

Sunday - July 5, 2020

Blessed is the Nation

Dr. Jim Cooley, First Baptist Birmingham

Today's Scripture: Psalm 33:11-12

With a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor. Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.

BLESSED IS THE NATION WHERE CHRIST IS HONORED

“Our laws and our institutions must necessarily be based upon and embody the teachings of the Redeemer of mankind. It is impossible that it should be otherwise; and in this sense and to this extent our civilization and our institutions are emphatically Christian...this is a religious people. This is historically true. From the discovery of this continent to the present hour, there is a single voice making this affirmation.” United States Supreme Court, 1892

“the good in the United States would never have come into being without the blessing and the power of Jesus Christ...I know how embarrassing this matter is to politicians, bureaucrats, businessmen and cynics: but, whatever these honored men think, the irrefutable truth is that the soul of America is, at its best and highest, Christian.” Charles Malik

God has declared it in His Word. He commands this nation and every nation to be a place where Christ is honored We are the descendants of those who honored Christ and served Him with full devotion

BLESSED IS THE NATION WHICH IS COMMITTED TO GODLY PRINCIPLES

“We submit our persons, lives and estates unto our Lord Jesus Christ, the King of kings and Lord of lords, and to all those perfect and most absolute laws of His given to us in His holy Word.” Charter of Rhode Island The Founders understood that for a government to stand, it must have as its moral and legal foundation the principles and commandments given to us by God

“No people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the invisible hand which conducts the affairs of men more than the people of the United States. Every step by which they have

advanced to the character of an independent nation seems to have been distinguished by some token of providential agency...we ought to be no less persuaded that the smiles of Heaven cannot be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right, which Heaven itself has ordained." George Washington, first Inaugural Address

The truth will always remain that God's ways are the only ways that will stand, in the life of a nation and in the affairs of men

"This is the way; walk in it." Isaiah 30:21

BLESSED IS THE NATION WHERE BELIEVERS STAND STRONG IN THE LORD

"These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly." Thomas Paine

We face constant pressure to practice a toothless Christianity that cannot lead to repentance and salvation, but only to a vague spirituality that has no power to save

America needs bold believers today

- Bold in conviction
- Bold in obedience
- Bold in identification with Jesus

"If I be lifted up, I will draw all men to Me." John 12:32