

IF THE FOUNDATIONS BE DESTROYED

"Independence Day 1994"

- I. HOUSE ONLY AS STRONG AS THE FOUNDATION.
 - A. What has made us the most blessed nation on the face of the earth?
 1. Unparalleled history.
 2. And we are only 218 years old; very young in comparison to history of world and other great nations.
 - B. If our nation has been and is great, it is because of good foundation.

- II. THE FOUNDATIONS OF AMERICA.
 - A. Columbus.
 1. Columbus felt he was on a mission for God - *"It was the Lord who put into my mind (I could feel his hand upon me) the fact that it would be possible to sail from here to the Indies. All who heard of my project rejected it with laughter, ridiculing me. There is no question that the inspiration was from the Holy Spirit, because he comforted me with rays of marvelous inspiration from the Holy Scriptures."*
 2. ***Columbus' prayer when he landed on San Salvador (Holy Saviour)*** - *"O Lord, Almighty and everlasting God, by Thy holy Word Thou hast created the heaven, and the earth, and the sea; blessed and glorified by Thy Name, and praised by Thy Majesty, which hath designed to use us, Thy humble servants, that Thy holy Name may be proclaimed in this second part of the earth."*
 - B. Pilgrims and Mayflower Compact.
 1. Pilgrims came with desire to spread gospel worldwide.
 2. William Bradford - "A great hope and inward zeal they had of laying some good foundation, or at least to make some way thereunto, for ye propagating and advancing ye gospell of ye kingdom of Christ in those remote parts of ye world; yea though they should be but even as stepping-steps unto others for ye performing of so great a work."
 3. Mayflower Compact (First written constitution for purpose of governing in my nation's history).
 - a. *"Having undertaken for the Glory of God, and Advancement of the Christian Faith, and the Honour of our King and Country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the northern Parts of Virginia; do by these Presents, solemnly and mutually in the Presence of God and one of another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil Body Politick, for our better Ordering and Preservation, and Furtherance of the Ends aforesaid..."*
 - C. Declaration of Independence.
 1. **The Laws of Nature and of Nature's God.** Blackstone: *"Upon these two*

foundations, the law of Nature and the law of Revelation, depend all human law; that is to say, no human laws should be suffered to contradict these."

2. **We hold these truths to be self-evident**

that all men are created equal..."

that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights

Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness

1. **"...with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence..."**

D. George Washington.

1. George Washington's reference to God's Providence in his life and the life of the nation - "By the miraculous care of Providence, that protected me beyond all human expectations; I had four bullets through my coat, and two horses shot under me, and yet escaped unhurt."

2. "It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor."

3. **The Hand of God Rescues George Washington's Army** - God's Providence played a great part in rescuing General Washington's troops when they were penned up in Brooklyn Heights by General Howe in the early days of the Revolution. Despite the heavy losses general Howe had inflicted on Washington's army, he had not succeeded in capturing or destroying it. Now he prepared to lay siege to the American forces on Long Island: some 8,000 men on Brooklyn Heights. Washington realized he must retreat. But how? The English forces surrounded him in a great encircle and behind him British ships could close him off at any time. Then began Washington's desperate, bold strategy. He collected every vessel he could find from row boats to sloops and, manned by fishermen from Gloucester and Marblehead, he set about to evacuate his troops by night. A desperate measure, surely, and one doomed to failure. For would not the British see them in the moonlight or hear the splashing of their oars and the many sounds of 8,000 men being transported, however quiet they tried to be!? But, as historian John Fiske writes: "The Americans had been remarkably favored by the sudden rise of a fog which covered the East River..." In the morning, the British discovered to their astonishment that their enemies had vanished--even taking with them their provisions, horses, and cannons! Fiske maintains that "So rare a chance of ending the war at a blow was never again to be offered to the British commanders." But, at the crucial, desperate moment, when Washington had done all he could do, the Hand of God intervened, providing the critically-needed elements so that neither by sight nor by sound were the army's whereabouts known to the enemy.

E. Benjamin Franklin at Constitution Convention - *"In this situation of this Assembly, groping as it were in the dark to find political truth, and scarce able to distinguish it when presented to us, how has it happened, Sir, that we have not hitherto once thought of humbly applying to the Father of lights to illuminate our understanding! In the beginning of the contest with Great Britain, when*

we were sensible of danger, we had daily prayer in this room for the Divine protection. Our prayers, Sir, were heard, and they were graciously answered. All of us who were engaged in the struggle must have observed frequent instances of a superintending Providence in our favor. To that kind providence, we owe this happy opportunity of consulting in peace on the means of establishing our future national felicity. And have we now forgotten this powerful Friend? Or do we imagine we no longer need His assistance? I have lived, Sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth--that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid? We have been assured, Sir, in the Sacred Writings, that "except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it." I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without His concurring aid, we shall succeed in this political building no better, than the builders of Babel: We shall be divided by our little partial local interests; our projects will be confounded; and we ourselves shall become a reproach and bye word down to future ages. And what is worse, mankind may hereafter from this unfortunate instance, despair of establishing governments by human wisdom and leave it to chance, war, and conquest. I therefore beg leave to move--that henceforth prayers imploring the assistance of heaven, and its blessings on our deliberations, be held in this Assembly every morning before we proceed to business, and that one or more of the clergy of this city be requested to officiate in that service (Pp. 123-124, Faith of Our Founding Fathers, Tim Lahaye).

F. Other references to God in our nation.

1. Supreme Court (1892) - "In 1892 the United States Supreme Court made an exhaustive study of the supposed connection between Christianity and the government of the United States. After researching hundreds of volumes of historical documents, the Court asserted these references add a volume of unofficial declarations to the mass of organic utterances that this is a religious people...a Christian nation.'
2. Likewise in 1931, Supreme Court Justice George Sutherland reviewed the 1892 decision in relation to another case and reiterated that Americans are a 'Christian people.'
3. And in 1952 Justice William O. Douglas affirmed 'we are a religious people and our institutions presuppose a Supreme Being.'"

G. The National Anthem

O! thus be it ever when free men shall stand
 Between their loved home and the war's desolation;
 Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n-rescued land
 Praise the Pow're that hath made and preserved us a nation!
 Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just;
 And this be our motto, "In God is our trust!"
 And the star spangled banner in triumph shall wave
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

H. America the Beautiful

God shed his grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood, from sea to shining sea.

I. **The Battle Hymn of the Republic** - "Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord"

J. **God Bless America.**

K. Music, particularly that of a patriotic nature, usually gives insight into the religious beliefs of a nation. Our country heralds several nationally loved patriotic songs.

III. WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF THESE FOUNDATIONS BE DESTROYED?

- A. We will certainly become a totally different nation.
 - 1. A nation without God.
 - 2. A nation without God is a lost nation headed for destruction.
- B. We will be destroyed from within by drugs, crime, divisiveness.
- C. Overrun from without.
- D. Hell has a place for nation that forgets God.

IV. WHAT ARE SOME CRACKS IN FOUNDATION?

- A. Education.
 - 1. Began with Horace Mann and continued through Progressive Education of John Dewey.
 - 2. Elimination of God; infiltration of humanism.
 - 3. Relativism - no absolutes.
- B. Religion.
 - 1. Compromising churches that cease to be true representation of Christ in the earth.
 - 2. Denominations that recognize gay lifestyle as alternate lifestyle; ordination of gays.
 - 3. Churches that deny the absolute truth of God's Word.
- C. Government.
 - 1. No morals; few principles.
 - 2. Doing only what is politically expedient.
- D. Persecution of Christian Right.
 - 1. Right wing; conservative; less subject to change; reverting back to original--what the nation was founded upon.
 - 2. Adherence to Christian values; law and order; true justice; less government interference; more individual freedom; integrity of hard work and entrepreneuring; anti-socialism; preservation of freedom; traditional values; family values; love of God and Country (patriotism); respect for life (anti-abortion);
 - 3. Strong law and order; strict enforcement of laws; quick justice; recognition of capital punishment as a deterrent to crime.
 - 4. Recognition that a strong military is a guarantee of peace.
 - 5. Opposition to anything that is contrary to the Word of God--including alternate lifestyles, including gay lifestyle and other living arrangements contrary to traditional

values. Gay lifestyle definitely anti-traditional family values (tradition of family of father, mother, and children).

6. Protection of individual freedoms, including right to bear arms (guaranteed in First Amendment).

V. WHEN DID AMERICA BEGIN TO DECLINE?

- A. When mothers were taken out of the home and placed in the work force.
- B. When prayer taken out of schools.
- C. Roe vs. Wade.

VI. WHAT CAN BE DONE.

- A. Stand for right; don't compromise.
- B. Pray.
For those in leadership.
For those who take a stand.
- A. Repent; ask for forgiveness as a people and nation.
- B. Believe God for a Spiritual Awakening.
- C. Let your voice be heard.
- D. Live what you preach.
- E. Return to the God of our forefathers. (Faith of Our Fathers).
- F. Don't be afraid to get involved.

HAPPY IS THE PEOPLE WHOSE GOD IS THE LORD.

Ps. 144:12-15 - *"That our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth; that our daughters may be as corner stones, polished after the similitude of a palace; that our garners may be full, affording all manner of store: that our sheep may bring forth thousands and ten thousands in our streets: that our oxen may be strong to labour; that there be no breaking in, nor going out; that there be no complaining in our streets.*

Happy is the people, that is in such a case: yea, happy is that people, whose God is the LORD."