

AMERICA : LAND OF THE FREE . . . AND HYPOCRISY! : PT 1

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America Hypocritically Points Finger At China And Russia, Chinese Dissident Liu Xiaobo, Vladimir Putin's Russia And Olga V. Safronova, American Freedoms Slowly Being Eroded, Mechanisms To Control Vote, Illusions Of Political Freedom, American Politics: The Rich And The Elite Will Always Win, Why Only Two Major Political Parties: Maintain Status Quo, COICA - Combating Online Infringement and Counterfeits Act, United States Senate Bill S.3804 May Restrict The Internet, COICA: Good Legislation But In The Hands Of Wrong People?, Domain Name Blacklists, US Government Seizes Domain Names, My Experience With Copyright Infringement & Fair Use Abuse, The Controversial Bittorrent Protocol, Not All Are Pirates, Bittorrent & Endtime Prophecy Net, Bittorrent Targeted By US Government And Entertainment Industry, Targeted While Innocent?, Abusive Commercialized Internet, Personal Data Sold Without Your Consent, Adios Online Privacy & Internet Neutrality, America's Evolving Police State, Just Test Them, God Gives People Government They Deserve, God's Sovereignty, Worldly Leaders Rule Only By God's Permission, Good Or Evil, God Is A Wise Parent, Bitter Experience Is A Tough Teacher, Israelites Reject God And Demand A King, Sad Story Of Saul, Obama: The Liberal President That America Wanted & Deserves Pres. Obama Rejects Anti-Gay And Lesbian Verses In Romans, Don't Just Cherry-Pick The Bible, Balance Verse With Verse

Today when I opened my online news packet, I just about had to laugh. It was just more of the same of what we have seen in the news in recent weeks. The level of hypocrisy that is currently being displayed by the American mass media, and the US Government, is ridiculous, but it is also very sad.

On one hand, there are a number of news articles concerning big, bad naughty Communist China, and how just yesterday the the Nobel Committee in Norway awarded the Nobel Peace Prize to imprisoned Chinese dissent and writer, Liu Xiaobo, in his absence, because China would not allow him to receive the prestigious award in person, obviously.

On the other hand, there are also a series of articles which on a regular basis now, have been attacking the ruthless and shrewd Russian Prime Minister, Vladimir Putin, and deriding the fact that his government is suppressing all manner of opposition, and gradually turning Russia into an upgraded version of a Soviet state, with just one political party, and a strong central government which has oversight of, and controls, just about everything, from the court system, to police departments, to regional governments, to election commissions, to prosecutor's offices, and more.

In a recent example of Mr. Putin's heavy-handed tactics, an opposition candidate by the name of Olga V. Safronova, who belongs to the "A Just Russia" party, was scheduled to give a rousing speech at a particular school, as the conclusion to her campaign in a regional election in Siberia. To Miss

Safronova's dismay, certain local members of Vladimir Putin's party -- "United Russia" -- did everything in their power to stop this woman, which they obviously did.

As you probably know, these two issues have been a top news story for a while now, and to be honest, they really reek of American hypocrisy. I'm not saying that China and Russia are not guilty as charged, as they more than likely are. But what irks me, is the fact that the American Government is guilty of some of the very same improprieties. It simply uses much more subtle methods, such as one particular vote recount in Florida a number of years ago, or making it more difficult for some citizens to vote, or "unintentional" voting snafus, etc.

In this way, not too many American citizens arouse themselves from their materialistic slumber, and begin to realize what is really going on. They fail to realize how their personal freedoms are slowly but surely being eroded by new American laws which put more power into the hands of the elite, but which the regular American citizen rarely ever hears about; by design, of course. They fail to recognize that America is slowly evolving into a veritable Police State, not that much different from the oppressive governments that the American mass media and the US Government lambast on a regular basis.

Stop and think about it, and be honest with yourself. When it comes to small local elections, it is a little easier to become a candidate for a particular office. There may still be some obstacles, but with the right connections, as well as sufficient funds and enough popular support, a person can achieve their political objectives. However, the higher up the political ladder one attempts to go, the more difficult it becomes to even get a foot in the door. Any successful, honest -- oh, really? -- candidate will inform you that it takes piles of money, which most regular people don't have. This automatically sets up an artificial -- but intentional -- barrier to achieving higher office, such as, for example, US Representative, US Senate, and most importantly, the US Vice President and President.

Personally, I have no doubt that these latter two offices are intentionally restricted -- through financial means -- to the rich and the elite. The little guy at the bottom who may have the right answers and the right solutions to the issues, does not stand a chance. The results of major elections are most certainly not determined by the integrity of the candidates, or by the electoral vote, or by the popular vote, or by voter appeal, or by anything else that the mass media may try to tell you. Long before a constituent goes to cast their vote for a president, the outcome has already been determined; and it was determined not by votes, but by who has the most money to purchase votes. You may think that you are fulfilling your civic duty by voting for Candidate A or Candidate B, but why are you limited to just Candidate A and Candidate B, neither of whom may even meet all of your personal requirements?

This is why there are only two major political parties in the United States. This con job guarantees that the status quo is maintained, while the Republicans and the Democrats continue to play "land-of-the-free, home-of-the-brave" ping pong every year. It creates an illusion of political freedom to American citizens. After so many decades of "political freedom", why is there still no real, strong, third or fourth political party alternative in the USA? Isn't the answer rather obvious? The rich and the elite don't want there to be another contender,

as it would upset their comfortable political apple cart. So through financial means, by making it extremely expensive to even get one's name known to a wide audience, they control the rules of the game. You have to be rich to win.

But let's change gears now and discuss another related topic. It is also extremely hypocritical that the US Government, and the mass media, are currently criticizing China's stringent control of the Internet, when at the same time, there exists a controversial bill that is making its way through Congress, and creating a lot of commotion and concern amongst Internet privacy advocates, digital rights groups, consumer groups and similar organizations like the Electronic Frontier Foundation, the American Civil Liberties Union and Human Rights Watch.

This bill -- United States Senate Bill S.3804 -- is known as the COICA, or Combating Online Infringement and Counterfeits Act. It was introduced by Senator Patrick Leahy, (D-VT), on September 20, 2010. A month later, on November 18, 2010, the Senate Judiciary Committee unanimously approved the bill; so the next step for the COICA is to pass the hurdle of the full Senate. This bill is supported by some very powerful people and organizations, such as the Motion Picture Association of America, the US Chamber of Commerce, the Screen Actors Guild, Viacom, Moving Picture Technicians, the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, and Artists and Allied Crafts of the United States.

If the Combating Online Infringement and Counterfeits Act is able to bypass opposition and becomes law next year -- which is very likely, considering the powerful backing that it has -- it will provide the American Government with the ability to greatly restrict Internet usage in the United States. On the surface, the COICA seems like a good piece of legislation as it will give those in authority the ability to curtail the rampant Internet piracy, online commercial scams, copyright infringement, etc. However, there are also certain potential dangers with this bill. For example, the passage of the COICA will result in the creation of a set of Internet domain name blacklists. The problem is that domain names will be added to the lists at the whim and discretion of the American courts, and the US Attorney General's office. If your domain name is listed on the main list, chances are that it will be seized by the US Government. In other words, your site will simply be zapped out of existence.

Now, if any of you think that I'm overreacting, then consider that only a few weeks ago, the US Government did in fact seize the domain names of eighty-two websites. While I don't doubt that some of these websites were engaged in questionable, and probably illegal, activities, how do you and I know that they all were? Obviously, we don't. But here's what you may find a bit alarming: this was done even before the Combating Online Infringement and Counterfeits Act has become law. In other words, these actions were taken under current US law, and it has been said that the COICA is even more lenient, and will make it even easier to carry out such actions.

Now, some of you may argue, "Well, unless you are an Internet pirate, what does it matter to you? How will it affect you?". I agree; it may never affect me personally, or this ministry; but then again, it might, and I will tell you why. As some of my long-time readers may recall, there have been a few times over the past thirteen years when I have had problems with a few people seriously infringing on our copyright. I am not referring to people who choose to take advantage of the "fair

use" clause -- Section 107 of the US Copyright Code -- as a way to quote small portions of my articles and series. I do not have a problem with this. In fact, I encourage it, just as long as my work is not included in any commercial work where the owner stands to profit from my work, or from God's Word, which I firmly condemn.

However, there have been a few people -- at least I have only discovered a few -- who have gone way past "fair use". Some unscrupulous people have taken entire articles, perhaps made a change to the opening sentence, and then quoted the whole article word-for-word, and then posted their name at the top of it, claiming that they are the original author. Now, what if one of such people were to try to enforce their claim, by suing me, and accusing me of copyright infringement, even if I am truly the original author of the work? If said person is a good liar, and can create convincing evidence that they are the rightful owner of my work -- which they have stolen -- my domain names could easily end up on one of those government lists. Now do you understand why the COICA is of concern to me?

That is not all. As some of my readers will know, I rely upon a variety of means to distribute my work across the Internet. We have our Endtime Prophecy Net website, a PC-ANSI BBS, an FTP server, a messageboard, and I sometimes even post comments in a local newspaper. However, that is not my only means for distributing the Endtime Prophecy Net articles. Sometime ago I discovered the bittorrent protocol, which is a very popular medium for sharing files on a peer-to-peer basis. While many people have heard of bittorrent, thanks to the mass media and some of the aforementioned organizations who are a part of the entertainment industry, they've been erroneously led to believe that the bittorrent community is only populated by pirates and similar questionable characters.

While the bittorrent community has indeed been heavily abused by movie, music and software pirates -- it would be foolish to deny it -- they are by no means the only people who rely upon the bittorrent protocol. There are in fact many people who are the rightful owners of their work who choose to use bittorrent simply because it is a fabulous and effective way to propagate one's work. If one adds his torrent to one bittorrent site, in a very short amount of time, it will go viral, and will appear on many other bittorrent sites. Furthermore, in the case of larger files -- such as would be created by Indie bands, Indie film directors and actors, etc. -- the fact that many people are sharing the same file, means that download speeds are very fast; in fact, much faster than I have seen with any other download mechanism that I have used over the past seventeen years.

While I can't provide an exact figure at this time, being as I haven't tabulated downloads in a while, I do know that some of my articles have been downloaded by bittorrent users thousands of times. Between all of the different methods that I've used over the years, I know that my articles have been downloaded at least a few million times by now. I lost track a few years ago.

Now, please understand that what I do with bittorrent is very legal, because I am the original owner and author of my work. I can do with it as I want. I can distribute it in any manner that I choose. But here's the thing. I wouldn't doubt for a minute that bittorrent sites are at the very center of the US Government's bullseye; and, of course, at the center of the

bullseye of many of those filthy rich media moguls. While the bittorrent site that I use has put in place policies to make sure that their users only upload and share material that is truly and lawfully theirs to share, what if, for whatever the reasons, the site were to be blacklisted? Obviously, it would affect this ministry directly, even though I am doing nothing illegal. All it takes is one person in the government to say, "Hey, I don't like that site. Let's blacklist them". I would lose a valuable outlet for my work, as a result of someone's whim, personal prejudice, or whatever.

Even our Endtime Prophecy Net website could possibly end up on one of their blacklists if I write to many anti-American things that they don't like. Of course, they won't say that this is why we have been blacklisted. They will find -- or perhaps even invent -- some other technical reason why they took us down. So, in conclusion, yes, there remains a great deal of political freedom, freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of expression, and freedom of the press in the United States. It would be foolish for me to deny this. If there was no freedom, I wouldn't even be able to write my current comments. Perhaps even now I would find myself in a similar situation to dissident Liu Xiaobo in China. However, these precious freedoms are even now being slowly curtailed under our very noses, thanks to liberal legislation such as the Combating Online Infringement and Counterfeits Act.

Personally, it sickens me the way that commercial interests have taken over the Internet. It upsets me to think that it is possible that some unscrupulous company or individual is tracking my every online move, without my knowledge and even without my consent, in the hope that it can figure out a way to profit thereby. It also angers me that without my signed permission, my email address and other personal particulars, are even now being distributed and sold on lists, to people who I do not know, who will also strive to profit from said information. I think it's fair to say that online privacy is now a thing of the past -- if it truly ever existed -- and that so-called "Internet Neutrality" will likewise go the way of other extinct species in the not too distant future.

Furthermore, for the United States Government and mass media to be tooting its horn so loudly, and to be pointing a finger so self-righteously at other oppressive governments, while it clearly has similar issues at home, and is gradually evolving into a Police State that isn't much different from others, is hypocritical. For the United States to verbally chastise China and Russia and other regimes, while it continues to erode the rights of its own citizens, using the well-worn-out excuse of fighting the so-called "war against terrorism", is similar to trying to pull the mote out of your brother's eye, while you have a beam in your own eye. Through its spying on American citizens without their knowledge or consent, treating them as if they are guilty until proven innocent, forcing its moral code and ungodly beliefs on our children through the public education system, the United States Government is the pot calling the kettle black. Where will it end?

Finally, if you really want to test your American freedoms, then just try going a little beyond what the powers-that-be are willing to accept, and see what happens . . . censorship, harassment, wire taps, police surveillance, restrictions on your finances, etc. Welcome to the New Amerika! What's that? It can't happen there? Oh really?

While I have come down rather hard on the American Government

in this article, please understand that as a Bible-believing Christian, I believe that all of these things are happening in America for very specific reasons which are known to God. For many years now, I have believed that people receive the kind of government that they deserve. As I have shared on a number of previous occasions, I do not doubt God's Sovereignty for a minute. Contrary to certain people, I firmly believe that God is intimately involved in the affairs of men, moving history in a direction which He alone has foreordained. I believe, as the Scriptures firmly reveal, that the rulers of this world can only rule by His Divine Permission, whether they be good or evil. Consider the following verses:

"Lift not up your horn on high: speak not with a stiff neck. For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another."
Psalms 75:5-7, KJV

"Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:"
Daniel 2:20-21, KJV

"This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men."
Daniel 4:17, KJV

"The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will."
Proverbs 21:1, KJV

While some people may not realize this, quite often, leaders are a reflection of those they govern. We find a good example of this in the first king of ancient Israel, King Saul. As I first explained in my 1997 article "The Children Of God And Politics", sometimes God will give us things or allow certain things to happen, which may not be His perfect will. You may say "Well, if God is Sovereign as you claim, then why would He do this?". The answer is quite simple: God is a very wise parent. If in our hard-headedness we reject the wise counsel of His Word, then we leave Him with no recourse but to let us learn through an even tougher teacher: bitter experience. In the case of the ancient Children of Israel, their rebellion against the Lord grew to such a degree, that during the days of the Prophet Samuel, they were foolish enough to demand an earthly king, as we see by these verses:

"And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his sons judges over Israel. Now the name of his firstborn was Joel; and the name of his second, Abiah: they were judges in Beersheba. And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted judgment. Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations. But the thing DISPLEASED Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the LORD."
1 Samuel 8:1-6, KJV

Not only did their request displease the Prophet Samuel, but as we see by the following verses, it greatly displeased God as well. But, as any wise parent would do, the Lord did not deny their request; He in fact told Samuel in so many words, "Go ahead and give them their desire. They will learn soon enough":

"And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee. Now therefore hearken unto their voice: howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them."

1 Samuel 8:7-9, KJV

Samuel then described to them the ruthless king that God was going to set over them, being as they had clearly rejected the Lord as their one true King. In fact, Samuel even went a step further, by warning them that the day would come in the which they would beg the Lord to remove the king from them, but God would turn a deaf ear to their cries, as we see here:

"And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the LORD will not hear you in that day."

1 Samuel 8:18, KJV

Despite this solemn warning from the Prophet Samuel, in their stubbornness and hard-heartedness, those foolish Israelites continued to insist that they wanted to have an earthly king over them, as we see by these verses:

"Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us; That we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles. And Samuel heard all the words of the people, and he rehearsed them in the ears of the LORD. And the LORD said to Samuel, Hearken unto their voice, and make them a king. And Samuel said unto the men of Israel, Go ye every man unto his city."

1 Samuel 8:18-22, KJV

Being as I discuss the remainder of this story in a number of other articles, I will not be going into extensive detail in this article. Suffice it to say that, true to the word of the Lord, King Saul turned out to be a very stubborn, rebellious king who wanted to do things his way, instead of God's way. As a result, the Lord eventually, and soundly, rejected him, and Saul was killed in battle some years later. Consider the following verses:

"For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king. And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD, and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice. Now therefore, I pray thee, pardon my sin, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD. And Samuel said unto Saul, I will not return with thee: for thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD hath rejected thee from being king

over Israel."

1 Samuel 15:23-26, KJV

At this point in our discussion, some of you may be thinking to yourselves "Wow, what gives? You spent a good part of this article criticizing the American Government, and now you are talking about the Jews, King Saul, and things that happened thousands of years ago. Who cares? What's with that?".

In your patience possess ye your souls, my friends. Everything that I just shared with you concerning King Saul is related to our discussion concerning America. You see, the stubborn Jews got exactly what they deserved; that is, an equally stubborn and rebellious king. King Saul was an honest reflection of the people that he ruled over. God's Laws do not change, and His methods don't change either. That is why today, the people of America have exactly the kind of leader that they deserve too, who is a clear reflection of their own sins, just as King Saul reflected the sins of his constituents thousands of years ago.

As I explain in part four of my 2008 series "Obama, McCain And The Bush Legacy", President Barack Obama is a liberal through and through. He has also turned out to be a rather weak US president as well, as is evidenced by the fact that just recently, we learned that Israeli Prime Minister, Bibi Netanyahu, has just added yet another American president's shrunken head to his war trophies. I'm referring to the fact that just a few days ago, it was announced that Obama has retreated from his goal of trying to pressure Netanyahu into freezing settlement construction for a ninety-day period. So it is very obvious that Netanyahu has won this round, as the Israeli PM's always seem to do.

Furthermore, Obama has backtracked on so many of his campaign promises, that one must wonder if he is in any way related to George W. Bush. To wit, almost two years after his presidency began, America is still engaged in two costly and destructive wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. More recently, only a few days ago, in contrast to Obama's efforts to project himself as the defender of the poor, he compromised with the Republicans, and the tax cuts which were so generously given to the rich by the Bush administration, will remain in place, while hard-working Americans, students, the poor, the sick and the elderly try to find ways to make ends meet in a very depressed economy.

Regarding President Obama's liberal record, as I point out in the aforementioned series, it more than speaks for itself. As a reminder to those of you who may possess faulty memories, consider the following Obama positions:

01. He supports Roe v. Wade.
02. He voted against prohibiting minors from crossing state lines in order to obtain an abortion.
03. He voted against notifying parents of minor children who obtain out-of-state abortions.
04. He voted in favor of expanding research to include more embryonic stem cell lines.
05. He is undecided on whether or not life begins at conception.
06. He voted against banning partial-birth abortions.

07. He stated that we should trust women to make their own decisions regarding partial-birth abortion.

08. He is opposed to a constitutional ban on gay and lesbian "marriage".

09. He believes that homosexual relationships are no more immoral than heterosexual relationships.

10. On one occasion, in reference to gay and lesbian marriages, he stated ". . . nor am I willing to accept a reading of the Bible that considers an obscure line in Romans to be more defining of Christianity than the Sermon on the Mount".

11. He opposes gay marriage, but supports civil unions and gay rights.

12. On one occasion, he remarked that he does not believe that being homosexual is a curse, and also stated "I do not believe being gay or lesbian is a choice".

I would like to comment on point number ten above. First of all, I am assuming that by "an obscure line in Romans", Mr. Obama is referring to the following verses that were written by the Apostle Paul, in which he exposes the carnal sins of the hedonistic Romans:

"Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;"

Romans 1:24-28, KJV

President Obama stands to be corrected. That is not just "an obscure line in Romans"; it is in fact four full verses. It also escapes me as to why he refers to these verses as being obscure. On what does he base his description? Or maybe what he actually means, is that he wishes that the verses really were obscure, or hidden, so that he personally doesn't have to contend with them, because they expose the error of his own misguided beliefs, which obviously are not Bible-based beliefs. Does he consider the verses politically-incorrect? I find it troubling that because he disagrees with the truth that the verses convey, like a shrewd lawyer, Obama attempts to downplay their importance by pitting them against Jesus's words that are found in the Gospels. In other words, it is a very subtle, divisive strategy that Obama is employing. The underlying message appears to be "You don't believe more in the words of the Apostle Paul than you do in the words of Jesus, do you?". Now, how would weak Christians respond to such a shrewd remark?

The truth of the matter, as I point out in my 1997 article "A Biblical Cafeteria, Or The Whole Course?", is that we are not to cherry-pick the Bible. In other words, we can't just choose

to believe in the verses that we like and agree with, and then just ignore or reject the rest. We must diligently study God's Word, comparing Scripture with Scripture, until we arrive at a balanced understanding of the truth. Barack Obama fails to do this by his own choice, because it's not politically expedient for him to do so.

Please go to part two for the conclusion of this article.

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AMERICA : LAND OF THE FREE . . . AND HYPOCRISY! : PT 2

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President Obama Inherited Serious Problems From Predecessors, God's Impending Judgements On A Rebellious & Perverse Nation, Personal Experiences With Liberalism, Gay And Lesbian Agenda, Christians Are Losing The Battle -- And Their Children -- To Liberalism, Moral Codes Then And Now, Sliding Down Slippery Slope Of Immorality Liberalism And Sin, Israelites Wanted To Be Free From God So They Could Do Things Their Way, Freedom And Liberalism Was Their Downfall, God Used Heathen Nations To Punish Ancient Israel, Vessels Of Wrath, Rods Of Judgment, Tools Of Chastisement, Divine Executioners, Way Of Life And Way Of Death, Harden Not Your Heart, Bible Is Still Relevant In Our Modern Day, Learn From Sins & Mistakes Of Israelites, Moral, Spiritual, Military, And Economic Decline Of America, American Materialism, Corrupt Leaders For A Corrupt People, God Ignores Cries, Repent, Forsake Your Sins, Accept Jesus

Let me just mention here that I personally do not blame the current president for the financial mess in which the United States now finds itself, or even for the two wars in which America continues to be engaged. Mr. Obama in fact opposed the wars; and the financial crisis that the country is now facing was in the making long before he ever became the new president. George W. Bush and his predecessors are the ones who should be held directly responsible for America's current woes, as well as the banking industry, Wall Street and greedy corporate executives. As I have said before, Obama was simply the sucker who inherited one terribly complex mess to clean up; and no one president can repair in a single term problems that have taken years to create. The problems are simply too big now.

However, Mr. Obama is by no means off the proverbial hook. My main issue with him is obviously his ungodly attitudes, and his liberal policies, which are driving America ever closer to becoming the recipient of the Lord's Divine Judgements and Chastisements; and that day of accountability to the Lord will eventually, and assuredly, arrive, as it has for every rebellious and perverse nation which forsakes His ways.

Sadly, and contrary to what certain conservative writers and

organizations have been trying to tell us, President Obama is in fact a clear reflection of the ungodly attitudes which now persist all across America, even in conservative states such as Iowa. I'm referring to the fact that recently, I have read at least one or more commentaries where the authors promote the view that America is growing more conservative with each passing year, even amongst young people. I don't know what planet those writers live on, but it certainly is not Planet Earth. It is my personal observation that the young people on Planet Earth are the most liberal generation that we've seen to date, bar none. Their liberal attitudes cause me to wonder how long it will be before God is forced to judge the nation.

Allow me to give you a small real-life example. Not too far from our home there are a few private Christian schools. In fact, my child attended one of them during her middle school and high school years, after I grew tired of the battles we were having with the local public school system. While this particular school had a strong Bible-centered curriculum, to my surprise, my daughter informed me that, nevertheless, it was having a problem with some students who regularly smoked pot on school grounds. And then I also began to hear from her about the gays and lesbians who attended the school, at least four of whom have continued in that sinful lifestyle after graduation. Unless I am mistaken, there may have also been some teenage pregnancies as well.

Now, you may say, "So what! That's just life. Those kinds of things happen everywhere". That may be true indeed, but they are not supposed to be happening in a Christian school which promotes strong, conservative Christian values. At the time, only about forty students attended that school, which makes the picture look all the worse in my view. If we project that situation on to a national level, it isn't too difficult to see that we are talking about a lot of liberal attitudes and tendencies both in private Christian schools, and undoubtedly even more so in the secular, ungodly public school system, where the gay and lesbian agenda has already taken a foothold. I imagine that many of you who are reading this are already aware of the ungodly books that have begun to appear in public school libraries, even at the elementary grade level.

Allow me to also add that even though the area where we live is dominated by the conservative views of the Roman Catholic Church, there is also a strong, vociferous gay and lesbian community here as well, and they have already made attempts to legalize civil unions, if not actual gay "marriage". So far, they have failed, but not for a lack of not trying. I thank God for their failure, and hope that the God-fearing politicians here will continue to resist pressure from the forces of darkness.

So, based on my own personal experiences, and what I read in the news, and hear from other sources, I am fully persuaded that this young generation is clearly the most liberal that we have seen yet. This fact ought to worry all God-fearing, Bible-believing Christians, because it seems that we may be losing the battle, even with our own children, despite our best efforts to raise them in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. The dark forces that are working against us are so great, and so pervasive, that it is impossible for Christian parents to protect their children at every moment. The spirit of liberalism and carnality is everywhere; much more so than when we were children. If we turn on the television set, it is everywhere. If we turn on the radio, modern songs are just filled with it. Movie theaters, books, magazines, online; it

is totally impossible to escape from it. We Christians are being outdone by an enemy who has the advantage of numbers, money and technology.

No doubt, some of my younger readers won't understand some of the things that I've written here, because you haven't lived long enough yet, in order to make a reasonable comparison. If you had grown up forty or fifty years ago, and were able to compare attitudes then with attitudes now, you would clearly see what I am talking about. Some of the most "bland" songs on the radio today, would have shocked parents back then. The same goes for modern sensual scenes on television shows and in the movies. These things would have never been accepted back then. In fact, all of these things were prohibited by law and by the entertainment industry moral codes that were in place back then. How times have changed; and I would dare say that it probably began during the late fifties or early sixties, and exploded in the late sixties, as we all know. From that time until now, we've been steadily sliding down the slope of immorality, liberalism and sin.

Returning to the ancient past, the Israelites rejected God as their only true and rightful King, because they wanted to be free. They wanted the freedom to do things their own way, as they saw fit, instead of God's way. As a result of their foolish pride, they rebelled against His Authority, and so God gave them the desire of their hearts. The result? They fell flat on their faces. As I point out in "The Fruits Of Disobedience", "Beholding The Evil And The Good" and other articles, they fell so deep into sin and apostasy, that God was forced to chastise them time and time again. They became so liberal in their views, that they thought that it was a small thing to worship the false gods of the heathen, even going so far as to offer child sacrifices to them. In short, the very freedom and liberalism that they sought, was their own downfall. What might this tell us about modern America?

For years now, I've taught that the Lord will sometimes use national leaders, and even the heathen armies of foreign nations, to chastise His wayward children when they slide so deep into sin and apostasy. God does not need to send down a burst of lightning bolts from the sky in order to achieve His objectives. He will not allow man to force Him to reveal His presence if He doesn't want to. Rather, He will simply raise up enemies right here on Earth, precisely as He did with the ancient Israelites. He will often punish His children through the hands of their most hated enemies. He will utterly crush their pride and show no pity. This is made so clear by verses such as the following:

"Therefore it shall come to pass, that as all good things are come upon you, which the LORD your God promised you; so shall the LORD bring upon you all evil things, until he have destroyed you from off this good land which the LORD your God hath given you."

Joshua 23:15, KJV

"For I have set my face against this city for evil, and not for good, saith the LORD: it shall be given into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire."

Jeremiah 21:10, KJV

"For thus saith the LORD; Like as I have brought all this great evil upon this people, so will I bring upon them all the good that I have promised them."

Jeremiah 32:42, KJV

"And though they go into captivity before their enemies,
thence will I command the sword, and it shall slay them: and
I will set mine eyes upon them for evil, and not for good."
Amos 9:4, KJV

"And I will dash them one against another, even the fathers
and the sons together, saith the LORD: I will not pity, nor
spare, nor have mercy, but destroy them."
Jeremiah 13:14, KJV

"Wherefore, as I live, saith the Lord GOD; Surely, because
thou hast defiled my sanctuary with all thy detestable
things, and with all thine abominations, therefore will I
also diminish thee; neither shall mine eye spare, neither
will I have any pity."
Ezekiel 5:11, KJV

"And mine eye shall not spare thee, neither will I have
pity: but I will recompense thy ways upon thee, and thine
abominations shall be in the midst of thee: and ye shall
know that I am the LORD . . . And mine eye shall not
spare, neither will I have pity: I will recompense thee
according to thy ways and thine abominations that are in
the midst of thee; and ye shall know that I am the LORD
that smiteth."
Ezekiel 7:4, 9, KJV

"Therefore will I also deal in fury: mine eye shall not
spare, neither will I have pity: and though they cry in mine
ears with a loud voice, yet will I not hear them."
Ezekiel 8:18, KJV

"And as for me also, mine eye shall not spare, neither will
I have pity, but I will recompense their way upon their
head."
Ezekiel 9:10, KJV

"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living
God . . . For our God is a consuming fire."
Hebrews 10:31, 12:29, KJV

As I've shared so many times before, God has used this means
of chastisement for literally thousands of years. In the case
of the Israelites, the Egyptians were His "vessels of wrath"
against them; the Assyrians were His "rods of judgment"; the
Babylonians were His "tools of chastisement"; the Romans were
His "divine executioners; and many other heathen nations have
been used by the Lord in the very same way.

So do you really think that God is not capable of unleashing
His fury upon a modern nation which also boasts of being His
delight, with such anthems as "God Bless America", but which
in fact rejects His entreaties to repent on a daily basis? Do
you really believe that He will turn a blind eye to such sin
and apostasy forever? Apparently, that is exactly what the
ancient Israelites thought as well, until it was simply too
late, and their time had run out. Consider the decision that
the Lord placed before them, and then consider the spiritual
condition of the USA today, and weep:

"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. Now mine eyes shall be
open, and mine ears attent unto the prayer that is made in

this place. For now have I chosen and sanctified this house, that my name may be there for ever: and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually. And as for thee, if thou wilt walk before me, as David thy father walked, and do according to all that I have commanded thee, and shalt observe my statutes and my judgments; Then will I stablish the throne of thy kingdom, according as I have covenanted with David thy father, saying, There shall not fail thee a man to be ruler in Israel. But if ye turn away, and forsake my statutes and my commandments, which I have set before you, and shall go and serve other gods, and worship them; Then will I pluck them up by the roots out of my land which I have given them; and this house, which I have sanctified for my name, will I cast out of my sight, and will make it to be a proverb and a byword among all nations. And this house, which is high, shall be an astonishment to every one that passeth by it; so that he shall say, Why hath the LORD done thus unto this land, and unto this house? And it shall be answered, Because they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, and laid hold on other gods, and worshipped them, and served them: therefore hath he brought all this evil upon them."

2 Chronicles 7:14-22, KJV

As the Lord told the Prophet Jeremiah, He was placing before the people the way of life, and the way of death, as we see by this verse:

"And unto this people thou shalt say, Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I set before you the way of life, and the way of death."

Jeremiah 21:8, KJV

In our modern day, exactly what is the way of life? The Book of Proverbs plainly tells us that it is to humbly receive the reproofs -- or corrections -- and instructions of the Lord, as we see by the following verses:

"For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life:"

Proverbs 6:23, KJV

"He is in the way of life that keepeth instruction: but he that refuseth reproof erreth."

Proverbs 10:17, KJV

"The way of life is above to the wise, that he may depart from hell beneath."

Proverbs 15:24, KJV

Rather than foolishly harden our hearts against the Voice of God's Spirit which is trying to convict us of sin, we must accept His rebukes in our lives, and make our paths straight before Him. As we read in the Book of Psalms:

"Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness:"

Psalms 95:8, KJV

While the Bible is a very old Book, and while many people have fallen for the modern lie that it is outdated, and that it can no longer be applied to modern living, this belief is the exact opposite of the truth. As the Apostle Paul tells us, we can look back and learn from the mistakes and sins of the ancient Israelites. Thus Paul wrote:

"Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

1 Corinthians 10:6-13, KJV

For many years now, America has been following a dangerous course which can lead to no good end. Her leaders, as well as many of her people, have knowingly, and consciously, rejected the Lord and His Word. They're like haughty children who seem to think that their parents will turn a blind eye to their foolishness and rebellion forever. However, eventually, the parents decide that they've had enough of it; and without any warning, the punishment is meted out. So too it is with God.

As America has declined in both a moral and a spiritual sense, her economic and military might, as well as her influence on global affairs, have also been in decline. Many Americans now struggle on a daily basis just trying to make ends meet, while at the same time, their freedoms are slowly being eroded by a Federal government which is increasingly becoming oppressive. Of course, the problems that America now faces cannot all be blamed on the government; after all, many Americans have lived on borrowed time, and borrowed money, using their credit cards to fuel their materialistic fantasy for decades now.

Not only that, but as we have already seen, similar to the rebellious Israelites who demanded a king, so too, Americans have chosen their leaders. As I pointed out in part one, I believe that national leaders rise to power by God's Divine Permission, whether they are wise enough to recognize it or not, in order that they might fulfill His Divine Purposes, whether for good, or for evil. Furthermore, leaders are a reflection of the people whom they govern. So if the leaders are corrupt and dishonest, then so too must be the people.

Just as the Prophet Samuel warned the ancient Israelites that they would later regret the leader whom they had chosen for themselves, in similar fashion, many Americans today complain about self-serving leaders who sign into law bills which only hurt the people. Samuel said the Lord would ignore their cry for help. Is it possible that America has passed the point of no return, and that God has chosen to ignore the cries of her people as well?

With these somber words of warning, I will bring this article to its conclusion. Just remember; maybe you can't personally change what is happening in the entire country, but you can most certainly change what is happening in your own life. You can repent of your sins, make whatever changes are necessary, ask for God's forgiveness, accept Christ into your life if you haven't already done so, and then devote the remainder of your days to pleasing and obeying Him. If more people would

do this, perhaps the Lord will choose to stay His Judgments for a time. And if not, perhaps He will at least spare you if you are walking uprightly with Him. Please start today before it is too late.

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