

Sermon Notes
God In - Isa 33:21-23
July 5, 2020

I. Introduction

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair... we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to Heaven, we were all going direct the other way. Charles Dickens - Tale of Two Cities

- a. sounds like today (1859)... living in time of confusion and misinformation... not sure if, and where, God fits in society... answer is found in our history...
1Chron 16:12... “remember the wonders He has performed... His miracles...”
Psa 42:5-6... “why am I discouraged and sad... I will put my hope in God...”
Isa 46:9... “remember the things I have done in the past... I alone am God...”
Lam 3:21-26... “I still dare to hope when I remember this... the faithful love of the Lord never ends... His mercies never cease... the Lord is my inheritance...”
- b. there is no hope for America outside of Jesus (none)... important to look back and see true foundation of how this great country began... pray...

II. God In

- a. Our Heritage
many people associate America with freedom... true, but concept of freedom came from bible... freedoms already established by God...
Lev 26:13... “I broke bars of your yoke... I enabled you to live in freedom...”
Luke 4:18... “He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the captives...”
Rom 8:21... “creation set free into glorious freedom of God’s children...”
2Cor 3:17... “where the Spirit of the Lord is... there is freedom...”
Gal 5:1... “Christ has liberated us into freedom...”
eleutheria... freedom from Jewish errors blinding us so we can’t see glory of Christ...
- b. only when veil is removed can we see glory of Jesus... only when we see Jesus can we experience true freedom... founders knew that... at least 50 of the 55 were Christians... established foundation of God in our heritage...
Mayflower Compact - for the glory of God and the advancement of our Christian faith...
NE Confederation - to advance the Kingdom of Christ; enjoy freedom of the Gospel...
Patrick Henry - this great nation, not founded on religion, but gospel of Jesus...
Alexis DeTocqueville - religion should be considered the first of political institutions...
Woodrow Wilson - America was born a Christian nation, derived from Holy Scripture...
Deut 4:6-9... “carefully follow My decrees... and you will display great wisdom among nations... they’ll exclaim... this great nation is indeed a wise people...”
Psa 33:12... “happy is the nation whose God is the Lord...”
Psa 127:1... “unless the Lord builds a house... its builders labor in vain...”
- c. Declaration, Constitution, Bill of Rights... declare freedoms to all men that are found nowhere else but the bible... don’t believe lies Founding Fathers not Christian... they knew God had to be heritage if this country would survive...
Isa 5:20... “woe to those who call evil good and good evil...”

d. Our Government

if you want to start an argument... tell people our nation was founded under the complete assumption of God in our government... territories could not become states unless religion, morality taught to achieve good government... leaders must profess faith in Trinity and believe the bible... no power other than God...
U of Houston - 10 yr study... 15,000 writings of Founders... 3154 direct quotes... 34% directly from bible... 60% from people who quoted bible such as Locke and Blackstone...
Washington - 1st official act, kiss bible... 2 hr worship in Congress... paid chaplains...
James Madison - staked whole future of America... according to commandments of God...
John Adams - our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people...
Eisenhower - without God, there could be no form of American government or way of life... recognition of Him is the first and most basic expression of being an American...

- e. founding fathers based our system of government on what they saw in bible... church tax exemptions... three branches... fair witness trial... checks/balances...
Ezra 7:24... “no authority to impose tax on servants of the house of God...”
Isa 33:22... “the Lord is our Judge... Lawgiver... King... He will save us...”
Matt 18:16... “everything established by testimony of 2-3 witnesses...”
Rom 3:23... “all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God...”
- f. flaws in society not from biblical Christianity, but failure to implement it... culture desperately needs truth of bible... society tries to remove it...
Supreme Court 1811 - what strikes at Christianity... leads to dissolve government...
Supreme Court 1892 - our laws must be based on the teachings of the Redeemer of mankind... impossible to be otherwise... our civilization is emphatically Christian...
Prov 29... “when the Godly are in authority, people rejoice... but when wicked are in power, they groan and sin flourishes... follow divine law, be happy...”
Matt 22:21... “give to Caesar what is his... give to God what is His...”
Rom 13:1-7... “submit to authorities... they’re God’s servant for your good...”
- g. Our Educational System
does God belong in school... many would say no... not always that way...
God in our educational system was considered an absolute must... 123 of first 126 colleges in America were formed on Christian principles... each of 13 state’s constitutions required Christian teachings for every child’s education...
Yale - God is the giver of wisdom... all should be in prayer morning and night...
Princeton - cursed be all learning that is contrary to the cross of Christ...
Harvard - main end of every student’s life and studies is to know God and Jesus for eternal life... Christ is the only foundation for all sound knowledge and learning...
NEA 1892 - if bible is excluded, be better if all schools were under church control...
Psa 32:8... “I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go...”
Prov 1:7... “respect of the Lord is beginning of knowledge... fools despise it...”
Dan 1:17... “God gave these young men... knowledge and understanding...”
- h. hard to find God in our society... where should He be... front and center... how do we make America great again... not Republicans/Democrats/Trump/Biden...
Rom 1:16-17 GSV... “not ashamed of joyful news of God’s kindness and Jesus blessings... THE power for performing miracles to all who believe...”
2Cor 5:17-21... “God restored favor to world thru Christ... not counting sins against them... exchanged us for equivalent value... gave that message to us...”
2Pet 1:1-3 GSV... “may joy, favor, benefit, national tranquility, exemption from rage be multiplied to you thru the precise and correct knowledge of Jesus...”
- i. our heritage is clear... God is in all of it... He is the foundation for America’s greatness... our part is to tell people the good news about Him... pray...

Psalm 33

Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous ones;
praise from the upright is beautiful.

Praise the Lord with the lyre;
make music to Him with a ten-stringed harp.

Sing a new song to Him;
play skillfully on the strings, with a joyful shout.

For the Word of the Lord is right,
and all His work is trustworthy.

He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the Lord's unfailing love.

Let the whole earth tremble before the Lord;
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.

The Lord frustrates the counsel of the nations;
He thwarts the plans of the peoples.

The counsel of the Lord stands forever,
the plans of His heart from generation to generation.

**Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord;
the people He has chosen to be His own possession.**

A king is not saved by a large army;
a warrior will not be rescued by great strength.

But look, the Lord keeps His eye on those who fear Him;
those who depend on His faithful love
to rescue them from death and keep them alive in famine.

We wait for the Lord;
He is our help and shield.

For our hearts rejoice in Him
because we trust in His holy name.

May Your faithful love rest on us, Lord,
for we put our hope in You.

Psalm 37

Do not be agitated by evildoers; do not envy those who do wrong.
For they wither quickly like grass and wilt like tender green plants.
Trust in the Lord do what is good; dwell in the land and live securely.
Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you your heart's desire.

Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him, and He will act, making
your righteousness shine like the dawn, your justice like noon.
Be silent before the Lord and **wait expectantly for Him**; do not be agitated
by the person who carries out evil plans. Refrain from anger and give
up your rage; it can only bring harm. Evildoers will be destroyed,
but those who put their hope in the Lord will inherit the land.

A little while, and the wicked person will be no more; though you look for him,
he will not be there. But the **humble will inherit the land and enjoy prosperity**.
The wicked person schemes against the righteous and gnashes his teeth.
The Lord laughs at him because He sees that his day is coming.

The wicked have drawn the sword and strung the bow to bring down the poor
and needy and to slaughter those who way is upright. Their swords will enter
their own hearts and their bows will be broken. The little that the righteous
person has is better than the abundance of many wicked people. For the arms
of wicked will be broken, but **the Lord supports the righteous**.

The Lord watches over the blameless all their days, and their inheritance will
last forever. They will not be disgraced in times of adversity; they will be
satisfied in days of hunger. But the wicked will perish; the Lord's enemies, will
fade away. The wicked borrow and do not repay, but **the righteous are giving**.

Those who are blessed by the Lord will inherit the land, but those cursed by
Him will be destroyed. A person's steps are established by the Lord. Though
he falls, he will not be overwhelmed, because the Lord supports him.

I have been young and now I am old, yet I have **not seen the righteous
abandoned** or his children begging for bread. He is always generous,
always lending, and his children are a blessing. They are **kept safe forever**,
but the children of the wicked will be destroyed.

The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, his tongue speaks what is just.
The instruction of his God is in his heart; his steps do not falter. Wait for the
Lord and keep His way, and He will exalt you to inherit the land. You will
watch when the wicked are destroyed. Watch the blameless and observe the
upright, for **the person of peace will have a future**. But transgressors will
all be eliminated; the future of the wicked will be destroyed.

The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord, their refuge in a time of
distress. He helps and delivers them; He will deliver them from the
wicked and will save them because they take refuge in Him.