THE STATE OF THE UNION -2021 or "A NATION IN CRISIS"

TEXTS: *Prov.14:34 Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.*

Isa 1:4 Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward.

Isa 58:1 Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression...

THESIS: To show the state & shame of our nation in 2021, because of a failure to observe the principle stated in the text.

INTRO.: A. The news media shouts "THE WHITE HOUSE IN CRISIS" or "THE PRESIDENCY IN CRISIS," but the truth is we are "A NATION IN CRISIS!"

B. This message will not be a harangue about the sins of our President (or former Pres. Clinton) – the problem runs much deeper than that.

NOTE: Did Clinton sin? Yes! Did he lie to cover up his sins? Yes! Did he have others lie for him? Yes! But the problem in America is NOT Wm. Jefferson Clinton, Monica Lewinsky, Linda Tripp, Kathleen Willey, the Democrats cover up, the Republicans hypocrisy or cowardice, or even the White House legal staff & the President's defense team. The problem runs much deeper...to the very roots of our society and even to God's born again people and preachers who remain silent.

C. Is our present President less guilty? No! He has the blood of 13 Marines on his hands along with the blood of the women in Afghanistan who will be tortured and murdered, and the girls who will be sold into sexual bondage and slavery and the Afghans who were our allies who are left behind.

ILLUS.: The tragedy is that these incidents have exposed a fatal flaw in our nation. It has become a mirror to reflect the lack of our nation's character. For anyone in this once principled, once-great nation to defend the indefensible, to look the other way, to pretend that it is personal & has nothing to do with leadership or character or morality, exposes the degradation of character & has resulted in **"A NATION IN CRISIS."**

TRANS.: Long before the Pres. of the U.S. took office and gave his "State of the Union" address, it was an annual responsibility for Bible-believing preachers to do so as well. I want to continue that honored tradition today. The question I want to address is **"How did we get here?"** The text gives us the answer. But the text shows the **fruit** – today I want us to look at the **root**...

I. THE ROOT OF GOVERNMENT:

- A. God Exalted America Because Of Her Righteous Roots:
 - 1. Our freedom documents were rooted in Scripture.

ILLUS.: 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 w/certain inalienable rights..." Later Thomas Jefferson wrote, with an appeal to "the Supreme Judge of the world"..." a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes & our sacred honor."

We became a nation "under God" (not gods!); a nation "*w/liberty & justice for ALL*" (not just for those w/money & power)! We were a nation on whose coins was the inscription "*In God we trust*" (not in money!). We were a nation where the bald eagle, not a bare woman was the national symbol. The majestic eagle not a cowardly chicken symbolized our integrity & our lofty ideals

The first amendment to our constitution reads: "*Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion OR PROHIBITING THE FREE EXERCISE THEREOF..."* - thanks to the doggedness of a patriotic Baptist preacher named John Leland. "This amendment guaranteeing religious liberty...satisfied Leland and his Baptist followers." (so says a highway sign in Orange County, Va., honoring this hero)

2. Our founding fathers were reverential toward the God of the Bible:

ILLUS.: Everyone used the same English Bible I am preaching from today – an AV 1611 King James Bible (not "version")! As Dr. Wm. Grady says, if an unsaved person visited the Baptist church in town, he was sure to hear "If you don't get 'borned ag'in' you'll split hell wide open!" If he ran to the Presbyterian church down the street, he might hear the shocking message "If you're not one of the elect, you'll split hell wide open, & there's nothing you can do about it either." If he fled to the Methodist church the preacher would be screaming "Even if you are born again, you can lost it & split hell wide open anyway!!" Preaching like this from the Bible kept the nation on the edge of her pew!

While Pres. Clinton the day after he took office & became Commander in Chief of the armed forces, endorsed a "*don't ask, don't tell*" policy for Sodomites, George Washington's first official order, issued on July 4, 1775, read: "*The General earnestly… requires & expects of all officers & soldiers, not engaged in actual duty, a punctual attendance on Divine service, to implore the blessing of Heaven upon the means used for our safety & defense."* Now our President wants to call our nation "racist" and to erase our national borders and marginalize Christianity in general and Bible believers specifically.

- 2. Our framers of the Constitution were respectful toward the God of heaven.
 - 1. They believed we had a great nation because we had a Great God.
 - 2. The framers believed that wrong must be punished even if that wrong was committed by the nation's leaders.
- B. God Will Judge America Because Of Her Rotten Roots:
 - 1. The word "reproach" (Prov. 14:34 above) means shame! (America has lost her blush!)

Jer.6:15 Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were **not at all ashamed**, neither could they blush: therefore they shall fall among them that fall: at the time that I visit them they shall be cast down, saith the LORD.

NOTE: "For a nation's sin the punishment is on earth, because the nation goes on while individual's die, and so there is time for the deadly fruit of sin to ripen. So was it w/Israel, Babylon, Rome, etc." (& so it will be w/America!).

2. The verse says (Prov. 14:34 above) "any people"!

II. THE ROOT OF RELIGION:

- A. God Blessed America Because Of Her Religious Roots:
 - 1. America's early history is a history of God's blessings because the nation was righteous in its churches & message.
 - 2. America was built on the conviction of men & women who were weary of religious intolerance & persecution & who built not just a society, but a nation w/churches & the Bible as its backbone.
- B. God Will Punish America Because Of Her Ruined Roots:
 - 1. America now has homosexual churches, women preachers, liberal agendas, damnable heresies & entertainment instead of Bible preaching.

ILLUS.: Real men of God, just like John the Baptist, didn't fear pointing the finger at Governmental leaders to expose their sin. Today the President gathers "spiritual advisers" like "Rev." Jesse Jackson, Creflo Dollar, TD. Jakes & Joel Osteen (or the Pope) to soothe his conscience & to tell him what he wants to hear!

- 2. When sin replaces righteousness in any nation judgment is close by.
- 3. The root of our problem is NOT just Govt., but also a religion that has no absolute standard for righteousness but is morally bankrupt with perverted values.

ILLUS.: We have exchanged the absolute authority of "thus saith the Lord" to a "floating standard" which produces a Bible-a-month. God doesn't stutter & He hasn't changed His mind & He doesn't need an eraser on His pencil! What He has written, He has written & political correctness has no place in the pulpit! Today men want to rewrite the10 Commandments. Lying isn't lying...it depends on what "is" is! Adultery must be redefined. Perjury isn't perjury it is simply your misunderstanding of what I said. The oath I took to tell the truth only meant the truth as I understand it. My lawyers can defend what I said & re-define it to create "reasonable doubt." Blackstone's standard law books, based on absolutes, & "specific revelation" (God's Word), gave way to a floating standard based on legal precedence. (Blackstone wrote "Men do not make laws, they do but discover them.") There was no longer a standard. Judge's opinions & juries decisions replaced an absolute standard! But the True Judge of all the earth will pass the final sentence based on His holy Word!

III. THE ROOT OF EDUCATION:

- A. God Honored America Because Of Her Educational Roots:
 - 1. The old one-room schoolhouse where the Bible was the textbook, the teacher was judge, jury & executioner, was replaced w/Dr. Spock's psychology book on rearing children w/permissiveness & the teacher has no authority so anarchy prevails.

Ps.11:3 If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?

2. Education was rooted in the book of Genesis, which taught basics concerning a traditional family, property ownership, capital punishment, clothing standards, the Lordship of God & basic morality has been replaced w/evolution which says God is not a Creator, everything is an accident.

ILLUS.: Evolution removes all restraints. Animals cannot sin. There is no accountability. The law of the jungle & survival of the fittest prevails. Human life is cheap. That's why you can get into more trouble killing a cat than a human being. That's why abortion is legal & euthanasia will be soon. Children in the public schools watch a video called: "It's Elementary" to show that children are to accept homosexuals & that they should explore their sexuality, because they too may be Sodomites! America has accepted homosexuality and is in the process of accepting transgenderism. In N.J. one school has an essay contest against homophobia. (That's a disease & I have it & it is incurable! I caught it from God's Word.) I 'googled' genders and it said there are 56! *God only created two!* If you want to know what gender you are, step out of the shower and stand in front of a mirror!

B. God Will Destroy America Because of Her Repudiated Roots:

- 1. The wages of sin is still death!
- 2. If we sow to the flesh, we shall of the flesh reap corruption.
- 3. If we fail to judge ourselves, we shall be judged.
- 4. America is not exempt from the sins which destroyed other nations.

ILLUS.: Our children no longer have to go to porn shops to get filth, they just turn on their TV or surf the internet! There are more than 100,000 porn sites on the web, with an estimated 500 per day being added! Everything from homosexuality to bestiality & incest is advertised & displayed. When Rome & Sodom became so sex-saturated, God wiped them from the face of the earth! When Israel butchered and burned babies and built altars to Baal where there were prostitutes, homosexuals, etc. God judged the nation! **We're next!**

CONCL.: This is the **"STATE OF THE UNION –2021"** from the perspective of God's Word! We are **"A NATION IN CRISIS!"** Our presidents may be acquitted in the court of public opinion & the Senate court, but they must still face **the Supreme Court of the Universe** & it's absolutely holy & righteous Judge. And America is a co-conspirator in his "high crimes & misdemeanors!" She too will soon stand before God's bar of justice!

It is past time for Bible believers, especially preachers, to stand up and be heard. They need to express the inspired convictions recorded in God's immutable, infallible, inerrant and indestructible and preserved Word and words of the Living God. You can buy a copy in a Dollar Store. It is the AV1611 King James Bible. Beware of substitutes!!