

Remnant Life Church  
July 2, 2023  
**At the Foundation of Our Country**  
Psalm 33:12

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

- On April 6, 2009, while speaking at a joint press conference with Turkey's President Gul, then President Barrak Obama stated that we (the US) were not a Christian nation or a Jewish nation or a Muslim nation, but a group of citizens bound by ideals and a set of values
- Prior to that in June 2007 while campaigning to be President - "Whatever we once were, we're no longer a Christian nation. At least not just. We are also a Jewish nation, a Muslim nation, a Buddhist nation, a Hindu nation, and a nation of nonbelievers,"
- At the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Defending the American Dream Summit in September 2014 former presidential candidate Dr. Ben Carson referenced the President's statements but added, "He doesn't get to decide that we do."
- Along with Dr. Carson, I firmly disagree with the former President's statements not only as a Christian but as an American citizen
- The establishment of this country and the maintaining of our status as a free people and nation over the past 2 ½ centuries came at a very high cost
  - But today the courts, politicians, and even the schools are trying to revise, rewrite or deny our history
  - They are claiming that we were founded not on Christian principles but on the desire for property
  - We are being told that the want of a new nation was motivated by greed and the desire to acquire wealth

The political and cultural climate of our country today denies the importance of God in that critical formative time

- A number of years ago there was a national talk show host, a man noted for his anti-God stance in all things, who was speaking with a call-in listener discussing the early role of Christianity in our nations' founding...
  - He said this, "Why do Christians think they had anything special to do with the founding of this country... Anybody who reads history books knows that Christianity was no more involved in America's founding than any other religion."
  - Well, the fact is if this pseudo-intellectual had bothered to read any of our history books he would know that nothing was further from the truth
- Look at what was happening even prior to the creation of these United States
  - In 1504 Christopher Columbus wrote in his journal the reason for setting out to discover a new land: "I was led of the Holy Spirit to carry the message of the Gospel to undiscovered lands."
  - In 1620 the Pilgrims drafted the *Mayflower Compact*. "In the name of God, amen. Having undertaken for the glory of God and for the advancement of the Christian faith, do solemnly and mutually in the presence of God, covenant and combine ourselves together."

- 23 years later, in 1643, the Puritans formed a group and wrote *The New England Confederation*; this was the first written constitution and a forerunner for those men in 1776. The New England Confederation Constitution begins with these words "Whereas we all came into these parts with one and the same end and aim, namely to advance the kingdom of our lord Jesus Christ, and to enjoy the liberties of the gospel in purity and peace."
- What you must understand is that one of the primary purposes of the desire to find a new land was to enjoy the freedom of worship
  - The Church of England began in 1534 not by a leading of the Holy Spirit but by the leading of the lust of the flesh
    - Henry VIII established his 'church' because Pope Clement VII of the Catholic Church in Rome would not grant him an annulment from his wife Catherine of Aragon and so that he could marry Anne Bolyn
    - But by being the head of his own "church" he could then grant himself and annulment – which he immediately did
  - The Puritans living in England at that same time and knowing the corrupt state of the Church of England, left for the new land.
  - September of 1620 that a small band of 102 people left England, in a boat measuring approximately 25' wide and 100' long, seeking, among other things, showing how a nation could prosper if its citizens lived under the laws of God and not the laws of a state or a king.

What about the new-world colonies themselves?

- Delaware, the first state to ratify the constitution, defines the purpose of their colony in the Delaware Charter, "To further propagate the Holy Gospel."
- The Virginia Charter assures the right for people to live in "Christian peace" and instructs the people to: "Propagate the Christian religion to such people who yet live in ignorance of the true knowledge and worship of God."
- The Rhode Island Compact: "We submit our persons, lives, and estates unto our Lord Jesus Christ, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords."
- John Adams stated, "The general principles on which the father's achieved independence were the general principles of Christianity."
- George Washington's in his personal prayer book wrote: "Oh, eternal and everlasting God, direct my thoughts, words and work. Wash away my sins in the immaculate blood of the lamb and purge my heart by the Holy Spirit. (Daily, frame me more and more in the likeness of thy son, Jesus Christ, that living in thy fear, and dying in thy favor, I may in thy appointed time obtain the resurrection of the justified unto eternal life. Bless, O Lord, the whole race of mankind and let the world be filled with the knowledge of thy son, Jesus Christ.")
- Our nation does not very much resemble what was originally intended
  - Who influenced our founding fathers? That would certainly be a clear indicator of our roots

- A Political Science professor at the U of Houston asked this research question – “Who did the founding fathers quote the most?”
  - Over 3000 documents were read and researched... finding 3 names as most prominent
  - Sir William Blackstone (English writer of law commentaries or textbooks in the mid-1700s), Montesquieu (French lawyer and political philosopher of the late 16 and early 1700s) and John Locke (English philosopher and progressive thinker of the mid 1600s)
  - But 16 times more than those 3 combined were quotations from the Holy Scriptures
  - This was at the core, the heart of our beginning
- a. And it is interesting to note – and disheartening - that Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Brown, Dartmouth, William and Mary and Columbia, today the very seat of hyper-liberalism and godless education, were all founded by pastors and church affiliations with the expressed intent to educate young men for Christ and the preaching of God’s Word.
- Even the very structure of our government is based on the character of God
- What are the three branches of our government?
  - Executive, Legislative, and Judicial
  - **Isaiah 33:22** - *"For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king; it is he who will save us."*
    - ...the Lord is our Judge [judicial]
    - ...the Lord is our Lawgiver [legislative]
    - ...the Lord is our King [executive]
  - The founding fathers turned to the Scriptures and based the very cornerstone of our government on God’s Word
- Do not believe, do not let anyone convince you that this nation was not founded on the biblical truths of God’s Word

So, what can we at Remnant Life Church in 2023 do for a nation that is seemingly spiraling headlong into an abyss of evil, perversion, and hedonism?

### 1. Pray for our government

- a. I realize that many times this is not an easy thing to do
  - i. To pray blessing over a person or people who you are so diametrically opposed to in their thinking, philosophies and actions is hard
    - 1. But this is not about politics (as strange as that may sound)
    - 2. It is about obeying the Word of God
  - ii. This is what the Apostle Paul instructs Timothy to do and teach...
 

**I Tim 2:1-4** - *I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.*

- b. Prayer is what changes things at the heart and soul of any situation
- c. Political reform is a band aid; prayer is the cure

## 2. Participate

- a. God would not call us to pray for the government and then expect us to just sit idly by
- b. Christians must utilize the right we have been given
  - i. Become informed and vote!
  - ii. May I say that you have no right to complain if you refuse to participate

## 3. Speak the truth in love

- a. The truth of God's love in the person of Jesus Christ is what brings true change
  - b. **John 8:32** - *Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.*
    - i. The life-changing truth of Jesus Christ is the only hope for the lives of the individual
    - ii. He is also the only hope for our nation
      - 1. It is not programs, it is not more money, it is not a person nor a political party
      - 2. **Rev. 3:20** - *Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.*
    - iii. How do we know that this is the answer?
      - 1. **Rom 10:13** - *Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved*
      - 2. The Name of Jesus is the most powerful word we can speak to the problems of our nation as well as in our lives
      - 3. **Phil 2:20** - *that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,*
- **I Kings 8** records Solomon's prayer of dedication for the temple that had just been completed
    - Through the course of the prayer Solomon outlines the ways that man turns away from God and the consequence of those actions
    - Eight times He asks God to hear from heaven and forgive the people their sins
    - God does hear our prayers today as well!
    - He hears as we cry out to Him now for our nation to be saved
      - But we must pray
      - We must put aside our anger, disgust, fear, and anxiety
      - We must come together as God's people and call on His mighty name for change to come beginning in the hearts of all people
  - On this year's 247th anniversary of the formal adoption of the Declaration of Independence, let us renew our commitment to...
    - Pray for our county
    - Refuse to participate in the rampant, self-centered negativism
    - Give thanks for the freedoms that we do have in this country

- Give thanks for the provisions and life of abundance given by God's Hand

We are going to do something a little different this morning as we bring our service to a close

- I am going to ask that you make a declaration with me as, together, as a church family we call on the name of God to bring change to this great nation
- I will read the statement and you will then state your intent of agreement  
(Ask the leadership of RLC to come join me up front)
  - We are united in this declaration
    - You may wish to stand
    - You may remain seated
- This covers a wide range of topics that we, as Christians, must be aware of
  - There are churches who want to keep talk of our nation and the government out of our pulpits
    - I am not one of those
    - Jesus commanded His disciples in **Matt 28:19-20**
    - *Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*"

## READ DECLARATION

*My Country Tis of Thee*

- The lyrics to this song were written in 1831 by Samuel Francis Smith
  - He wrote them while a student at Andover Theological Seminary
  - He then served his entire adult life as a Baptist minister in the New England states as well as a seminary professor and missionary
- The melody is taken from the national anthem of Great Britain, *God Save the King*
- This song served as the de facto national anthem of our young country until the *Star-Spangled Banner* was officially adopted exactly 100 years later in 1931
- Stand and join me in singing together the last verse