

## Listen to History!

*"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord .... The eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love," (psalm 33:12,18).*

Back in the days of our nation's founding fathers, George Washington, the first President of the newly-formed United States of America, said, "It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible." That was a valid observation then, and it still is today.

Unfortunately, the truth of that statement is something that we as a nation seem to have discarded as irrelevant. We don't see much of that anymore. Our government and its institutions no longer openly admit that we need God and his blessings to have this nation work. More and more these days, our American society either ignores God or is openly hostile to him. More and more, symbols that remind us of our dependence on God are not allowed in public places. Our public school teachers may not speak his name, while TV names him very frequently, albeit usually in a curse or some sort of blasphemous profanity.

It's not unusual for a nation to ignore God. The history of the nations is one continuing story of unbelief and rebellion against God. More often than not, as a nation prospers, the people ignore God, and as it falls on hard times, it returns to God - oftentimes too late. We as a nation really need to listen to history, to say nothing of listening to God's Word!

What we as a nation today need to understand - but don't seem to be grasping very well - is the fact that we ignore God and his commandments at our own great peril. This is the message all of history clearly sends. Families, institutions, and whole cultures crumble when they ignore God. And we shouldn't think that it will be any different with us Americans either. Our complex problems of crime, drug abuse, broken homes, teenaged pregnancy, AIDS, domestic abuse, abortion, homelessness .... all of these are rooted in our choice to ignore God.

But God is going to have the last word with our nation! He always does in the history of nations. If we continue in our sins, God will destroy us. That's the way it always has been, as history clearly testifies. We need to listen to history! God's desire throughout the history of nations and for our nation today is that we repent of our sins, turn to him, live in obedience to him, and truly trust him. To trust God is to take him at his word, to believe in his Son Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, and out of gratitude for his grace live in willing and joyful obedience to his commandments.

God in his mercy has provided the perfect solution for all of our personal and national sins. He sent his one and only Son Jesus to live and die in our place, so that everyone who believes in him as their Savior might be washed clean from their sins and become members in the family of God. When we are God's children through faith in Jesus as our Savior, we learn what a relief it is for us to trust in him. In living according to God's will and desires, we learn how to govern ourselves, our families, and our nation. And in so doing we are truly blessed.

This is what God's Word clearly proclaims and what all of the history of the nations confirms. *"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, "the Bible says. "The eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love. " Pray God that we listen!*

Blessed by the love of Jesus,  
Pastor Terry