

WHAT WILL BECOME OF AMERICA? BACK COVER TEXT

America! Can You Hear God Calling? is a prophetic wakeup call that will take you on a journey. You will discover America's destiny as you travel back in time and capture a glimpse of the faith and heart of the noble men and women who contributed to making our nation so great and prosperous.

Your journey will lead you through the slow, steady decline into the condition we have found ourselves in today. You will see how seeds sown many years ago have influenced us and opened the door for the greatest challenges to our freedom that we have ever faced.

America is at a crossroad. God has been trying to capture our attention for years. He longs to place us on a path that will lead us to Him. He has sent prophets to warn us and preachers to woo us. They are crying out, "Come back, America! Wake up and return to your first love!" If we continue on the path we're on, destruction and devastation are certain.

But what will happen if we heed this call from the heart of God?

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America

America... land of the free...
Freedom from oppression...
Freedom to serve our God
America... home of the brave...
Founded by people who stood firm
In their convictions to make America
One nation under God... undivided.

God gave us this land and blessed us...
He prospered us so we could reach out
to a hungry, lost, and dying world.
He made us great and strong
so we could defend the weak and the helpless.
He called us to reach the world with His love.

Oh, America, look around us! We have not fulfilled our call.
Our prosperity has made us complacent and self-serving,
And we have forgotten to look outside of ourselves.

Desolation, emptiness, and hunger surround us
Children turn to drugs and murder
because their own anguish is so great!
Babies are torn from mothers' wombs,
and women and children are battered.

Oh, America, America! Can you hear God calling?
It's time to turn from our pride and cry out!
Let's fall on our knees
and call upon our Lord for forgiveness.
Let's rise up from the ashes
and become all that God has created us to be!

In His mercy, He has given us another chance.
A chance to do what is right
and to show the world A God
who loves us all so much
that He made the greatest sacrifice of all!

He died in our place...

BOOK EXCERPTS
SEGMENTS FROM SELECT CHAPTERS

Part One

How Far Have We Fallen?

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 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, "A National Day of Fasting, Humiliation, and Prayer."
Proclamation March 30, 1863

Chapter 1

The Destiny of a Nation

It cannot be emphasized too clearly and too often that this nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religion, but on the gospel of Jesus Christ. For this very reason, peoples of other faiths have been afforded asylum, prosperity, and freedom of worship here.

The Last Will and Testament of Patrick Henry

We have a rich heritage in America, created by men and women who were filled with a sense of purpose and destiny. They arrived on these shores ready to do the will of the Lord God Almighty. These brave people left behind religious persecution with a vision to inhabit this land and carry the light of the gospel throughout the earth. Most of our early leaders were Christians, and in founding our early government, these leaders believed God was the central force that would hold our nation together. As long as we served Him, we would prosper and be blessed as a nation.

We shall be as a city upon a hill. The eyes of all people are upon us, so that if we shall deal falsely with our God in this work we have undertaken and so cause Him to withdraw His present help from us, we shall be made a story and a byword throughout the world.

John Winthrop
Declaration from the deck of the Arabella

In order to fully understand where we are going as a nation, it's important that we understand a little of our past and know the heart of our Founding Fathers, whose great wisdom and love for God formed the foundation for America. If we understand our beginnings, we will be able to see where we have strayed from the original vision of our forefathers and then return to our roots.

A nation which does not remember what it was yesterday does not know what it is today, nor what it is trying to do. We are trying to do a futile thing if we do not know where we came from or what we have been about.

Woodrow Wilson

In school, I never learned that Columbus was a Christian man. Yet in the *Book of Prophecies*, he wrote about the restoration and future glory of Israel. He was on a quest to find the West Indies, where he hoped to evangelize the natives and raise money for his primary cause—Israel. Instead, he discovered our shores. His plan was to open trade routes so he could gain wealth, which he would use to fund efforts to help Israel gain back its land from invading Muslim forces.

About a hundred years after Columbus discovered America, the Puritan Separatists established a colony in Plymouth, Massachusetts. I was raised in Massachusetts and went to Plymouth on school field trips, but I was never taught that these Puritans were Christians. They had a pure faith in God and believed in living a holy life. They were dissatisfied with corruption in the church and sought an environment where they could worship God without persecution and share the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Following them were the Pilgrims, who came and established a settlement near Cape Cod, Massachusetts. They drafted the Mayflower Compact, signed by forty-one Pilgrims. This document outlined the principles of government that became the foundation for American democracy. These are the people who first celebrated one of our favorite holidays today—Thanksgiving. They celebrated for a week, feasting and giving thanks to God along with the Indians.

These men and women of God settled in what is now the New England area. In Boston, the Puritans established Harvard College in the hope of training young people to be ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ. One of their primary goals was to "let every student be plainly instructed and earnestly pressed to consider well; the main end of his life and studies is to know God and Jesus Christ which is the eternal life; and therefore to lay Christ in the bottom as the only foundation of all sound knowledge of learning."

Rhode Island's charter began with these words: "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 us in His Holy Word." Yale College in New Haven, Connecticut, was established as a Christian college. Students rose at 6 a.m. for prayer and Bible reading. The Liberty Bell is inscribed with these words from Leviticus 25:10: "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." We truly were founded as a Christian nation.

Years later when we fought for our freedom in the American Revolution, George Washington led the army into battle. When he took over, the army was a mess. Soldiers were untrained and uncouth. On August 3, 1776 he issued General Orders on Profanity.

That the Troops may have an opportunity of attending public worship, as well as take some rest after the great fatigue they have gone through; The General in future excuses them from fatigue duty on Sundays (except at the Ship Yards, or special occasions) until further orders. The General is sorry to be informed that the foolish, and wicked practice, of profane cursing and swearing (a Vice heretofore little known in an American Army) is growing into fashion; he hopes the officers will, by example, as well as influence, endeavour to check it, and that both they, and the men will reflect, that we can have little hopes of the blessing of Heaven on our Arms, if we insult it by our impiety, and folly; added to this, it is a vice so mean and low, without any temptation, that every man of sense, and character, detests and despises it.

George Washington
Head Quarters, New York, August 3, 1776
Parole Uxbridge. Countersign Virginia

His tactic worked. Although they experienced much suffering, the army was under the favor and protection of God, and there were several miracles of divine protection that occurred during battle. Because of his godly character and leadership, Washington won the respect and admiration of his soldiers.

Bibles were considered precious and vitally important. When England cut off the shipping of Bibles, the chaplain of Congress called a meeting to solve the problem by ordering Bibles from other countries. Being without Bibles was considered a crisis.

Suppose a nation in some distant region should take the Bible for their only law book and every member should regulate his conduct by the precepts there exhibited. What a utopia, what a paradise would this region be.

John Adams

The continued persecution from England was so severe and unending that the colonial leaders got together and declared their independence from Britain's tyranny. The king of England was imposing taxes on the colonists without their agreement, cutting off their trade, depriving them of trial by jury, and creating tyrannical rule in the colonies. The colonists wanted freedom from a government that had overextended its power. The Declaration of Independence, largely written by Thomas Jefferson, was approved by the Continental Congress in 1776. Once it was approved, John Adams wrote, "It ought to be commemorated as the Day of Deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty."

When in the Course of human events it becomes Necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitled them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

The Unanimous Declaration of the thirteen United States of America
In Congress, July 4, 1776

When I think about what the men and women sacrificed and fought for in the founding of our nation, I can't help but be thankful to God for the freedom they bought for us with their lives. All the freedoms we enjoy now were paid for with the blood of others. I wonder if they would have had such fortitude without their relationship and devout faith in God. There is no doubt in my mind that these people were fully dedicated to God. They sought Him for strength at every turn. They gave Him glory and honor and included Him in their writings and policies.

Finally, our Constitution was born. There were fifty-five delegates in the Constitutional Convention, most of whom were devout Christians. Their concept was not one of government control such as they'd had before but of a government that would serve the people and empower the colonies to prosper.

When God led Israel into the Promised Land and they finally settled it, He spoke again and again of the need for them to walk in His ways and to keep His commands. He promised them blessing and prosperity if they would do what He said. He commanded them to continue to be separate from those who worshiped other gods, so He could protect them from going astray.

It is the duty of nations, as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God, 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.

Abraham Lincoln

When America was first established, God blessed this land as He had blessed Israel. He blessed us and prospered us because of the commitment and obedience of these early settlers and the fact that we dedicated our nation to God. Because of this, we became the wealthiest, most powerful nation in the world. We governed with godly principles for many years, and our leaders openly served our country with their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as their foundation and guide. Many have said otherwise, but by the words that came out of their own mouths, they professed a deep faith in Jesus Christ. Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, John Hancock, Thomas Jefferson, William Bradford, John Quincy Adams, Alexander Hamilton, Samuel Johnston, James Madison, Thomas Paine, and George Washington, among others, were all professing Christians who wrote and spoke openly about their beliefs. They all believed that having a Christ-centered government and schools would be the only way to have a healthy nation that was truly free.

It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and Bible. What students would learn in American schools above all is the religion of Jesus Christ.

George Washington

Chapter 2

We Have Gone Astray

To the kindly influence of Christianity we owe that degree of civil freedom, and political and social happiness which mankind now enjoys...whenever the pillars of Christianity shall be overthrown, our present republican forms of government, and all blessings which flow from them, must fall with them.

Jedediah Morse, Portrait of Jedediah Morse

And what union can there be between God's temple and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God said: "I will live in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they will be my people. Therefore, come out from among unbelievers, and separate yourselves from them," says the Lord. "Don't touch their filthy things, and I will welcome you. And I will be your Father, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty. (2 Corinthians 6:16-18)

She defiled herself with immorality and gave no thought to her future. Now she lies in the gutter with no one to lift her out. "Lord, see my misery," she cries. "The enemy has triumphed." (Lamentations 1:9)

Our Freedom Is at Risk

We have been heading down a dangerous path for a long time. You've most likely heard the analogy of the frog in hot water. They say if you put a frog in a pan with cold water and slowly raise the temperature, the frog will just happily sit there until he dies, oblivious to the danger he's in until it's too late. America has been like that frog. The heat has been slowly turned up over the last few generations, and now we don't even realize that we could be one step away from losing everything our nation was founded on. God is slowly and steadily being taken out of everything.

From the late 1800s to early 1900s, America was booming financially, and industry and technology grew rapidly. We became the foremost manufacturing nation in the world. Unfortunately, as this growth and change rapidly occurred, so did an increase in government presence. At that time most of the people in the nation considered themselves to be Christian and had high moral values. Crime was virtually nonexistent, by today's standards. In fact, the Supreme Court had a ruling that expressed, "This is a Christian nation."

A shift began in the 1900s. In 1915, Margaret Sanger came on the scene with an ideology that was vehemently opposed to Christianity. She believed in birth control to further her racist agenda. She wrote about social revolution and condoned political assassinations in her magazine, "The Woman Rebel—No Gods, No Masters."

Birth control appeals to the advanced radical because it is calculated to undermine the authority of the Christian churches. I look forward to seeing humanity free someday of the tyranny of Christianity no less than capitalism.

Margaret Sanger

INSERTED FROM CHAPTER 2

After the ACLU won a court case to remove and disallow the Ten Commandments from being displayed in Kentucky public schools, the Supreme Court wrote: "If the posted copies of the Ten Commandments are to have any effect at all, it will be to induce the school children to read, meditate upon, perhaps to venerate and obey the Ten

Commandments. This is not a permissible objective.” When Bibles were taken out of public schools, the Supreme Court ruled: “If portions of the New Testament were read without explanation, they could be and have been psychologically harmful to the child.”

What were these justices thinking? How on earth could the Bible and the Ten Commandments be harmful to a child? The Supreme Court has either forgotten or deliberately ignored the precedents and intentions of our founders.

In my view, the Christian religion is the most important and one of the first things in which all children under a free government ought to be instructed.

Noah Webster

The Bible is the cornerstone of liberty. A student’s perusal of the sacred volume will make him a better citizen, a better father, a better husband.

Thomas Jefferson

The Bible is the rock on which our Republic rests.

Andrew Jackson

We have staked the future of American civilization upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God.

James Madison

One of the primary framers of the Constitution

Our highest government offices used to consider prayer to be the foundation for all decision-making, but now many of our leaders are trying to eliminate all mention of God in government. Freedom is a precious thing, but when we begin to think our freedom *in* Christ is freedom *from* Him, we start to lose our solid footing. If enough of the people in a nation come into agreement with that way of thinking, the nation begins to lose its blessing and fall apart from within.

INSERTED FROM CHAPTER 2

We Are Asleep

We have abdicated our role as watchmen over this nation, and we have turned away as the nation has slowly come into the condition it is in today. We are quick to blame Hollywood or the media or the government, but where were God’s people when all of these changes were occurring?

We have opened the door for so much evil because of choices we have made. We Christians have stood by and allowed the murder of over fifty million unborn babies. What’s worse, plenty of *Christians* have had abortions. Some Christians have tried to make a difference, but the numbers are so small that they haven’t been able to make the impact that would be possible if we were unified and stood up for righteousness.

We have been sleeping and wallowing in our own sin, and we didn't notice that our nation was decaying from within. We didn't pay attention when homosexual activism was just a small movement. We said, "It's not up to us to tell them what they can do." We didn't stand up and vote into office the men and women who stood for righteousness.

It is the duty, as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation to select and prefer Christians for our rulers.

John Jay
The first justice of the U.S. Supreme Court

Chapter 7

Wake Up, Sleeper!

Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed the conviction that these liberties are the gift of God?

Thomas Jefferson

What Do We Do Now?

For you know quite well that the day of the Lord's return will come unexpectedly, like a thief in the night. When people are saying, "Everything is peaceful and secure," then disaster will fall on them as suddenly as a pregnant woman's labor pains begin. And there will be no escape.

But you aren't in the dark about these things, dear brothers and sisters, and you won't be surprised when the day of the Lord comes like a thief. For you are all children of the light and of the day; we don't belong to darkness and night. So be on your guard, not asleep like the others. Stay alert and be clearheaded. Night is the time when people sleep and drinkers get drunk. But let us who live in the light be clearheaded, protected by the armor of faith and love, and wearing as our helmet the confidence of our salvation. (1 Thessalonians 5:2-8)

It's time for us to walk in the light just as He is in the light. His light is glorious, and when you are continually surrounded by the light of God, His light dispels all the darkness in us and around us, giving us clarity and discernment and provoking us to change.

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said; "Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." (Ephesians 5:8-14 NIV)

The church has been sleeping for a long time, but it's time to wake up and become the remnant bride He called us to be. It's time we come out from where we have been, come out from our mindsets and our comfort zones, and start living holy, consecrated lives. God has given us a choice: Walk in His way or come under judgment. He has called us, He has warned us, and now He is wooing us. We have been dead, but He is calling us to arise.

"I know all the things you do, and that you have a reputation for being alive—but you are dead. Wake up! Strengthen what little remains, for even what is left is almost dead. I find that your actions do not meet the requirements of my God. Go back to what you heard and believed at first; hold to it firmly. Repent and turn to me again. If you don't wake up, I will come to you suddenly, as unexpected as a thief." (Revelation 3:1-3)

Just before they left Egypt, God's people prepared a Passover meal so they would be "passed over" by the judgment He had pronounced on Egypt. We need to make sure that

the blood of the Lamb of God is on the doorposts of our heart so that when judgment comes we will be passed over. We need to do more than "plead the blood of Jesus." We need to do what the passage above says—repent and turn to Him again.

Chapter 8

Arise, My Love

The Highest glory of the American Revolution was this; that it connected in one insoluble bond the principles of civil government with the principles of Christianity.

John Quincy Adams

Come Away

When Jesus was about to begin His ministry on earth, He was led into the wilderness for forty days and nights where He was tempted, tested, and tried. He then emerged from the desert ready to do the work of the Father. Moses was in the desert for forty years. He had been brought up in Egypt, and I'm sure he had to renew his way of thinking and conform himself to God's ways. He was led to Mount Sinai to meet with God before he began his ministry, and God made him ready to go and set His people free. After that, the Israelites were led into the wilderness for what could have been a very short journey, but instead they wandered for forty years. Most of them never entered their ministry, but two men, Joshua and Caleb, finally came out of the desert and led a new generation into the Promised Land. Obviously, we all have to go through some type of wilderness experience on the way to our promise, and along the way we have the opportunity to allow God to change us—the way we think and the way we live our life. It takes some of us longer than others, but we all have to take the same journey.

Listen! It's the voice of someone shouting, "Clear the way through the wilderness for the Lord! Make a straight highway through the wasteland for our God! Fill in the valleys, and level the mountains and hills. Straighten the curves, and smooth out the rough places. Then the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. The Lord has spoken!" (Isaiah 40:3-5)

When the Israelites came out of Egypt, they were so used to being in bondage that when they found their freedom they felt insecure and off balance. They were used to being controlled, whipped, and beaten down. They didn't understand all of the things that freedom brought, such as making decisions for their lives and trusting God to take care of them. They were used to being taken care of even though they were treated poorly. This is why they were so utterly dependent on Moses. They complained constantly just as they did when they were in Egypt, but God had a plan.

Then Moses led the people of Israel away from the Red Sea, and they moved out into the desert of Shur. They traveled in this desert for three days without finding any water. (Exodus 15:22)

Their destination was a short distance from where they started, but because God needed to get the Egypt mentality out of them, He took them on a journey. They would not be able to handle being in the Promised Land because they had so much to learn and unlearn and much healing to experience first. They didn't even know how to govern themselves, so God took them on a path that would teach them how to trust Him, how to get healed, and how to fight their enemies. He established His government for them, but they would have to learn to trust Him for all of their needs.

Our Lord is in the process of taking us out of our Egypt mentalities and experiences. He wants us to have true freedom—not the freedom the world offers that leads us to self-will and sin, but a freedom that takes us into real maturity with God. He loves us so much that

He often takes us on a journey that we think couldn't possibly be His way, because it's painful and not a quick path to our destiny.

But if we do not become mature and prepared for His purpose in our lives, we will stray. We need to know how to handle the level of freedom God gives us or we will take our freedom as license to do what we want, which takes us from the very destiny we are trying to reach.

He Makes the Bitter Water Sweet

It was there at Marah that the Lord set before them the following decree as a standard to test their faithfulness to him. He said, "If you will listen carefully to the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in his sight, obeying his commands and keeping all his decrees, then I will not make you suffer any of the diseases I sent on the Egyptians; for I am the Lord who heals you."
(Exodus 15:25-26)

The first stop on our path is healing from our bitter circumstances in life. We have baggage from our past that we try to carry into our future. We make doctrines out of it. We see the world through the eyes of our experience, which clouds our vision. Our view of life comes from our life experiences, such as our upbringing, our ethnic and cultural background, and our society. Most often, these experiences have caused our view of life to be somewhat or severely skewed, especially when it comes to our relationship with the Lord and our Christian way of living. Our thoughts and attitudes, our prejudices, and our past hurts all affect the way we see God and everything around us.

First Corinthians 13:11 says that when we were children that we thought, spoke, and reasoned like children, but that when we grew up, we put childish things aside. The problem is that many people have never grown up and become mature. The "growing up" has to do with maturity, not natural years. I have seen numerous people who function on the level of a child when it comes to their emotions, allowing negative emotions to control them. They haven't been healed of things that have skewed their perceptions, and they see the world through a haze, believing that they see clearly.

For instance, have you ever known people who were abused and controlled as children, grew up without being healed, and now rebel against all authority? They are in rebellion to God, because they see all authority as abusive, and He represents authority. Of course, God is not abusive, but until they are healed they will not be able to see God any other way. How about people who are smart, funny, and likeable but have a terrible view of themselves? Perhaps their family or their peers told them they were worthless, stupid, or something else that has stayed with them like a tape playing in their heads that they cannot get past. No matter what their friends tell them, they don't believe the good report about themselves, because somewhere along the way they believed a lie about themselves. I know Christians who have turned to alcohol and drugs for comfort because they never grew past their childhood hurts and perceptions. Because of this, they haven't

learned how to fully trust God and take their pain to Him, which would enable them to walk in His wholeness.

Until we learn how to allow God to renew our mind, until we learn what God says about us and come into agreement with Him, we will always have unreal perceptions about ourselves, other people, and the world around us. For instance, if we had an abusive father we may view any kind of male authority as abusive. If we had a domineering or controlling mother we almost always see all strong women as controlling and will have problems dealing with women in any kind of authority or leadership capacity. There are many other examples of perceptions that came from childhood or other life experiences. For example, have you ever had someone dislike you before they ever had a chance to know you, only to find out that you reminded them of someone else who hurt them?

Some people, because of horrible abuse as children, have become abusers as adults, justifying it because it was the behavior they learned from childhood. These perceptions are not truth. Most sex offenders and child abusers were themselves abused and are acting out the horrible things done to them. These people never experienced the loving form of guidance, correction, and discipline that brings a child happily and safely into adulthood, so they repeat the pattern they grew up with.

Throughout our lives most of us have had painful and bitter experiences. They cause us deep pain and grief. We also have bitter heart attitudes if we don't forgive those responsible for hurting us. I think a lot of people believe that if they let go of their bitterness it will make them vulnerable to more hurt. When we are hurt we tend to judge those who hurt us, whether they did it deliberately or not. The Bible says that when we judge others we will be judged with equal measure, and the hurt is simply not worth holding on to. Only God is qualified to judge someone's heart.

It is imperative that we let go and forgive those who hurt us. Allow the Holy Spirit to wash away all the pain. If we don't let go of all the bitter experiences in our life and the bitterness that's in our heart, we will be stuck, and our relationship with the Lord will stagnate.

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. (Romans 12:2 NKJV)

END OF EXCERPTS