

Remnant Life Church
July 5, 2026
What Hope for this Nation?
2 Chronicles 7:14

What is America's hope?

Many people will give you a political answer

- It has to be the right party or the right person
 - Because the “other” party or “that person” is responsible for the condition that we are now in as a country
 - Not realizing that for at least half a president's term, they are dealing with the condition of the country that was left to them by the previous administration
 - That has been happening since John Adams took over after George Washington

Others will say it is attached to the social programs we create and enact

- Social security
 - Caring for the elderly
 - Our schools
 - And countless others

Still others will claim that the issues of this country are all attached to the social prejudices that divide us by color, education, wealth, ethnicity, and other categories that seem to be created anew on an almost daily basis

I do not believe any of them are correct

- We have seen for the entirety of our lives that it does not seem to matter at all who is in the White House or the party who is the majority, the same problems persist
- We have also seen the social programs of this nation, once secure and functioning in the way they were intended, collapse in on themselves
- And prejudice, we are told, has never been more rampant than it is now although we are being told that by the very entity that has proven itself to be untrustworthy and devoid of objectiveness – the media

One of my primary goals, whenever we touch on the subject of the subject of our nation it to have you come to understand that to try and find hope in a corrupt, sin-based, destructive system is futile!

- And so, if that is the case – where is our hope?
 - Where can we find encouragement?
 - How do we deal with what is happening if there is no hope?
- Well, I am standing before you this morning to tell you there is hope!
 - But it has nothing to do with government or politics
 - It has nothing to do with money or social programs
- What we must look to is what many of us have sung about in the words written by Edward Mote in 1834
 - My hope is built on nothing less, than Jesus' blood and righteousness. I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name
 - On Christ the solid rock I stand all other ground is sinking sand

But how do we do that?

- Admittedly, there is not much we can do physically other than to pray and be a living example of God's love
 - And those two things are vitally important
- And we can do those two things with purpose and focus
 - How should we pray for this nation?
 - What specifically needs to change?
 - If it is not the party or who sits in the Oval Office, since that apparently does not make any difference, what do we pray for?
- The answer to that important question, as you might imagine, is found in God's Holy Word

READ: 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 I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.*
- Here is how we should pray and what we should pray for to turn this nation
- We pray for the 4 conditions of this verse to be implemented
- And we pray for the 3 blessings to come

4 Conditions followed by 3 Blessings

The Conditions:

1. Humble ourselves

- a. Now let's face it, humiliation, or to be humbled is something that everyone works very hard to avoid
 - i. We most often associate those words with something negative taking place
 - ii. I coached my first game at Mechanicsburg High School in 1982 - I'm all of 22 or 23 years old
 - 1. A JV girls basketball game; against Lower Dauphin
 - 2. I coached, we played, we lost 41-9
 - 3. I was humbled
- b. But God's humbling is different than man's
 - i. When a person tries to humble someone else it is most often by tearing that person down in order to build themselves up
 - ii. God's is done to restore and build up in perfect love
 - iii. And humility is a characteristic that God desires and even requires in all of us
 - 1. It is so important to our lives as Christians that God will bring humility into our lives if we fail to embrace it on our own
- c. His Word tells us that...
 - i. **Prov 3:34** - *He mocks proud mockers but shows favor to the humble and oppressed.*
 - ii. **Js 4:6** - *God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.*
- d. I don't believe I am revealing something you do not know when I say this nation is rife and riddled with pride

- i. And we see that most clearly and evidenced by the way we shake our fists in the face of God by blatantly defying His Word
 - ii. Our pride as a nation has all but removed God from daily life
- e. David wrote in **Psalms 111:10** – *The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom*
 - i. The fear of God can only begin in humility

2. Pray

- a. Not merely an activity but a condition of the heart
 - i. Prayer is at the foundation of our relationship with God
 - ii. Jesus took time to pray
 - iii. Prayer is what we are told we must do even as Paul encouraged the church in Thessalonica
 - 1. **I Thess 5:16-18** - *Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*
 - 2. With prayer comes joy, gratitude, and living in the will of God
 - 3. Prayer has been a part of our past as a nation and the need to return to that commitment is more important than ever
- b. But true prayer is empowered when proceeded by humility

3. Seek His face

- a. To seek God's face means to desire His will
 - i. To desire it over my own will
 - ii. And in that seeking, trust Him in faith, for what He desires for you
- b. What God wants is infinitely more important than what I want
- c. Seeking His will for my life, again, demonstrates my humility
- d. **Psalms 24:5-6** - *They will receive blessing from the LORD and vindication from God their Savior. Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek your face, God of Jacob.*

Finally -

4. Turn from our wicked ways

- a. There must be action attached to our intent
- b. Merely speaking words will never create a lasting change
- c. The men of the 2nd Continental Congress had to act on their resolution of independence
- d. So today, we the church, must also set a precedent and example for the change needed in our society, not just with our words but with our actions
 - i. Those actions are not to try and convince others of the error of their thinking or beliefs
 - ii. But actions rooted in the same love that God showed each and every one of us
- e. Are your daily actions those that build up or those that tear down?
 - i. Are they loving or self-serving?
 - ii. Do they forgive and uphold others, or is it gossip that only tears others down?
- f. We will each be held accountable for the words we speak

- i. What will that look and sound like when your time comes to be judged?

The four conditions are: seek His face, pray, humble ourselves, turn from our wicked ways

- If we will do that, we are promised the following blessings

The Blessings:

1. God will hear us

- a. There is no greater despair than being alone and overwhelmed by loneliness
- b. That despair goes to the very depths of our souls when we cut ourselves off from God
 - i. His love is eternal and ever-present
 - ii. But our pride can and will separate us by our own choosing
 - iii. Daniel was a man of humility who God greatly blessed
 - iv. **Dan 9:17** - *Now, our God, hear the prayers and petitions of your servant. For your sake, Lord, look with favor on your desolate sanctuary.*
- c. Daniel daily prayed to God and God only heard his prayers but blessed him in his work, protected him from the lies of those who opposed him and even spared his life among the lions
 - i. There is no greater provider of peace in our lives than to know that God hears our prayers

2. He will forgive our sins

- a. Only God's forgiveness spares us from eternal separation from God (**Rom. 6:23**)
- b. Death then is not only physical but can also be spiritual
 - i. The forgiveness of our sins, when we humble ourselves and confess them, is what our hope is as individuals
 - ii. His love and forgiveness are why Jesus came to sacrifice His life
 - iii. To give each and every one of us the opportunity to be forgiven
- c. His forgiveness is also what gives every Christian hope to survive and even prosper even when surrounded by spiritual darkness
 - i. And it is a promise to each and every one of us
 - ii. **I John 1:9** - *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*

3. Heal our land

- a. Our land is this nation, our homes, our churches, our families, and our hearts
 - b. Make no mistake – God is the only one who can bring healing at that level of totality and completeness
 - c. More money, more programs, more governmental intervention – NONE of those things are going to heal this land
- These blessings, including His great healing power, can only come when we meet those four conditions
 - Humble ourselves, pray, seek His face, and turn from our wickedness

This nation was founded on principles that actually got stronger in the first 150 years of our existence but then the erosion began

- Erosion of our morals
- Erosion of our faith
- Erosion of our dependence on and fear of God

It is not too late, but the time is growing short

- You see, the Liberty bell could not remain hidden under the church floorboards of that church in Allentown that we talked about last week
 - It needed to be brought back and hung in a place where it could be heard
 - The people needed to return to their homes
 - Their faith needed to be restored
- And just as it is engraved across the top of the bell, we too, on July the fourth 2026, are called to *Proclaim liberty throughout the land unto all the inhabitants thereof!*
- Jesus said in his first sermon following his temptation in the wilderness: *The Spirit of the Lord is on Me, because He has anointed Me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.* **Luke 4: 18-19**
 - Jesus came to proclaim liberty and freedom to all from the shackles and bondages of sin
 - And to bring healing to the hearts, minds, and bodies of all those who will call on Him as their Lord and Savior
- It is because of Jesus and His love that I encourage every one of you to continue to pray for our nation, to not give up hope, and to stand for what is right
 - There are many people who are hurting right now that need to know the love, and peace of Jesus
 - They need to know that His love is greater than what divides us today
- Why do that?
 - Because it is what shows people that you are a child of God
 - That you are a disciple of Jesus Christ
 - Jesus said to His disciples in **John 13:35** – *By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.*
- And there is no way to know the level of impact you may have on another person just by simply showing them the love of Jesus Christ
 - You just might help to start a spiritual revolution
 - A revolution that could one day help save this nation