



HAS GOD ABANDONED THE UNITED STATES?

Perry Atkinson & John Mittendorf

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Part 1-2-3

HISTORY

- This country was founded on “God as the Creator” and biblical principles:
 - Founding fathers (who honored God).
 - This country started as a “Christian nation.” On the Washington monument is inscribed in Latin – *“Praise Be to God.”*
 - *“It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible”* – George Washington.
- America originally submitted to God’s authority.
- Psalm 33:12 – *Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.”*
- In a little over 100 years, this country was well on its way to becoming the most powerful nation on earth.
- It is clear that God had his hand on the United States and blessed America above all other lands. Some examples are:
 - Our decisions and resultant actions against the British.
 - WWII
Pearl Harbor.
Midway (we made the right decisions, the Japanese did not).
Normandy, etc.
- This country is blessed with innumerable resources. As an example, today America has only 5% of the world’s population but has more than 50% of the modern luxuries that characterize civilization.
- America has been a global influence in the following areas:
 - America has provided $\frac{3}{4}$ ’s of the missionaries of the last century and has been responsible for ensuring 95% of the world’s population have access to scripture, Christian radio and television, audio recordings and the Jesus film.
 - Supported the Jewish people (Genesis 12:3 – *“I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you”*).
 - America has been a free nation. Freedom is a principle of scripture and America has become the paradise of human liberty.

- *"The foundation of our society and our government rests so much on the teachings of the Bible that it would be difficult to support them if faith in these teachings would cease to be practically universal in our country"* – President Calvin Coolidge.
- In other words – *"When America turns from its position of being under God, we can no longer expect His blessings on this nation to continue"* – Dr. David Jeremiah.
- Interestingly, the average lifespan of the world's greatest civilizations from the beginning of history has been about 200 years!
- *"One of the hardest things for American prophecy students to accept is that the United States is not clearly mentioned in Bible prophecy, yet our nation is the only superpower in the world today"* – Dr. Tim LaHaye.

PRESENT DAY

- Increasing program content of theDove - Dr. Ray Land - *"Change in America"* (how the America of yesterday is not the America of today – or tomorrow), Bob Just – *"Current White House Scandals,"* Father Seraphim – *"Spiritual Decline,"* Mitchell Kalpakgain – *"Why Our Culture Has A Moral Rot,"* etc.
- Dr. Carle Zimmerman, a forward-looking sociologist has identified eleven *"symptoms of final decay"* that were observable in the Greek and Roman civilizations:
 - No fault divorce.
 - "Birth Dearth" – increased disrespect for parenthood and parents.
 - Meaningless marriage rites/ceremonies.
 - Defamation of past national heroes.
 - Acceptance of alternative marriage forms.
 - Widespread attitudes of feminism, narcissism, hedonism.
 - Propagation of antifamily sentiment.
 - Acceptance of most forms of adultery (*Clinton, etc*).
 - Rebellious children (*approximate age of current shooters*).
 - Increased juvenile delinquency.
 - Common acceptance of all forms of sexual perversion.
- Has America Rejected God:
 - Prayer excised from schools.
 - Suits filed to force congress to remove "Under God" from the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - Remove the "Ten Commandments" from public buildings.
 - Legalized abortion (legalized abortion).
 - Political attack on the Catholic Church.
 - The motto "In God We Trust" is being challenged.
 - Teachers cannot carry a Bible in view of students.
 - Christian literature removed from library shelves.
 - Christmas carols banned from school programs.
 - Spring Break has replaced Easter vacation.
 - Atheistic chaplains.
 - The current generation is leaving the church.
 - Etc.

Part 2

GOD'S GRACE

- *"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 will forgive their sin and heal their land," 2 Chronicles 7:14:*
 - Humility.
 - Prayer.
 - Longing for God.
 - Repentance.

GOD'S WRATH

- God's wrath:
 - *Eternal* (hell, etc).
 - *Catastrophic* (flood, Sodom & Gomorrah, etc).
 - *Consequential* (sow what you reap, etc).
 - *Abandonment* (when God turns his back on an individual/society – Sampson, Israel, etc). Matthew 15:14 - *"Let them alone"* of the Pharisees.

ROMANS 1

To begin to answer the question of *"Has God Abandoned America To the Affects Of Its Sinful choices?"* lets look at Romans 1:18-32 as this portion of scripture clearly describes a settled and determined response (wrath) of a righteous God against the spiraling decay of sin. As a prelude, consider Acts 14:16 where Paul says *"who (God) in bygone generations allowed **ALL** nations to walk in their own ways."* So, is America following in the same footsteps of (1) knowing the truth, (2) rejecting the truth, and (3) the removal of restraining grace. Interestingly, the phrase **"God gave them over"** is used in Romans 1:24, Romans 1:26, and Romans 1:28. Lets look a little closer at these three verses and notice the progression of sin (as applied to our discussion) follows three steps.

Romans 1:24-25

"Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lust of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshipped and served the creation rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever."

- Forever goes back to verse 18 that states "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness"
- First indication is sexual immorality (pornography, immoral society, etc).
- Lust of the heart is first then the body follows:
 - Hippie movement, Playboy empire, Internet, television, Pedophilia, marriage, child trafficking, etc.

Romans 1:26-27

"For this reason, God gave them up to vile (degrading) passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise, also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due."

- Second indication is gross affections:
 - Homosexuality
 - Lesbianism
- Women are usually the last to be affected in the decay of morals.
- When motherhood is abandoned.
- Consequential wrath - - VD, AIDS, etc?
- Condoned by society and the media?

Romans 1:28-29

"And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased (depraved) mind, to do those things which are not fitting; unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness, full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness, and so on....."

- Third indication is reasoning has been corrupted.
- Moral law of God in the heart has been nullified and replaced with cultural immorality.
- Not only do the same but give approval to those who also do the same (Clinton).
- Without a conscious, reason, restraint.
- Due to the degrading state of the evil mind, it is increasingly difficult to reverse course.
- Without conscience and restraint.

Part 3

IS THIS A PORNOGRAPHIC, SEXUAL IMMORALITY, AND OTHER ITEMS LISTED IN THE ABOVE VERSES AMERICAN SOCIETY?

BILLY GRAHAM'S WARNING FOR AMERICA:

IN A LETTER LAST SUMMER TITLED "MY HEART ACHES FOR AMERICA," GRAHAM WONDERED WHAT HIS LATE WIFE RUTH WOULD THINK OF A NATION IN WHICH "SELF-CENTERED INDULGENCE, PRIDE AND A LACK OF SHAME OVER SIN ARE NOW EMBLEMS OF THE AMERICAN LIFESTYLE."

HOW DID AMERICA LOSE SIGHT OF ITS BIBLICAL BEGINNINGS?

- The Western world has had the truth for centuries. All Ivy League colleges were originally founded as Christian colleges and to train pastors.
- Truth can be found in the revelation of scripture. However, our society has been successful in eliminating the need for scripture and a creator (evolution).
- We suppress the truth (implies we have the truth).

- People are without excuse as God has made it evident to them (Romans 1:18).
- Looking at the creation you cannot help but see the *Divine Nature and Attributes of God*.

WHY DOES GOD ABANDON A SOCIETY

- Did we abandon God - or did God abandon us?
- Do we tolerate anger against sin?
- Romans 1:18-19;
*"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who **suppress** the truth in unrighteousness because what may be known of God is manifest (obvious) in them for God has shown it to them.*
 - We suppress the truth by rejecting the truth and embracing sin (preference for sin and darkness).
 - God has placed a moral ethical standard (conscience – reason - morality) in our hearts (Romans 2) that we willingly override.
- Romans 1:20-22;
"For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen being understood by the things that are made, even by His eternal and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because although they knew God they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools."
- God has imbedded his attributes into the fabric of man.
- Four sequential reasons for the wrath of God;
 - God has **revealed** Himself to man (even since the beginning of this nation).
 - Man has **rejected** the truth (evolution, movement in the church to remove scripture, re-interpret Genesis, etc).
 - Although foolish, profess - **rationalization** - to be wise.
 - Men create their own gods – **false religion** - to satisfy their own desires;
"and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man – and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things." Romans 1:23.
- Romans 1:25&28;
"who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshipped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever – and even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind."
- Five dominating lies of our modern culture:
 - Life is random.
 - Truth is relative (no absolutes or ethics).
 - People are basically good.
 - Everyone can change his own life – take charge – you have the power to be what you want to be.
 - Goal of life is self satisfaction – feeling good about yourself.

IS THERE ANY HOPE?

- *"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 will forgive their sin and heal their land," 2 Chronicles 7:14.*
 - Has been a cyclic history for the Jewish people!
- *"But my people would not heed My voice, and Israel would have none of Me. **So I gave them over to their own stubborn heart, to walk in their own counsels.** Oh, that My people would listen to me, that Israel would walk in My ways! He would have fed them also with the finest of wheat; and with honey from the rock I would have satisfied you." Psalm 81:11-13&16.*
- Hear the word of the Lord and obey it! This is the time for strong and bold scripture in our churches.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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