don't like to hear this, but folks, this is sinful behavior which will ultimately destroy the homes of our nation, and yes, ultimately destroy the nation itself.

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 so desperately need a revival and return to Biblical principles and practices, 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. 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 for 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, in fact, to go back and reflect on the goodness of God to us down through our 243 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, and 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**

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<sup>5</sup> George Barna Website, The State Of The Church 2016.



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, 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 South and in the North as chaplains during the horrible civil war. Of course, one of the best 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 father's 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 then 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 must too 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 the 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 63 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, then 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...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>6</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.

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<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.



May I tell you also that even after Moses gave this great passage of truth to his people, before they went into the Promise 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 of so much hurt, pain, and too many scars remaining 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, and 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 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 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, 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 freedom or our lives. Will you join me in making a solemn commitment or vow to stand for God and His Word in this easy "believeism" 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 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. And, 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 worship 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 and 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. And, we must realize that if we don't give God our singular devotion, then He might just destroy us as a nation because if God 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 and 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 that we live.

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 run 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. 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 the worshipping of other gods. And, 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 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 the 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. And, 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. And, 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 into a people of Godlessness and secularism. Our nation has tried so hard to get rid of God, and 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 God's 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. In this verse Moses tells the people of God

that if they do implement God's plan from God's 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. You see, 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 that like Jonah preached to the Ninevites, there must be repentance from the pauper in the street all the way to the king in 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 our readers 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 that 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 promise land of blessing and be victorious over the many enemies and opponents that Satan will bring their way. And, when God tells Israel in verse 15 that He is a jealous God and demands total and singular worship, they are also told that if they rebel against His Word that the consequences will be utterly severe. He literally tells them if they don't repent and walk or live by His principles which He has given through Moses, then He will destroy them from the face of the earth. Now, I can hear some of you screaming, "I THOUGHT GOD WAS A GOD OF LOVE." Well, 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!!!!



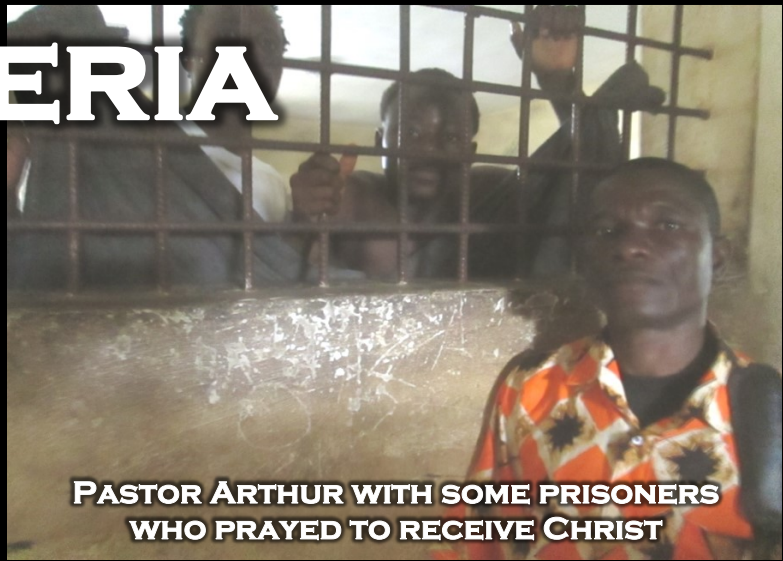
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