

INDEPENDENCE DAY SERMON

WEDNESDAY JULY 3RD 2024

CALLING UPON THE LORD AS A NATION IN HOPE THAT HIS GRACE AND MERCY MIGHT VISIT US ONCE AGAIN IN OUR TIMES OF GREAT UNCERTAINTY AND DISARRAY.
LORD HELP US LEST WE PERISH.

DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20

Media Reference Number JHX598

WEDNESDAY JULY 3, 2024

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“IF WE CAN KEEP IT”

A RECOLLECTION AND LAMENTATION ON BOTH AMERICA’S GREAT FOUNDING AND HER TRAGIC DECLINE AS A FREE NATION.

Sermon Topic Referenced Under:

**A NATION IN PERIL. AMERICAN HISTORY AND GOD.
GOD’S FAITHFULNESS. NATIONAL REPENTANCE BEFORE NATIONAL REVIVAL**

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

“Behold, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, **16** in that I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and the LORD your God will bless you in the land... **:17** But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear, and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them, **18** I announce to you today that you shall surely perish; you shall not prolong *your* days in the land... **:19** I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, *that* I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; **20** that you may love the LORD your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He *is* your life and the length of your days; and that you may dwell in the land.

And Benjamin Franklin Recognized that fact...

On Saturday July 28, 1787
At the age of 81 Benjamin Franklin stood to address Congress.

“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 Great Britain, when we were sensible of danger, we had daily prayer in this room for the Divine protection.- Our prayers, Sir, were heard, and 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?”

Benjamin Franklin

Matthew 10:29 NLT

What is the price of two sparrows is it not one copper coin? But a single sparrow can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it.

Our Fathers Knew the God of History. And the God of History is the
God of the Future.

The Declaration of Independence

IN CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.

The Unanimous Declaration of The Thirteen United States of America,

“When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands 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...”

Psalm 33:12-14

Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, The people He has chosen as His own inheritance. **13** The LORD looks from heaven; He sees all the sons of men. **14** From the place of His dwelling He looks on all the inhabitants of the earth;

“IF YOU CAN KEEP IT – WILL YOU KEEP IT?”

1.) For The Sake of Our Heritage Will You Keep It?

Psalm 120:7

I am for peace; But when I speak, they are for war.

“No one has ever lived in the past. No one walked around in history saying, ‘Isn’t this amazing as we walk around in history?’ History is made in the present and often by those who had no idea that they were eyewitness to what would become historic.”

David McCullough, Author

“When In The Course of Human Events”

There never was a good war or bad peace.

Benjamin Franklin, 1773

President Reagan

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F7elghXIY6E>

The Gettysburg Address

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate—we can not consecrate—we can not hallow—this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here,

have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

The founding of our Republic was anchored upon the understanding that its only basis for success would be that the people would be governed by men who were governed by God.

“Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.” wrote John Adams

We do not live in a simple democracy as other nations have known. We live in the one and only hybrid of democracy - that is, a Constitutional Republic. To not understand this is what explains our current struggle as a nation. We are now attempting to live in a democracy apart from its true created purpose – a self-governed people mindful of the fact that we are One Nation Under God and that is our chief end as a Republic.

A government of the people, by the people and for the people is what The United States of America is.

Jack Hibbs

“IF YOU CAN KEEP IT – WILL YOU KEEP IT?”

2.) For The Sake of Our Liberty

Will You Keep It?

A nation of well-informed men who have been taught to know and prize the rights which God has given them cannot be enslaved. It is in the region of ignorance that tyranny begins.

- Benjamin Franklin

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

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—**

Upon the Signing of the Declaration of Independence...

Samuel Adams

"We have this day restored THE SOVEREIGN to Whom alone men ought to be obedient. He reigns in heaven and... from the rising to the setting sun, may His kingdom come."

Frederick Douglass,

New York on March 2, 1863, titled "Men of Color, To Arms!"

In which he urged African American men to join what was increasingly a war to make real what Lincoln's Proclamation had promised—complete freedom. "When first the rebel cannon shattered the walls of Fort Sumter and drove away its starving garrison, I predicted that the war then and there inaugurated would not be fought out entirely by white men... "Better to die as freemen than to live as slaves."

"IF YOU CAN KEEP IT – WILL YOU KEEP IT?"

3.) For The Sake of Our Posterity Will You Keep It?

What Are We Leaving to Our Children & Grand Children?

Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.

John Adams

2nd President of The United States

"John Adams, Works: with a life of the author"
by Charles Francis Adams (1854).

But a Consitution of Government once changed from Freedom, can never be restored. Liberty once lost, is lost forever.

John Adams

2nd President of The United States

"The Letters of John and Abigail Adams"
2012 by Simon and Schuster

If we are to guard against ignorance and remain free, it is the responsibility of every American to be informed."

Thomas Jefferson

**“Those who fail to learn from history are
doomed to repeat it.”**

Winston Churchill

“IF YOU CAN KEEP IT – WILL YOU KEEP IT?”

4.) For The Sake of Our Independence Will You Keep It?

Acts 10:34-35

Then Peter opened his mouth and said: “In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. 35 But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him.

Samuel Rutherford Preached,

“That all men are created equal and not valued because of any blood line or status or influence or of any aristocracy.

(this had never happened before in history)

**THE FOUNDERS GAVE US
A GOVERNMENT OF LAWS AND NOT OF MEN**

Isaiah 33:22

**For the LORD is our Judge. (the judiciary)
The LORD is our Lawgiver, (the legislature)
The LORD is our King; (the executive branch)**

**A REPUBLIC, OUR REPUBLIC IS A GOVERNMENT
BASED UPON THE RULE OF LAW – CONSTITUTIONAL LAW.**

**A PURE DEMOCRACY IS EITHER THE RULE OF A MAN
OR THE RULE OF THE MOB.**

The general principles on which the fathers (Pilgrims) 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.

President, John Adams

Signer of The Declaration Of Independence; Attorney; Diplomat, Signers of The Bill Of Rights;
Second President of The United States

“IF YOU CAN KEEP IT – WILL YOU KEEP IT?”

5.) For The Sake of Our Freedom Will You Keep It?

**Truth will ultimately prevail
where there are pains to bring it to light.**

George Washington

Let us awaken then, and evince a different spirit, — a spirit that shall inspire the people with confidence in themselves and in us, — a spirit that will encourage them to persevere in this glorious struggle, until their rights and liberties shall be established on a rock. We have proclaimed to the world our determination “to die freemen, rather than live as slaves.” We have appealed to Heaven for the justice of our cause, and in Heaven we have placed our trust. Numerous have been the manifestations of God’s providence in sustaining us. In the gloomy period of adversity, we have had “our cloud by day and pillar of fire by night.” We have been reduced to distress, and the arm of Omnipotence has raised us up. Let us still rely in humble confidence on Him who is mighty to save. Good tidings will soon arrive. We shall never be abandoned by Heaven while we act worthy of its aid and protection.

Samuel Adams

An Impromptu Address to The Continental Congress.

Friday September 26, 1777

End of Study

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