



Why God Keeps Blessing America

By Ben Godwin

Happy 237th Birthday America! I love our country and was raised to be patriotic. In fact, when my parents disciplined me, they gave me stripes and I saw stars! Seriously, God has allowed and aided America's rise to unrivaled greatness in world history. Benjamin Franklin asked the Continental Congress, "If a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid?" Someone observed that of all the major civilizations in human history, nearly all of them collapsed when they reached the moral state that America is currently in. Thomas Jefferson aptly wrote, "I tremble for my country when I remember that God is just and that His justice cannot sleep forever."

I am not a doom and gloom preacher, but I do believe that many of our recent calamities, especially our national debt, are indicators of God lifting His favor. Abraham Lincoln said, "It is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God...and to recognize the sublime truth announced in the Holy Scriptures and proved by all history, that those nations only are blest whose God is the Lord." He was referring to Psalm 33:12, which states, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." What was true of Israel in Bible times, is also true of America now—only as long as we stay in covenant with God will we remain strong and free.

On July 30, 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower approved a resolution adopting "In God We Trust" as our national motto and requiring it to be placed on all U.S. currency. He said, "It is proper to remind all of us of this self-evident truth that as long as this country trusts in God, it will prevail." Scripture provides several indicators of a blessed nation, including economic prosperity, rain on crops, victory in battle, lending to other nations instead of borrowing, and being the head and not the tail. By the providence of God, we have become the greatest nation on the face of the earth. America is one of the few countries where there is a waiting list to get in instead of out. Benjamin Franklin wisely asked, "Have we forgotten this powerful friend? Or do we imagine we no longer need His assistance?"

On the National Day of Prayer, April 30, 1863, Abraham Lincoln reminded Americans of our true source of blessing. "We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace, and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us; and we have

vainly imagined in the deceitfulness of our hearts that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us. It behooves us to humble ourselves before the offended power, to confess our national sins, and to pray for clemency and forgiveness.”

Let me suggest five main reasons why God is still blessing America:

1. The faith of our forefathers. God kept blessing Israel for Abraham and David’s sake centuries after their deaths. Modern Americans are the beneficiaries of the covenant our forefathers had with God as they established this Christian nation. Most of our founding fathers acknowledged God and sought His guidance in forming this country on Biblical principles. Although we have strayed far from those ideals, the foundation of this country was unquestionably built upon Judeo Christian ethics.

2. Missions. The Great Commission is near and dear to the heart of God. Some of Jesus’ last words were, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature....” (Mark 16:15) Any person or nation that endeavors to send and support missionaries will have God’s blessing. America has sent more missionaries to foreign fields than any other nation. Now, sadly, we are rapidly becoming the mission field, because we’ve forsaken God. Still, God blesses those who bless His work.

3. Humanitarianism. America is the breadbasket of the world. We respond to the cries of the world when there is an earthquake, tsunami, war, refugee crisis, genocide, etc. Who sends the most money, food, medicine, and volunteers when there is an international disaster? We do. Proverbs 19:17 states, “He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord, and He will pay back what he has given.” The best way to be blessed is to be a blessing.

4. Allegiance with Israel. God still honors His covenant with Abraham, “I will bless those who bless you and I will curse him who curses you....” (Genesis 12:3) Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told our congress last year that Israel has no better friend than America and America has no better friend than Israel. It is vital for us to remain an ally with Israel. They are still God’s chosen people who produced Jesus—the Messiah. A friend of Israel is a friend of God.

5. The prayers of a righteous remnant. America has already experienced some judgment of God due to our national sins of abortion, immorality, racism, materialism, etc. We have sown to the wind and now we are reaping a whirlwind of consequences. But repentance and prayer can postpone judgment. If God was willing to spare Sodom and Gomorrah for only ten righteous people, then as long as there are millions of believers who love and pray for this country, there is hope for God’s blessing to continue. God promised, “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)

As we celebrate Independence Day, may we once again declare our dependence on God. Let spiritual and political freedom ring and may we remain “one nation under God.”

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He has authored two books, available at Sam Glover Drug Store or at bengodwin.org.

His weekly telecast “The Word Workshop” can be seen on TV-16 & Charter #10 on Mondays at 9 p.m. & Tuesdays at noon.