

June 26 Meeker Christian Church

### Patriotism, God and Country

The upcoming July 4th celebration is an extra special day for we patriots who are flag waving, gun owning, freedom loving, amendment hugging, history respectin,' grateful to God, indebted to the military and all first responders, law abidin', unapologetic Bible belivin' Americans celebrating the Constitution of 1776.

But what is going on in our nation in 2022? What has July 4<sup>th</sup> become? - According to the National Highway Administration over 500 of our citizens may die in auto accidents (many of those alcohol and drug related), dozens will be murdered in our cities and countless lives and families will continue to be destroyed by devil directed diabolical perversions under the guise of freedom! Freedom is not a license to say and do anything desired or concocted as a personal moral/ethical value system based on and justified by relativism—// the true definition of freedom is wise restraint under the parameters of righteousness! Anything else is perversion of unrighteousness prompted and propagated by satan, lucifer, the devil, the evil one, or however you chose to refer to the evil entity who is presently prince of this earth!!

What has the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration come to? Is this only a day for those selling fireworks? A day for noise at all hours and pushing the parameters of the law? And then blaming the police for trying to control their illegal behavior. What are our children learning as a result of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration? We are inundated with the perversions of pluralism that models and insists in a positive answer to the following twisted anti-righteous questions proposed from the threshold of satan himself, such questions as: What is the purpose in teaching our children about the historical meaning of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July or anything else with moral values for that matter? Why not let them just discover language, values and habits on their own? Why not let each generation start from nothing and allow them to develop in complete freedom of choice? Why not just let them learn and live without interference from parents and the world? Let them or force them to make gender decisions as a child!

Those questions are preposterous, and when people chose to ignore the teachings of the Bible in favor of letting children make their own decisions - it is equally preposterous. Sadly, the pattern of life has not changed for 6,000 years.// From Birth through development into maturity and death, every inclination of mankind is the sin of self worship, self purpose and every other kind of selfishness which began in the Garden of Eden with Adam and Eve.

The mind of the righteousness considers and teaches our children that the signers of the Constitution are to be respected patriotic heroes worthy of our honor and understanding. In like manner also we should remember that since the time of Adam and Eve, - God has provided a way of understanding for the right and best way to live. The intent of this wonderful holiday should be a reminder to honor in worship and understanding the God of our Fathers whose Almighty Hand created and sustains us in all things. We will continue doing that next week with the theme LET FREEDOM RING.

The fallen nature of mankind migrates away from God to their own way, which is being guided and inspired by the devil. Even the experience and knowledge of the flood of Genesis chapters 6-10 did not change the fallen nature of the character of mankind as it could have and should have. I invite you to turn in a Bible to Genesis 11 for further evidence.

While you are turning back to Genesis 11, it is more than a little intriguing to be reminded that Noah's grandfather was born before Adam died. And after the flood, Noah was probably still alive into chapter 11 and the story of The Tower of Babel.

Let's read and learn a lesson to teach to our offspring so that they may develop their brain capacity into righteous pursuits without the cruel consequences of the burdens of sin.

Within 500 years of the flood, mankind succumbed to the inspiration of satan/// and God intervened **again** to redeem their sinfulness:

*Gen 11:1-7 Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. 2 As men moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there. 3 They said to each other, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. 4 Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves and not be scattered over the face of the whole earth." 5 But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower that the men were building. 6 The LORD said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. 7 Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other." NIV*

Just a moments review: in Genesis chapter 9 verse 28 Noah lived 950 years, 350 years of that after the flood of what is estimated to be about 2400 B.C. which means Noah died about 2050./// Shem, Noah's son lived to about 1900 B.C. which was well into the life of Abraham. With all of that personal experience, insight, and wisdom, people still failed to obey God. The Old Testament overriding historical note is that most people failed to obey God during the ensuing 2000 years of the Old Testament record. Then Jesus was sent by God to take away the sins of mankind yet again: The New Testament message of grace and mercy is God's love for His stiff-necked people and that HE wants to give us yet another chance. We have a hundred years of history recorded in the Bible's New Testament of the development of the Church after the change of the calendar from the Old Testament period to our New Testament era. ///The history of the world in these ensuing 2,000 years since the 100 year written record of the New Testament is that most people failed and continue to fail to obey God. People for all time since the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter of Genesis have always been blindsided in a similar manner in their responses to the temptations of the evil one. But it need not be so! God continues to provide an alternative for those who seek HIM.

In anticipation of this special patriotic day of the year, here are the questions for our consideration: Have we learned the lessons of the peoples of 6,000 years or are we trying to re-invent the wheel each generation? Are we letting the children of each generation discover life and righteousness for themselves or are we going to teach and train them about Jesus, and how to live as they were created to live in Holy righteousness?

Where do you think we would be technologically speaking if each generation had to start over by discovering electricity? Can you see why we live in such an uncouth, uncivil and unfair world? When the courts in our nation say it is unconstitutional and that the Executive and Legislature branch of government have no right to control the language, pornography and filth

purveyors on the air waves,/// there surely cannot be any remaining hope for God to bless America. // When some state governments do not allow the voters to express their opinion at the polls regarding same gender marriage, males in female sports, drugs, sex trafficking, forgiving the guilty and blaming the innocent – when some educators teach there are no absolute values - what remaining hope is there for God to bless America? The doctrine of tolerance has rubbed out the concept of sin and personal responsibility to others. (Supreme Court PTL, Overturned Row Vs Wade abortion this week)

Technological training has been great - but morals and values which come from Bible training have not. ENTITLEMENT arguments are a sham. We are not entitled to anything including the air we breath and the food we eat, it is all by the mercy, grace and unmerited love of our Heavenly Father.

When atheists, homosexuals, drug addicts, alcoholics, liquidators of unborn or partially born babies and other crimes against the righteous are granted favored status and special rights while Christians are called bigots, unloving, intolerant and abusive then surely God must discipline this nation as he did those of the Tower of Babel. Because we are not obeying GOD's principles the rights have gone to the criminal. and it is sad to note that attorneys are appointed and paid a salary from the taxpayer to defend the criminal...while the victim must pay their attorney cost! We live in a society when Christian Doctors, lawyers, law enforcement officers, teachers, ministers, and other professionals are exiting their professions in large numbers because of the injustice, unrighteous, perversions of power at every level of society resulting in the destruction of the family and every intent of the 10 Commandments and Constitution and Bill of Rights that originate from Biblical precepts. /// Bible Colleges and seminaries are struggling for students, churches are closing for lack of pastoral leadership. It is a travesty to me that any "on line" research for career financial rewards, Ministry and Bible training is at or near the bottom for a career choice and students are advised against attending those institutions.

America if you won't bless God - then God, won't bless America.

Ask not - "why America is not being blessed by God?" - ask "why Americans are not blessing God!"

In JESUS' own words: Luke 18:8b *when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"* NIV

The answer is – No, if the trending conditions prevail. /// **HOPE -AND THAT HOPE IS WHEN THE CONSTITUTION OF THE PATRIOTS OF THE PAST AND THEIR VISION OF A GREAT NATION UNDER GOD IS REVIVED BY THE PATRIOTS ALIVE TODAY** ---// then the answer will be -Yes, when the Son of Man comes, He will find a remnant of faith on the earth - **if** each generation determines to learn, teach, and model the life of righteousness for each subsequent generation.

In that there is still hope as there was hope:---when Abraham believed God and God credited it to him as righteousness.

There is still hope---As when Nineveh repented and God withheld his destruction.

There is still hope---As when Israel listened to God speak through Moses and God saved them:

There is still hope as modeled by Peter when he confessed that Jesus was the Son of God and God blessed him to lead the New Testament Church.

There is still hope---As when 3,000 were baptized on Pentecost and spread the good news of Jesus into all the world.

It was the good news of Jesus Christ the news of 2 Cor 5:15 *And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.* That news has saved people for 2,000 years and it - is - what - it – will – take – again – for God to bless America.

**That** is what we should teach our children this 4<sup>th</sup> of July- **that** is what the 4<sup>th</sup> of July is about - teaching our children that the source of our freedoms is God and righteousness - that is what the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration is truly all about - setting an example in our own lives for our children to have a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. It is summarized in just 4 words:

Thought - attitude - action – character in other words, What we are taught and practice thinking, results in our attitude toward life and others, - which results in the actions we take or participate in, with the outcome and formation of our character. /// There will be a remnant when Christ returns - in proportion to the righteous moral/ethical training for the thought - attitude - action – character of every individual.

From our backyard we can see and hear the rodeo announcer: We are delighted and proud to announce the model we have observed every time – the National Anthem is sung with the audience and all the cowboys removing hats and placing their hand or hat over their hearts: followed by a heartfelt prayer. I am aware that at least one of those times was sponsored by the Cowboy Church of Meeker and am so grateful to see that fine model of righteousness to the upcoming generation. A proud, honorable and righteous tradition that sustains God’s blessings on this area and fulfills the pledge we have learned to our Christian flag.

This holiday celebration that has grown through the years of tradition here in this community is excellent to a point, but perversions of unrighteousness are creeping in that cause future generations to accept them as the standard of their conduct.

So in this years celebration, here is your scriptural motivation to represent righteousness:

Joshua 24:15 NIV **15** *But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. **But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.*** {WILL YOU SAY THAT WITH ME **But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.** }

*Then there is 2 Chronicles 7:14 **if** my people, who are called by MY name, will humble themselves and pray and seek MY face and turn from their wicked ways, **then** I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.*

Have a great celebration and enjoy it within the parameters of the true definition of freedom. Which means every thought, word, action and activity from a well trained mind, sub-consciously reflects praise and thanksgiving to God - then and only then may we fittingly say -“God Bless America, let freedom ring.””

Our invitation hymn is printed on the back of the bulletin, but before we sing it, let me read it to you {read} and now when we sing those words, if you have never received Jesus as your personal savior and made a public confession of that faith, please come forward and speak to me during the song as we stand and sing.