

God Is Watching

Psalm 33:12-14

Preface

America is the land of freedom, liberty and a few crazy things.

- Only in America can pizza get to your house faster than an ambulance.
- Only in America are there handicap parking places in front of a skating rink.
- Only in America do drug stores make the sick walk all the way in the back to get their medicine while healthy people can buy candy up front.
- Only in America do people order double cheeseburgers, large fries, and a Diet Coke.
- Only in America do we leave cars worth thousands of dollars in the driveway, and fill our garages with junk.
- Only in America do we use answering machines to screen calls, and have call waiting, so we won't miss a call.
- Only in America do we buy hotdogs in packages of 10, and buns in packages of 8.

America is much more than just the land of the free. **America is a blessed nation with a rich history.**

However, many of us are uneasy with the America we see today. We look around and we see a country that has drastically changed for the worse during our lifetime.

As we look around, we see corrupt, self-serving leaders obsessed with power. We see a country breeding generations of free-loaders looking for a free ride through government handouts and frivolous lawsuits.

We watch as our nation betrays the very inspiration and strength of its foundation. We watch as our nation accepts one compromise after another to accommodate every religion and extremist's point of view.

It is hard to be an American and watch what is happening in America today.

But someone else is watching America too.

Scripture – Read

¹² Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he chose for his inheritance. ¹³ From heaven the LORD looks down and sees all mankind; ¹⁴ from his dwelling place he watches all who live on earth... Psalm 33:12-14 NIV

Introduction

Illus: I remember several years ago we were on a leisurely boat ride at Ono Island when we spotted a huge Osprey perched in a nest at the top of a dead tree. Later we drove my truck around to the tree to get some pictures and a closer look at the bird. The mother Osprey was large and majestic. From the moment we stepped out of the truck, she watched our every move. If we got too close to the tree, she would get out of the nest and circle us diving down to warn us we were too close. As long as we were there, her watchful eye tracked our every move.

Our text tells us that God is watching America. Like the magnificent Osprey, God looks down upon His people with a watchful eye, tracking our every move and action.

1. God is watching America to protect her.

God has protected America because of our commitment to Him. **There are those who say America was not born out of Christianity.** Nothing could be further from the truth.

When a band of early settlers stepped off the boat they signed a compact which became known as the Mayflower Compact. The first paragraph contained the words, *“In the name of God.”* The second paragraph included the words, *“For the glory of God.”*

The birth of this nation was inspired by the Holy Spirit of God in the hearts of men and women whose faith rested in Jehovah God. For this reason, God has blessed and protected America.

Woodrow Wilson, our 28th President said, *“America was born a Christian nation. America was born to exemplify that devotion to the elements of righteousness which are derived from the revelations of the Holy Scripture.”*

Patrick Henry said, *“It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded not by religionists, but by Christians, not on religion, but on the gospel of Jesus Christ.”*

God watches over His people. God has protected America and He will continue to protect America as long as America worships and honors God.

I for one am sick and tired of people denying that America was founded on Christianity. We are denying our foundation.

Benjamin Franklin said, *“I see this truth – That God governs the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, it is probable that an Empire cannot rise without His aid. We have been assured, Sir, in the Sacred Writings, that except the Lord build the house they labor in vain who build it.”*

¹² *Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD...”*

Through wars and struggles, through depressions and draughts, God watches over His people and protects them.

2. God is watching America to observe her.

While it is comforting to know that God is watching over His people to protect them, we must also be keenly aware God is watching to observe us.

God watches to observe our thankfulness. As God’s people, we have every reason to be thankful but **we need to be thankful to God and recognize that it is He who has blessed us.**

¹⁸ *give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 NIV*

Illus: Several years ago I visited a man who had a building in Moss Point Mississippi that he was trying to rent. He explained that he originally built the building as a skating rink. For the first year he had more business than he could handle. The kids would line up in the parking lot to get in to skate. He told about how he got so proud that he would not accept their crumpled dollar bills. He would make them straighten the bills out before he would accept them. Eventually, skating lost its popularity and the rink was closed. He concluded by saying, *“I would give anything for a handful of those crumpled dollar bills today.”*

As Americans, we must not take our blessings for granted. **Our key to happiness and future prosperity is directly related to our gratitude toward God.**

Illus: I am reminded of the fortune 500 CEO who pulled into a service station to get gas with his wife. He went inside to pay and when he came out he noticed his wife engaged in a conversation with the service station attendant. It turned out that she dated the man in high school before she met her husband.

The CEO got back in the car, and the two drove off in silence. He was feeling pretty good about himself and finally he spoke, *“I bet I know what you are thinking. I bet you are thinking you sure are glad you married me, a fortune 500 CEO and not him, a service station attendant.”* To which she responded, *“No, I was thinking if*

I'd married him, he'd be a fortune 500 CEO and you would be a service station attendant."

There are no self made people and America is not a self-made country. We owe our gratitude to God.

God watches to observe our worship. The Bible tells us God is a jealous God. He commands us to worship Him and Him only.

We are to be fervent and sincere in our worship of God. Worship isn't for you and me, **worship is for God.** Worship isn't about how good or even how inspired you feel when you leave. Worship is our expression of gratitude and love for our savior.

As Americans, if we have genuine gratitude, we will worship regularly and sincerely.

God watches to observe our actions. God desires for our lives to be an example to others. Our actions, the things we do daily are to bring others to Christ.

"...Continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling,¹³ for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose. Philippians 2:12-13 NIV

Illus: Too often we are like our kids on a long vacation. We are constantly asking, "Are we there yet?" We want salvation to be an instantaneous event where it happens and we are all set.

Salvation is a process by which we trust in God's word, we obey, we grow and we learn to trust more. This is the process of working out or fully experiencing our salvation.

God is watching to see if we are trusting Him and living according to His word.

3. God is watching America to save her.

Just as God blessed the birth of this great nation, **God also promises continued blessings but with a condition.**

¹⁴ 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 will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14 NIV

God is eager to heal our country and bless our country if we will turn to Him.

There is an underlying problem in America today. Much of our society **worships the created rather than the Creator.** We have elevated the government to a place above the very God who inspired it. In doing so, we are removing God from every public element of our society. This must change and change must begin in the church with God's people.

The idea that Christianity and God have no place in public life is a lie fostered by Satan himself. Yet this lie has become the basis of one court decision after another.

Today Christians are intimidated by organizations such as the ACLU who is determined to remove God from public life. This must not be. We must declare our loyalty first to God and secondly to our country.

We must not confuse patriotism with godliness. Without godliness there will be no patriotism. Without God there will be no fairness in laws. Without God there will be no love for our brother. Without God there will be no respect for parents. Without God there will be no honor for the spouse. Without God there will be no government by the people and for the people. Without God there will be no free United States of America.
Without God there will be no day of independence.

It was our Second President, John Adams who wrote in 1798, *“Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”*

“Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed a conviction that these liberties are the gift of God.” Thomas Jefferson

Today America is weak in spirit. **We are weak in our morality because we are weak in faith in God.**

Someone must turn the tide of the United States of America. Someone must lead the people back to a fervent trust in God and His Word. Someone must declare the truth of Jesus Christ and stand firm on that foundation.

That “someone” is you and me – The Church! **The church is God’s chosen vessel to reach this nation with the gospel of Jesus Christ. The responsibility rest upon us to point America back to its foundation and inspiration – God.**

Conclusion

Martin Luther King is best known for his “I have a dream” speech. Today, I have a dream speech.

I have a dream of an America that once again worships and honors God in all of its endeavors.

I have a dream of an America that once again desires to honor God on its currency, its buildings and great monuments.

I have a dream of a nation that recognizes its laws were founded on the Holy Bible and proudly displays scripture in public places.

I have a dream of a country where never again will its leader state that America is not a Christian nation.

I have a dream of a congress that gets on its knees and asks God for guidance, rather than serving their political aspirations.

I have a dream of a supreme court where the judges truly seek God’s guidance rather than political agendas.

I dream of an America where everyone works hard and transacts their business with integrity and honesty.

I dream of a day in America’s future when once again the Bible is taught in our schools.

I dream of a day when children are taught right from wrong based on the word of God and they understand God loves them.

I dream of a day again when the greatest influence on heart of America is Jesus Christ.

Extra Quote

“God commands you to choose for rulers, just men who will rule in the fear of God. If the citizens neglect their duty and place unprincipled men in office, the government will soon be corrupted.” Noah Webster