

# INDEPENDENCE DAY SERMON SUNDAY 2017

CALLING UPON THE LORD AS A NATION IN HOPE THAT HIS  
GRACE AND MERCY MIGHT VISIT US ONCE AGAIN.

**2 Chronicles 15:1-6**

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER JH 421 SUNDAY JULY 2, 2017

**THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:**

**“God Calling”**

**A Recollection And Lamentation On Both Americas Great Founding  
And Her Tragic Decline As A Christian Nation.**

**SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:**

**God’s Faithfulness, National Repentance & Revival**

**Introduction to the Text; 2 Chronicles 15:1-6**

**One Cannot Look at the History of the United States of America  
without coming to the conclusion that God wanted to do  
something very special with this land between two seas**

**2 Chronicles 15:1-6**

Now the Spirit of God came upon Aza’riah the son of Oded. 2 And he went out to meet Asa, and said to him: *“Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin. The LORD is with you while you are with Him. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you. 3 For a long time Israel has been without the true God, without a teaching prophet, and without the law; 4 but when in their trouble they turned to the LORD God of Israel, and sought Him, He was found by them. 5 And in those times there was no peace to the one who went out, nor to the one who came in, but great turmoil was on all the inhabitants of the lands 6 So nation was destroyed by nation, and city by city, for God troubled them with every adversity.*

**“This Message Today is Intended to Encourage You  
to Enlist in Those Things That Matter to God.”**

**We are on the eve of witnessing yet again another  
miracle. On Tuesday, America will be 241 years old. The miracle is that she continues  
to be the longest surviving democracy in human history and that – under the same  
governing document, The U.S. Constitution!**

## And that's a great reason to celebrate our liberties and freedoms.

In a letter to his wife Abigail, John Adams  
"Communicated the activities of the Continental Congress"  
regarding a particular day in July of 1776.

### SLIDE #

"This day in July will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary Festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations, from one end of the continent to the other, from this time forward forever."

**That which has transpired in the birthing of America is something that had never been seen before in human history. And that a government was born that was unlike any other known to man. And that the Genesis of such a government would be the ever-present longing of liberty, that the government would be empowered by The People themselves, not a king, not a despot, nor some elite group of power brokers - - but the common citizen who select and maintain his or her government by election.**

**And in the founding documents of this nation it would be recorded that the citizen would ultimately determine his or her Liberty and Freedom which would not come from the government but from the idea and belief that "God governs in the affairs of men".**

**That a Government would be created with God at its Center. That its Founders would, by deliberate design, engineer that the powers of the government would Of the People, By the People and For the People**

A Radical and Epic Opportunity was Thrust Upon Our Young Nation

### SLIDE #

"When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bonds 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** entitle 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.

- *Thomas Jefferson*

## **But for some decades now, America has been troubled from coast to coast and from border to border**

### **Jeremiah 18:5-11**

Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying: 6 "O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter?" says the LORD. "Look, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel! 7 The instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, to pull down, and to destroy it, 8 if that nation against whom I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I thought to bring upon it. 9 And the instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it, 10 if it does evil in My sight so that it does not obey My voice, then I will relent concerning the good with which I said I would benefit it. 11 "Now therefore, speak to the men of Judah and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying, "Thus says the LORD: 'Behold, I am fashioning a disaster and devising a plan against you. Return now everyone from his evil way, and make your ways and your doings good.'

### **2 Chronicles 7:13**

At times I might shut up the heavens so that no rain falls, or I might command locusts to devour your crops, or I might send plagues among you. 14 Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and heal their land.

## **THIS IS GOD CALLING AMERICA TO CONSIDER**

**1.) America - Consider your former glory.**

**1a.) Remember how He established us as a nation.**

**1b.) Remember how no other place on earth was like it.**

"Between two Seas"  
He preserved the most blessed land on earth.

**1c.) Remember how what He did with us had not been done.**

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The passengers of the Arbella who left England in 1630 with their new charter had a great vision. They were to be an example for the rest of the world in rightful living. Future governor JOHN WINTHROP stated their purpose quite clearly: "We shall be as a city upon a hill, the eyes of all people are upon us." The Arbella was one of eleven ships carrying over a thousand Puritans to Massachusetts that year. It was the largest original venture ever attempted in the English New World. The passengers were determined to be a beacon for the rest of Europe, "A Model of Christian Charity," in the words of the governor.

And What Country On Earth Would Set The Bible  
as its chief text book for learning among its people?  
The elevation and promotion and the establishment of the Bible  
as the chief book among all books.

SLIDE #

"The Bible is a book worth more than all the other  
books that were ever printed."  
*Patriot Founder Patrick Henry*

SLIDE #

"It is impossible to enslave mentally or socially a Bible reading people. The  
principles of the Bible are the groundwork of human freedom."  
*- Horace Greely*

SLIDE #

"I have always said, and will always say, that studious perusal of the Sacred  
Volume will make us better citizens."  
*- Thomas Jefferson*

SLIDE #

While being a sitting President of the United States, Thomas Jefferson was elected  
the first president of the Washington, D.C. Public School Board, which implemented  
the Bible as a text in all public school classroom. There was a study conducted by the  
American Political Science Review on the political documents of the Founding era,  
from 1760-1805. The study found that 94% of the documents that went into the  
Founding ERA were based on the Bible. 34% of the contents of those Founding  
Documents were direct quotations from the Bible. And 88% of students nationwide  
were educated in the public school system using the Bible.

(source: National Council on Curriculum)

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The general principles on which the fathers achieved independence were the general  
principles of Christianity. I will avow that I then believed, and now believe, that those  
general principles of Christianity are as eternal and immutable as the existence and  
attributes of God.

*- John Adams*

**Proverbs 22:28**

Do not remove the ancient landmark which your fathers have set.

**THIS IS GOD CALLING AMERICA TO LOOK**

## 2.) America – Look at what you have become.

### 2a.) America you had a deliberate birth.

The First Virginia Charter of the New World by His Majesty, The Dread Lord Sovereign King  
James 1<sup>st</sup>. of England - April 10, 1606

#### SLIDE #

“We, greatly commending, and graciously accepting of, their Desires for the Furtherance of so noble a Work, which may, by the Providence of Almighty God, hereafter tend to the Glory of his Divine Majesty, in propagation of the Christian Religion to such People, as yet live in Darkness and miserable Ignorance of the true Knowledge and Worship of God! And chiefly the way to prosper and achieve good success is to make yourselves all of one mind for the good of your country and your own, and to serve and fear God the Giver of all Goodness...”

Of those devoted followers of the Lord Jesus Christ Aboard the Mayflower, It was their leader, William Bradford, governor of Plymouth that wrote;

**“For to worship the Lord freely and to establish Him a Christian nation.”**

### 2b.) America you became like a rebellious teen

After prayer was removed from Public Schools in 1963, Teenage pregnancies increased 187% in the following 15 yrs. According to the CDC and The Dept. of Health & Human Services reported sexually transmitted diseases increased 226% in the following 12 yrs.

Prof. William Jeynes, at California State University at Long Beach, stated in a 2014 paper that: “The decision by the US Supreme Court in 1962 and 1963 – to remove both Bible and prayer from our public schools, may have proven to be the most spiritually significant event in our nation’s history in the last five decades,” Jeynes stated that “Since 1963 there have been five negative developments in the nation’s public schools since the removal of the Bible and Prayer:

- Academic achievement has plummeted, including record low SAT scores.
- Increased rate of out-of-marriage births
- Increase in illegal drug use
- Increase in juvenile crime
- Deterioration of school behavior

### Flee the City!

According to an FBI study on the rise of Violent Crimes and Murder in America, The area’s most prone to violent crimes and/or murder are within particular cities of certain demographics. *The more liberal the politics of a city the more prone it was to violent crime and or murder. (ie. California)*

As of 2016

There are just over 747,000 Registered Sex Offenders in the United States and congratulations California, the Pornographic Capitol of the World where over 100,000 Registered Sex Offenders live.

## 2c.) America you are now the prodigal among the nations

Our Nation is being Ripped Apart by Godless Leaders who have been sent to the Halls of Power by the Apathetic. We're governed by Haters of God who seek to Remove God and Visages of God.

“Man yells, 'Freedom!' as he drives a vehicle into Ten Commandments statue at **Arkansas Capitol**”

SLIDE #

<https://www.theblaze.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/10-commandments-1280x720.jpg>

## THIS IS GOD CALLING AMERICA TO ASK

### 3.) America – Ask Me what you should do now.

The History of The United States is a History Lesson in Prayer.

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Washington Praying

<http://jjusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/washingtonpraying.jpg>

SLIDE #

Washington Praying

[http://www.ffvf-occ.org/mediac/400\\_0/media/DIR\\_123/DSCN0145.JPG](http://www.ffvf-occ.org/mediac/400_0/media/DIR_123/DSCN0145.JPG)

SLIDE #

Washington Praying

<http://cdn.loc.gov/service/pnp/pga/03900/03965v.jpg>

SLIDE #

- Isaac Potts the Man in the painting.

“I tied my horse to a sapling & went quietly into the woods & to my astonishment I saw the great George Washington on his knees alone, with his sword on one side and his cocked hat on the other. He was at Prayer to the God of the Armies, beseeching to interpose with his Divine aid, as it was ye Crisis, & the cause of the country, of humanity & of the world. Such a prayer I never heard from the lips of man. I left him alone praying. I went home & told my wife. I saw a sight and heard today what I never saw or heard before, and just related to her what I had seen & heard & observed. We never thought a man c'd be a soldier & a Christian, but if there is one in the world, it is Washington. She also was astonished. We thought it was the cause of God, & America could prevail.”

## THIS IS GOD CALLING AMERICA TO ASK

### 3a.) I will tell you - Turn away from your evil doings

#### Jeremiah 6:16-19

Thus says the LORD: "Stand in the ways and see, And ask for the old paths, where the good way is, And walk in it; Then you will find rest for your souls. But the people said, 'We will not walk in it.' 17 Also, I have set watchmen over you, saying, "Listen to the sound of the trumpet!' But the people said, 'We will not listen.' 18 Therefore hear, you nations, And know, O congregation, what is among them. 19 Hear, O earth! Behold, I will certainly bring calamity on this nation - The fruit of their thoughts, Because they have not heeded My words Nor My law, but rejected it.

God said to Israel, "**Stand in the ways and see, And ask...**" Will you stand with me today? Will you open your eyes and see? Will you join with me in asking?

## THIS IS GOD CALLING AMERICA TO ASK

### 3b.) I will tell you - Come to Me in humility of heart and soul

It's Happened Before, It can Happen Again, if.....

#### SLIDE #

Benjamin Franklin on the Ministry of George Whitefield In 1739 arriv'd among us from England the Rev. Mr. Whitefield, who had made himself remarkable there as an itinerant Preacher. He was at first permitted to preach in some of our Churches; but the Clergy taking a Dislike to him, soon refus'd him their Pulpits and he was oblig'd to preach in the Fields. The Multitudes of all Sects and Denominations that attended his Sermons were enormous and it was [a] matter of Speculation to me who was one of the Number, to observe the extraordinary Influence of his Oratory on his Hearers, and how much they admir'd and respected him, notwithstanding his common Abuse of them, by assuring them they were naturally half Beasts and half Devils. It was wonderful to see the Change soon made in the Manners [behavior] of our Inhabitants; from being thoughtless or indifferent about Religion, it seem'd as if all the World were growing Religious; so that one could not walk thro' the Town in an Evening without Hearing Psalms sung in different Families of every Street.

From: "The Autobiography and Other Writings" By Benjamin Franklin

## THIS IS GOD CALLING AMERICA TO ASK

### 3c.) I will tell you - Trust in Me one last time.

History has recorded that it is possible for a nation to turn back to God. Will we heed the warnings?

**Jefferson Concerned about America Drifting away from God.**

### SLIDE #

*"And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just: that His justice cannot sleep forever."*

- Thomas Jefferson, 1781

### SLIDE #

"Mr. President The small progress we have made after four or five weeks close attendance & continual reasonings with each other-our different sentiments on almost every question, several of the last producing as many noes as ays, is methinks a melancholy proof of the imperfection of the Human Understanding. We indeed seem to feel our own want of political wisdom, since we have been running about in search of it. We have gone back to ancient history for models of Government, and examined the different forms of those Republics which having been formed with the seeds of their own dissolution now no longer exist. And we have viewed Modern States all round Europe, but find none of their Constitutions suitable to our circumstances. In this situation of this Assembly, groping as it were in the dark to find political truth, and scarce able to distinguish it when presented to us, how has it happened, Sir, that we have not hitherto once thought of humbly applying to the Father of lights to illuminate our understandings? In the beginning of the Contest with G. Britain, when we were sensible of danger we had daily prayer in this room for the divine protection.- Our prayers, Sir, were heard, & they were graciously answered. All of us who were engaged in the struggle must have observed frequent instances of a superintending providence in our favor. I have lived, Sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth that God Governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid? ...To that kind providence we owe this happy opportunity of consulting in peace on the means of establishing our future national felicity. And have we now forgotten that powerful friend? or do we imagine that we no longer need his assistance? I have lived, Sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth- that God Governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid? We have been assured, Sir, in the sacred writings, that "except the Lord build the House they labour in vain that build it." I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without his concurring aid we shall succeed in this political building no better, than the Builders of Babel: We shall be divided by our little partial local interests; our projects will be confounded, and we ourselves shall become a reproach and by word down to future ages. And what is worse, mankind may hereafter from this unfortunate instance, despair of establishing Governments by Human wisdom and leave it to chance, war and conquest. I therefore beg leave to move-that henceforth prayers imploring the assistance of Heaven, and its blessings on our deliberations, be held in this Assembly every morning before we proceed to business,

Benjamin Franklin Thursday, July 26th. 1787