

EVERY NATION UNDER GOD

Psalm 33

7/4/10

Pledge of Allegiance

All nations are accountable to God.

Psalm 33:12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD . . .

Proverbs 14:34 Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a disgrace to *any* people.

1. God is the Creator of the heavens and earth. 33:1-7

They are His. They all belong to Him.

Rejoice in praise and thanksgiving because God is upright, faithful, righteous, just.

Rejoice because the earth is full of God's lovingkindness.

2. God is sovereign over all the nations. 33:8-12

8-9 All the nations are accountable to Him.

We should fear Him and stand in awe of Him.

10-11 God is sovereign over the counsel and plans of the nations

12 God blesses the nation that recognizes Him as their Lord.

a. **Our forefathers recognized their accountability and need for God.**

Mayflower Compact (November 11, 1620)

We whose names are underwritten . . . having undertaken, *for the glory of God, and advancement of the Christian faith*, and honor 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 politic,

All but one of our prestigious Ivy League Universities were started by churches with the goal of training pastors.

Harvard- 1638

Cf Rebirth of America p. 41

**Declaration of Independence
July 4, 1776**

“With firm reliance on the protection, of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.”

George Washington

“. . . 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 implore His protection and favor . . .”

“It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible.”

Benjamin Franklin

“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. I also believe that, without His concurring aid, we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel.”

The Rebirth of America p. 31

Abraham Lincoln

“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 proven by all history, that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord.”

Pledge of Allegiance- “One nation under God”

Inscriptions on the Supreme Court, the Capitol Building, etc.

“In God we trust” Proclaimed on coins, in the Capitol Rotunda, on the walls of both the Senate chamber and House of Representatives,

The United States of America has been uniquely blessed

We have been blessed with freedom that few cultures have enjoyed throughout history.

We have been blessed with amazing lifestyle advances that my grandfather and great grandfather were born without.

Our economy produces nearly 1/3 of the world’s goods and services.

I have traveled to several foreign countries

The average American has more than all but the very wealthy in most countries.

If you own a car you are wealthier than 90% of the world’s population.

Never has a nation had more opportunity to know God.

Christian radio, TV, bookstores, seminars, grade schools, colleges and seminaries.

Yet not all is well.

b. Today we are a nation in rebellion.

We have become the most materialistic, self-absorbed nation of Earth.

We have turned our backs on God.

We have given new names to old sins.

<u>God's terms</u>	<u>Our terms</u>
Greed	Getting ahead
Pride	Self-esteem
Selfishness	Self-love
Lust	Adult entertainment
Immorality	New morality
Sodomy	Gay rights
Murder	Abortion
Drunkenness	Alcoholism

We deny and ignore God-ordained gender roles and differences.

God says, "I hate divorce", yet half of all marriages in America today end in divorce.

Up over 700 percent in the last century

Those who call themselves Christians are doing no better than the rest of society.

c. We are a nation that is facing judgment or revival.

God blesses nations that honor Him and judges nations that turn to wickedness

Isaiah 1-24 pronounces judgment upon at least 11 nations

Hosea 4:1-6 . . . For the LORD has a case against the inhabitants of the land, Because there is no faithfulness or kindness Or knowledge of God in the land. *There is* swearing, deception, murder, stealing and adultery. They employ violence, so that bloodshed follows bloodshed. Therefore the land mourns, And everyone who lives in it languishes . . . Yet let no one find fault, and let none offer reproof; For your people are like

those who contend with the priest . . . My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you . . . Since you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.

There are many ways that God can curse a nation. cf Deuteronomy 28:15-68

Devastating diseases

Natural disasters- Tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes, tsunamis, floods

Military defeats

Economic collapse

Draught, insects, famine

Banking and financial collapses

- ◇ A million dollars in tightly bound \$1,000 bills would produce a stack four inches high.
- ◇ A billion dollars in tightly bound \$1,000 bills would produce a stack about three hundred feet high.
- ◇ A trillion dollars in tightly bound \$1,000 bills would produce a stack nearly sixty-three miles high!

3. Reasons For Hope 33:13-22

- a. Our hope is not in military might. 13-17
- b. Our hope is in the fear of the Lord and in His loving kindness. 18-22

4. Responding To God

a. Repent

Ezekiel 33:11 . . . I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn back, turn back from your evil ways! . . .

2 Chronicles 7:14 and My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Repentance means to have a change of heart and mind

It is a willingness to confess and forsake personal sins.

To humbly obey and submit to God

Revival must begin in the hearts and homes of Christians.

We can't say that we love God when our kids see that our real love is sports, entertainment, recreation, and possessions.

Jeremiah 18:7-8 "At one moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to uproot, to pull down, or to destroy *it*; ⁸ if that nation against which I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent concerning the calamity I planned to bring on it.

Mark 1:15 and saying, ". . . the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

b. Pray

1 Timothy 2:1-2 . . . I urge that entreaties *and* prayers, petitions *and* thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, ² for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.

c. Be salt and light

Matthew 5:13-18 "*You are the salt of the earth*; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty *again*? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men. ¹⁴ "*You are the light of the world*. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; ¹⁵ "nor does *anyone* light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. ¹⁶ "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

A call to be a preserving influence on our nation.

A call to live differently

A call to make God known

Star Spangled Banner (last stanza)

Blessed with victory and peace, may this *Heaven-rescued land*

Praise *the Power 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."