

Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

HE THAT WALKETH IN HIS UPRIGHTNESS FEARETH THE LORD:

BUT HE THAT IS PERVERSE IN HIS WAY DESPISETH HIM

PASTOR HOWARD DANIEL, JR.

SUNDAY MORNING, JULY 4, 2021

SCRIPTURE READING: **PROVERBS 14:1-5**

Proverbs 14:2, He that walketh in his uprightness feareth the LORD: but he that is perverse in his ways despiseth him.

1. BACKGROUND

Please refer to the July 4, 2021 Evening Message for the Background.

2. INTRODUCTION

- a. The Fourth of July—also known as Independence Day or July 4th—has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution.
- b. On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson.
- c. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades, Church and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.
- d. With that in mind let us turn our thoughts to the nation. I do believe our military forces have done a marvelous job in protecting this great country, **but America is falling apart from the inside.** **Hosea 4:1, Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land.**
- e. We want to reflect on some things from God's Word today, to include comments on **"Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach of any people."**
- f. Since we have labeled this as a 4th of July message, I passionately believe we need to calm ourselves in America. Today there is much division, hate, strive, jealous, wrath and unlovely activities in our great country whom we love dearly.
- g. I can think of no better calming agent than the Preserved Word of God reflected in **1 Thessalonians Chapter 5:11**. I believe this calming effect needs to start with the believer as we wait for the Second Coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **1 Thessalonians 5:11, Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.**
- h. With that Introduction, let us see what we can glean from God's precious Word today.

3. FIVE POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

- a. **Every wise woman buildeth her house.**
 1. **Proverbs 14:1, Every wise woman buildeth her house: but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands.**
 2. As we think about America today; I believe a strong nation starts in the home. Without strong families we will never achieve greatness with respect to our Nation.
 3. The aforementioned verse does not limit itself to brick and mortar and the physical building of a home.
 4. God ordained three institutions in the beginning: **the home, the church and human**

government.

5. In order to have a strong nation, I believe the foundation must begin in our homes. There is an old saying, "Character begins at home and spreads abroad."
6. No nation can be any stronger than the product that nation produces.
7. America is in serious trouble concerning the product that is being produced in the home. We no longer have the educational structure that allowed us to be referred to as "The Greatest Nation On The Earth." Our disciplines with respect to Science, Math and Technology is lacking in every respect. Just recently a report was released concerning the deplorable conditions of our educational system. I believe with all of my heart that removing God from our educational system started this horrible downfall.
8. Let's try to refocus for just a moment on the kind of home that God intends for children to grow up in and the type of people the home should be producing.
9. Notice the Bible says "**Every wise woman buildeth her house:**"
10. There is an old saying: "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world." This is truth; however, these words are not found in the Bible.
11. I firmly believe that America has lost sight of God's method because we have focused on material things rather than raising our children with character and Godliness.
12. As we think about that, let's look at a couple of examples from Scripture.
 - a. Sarah was a perfect example of a woman that would build her home.
 1. She was married to Abraham, who is the father of the Israelites.
 2. The entire nation has come forth from Abraham and Sarah.
 - b. Moses' mother, Jochebed, is another example of one who did a fantastic job in the home.
 1. Her history is she was a slave in a foreign land.
 2. When it came to a point that her child was threatened, she hid him, watched over him and finally became his nurse in service to Pharaoh's daughter.
 3. I believe whatever Moses knew about the Lord early on he learned from his wonderful mother.
13. Let's analyze for a moment; "**but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands.**"
14. This is what is destroying America today; our young people are not being taught in the home.
15. There are several women in Scripture that are an example of this.
 - a. Forty-two-year-old Ahaziah, when he began to reign, reigned one year in Jerusalem.
 1. His mother's name was Athaliah, the daughter of Omri.
 2. He walked in the ways of Ahab, for his mother was his counsellor to do wickedly.
 3. This is all stated in **2 Chronicles 22:2-3, Forty and two years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign, and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Athaliah the daughter of Omri. 3: He also walked in the ways of the house of Ahab: for his mother was his counsellor to do wickedly.**
 4. The counsel of his mother brought the house of Ahab very low.
16. We must be very careful to not vent our frustrations with our spouse through the children.
17. God's Plan in the book of **Proverbs** will work in every single category. Only God's way will prove successful in the end. **Proverbs 22:6, Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Joshua 1:8, This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.**

b. He that walketh in his uprightness feareth the LORD: but he that is perverse in his ways despiseth him.

1. **Proverbs 14:2, He that walketh in his uprightness feareth the LORD: but he that is perverse in his ways despiseth him.**
2. God is speaking to individuals. We know that God is longsuffering and not willing that any should perish. **2 Peter 3:9, The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. 1 Timothy 2:4, Who will have all men to be saved, and to**

come unto the knowledge of the truth.

3. We reject the truth in America and have coined a term called "alternative facts" which is devastating with respect to truth. The Bible says in **John 14:6, Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. 2 Thessalonians 2:10-11, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11: And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:**
4. We will know the truth and the truth will make us free. **John 8:32, And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.**
5. Also in **1 John 2:6, He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.**
6. Our walk should be in obedience to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Psalms 119:133, Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me. Psalms 37:23, The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way**
8. America is debating whether or not to remove "In God We Trust" from our coin and remove God from the pledge of allegiance. I am happy to report that our congressional leaders have reaffirmed "In God We Trust" as the national motto of the U.S., in an effort to encourage its display in public buildings and send a message to those who seek to remove God from the public domain. The resolution required a two-thirds vote to pass, and did so easily, 396 to 9." A step in the right direction. However, we need to go further in obedience to God.
7. Samuel laid this matter before King Saul. **1 Samuel 15:22, And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.**
8. Obedience to the Lord is very important.
9. America does not want to be obedient to the Lord; we want to do it our way. We often speak of a lack of leadership, however, I believe in many cases it is a lack of "followship." **Proverbs 16:25, There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death. Proverbs 21:2, Every way of a man is right in his own eyes: but the LORD pondereth the hearts.** Activities in America remind me of: **Judges 17:6, In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes.**
10. Look at the next point to find out what happens when we do it our way.

c. In the mouth of the foolish is a rod of pride.

1. **Proverbs 14:3, In the mouth of the foolish is a rod of pride: but the lips of the wise shall preserve them.**
2. King David and Goliath came into a situation where there was a clash.
3. **We can read about that in 1 Samuel 17:41-49, And the Philistine came on and drew near unto David; and the man that bare the shield went before him. 42: And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he disdained him: for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance. 43: And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. 44: And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field. 45: Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. 46: This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. 47: And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hands. 48: And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine. 49: And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth.**
4. Goliath was a boastful and prideful Philistine and He said "Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field."
5. David said this not in a prideful heart but depending on the Lord. **1 Samuel 17:45-47, Then said**

David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. 46: This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. 47: And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hands.

6. America needs to learn to depend on God.
7. Our mighty weapons will not provide a safe haven for us. ***“but the lips of the wise shall preserve them.”*** One of our major concerns is the “lone wolf next door.”
8. Notice David's answer to this giant. ***Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.***
9. It is amazing the success that comes when we depend on God and do it His way. Joshua 1:8, ***This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.***
10. Would to God that America would turn back to the Preserved Word of God!

d. Where no oxen are, the crib is clean.

1. Proverbs 14:4, **Where no oxen are, the crib is clean:** but much increase is by the strength of the ox.
2. God is telling us that a work ethic is extremely important.
3. In Scripture, the ox is used as an example of the work ethic.
4. Of course, we know the ox was a beast of sacrifice; a work-horse symbolic of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.
5. The ox was a very strong animal likewise, when we know Christ as Saviour God gives us the abundant life and extreme strength. ***Nehemiah 8:10, Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength. John 10:10, The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.***
6. We are a nation that is concerned more about pleasure than we are about the ways of God.
7. We have shortened the work week and have been taken over by sports and other activities.
8. People have more leisure time than ever before.
9. The old generation: The World War Two generation, **was a working generation.**
10. They had it difficult and hard, but they made the sacrifices, they fed their families, were obedient to God in many respects, and they are the reason why we are able to enjoy many of the things we have today.
11. They worked in the fields from sunup to sundown, but **they made time for God.** On Sunday they made their way to the House of Worship and nothing stopped them from doing so. ***Matthew 6:33, But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.***
12. Indeed, America needs to turn back to God!

e. A faithful witness will not lie.

1. Proverbs 14:5, **A faithful witness will not lie:** but a false witness will utter lies.
2. God has said in His Word that there are six things He hates and seven are an abomination. ***Proverbs 6:16-19, These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: 17: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, 18: An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, 19: A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.***
3. We must be very careful not to ignore this passage of Scripture from God's precious Word. It applies to individuals and certainly applies to America.
4. If we do not respect that fact, we will find ourselves leaving this world unprepared for eternity. ***Ecclesiastes 12:13, Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. John 6:29, Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.***

5. What a tragic thing to enter into eternity not clothed in the righteousness of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Romans 3:22, Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:**
6. Our Bible says in **John 14:6, Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**
7. It is amazing that a false witness will utter lies. **John 8:44, Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.**
8. One of the things I have said many times from the pulpit is, **I will not lie to people about their eternal destination.** Paul and Silas had it right in their response to the Philippian Jailer. **Acts 16:30-31, And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? 31: And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.**
9. **In this church we will share the fact that there is a hell to shun and a heaven to gain.**

4. CONCLUSION

- a. Are you saved my friend?
- b. Do you know Jesus Christ as your own personal Saviour?
- c. The Bible says in **Revelation 22:17, And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.**
- d. Then God says in **Matthew 11:28-29, Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29: Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.**
- e. We are to believe the record spoken of in **1 John 5:11-12**, because it is the foundation on which any nation is to be built. **And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12: He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.** **Romans 3:23, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Romans 6:23, For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 10:9-10, That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10: For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**
- f. We thank God for America today and what the veterans have done for our freedom.
- g. There has been only one plan of salvation from the beginning; Abraham believed God and it was accounted unto him for righteousness. **Romans 4:3, For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. Romans 4:22, And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.**
- h. Would you come to the side of the Living Saviour Today and let Him give you that peace in the heart? Let's reflect on a few verses that will provide you with assurance of your salvation: **2 Peter 1:4, Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. John 10:27-29, My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: 28: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. 29: My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. 2 Timothy 1:12, For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. Romans 8:38-39, For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39: Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. 1John 5:13, These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.**
- i. Would you please stand?

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