

## Urgent Call To Prayer

**T**here is a tragedy taking place in our country that is obvious to everyone, no matter who you are. Everyone can see the symptoms, but the root is not as easy to recognize. Our country is breaking down on every level imaginable. There is a breakdown in morality, in families, in our children; in our schools, in our government; you name it. Where America once shunned evil, sin is now welcome in public places without resistance.

While our countries' leaders try to come up with solutions to try to daub up the holes in the leaking dam of pending trouble, there is a steadily degrading wall of protection that is eventually going to break into our country if things continue as they are. Washington D.C. wishes to bring hope into the hearts of the American citizens reassuring us that things will get better, but this is a false hope. Things can get better for America, but the resolution is a far cry from the message being proclaimed from Capitol Hill.

The truth is that America is caught up in a spiritual tailspin that is very common to all nations that have come before it. The history of all nations have borne out the fact that the strength of a nation is not based on the number of its military, the advanced technology of its weaponry, the wealth of its economy, but the commitment it retains to the Almighty God of Heaven. The problems in our country are spiritual at root. Our government has spun its wheels with stimulus packages to try and boost the economy but the reality is that our economy is a barometer of our spiritual condition. Yes, we can all look at the symptoms, but the root of it all is sin. History has also revealed that a nation will fall when it turns its back on Almighty God. The most important question that is set before us today is this, "Will America return to God before it's too late?"

Somehow America believes it has outgrown its need for God! The effects of the legislation in these recent years are taking its toll on our country. Somehow we've decided that God is just an option. People have even said that it's impossible for a

country to legislate morality, but immorality is being legislated almost everyday. We've decided that we can remove God and His ways from our nation without seeing any effects of our actions. People think that you can "take it or leave it" and it will not make a bit of difference either way. This cannot be further from the truth! God is as vital to a nation as breath is to the body! America is dying! There's no more ignoring the fact that America is on a downward spiral. America is running headlong into judgment. If we think for a moment that God will not bring America down, we are deceiving our own selves. Judgment is coming to our country; and it's not a matter of if it's coming, but only a matter of when.

There is an ultimatum set before America. America has a choice to make. The days of ignoring the choice is over. It's time to decide! Yes, America has made a choice and is continuing to make a choice, but it's not too late.... yet! Most people would say that America is too far gone, but it's not. It starts with you. It starts with me! We will either repent and turn back to the God of the Holy Bible or suffer the consequences. The bitter truth is that the problems that face our nation today cannot be repaired with anything that man can devise. They can only be repaired by God himself! Jesus Christ is the answer!

### **It's time to pray**

This is a call to the people of God. If you are a Christian reading this, there is something that God expects of you. I understand that everyone who truly lives for God has already felt the burden in their heart for America. There's already an urgency in the spirit driving us to intercede for our country, but it's time to get serious!

*Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly:  
Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders,  
gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the  
bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet.  
Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch  
and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O LORD, and give  
not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over  
them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their  
God?*

*Joel 2:15-17*

This may come as somewhat of a shock to a lot of people, but the lost people, from the best moral man or woman to the vilest sinner, are not to blame for the spiritual decline of America. The condition of America is not a result of the strength of sin in the secular world, but because of the weakness of righteousness in the church world. It's not the person that has never been born again that is to blame, but those who claim to be God's people. The vast majority of churches in America have "Ichabod" written over the doors. Sure there is a crowd of people gathered every Sunday, but where is God? Where is the presence of the Almighty? Could it be that the candlestick has been removed from those churches across our land? The spirit of God used to be very prominent in the house of God. And as a result, many people were saved. Today, however, most churches are blinded by sin, therefore, the lost in our communities remain in spiritual darkness. If a sinner can leave your church without feeling conviction over his or her sin, then something is tragically wrong. Today, God has become unwelcome in His own house due to the uncommitted lives of His people. The absence of the Spirit of God in the church is an indictment against it!

If you believe you serve a Holy God, and believe that when you're born again that God comes to live within you, then how can you not expect to have a change in your morality when God comes in? The church has been deceived with the notion that God excuses or looks over their sin because they say they are saved. God commands all men everywhere to repent!

America's future is resting on the shoulders of the church. America will rise or fall based upon how the church responds. There will not be revival in America until God's people deal with the sin in their own lives. The healing of a nation is not based upon what the entire country does, but what God's people do!

It's time to put God first again! It's time to let go of the idols in your life and return to God. Pastors, it's time to gather the people! The return of all night prayer meetings is overdue. The return of fasting for our country and the lost of our generation is overdue!

Dads, it's time to get your priorities in order and lead your family. You will give account for how you've led your family whether you lead it or not. Are you proving to your children that ballgames are more important to you than God? Are you proving to your family that your job is more important to you than God or even your family?

What will we decide? Have we become so caught up in the cares of this life that we will not respond? Will America return to God before it's too late? Jesus is the only hope for America!

*If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.*

*II Chronicles 7:14*

*Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach unto any people.*

*Proverbs 14:34*