

# America's Only Hope

**If** my people, who 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.

*2 Chronicles 7:14 KJ2000*

This conditional promise was given to King Solomon for the nation of Israel. Pray that God in His grace would grant this same conditional promise to Christians in the United States of America today. Pray that Christians in America would repent and earnestly do what God calls us to do in this Bible verse. This is our nation's only hope. As we consider God's offer and our response, we would be wise to ponder the following perspectives:

"At what point then is the approach of danger to be expected? I answer, if it ever reaches us, it must spring up amongst us. It cannot come from abroad. If destruction be our lot, we must ourselves be its author and finisher." *Abraham Lincoln, 1838*

"History fails to record a single precedent in which nations subject to moral decay have not passed into political and economic decline. There has been either a spiritual awakening to overcome the moral lapse or a progressive deterioration leading to ultimate national disaster"  
*General Douglas MacArthur, 1951*

"It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religions but on the gospel of Jesus Christ!" *Patrick Henry, 1776*

"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 to implore his protection and favor." *George Washington in initiating the first national Thanksgiving Day on November 26, 1789*

"People from every corner of the globe look across the seas and envy America. They want what we have, but fail to understand what produced it—even homegrown Americans fail to understand what has given them such privilege. They want the fruits of the Gospel of Jesus Christ while, at the same time, hating its principles and practicing the religion that produced poverty and bondage in the land from which they fled. But it is these things that are protected and advocated, while biblical Christianity and the tranquility, justice and morality that it produces are under attack from within and without. The fruit cannot long remain when the root is destroyed. The benefits of the Gospel that our forefathers advocated cannot long be enjoyed if the foundations are abolished." *Missionary Dick York, 2005*

"It is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God, and to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon, and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in Holy Scripture, and proven by all history, that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord. And, insomuch as we know that by His divine law nations, like individuals, are subjected to punishments and chastisement in this world, may we not justly fear that the awful calamity of civil war which now desolates the land may be but a punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptuous sins, to the needful end of our national reformation as a whole people? We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of Heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which has 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, then, to humble ourselves before the offended power, to confess our national sins and to pray for clemency and forgiveness." *Abraham Lincoln March 30, 1863 — from a presidential proclamation made by Lincoln for a national day of fasting and prayer*

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# America, Take Heed!

Unless the LORD builds the house,  
they labor in vain that build it:  
unless the LORD keeps the city,  
the watchman wakes, but in vain.

*Psalm 127:1 KJ2000*

At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation,  
and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up,  
and to pull down, and to destroy it;  
If that nation, against whom I have spoken, turn from their evil,  
I will change from the evil that I thought to do unto them.

*Jeremiah 18:7-8 KJ2000*

And at what instant I shall speak concerning a nation,  
and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it;  
If it does evil in my sight, that it obeys not my voice,  
then I will change from the good,  
with which I said I would benefit them.

*Jeremiah 18:9-10 KJ2000*

If my people, who 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.

*2 Chronicles 7:14 KJ2000*

According to their pasture, so were they filled;  
they were filled, and their heart was exalted;  
therefore have they forgotten me.

Therefore I will be unto them as a lion:  
as a leopard by the way will I observe them:  
I will meet them as a bear that is bereaved of her cubs,  
and will tear the fat of their heart, and there will I devour  
them like a lion: the wild beast shall tear them.

*Hosea 13:6-8 KJ2000*

Remember therefore from where you are fallen,  
and repent, and do the first works;  
or else I will come unto you quickly, and will remove  
your lampstand out of its place, except you repent.

*Revelation 2:5 KJ2000*

But they refused to hearken, and shrugged the shoulder,  
and stopped their ears, that they should not hear.  
Yea, they made their hearts as a flint stone, lest they should  
hear the law, and the words which the LORD of hosts has sent  
by his Spirit through the former prophets:  
therefore came a great wrath from the LORD of hosts.  
Therefore it has come to pass, that just as he cried,  
and they would not hear; so they cried,  
and I would not hear, says the LORD of hosts:

*Zechariah 7:11-13 KJ2000*

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