

Freedom's Color

July 4th, 2010 | Family Life Church

4th of July

Pastor Steve Meistrell

Introduction:

How can we restore America?..... By recovering the original pilgrims and puritans vision of America as a shining city upon a hill.

Those first Christian settlers who stepped ashore on the beaches of Massachusetts were not just a bunch of religious refugees who came over here to avoid persecution. They had a compelling vision to put the Bible into practice and create a self-governing society with liberty and justice for every soul. They were missionaries, intent on creating a Bible based commonwealth that would be an example to the rest of the world-that would, as Abraham Lincoln later said – hold out a beacon of hope to all men of all time to come.

Restoring the Vision of America:

In America we have lost the vision – we seem to no longer know who we are or why we are here. Which is to say: to restore America we have to recover the truth about America's Christian Heritage, and God's hand in our history.

Patrick Henry one of our founding fathers said; “it cannot be too often repeated, or too strongly emphasized that America was not founded by religionists nor a religion, but by Christians on the Gospel of Jesus Christ.” (This is one of those statements that never shows up in our textbooks)

John Adams, our second President and true son of the Puritans said these words to the Massachusetts Militia in 1798; “Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”

Adams is telling us that unless we have a rebirth of the spirit of God in each generation of Americans, our Constitution will not be able to work and we will not have a society with liberty and justice for all..... Why? Because in order to have a just society we have to care for our neighbor. (Fallen nature – self centeredness)

We Need Nationwide Revival:

Our society's moral and spiritual crisis is so desperate that we need a nation-wide revival – we need a third great awakening! (I am not ready to give up on America. I still believe our prayers and our righteous actions and life style can still make a difference).

The Generals Prayer:

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During the dark days of the American Revaluation when the continental army had experienced several setbacks, a farmer who lived near the battlefield approached Washington's camp unheard. Suddenly his ears caught an earnest voice raised in agonizing prayer, on coming nearer he saw it was the great General down on his knees in the snow, his cheeks wet with tears. He was asking God for assistance and guidance. The farmer crept away and returned home and said to his family; it's going to be all right; we are going to win! What makes you think so his wife asked, well said the farmer I heard General Washington pray in the woods today – such fervent prayer I have never heard. And God will surely hear and answer that kind of praying.

2 Chronicles 7:14 – “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 I will hear from heaven, and forgive their sin, and heal their land.”

The scripture clearly puts the burden of restoring America on the church! – My people – Revival must start with the recovery of the dynamic power of true New Testament Christianity in our local churches.

Is there hope for America?

Is there hope for America? Yes - turning things doesn't require every citizen's response. God promised Abraham long ago that He would spare Sodom on behalf of ten righteous people. (A tiny remnant)

If we the American Christian truly responds to God's call, we can see a nation – wide revival that will restore America, but the hour is late and we must respond quickly! The American Christian must repent for;

- Superficial churchianity – feel good Christianity.
- A lack of true Christian relationships and fellowship. (discipleship)
- Not praying for our government leader's, non-involvement in society around us.

Freedom's Color:

Alexis de Tocqueville gave us a prophetic answer to way we are losing the greatness in America when he said; “America is great Because America is good; and if America ever ceases to be good; America will cease to be great!”

Ps 33:12 – “Blessed is the nation, whose God is the Lord!”

Daniel Webster said it this way; whatever makes a man a good Christian also makes him a good citizen. That which makes us a good Christian is the color of freedom;

- **Redemption by the Blood-for America!**

“You were not redeemed with corruptible things but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.” (1 Peter 1:18-19).

Redemption; to purchase - to repurchase what has been sold - to rescue - to save.

- **Reconciliation through the Blood-for America!**

“Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus; whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation (reconciliation) through faith in His blood.” (Romans 3:24-25).

Reconciliation; renewal of relationship – favor with God.

- **Cleansing through the Blood-for America!**

“If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanses us from all sin.”
(1 John 1:7)

Cleansing; to purify – free from sin and the penalty of guilt.

- **Sanctification through the Blood-for America!**

“Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with, His own blood, suffered without the gate.” (Hebrews 13:12)

Sanctification; to set apart – to prepare for divine service.

- **Cleaned by the Blood to serve the Living God-for America!**

“Now in Christ Jesus you who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.” (Ephesians 2:13)

“How much more shall the blood of Christ purge your conscience, to serve the living the God?” (Hebrews 9:14)

Freedoms Color Blood Red!

Americas Freedom Blood Red!

Americas Hope Blood Red!

Freedom's Color:

Move in a season of prayer:

- Government
 - Federal
 - State
 - City
 - County
 - Schools
 - Judges
 - Churches
 - Armed Services
 - Spiritual freedoms
 - Justice
 - Revival

Pray in groups.