

## IS GOD KING OVER AMERICA ?

Scholars, pundits and everyday Americans debate whether America is a "Christian nation." Independence Day weekend you hear speeches or sermons which include sentiments like today's and next week's column - as we consider God as King of Kings, sovereign Lord over all things. Deuteronomy 10:17, "*the LORD your God is the God of gods and the Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, the awesome God.*"

**1- America was certainly founded on Christian principles.** Only the politically motivated try to deny the overriding influence of the Bible and Christian faith on our Founding Fathers. But students today are not taught about the amazing confluence of factors in the founding of America. They don't learn about the miraculous providence of God for the Pilgrims and Puritans coming here for religious freedom. They don't know about the Great Awakening which renewed personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and prepared the generation of our Founding Fathers for their courageous actions. They don't study the pervasive influence of the Bible in the people and events leading to the Declaration of Independence.

They don't know that the inspiration for our three branches of government is Isaiah 33:22, "*The LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king, He will save us.*" Our Founders consciously looked to Scripture to understand the liberty found only in Christ, the Redeemer and Creator who is the source of our inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

**2- America is under attack from anti-Christian forces.** The Founders knew God, not government, is the foundation of freedom. Isaiah 33:5, "*The LORD is exalted, for He dwells on high; He will fill Zion with justice and righteousness, and He will be the stability of your times, abundance of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge. The fear of the LORD is Zion's treasure.*" Those who fear God will conform their lives to His holy character, including its expression in limited civil government. But these truths are under attack today perhaps as never before. Leftward anti-God pressures threaten to overwhelm us with values antithetical to our founding principles. Leading politicians seem intent on removing the God of our own history from public life, as they promote secularism, statism, fascism, individualism, Islamism, Sharia - at the expense of our own Constitution. Even when warned by people who left such values when they came to Christ, as did Nonie Darwish, author of "Wholly Different: Why I Chose Biblical Values Over Islamic Values."

She writes, "*There is one truth that Muslims are working day and night to hide, that the West urgently needs to hear. The central goal of Islam is to make the whole world submit, to totally wipe out Biblical values and replace them with the twisted values of the Quran. They are willing to use any means to achieve that goal, including dishonesty, violence, lying, and terror.*" Don't be deceived - immigration without assimilation is invasion. Adherents of Sharia cannot uphold our Constitution. Polish patriots provide a powerful example ([https://youtu.be/C\\_BjPy19bYs](https://youtu.be/C_BjPy19bYs)) in their November 2015 march.

**3- Americans are called to uphold our founding values.** If not, you will lose them for yourself and your children's children. Psalm 2 spells it out, "*why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth set themselves and the rulers take counsel against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us.*" But God says "*I have set My king in Zion, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. Therefore be warned, O rulers of the earth, kiss the Son. Blessed are all who take refuge in Him.*"

Rebellion against God and His rule began in heavenly realms and extends to Adam's seed on earth. In our own lifetimes we have seen our culture throw off the yoke of God that is enshrined in our history, to replace it with empty worldly philosophy. That's why in the fulness of time God sent His Son Jesus Christ to set us free from captivity to sin. And if you will not today confess Jesus Christ as your king, Phil 2:10 reminds that *God has highly exalted Him and bestowed upon Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is LORD.*

Is God still King in America? Thankfully, in many ways, the jury is still out. YOU must cast your vote. Not just words, but deeds. 2 Chronicles 7:14, "*If My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*" Is the Lord Jesus Christ KING of your life? What does it look like? Personally, practically, politically? How is Jesus your Lord? And how does anyone know?