

Blessed (or Cursed) is the Nation Ps. 16 Deut. 30:19

Ps. 33:12 *"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord."*

Ps 16:4 *"Their sorrows shall be multiplied that hasten after another god..."*

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith at CBC Sunday, July 5th

Can you imagine the following headlines in major media releases:

- **"Charter of New Community states their intention of:**
"propagating of Christian Religion to such People, as yet live in Darkness and miserable Ignorance of the true Knowledge and Worship of God" (Virginia Colony Charter 1606)
"Having undertaken, for the Glory of God, and advancements of the Christian faith... a voyage to plant the first colony in the Northern parts ..." (Mayflower Compact Nov. 11,1620)
- **"New England Community formed whose constitution boldly states: 'we all came into these parts with one & the same end & aim, namely to advance the kingdom of our lord Jesus Christ, & to enjoy the liberties of the gospel in purity & peace...'"** (The New England Confederation 1643.)
- **"Congress votes to invite Gospel preachers to lead in worship each day at the Capital, and to specifically pray for God's intervention in the affairs of the Country!"** (Sept. 1774)
- **"Government leaders unanimously declare their belief in a Divine Creator and acknowledge their accountability to Him, actually claiming such "Truths" as "Self evident."** (July 4th 1776)
- **"Another alarming quote from Key political leader states: 'We have staked the whole future of American civilization, not upon the power of government, far from it. We have staked the future of all of our political institutions upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves ... according to the Ten Commandments of God. "** **James Madison** (Author of the US Constitution!)
- **"More alarming quotes from Key Leaders"**
"It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible." **George Washington**
"Our laws and our institutions must necessarily be based upon and embody the teachings of the Redeemer of mankind. It is impossible that it should be otherwise. In this sense and to this extent, our civilizations and our institutions are emphatically Christian." **Illinois Supreme Court, 1883**
- **"The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court has just issued this statement: 'Divine Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty of our Christian nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers.'" "** (John Jay, Oct. 12, 1816)
- **"Further Inquiries reveal that almost every state legislature has passed a law requiring all elected officials to take the following oath: 'I do profess faith in God the Father, and in the Lord Jesus Christ His only Son... and I do acknowledge the holy scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be given by divine inspiration.'" "**
- **"Legislation was passed today in Congress to affirm that, 'The Congress of the United States approves of and recommends ... the Holy Bible for use in the schools.'" Congress: 1782**

What do you think the Headline to these stories would be?

Maybe something like *"The 'Radical Religious Right' are trying to 'take over' our country!"*

In fact, we are simply trying to call America Back to her deep spiritual Roots and rich heritage! Samuel Adams warned in 1770 that *"A general dissolution of principles and manners will more surely overthrow the liberties of America than the whole force of the common enemy. While the people are virtuous they cannot be subdued; but when once they lose their virtue then will be ready to surrender their liberties to the first external or internal invader. "*

As recent as 1952: (Zorach v. Clauson) The Supreme Court upheld private religious instruction in public schools. *"We are a religious people whose institutions presuppose a Supreme Being.*

We guarantee the freedom to worship..." What changed?!?!?!

Within seven years there were six new appointees to the Supreme Court. (1955 – 1962)

This new Supreme Court led by Chief Justice Warren began to “Fundamentally Transform” America’s values. In 1962 the ACLU sued a New York School for allowing the following Valedictorian prayer at a graduation:

*"Almighty God, we acknowledge our dependence upon Thee,
and we beg Thy blessings upon us, our parents, our teachers, and our Country."*

The Supreme Court decided that prayer was “unconstitutional” (Engel v. Vitale) claiming (wrongfully) that our Founding Fathers never intended “Public” prayer to be encouraged. They (mis) quoted an excerpt from a letter Thomas Jefferson wrote to the Danbury Baptist Association about Religious liberty. The truth is that Jefferson fought for Religious Liberty and publically solicited the Prayers of the Nation at his second inaugural address.

The Supreme Court effectively removed “The Laws of Nature and Nature’s God” as Societies Standard. Justice Potter Stewart (the only dissenting vote to remove Scripture from school) wrote that such decisions by the Court: *"led not to true neutrality with respect to religion, but to the establishment of a religion of secularism."*

Ps. 16:4 *"Their sorrows shall be multiplied that hasten after another god."*

William Bennett (Sec. of Education in 80s) made the following observations:

"I compiled The Index of Leading Cultural Indicators, for the past three decades. Among the findings: Since 1960, while the gross domestic product has nearly tripled, Violent crime has increased > 560 percent. Divorces have more than doubled. The percentage of children in single-parent homes has tripled. 40 percent of all American births and 80 percent of minority births will occur out of wedlock....The United States leads the industrialized world in murder, rape and violent crime. At the same time, our students rank at or near the bottom in tests of math and science skills. Since 1960, average SAT scores in our high schools have dropped over 75 points."

Secular Societies “Solution” included more More Government, Less God, and more Money. The Ave cost to educate a child in 2017 was \$12,201 per student each year.

Almost twice that in New England States! (\$23,091 in New York)

In spite of spending \$25,199 per student each year in NYC; < ½ of the students meet the State’s bar for grade equivalency in Math and English.

God’s Solution: Jer. 6:16,17 *"Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein. Also I set watchmen over you, saying, Hearken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, We will not hearken."*

"Indeed, I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; that his justice cannot sleep forever." **Thomas Jefferson**

CONCLUSION: Saying No to God and His will is to say “Yes” to Satan! (his plans and will)

This has become America’s official public policy! Ps 16:4 "Their sorrows shall be multiplied ..."

APPLICATION: Imagine what God could do with those who are willing to say “Yes” to Him!

- 1) Sincere **Gratitude**: Ps. 16:5,6 *"The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.*
- 2) Specific **Guidance**: Ps. 16:7 *"I will bless the LORD, who hath given me counsel:*
- 3) Surrendered **Goals**: Ps. 16:7 *"I have set the LORD always before me:*
- 4) Supernatural **Gumption** (Strength): Ps. 16:8 *"because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.*
- 5) Satisfying **Grace**: Ps. 16:11 *"Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore."*

Deuteronomy 30:19 *"I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that thou and thy seed may live:"*