"PRAYER FOR RESTORING A NATION" FALL/WINTER/SPRING 2024-2025 "THE AMERICAN CHRISTIAN HOME, pt. 3" FEBRUARY 05, 2025

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- II. TEACHING THE BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES OF CITIZENSHIP FOUND IN THE STRUCTURE OF THE AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONAL REPUBLIC (continued from last week)
 - D. American history from the biblical viewpoint i.e. responsibility to God and His providence therein; the facts and their biblical interpretation; the righteous and the unrighteous together
 - 1. Start with God's sovereignty over all nations; that He sets up nations and takes them down
 - 2. Show them the accountability for every human is to God and the laws He established for all men to live by
 - 3. Show them that God has used both good and bad leaders in the nations for His own goal of preparing people for the coming of Messiah both the first time and He second time, His return to inherit the earth and be King of kings, Lord of lords over all the cosmos
 - 4. Show them there is always a spiritual battle for control of the leadership and guidance of any nation or even community with the spiritual forces of the rebellious angels and their human pawns and the holy angelic forces led by the Lord of Hosts, the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - 5. Show them that He has put His people in the position as warriors and mediators in this battle through obedience, faithfulness and prayer; battles are won or lost on the basis of the faithfulness or lack

- thereof of His people and the will of God to use the struggle to reveal His awesome power
- 6. With that foundation, show them the history of the founders, the struggles, the losses and gains of this nation, the government they founded and those who tried to tear it down. Tell them of the heroes who restored it or kept it free.
- 7. Help them to understand why it is important that any nation honor God and His laws and why His people must always remember what is good and what they LORD requires of us: to do justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God.

 Demonstrate this by reviewing the history of Israel found in the Holy Scriptures such as in Psalm 78, Psalm 106, Nehemiah 9, and Daniel 9. Show them the promises of God in dealing with Israel in Deuteronomy 28. Demonstrate the decline of a nation whom God is raised up when it practices unbelief as revealed in Romans 1:18-32
- 8. Be sure to show them the sin against God and His laws the nation did that led to deadly wars, abuse of people, and greed. Then show how God overcame that, working good from the evil, whether intentional or unintentional, and used people to correct it along the way.
- 9. Show them that in spite of its sinfulness, the United States is still the most prosperous and blessed of all the nations, arguably, in all of history. This is often called American exceptionalism because it is exceptional among the nations. It is exceptional in its wealth, its bravery, its compassion and aid to those in need. It is exceptional as the champion of liberty, opportunity and freedom, even though it is often slow to catch on to its own precepts. It is the wisest form of government when it is managed by people of integrity, honor and godly wisdom; but like all governments it degenerates to the lowest forms when occupied by those who do not hold honor and godly character high

- 10. Show them why we honor our heroes, our founders, the faithful Christians who altered the nation through prayer, obedience and evangelism. Show them why we pledge to the flag and what it really means. Show them how we patriotically demonstrate our appreciation for God's gift of this nation in times to stand, times to sing, times to salute, etc. Teach them respect and honor. Don't forget that their allegiance comes first to Christ and then to the nation.
- 11. You must remind them that God's will for the final kingdom of the world is the Kingdom of God governed by Christ Jesus our Lord, the Millennial Kingdom. The United States, as exceptional as it is, is not the kingdom of God and will one day, if it survives, submit to the Lord Jesus Christ upon His return for His kingdom and be no longer as it is today.

Hymn #571 "My Country 'tis of Thee" vv. 1 & 4
Prayer for the church, nation, state and community to
reach new heights of obedience and submission
to God and the principles of freedom in our
founding history as we await

E. The principles of a democratic, representative, constitutional republic; the American constitution and its application

It is democratic because the stewardship of the nation is with its people

It is representative because the people elect representatives to conduct business on their behalf It is constitutional in that the people have codified in a single document the principles of how the nation is to be governed. All the people are, and every person is obligated to uphold and be judged by that rule. It is to be equally applied regardless of status, gender, ethnicity or creed. The states are given all other rights not found in the constitution and can govern themselves by their constitutions.

It is a republic because it is ruled by the people through elected representatives

Demos = "people"; kratein - "rule"

Republic - a state in which supreme power is held by the people and their elected representatives, and which has an elected or nominated president rather than a monarch.

Apart from the humans which will be occupying any leadership position in government being sinners, a problem is how those elected representatives are elected and who elects them. Who will they represent?

Fears: The larger the "demos" becomes the greater the threat to the minority and the more unwieldy determining laws becomes; uniformed people or misinformed people would make poor decisions; they can be swayed by propaganda

A republic could become an oligarchy of elites or wealthy who control all the laws if the representatives change the parameters on who can elect them to office

The Consitution's preamble reads "We the people..." and then describes how their representatives are to represent them. The people do not vote on every issue; their representatives vote for them. They must represent ALL the people not just the ones they like or who support them. They are obligated to uphold the constitution and compare all legislation to its principles and statements. It is the duty of every citizen to share with his representatives what they have reasoned on issues of concern to them.

It is the duty, obligation and privilege for every legal citizen to lawfully vote in each election for those representatives at every level: local, county, state and nation. Failure to do so is a tarnishing of citizenship.

Every parent must study and pay attention to the instruction given in the Bible about godly leadership AND the constitution and its principles, laws, statutes and amendments. You cannot teach what you do not know or understand. Get help if you need it but get yourself educated! Commit to it and then teach it. Young men and young women must start BEFORE they marry and have a good start on what will be a lifetime of learning.

ONE CANNOT MAKE AN INFORMED DECISION
ABOUT CANDIDATES WITHOUT A WORKING
KNOWLEDGE OF THE CONSTITUTION AND
HOW THE ISSUES OF ANY ELECTION ARE
AFFECTED BY IT

F. The supremacy of Christ in all things: Always balance your teachings with the reminder that Christ is ruler over all people and all nations and their governments. Our obedience and allegiance, our faith and our trust are first and primarily in Christ and not other.

Hymn #569 "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" v. 4 Final prayer