

AMERICA'S SPIRITUAL CRISIS

GOD WILL DEAL WITH A SINFUL NATION SOONER OR LATER.

“God is jealous, and the LORD revengeth; the LORD revengeth, and is furious; the LORD will take vengeance on his adversaries, and he reserveth wrath for his enemies.” Nahum 1:2

By Pastor Del Wray

My love for America and concern for its people demands a rehash of a previous writing warning America that a nation that refuses to repent God will destroy.

America is spiritually and mentally ill. We have lost all sense of decency. We have been desensitized to evil. We are shaking our collective fist at God. And in the process, we are literally howling for the wrath of God to come upon us. We have been in rejection for over one-hundred years now of the very One who has blessed us so mightily. Evidence and proof of the crisis we have in this nation, God help me, is following.

There are many things that have brought on this sickness in America, but the fundamental problem is rooted in the Apostasy that is in the Church which today is running rampant. Here is an example of such widespread apostasy which I actually saw advertised on a blasphemous church sign: "Jesus had two dads and He turned out just fine." God have mercy! Can you believe a church would place such on its sign? It is unforgiveable, unbelievable!

Let me begin with two disclaimers. Because I won't to pen a few very sensitive political issues:

First, I am neither a Republican or a Democrat. I am a "Theist." And I say that because I have devoted my life to doing everything possible to prepare folks to meet God and make way for the coming of the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. He's going to reign with a rod of iron from Mt. Zion in Jerusalem. He's going to bring righteousness, and justice and peace to this earth, and I certainly can hardly wait.

If I may let me quote a well known commentator, who said, "We don't need more Americans bowing down to the Democrat donkey or to a Republican elephant. We need more Americans bowing down to the Lion of the tribe of Judah."

And that thought brings me to my second disclaimer. I do not believe that either the Democrats or the Republicans are the hope of America. Rather, I believe that Jesus Christ is our only hope. And, because I believe Jesus is our only hope, I therefore believe we have "little hope" because we as a nation have turned our backs on God. The God of our King James Bible!

This point was clearly illustrated recently after the horrible Connecticut school shooting when someone designed a t-shirt which says: “Dear, God, why do you allow so much violence in our schools? Signed, a Concerned Student! Then it read, Dear Concerned Student, I’m not allowed in schools, signed God.” That pretty well sums it up.

I would like to begin with two foundational scriptures. The first is, “Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance” Ps. 33:12. The second one is “Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people” Prov. 14:34.

How does God deal with the Nations?

First, God establishes nations and defines their boundaries. Consider these words of Paul, spoken in his sermon at Athens: “And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;” Acts 17:26.

Second, God determines when a nation will cease to exist. A nation can be the most powerful one on the face of the earth, like ancient Babylon or modern day Russia, but all of its power will be of no avail when the Lord decides the time has come to bring it down. And that can happen overnight, regardless of the nation's power.

Third, God has a purpose for each nation, both general and specific. The general purpose of all nations is to enable their citizens to seek God by providing an atmosphere of freedom, security and tranquility. Additionally, God will call nations to perform specific duties. The greatest example of all, of course, is the nation of Israel, a nation called to be a witness of God. But, it's interesting to note that God has called other nations to relate to Israel in specific ways. For example, He called some nations to bless Israel, some to test Israel, some to discipline Israel, and some to judge Israel.

In regard to specialized purposes, have you ever stopped to ponder, what was the unique role that God might have had in mind for the United States when He raised up this nation? As I look back on the last two- hundred years of our history, I have concluded that God's special purpose for America was to evangelize the world for Jesus, working through our incredible natural resources and technical ingenuity. Of course, another special purpose for us was to serve as a key role in the establishment of the nation of Israel and the protection of its security.

Fourth, God blesses and disciplines nations in accordance with their obedience to Him and their treatment of the Jewish people. With regard to the Jews, God told Abraham, “And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed” Gen. 12:3. Accordingly, history is literally littered with the corpses of nations that came against Israel or who persecuted the Jewish people. Those that survived, like Spain, Britain and Russia, were stripped of their world empires.

Fifth, God holds nations in contempt. Now, on the surface, this may seem contradictory in nature. After all, God is the one who creates the nations and He is the one who has them for His purposes. Why then does He hold them in contempt, as we are told very plainly in Isaiah chapter 40 that God holds the nations in contempt? Why is that? Well, it's because of their pride and their rebellion and because they serve idols.

This is beautifully illustrated in the book of Daniel in the contrasting visions that God gave Nebuchadnezzar and Daniel, which were visions of great world Gentile empires. The vision that Nebuchadnezzar had was a great statue with a gold head and silver chest, and so forth. It was magnificent. It was beautiful. It was glorious because this is the way man sees the kingdoms of the world. But, when He gave the same vision to Daniel, it was a vision of ravenous animals devouring each other. That is the view of the nations in God's eyes.

Sixth, God forgives and blesses a nation when its people repent. The only thing that touches God's heart as deeply as faith is repentance. This is illustrated throughout the Bible. One of the greatest examples is that of Jonah. God sent Jonah to Nineveh to tell them of their impending judgment. The king put on sackcloth and ashes. He repented before the Lord. He called the entire nation to repent. The result was that God relented from destroying them.

Seventh, God destroys a nation when its rebellion becomes entrenched, reaching a point of no return. I want to look at this particular point in more detail because it is one that is very important for our nation. I want us to see how God deals with a rebellious nation, for the Bible says there's a definite pattern that God uses when dealing with such a nation.

How God deals with Rebellious Nations?

Firstly, God will always raise up prophetic voices to call the nation to repentance. He does this because God never pours out His wrath without warning.

Secondly, if there is no repentance, God will place remedial judgments on the nation. These can take many forms. For example, in Deuteronomy 28 there is a long list of the types of remedial judgments God will place on a nation, including such things as natural disasters, political confusion and corruption, crop failures, economic calamities, rebellious youth, rampant disease, even epidemics of divorce, defeat in war, among many other things including giving the nation the kind of leaders it deserves. Think about that! That's sobering!

If the people of the nation still refuse to repent, God will deliver the nation to destruction. In this regard, the Bible makes a chilling revelation, namely, there is a point of no return. Thus, many years after Jonah God raised up another prophet to send to Nineveh, a prophet by the name of Nahum. This time Nahum was told that Nineveh had a, notice these words, "an incurable wound." And, sure enough, there was no repentance as before and the nation was destroyed.

Later, the prophet Jeremiah used the same terminology of "an incurable wound" with reference to the nation of Judah. In fact, Jeremiah was told by God to stop praying for Judah! Ezekiel was told the same thing, but he was told it in even stronger terms. Ezekiel was told that if the most righteous men who had ever lived, Noah, Daniel and Job, were to intervene for Judah, it would

be of no avail except for themselves and their families, because the nation had reached the point of no return and was going to be destroyed.

THERE IS A POINT OF NO RETURN. When the wound becomes incurable, God delivers the nation from judgment to destruction.

God is patient. He is long-suffering. But, He cannot be mocked.

GOD WILL DEAL WITH SIN SOONER OR LATER.

Consider these words from Nahum Chapter 1,

“God is jealous, and the LORD revengeth; the LORD revengeth, and is furious; the LORD will take vengeance on his adversaries, and he reserveth wrath for his enemies.” Nahum 1:2

“The LORD is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked: the LORD hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet. He rebuketh the sea, and maketh it dry, and drieth up all the rivers: Bashan languisheth, and Carmel and the flower of Lebanon languisheth. The mountains quake at him, and the hills melt, and the earth is burned at his presence, yea, the world, and all that dwell therein. Who can stand before his indignation? And who can abide in the fierceness of his anger? His fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are thrown down by him.” Nahum 1:3-6

“The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.” Nahum 1:7

If you can't apply these principles to America you are spiritually blind and in need of divine help! You can thank your Supreme Court Justices, President and Politicians for her downfall.

AMERICA IN CRISIS HAS CHOSEN TO BE BURNED ALIVE AND HER JUDGMENT WILL BE TEN TIMES GREATER THAN ANYTHING KNOWN TO MAN AND IT WILL MAY BE NUCLEAR FUSION OR FIRE THAT CONSUMES HER.