

# Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

## **RIGHTEOUSNESS EXALTETH A NATION**

PASTOR HOWARD DANIEL, JR.

SUNDAY EVENING, JULY 3, 2022

SCRIPTURE READING: **PROVERBS 14:4-35**

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

### 1. BACKGROUND

- a. Please refer to the July 3, 2022 Morning Message for the Background.

### 2. INTRODUCTION

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### 3. NINE POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

#### 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 sun up to sun down, 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.**

**f. Fools make a mock at sin.**

1. **Proverbs 14:9, Fools make a mock at sin: but among the righteous there is favour.**
2. In the Scriptures, Jezebel is a good example of mocking sin.
3. She and Ahab wanted a piece of real estate although the owner was poor; he refused to sell to them.
4. They committed murder and took it; furthermore, there were severe consequences. What they sowed, they reaped. **Galatians 6:7, Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.**
5. There are extreme consequences for fools who mock at sin but notice, **"among the righteous there is favour."**
6. God said He will never leave us nor forsake us. **Hebrews 13:5, Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.**
7. We will also find the Lord says in **Psalms 37:23, The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.**
8. The Lord challenges us to order our steps in His Word. **Psalms 119:133, Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.**

**g. The heart knoweth his own bitterness.**

1. **Proverbs 14:10, The heart knoweth his own bitterness; and a stranger doth not intermeddle with his joy.**
2. There are no secrets concerning the heart.
3. God has already told us in **Jeremiah 17:9, The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?**
4. As we search our own heart, we will find there is no good in us. **Genesis 6:5, And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. Matthew 15:19-20, For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: 20: These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man.**
5. We are living in a time where we preach from the pulpit as if everyone is saved; we do not want to talk about sin, hell or the total depravity of man. At Chesswood Baptist Church, we have been commanded to teach and preach the **WHOLE** council of God and we will do this as long as God gives us strength. **Acts 20:26, Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am**

**pure from the blood of all men. Acts 20:27, For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.**

6. As a matter of fact, we want to show man in a good light; however, God says in **Isaiah 64:6, But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.**

**h. There is a way that seemeth right unto a man.**

1. **Proverbs 14:12, There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.**
2. We have succumbed to "isms", cults and we do not teach the Bible anymore. The beliefs espoused by many Christians are based on tradition that has been handed down from generation to generation. **Colossians 2:8, Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.**
3. We have come to emotion, entertainment, and celebration which are all we want to focus on because the Preserved Word of God is boring to us so we seek translations that appeal to the flesh.
4. Few people seem to know their Bible anymore and study is a foreign word.
5. We were involved in a situation in Iraq and if we had just taken a look at God's Word we would have found out that He has said they would be wild men and their hand would be against every man's hand and every man's hand against them. **Genesis 16:12, And he will be a wild man; his hand will be against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren.**
6. America does not need to be involved in a situation like that.
7. Although we honour the veterans; precious lives have been lost on the battlefield, needless blood has been shed and it will come to no good end.
8. The soldier is merely called on to do a job and indeed they have done that in a most outstanding manner in service to our great country.
8. The Word of God is very clear; we must focus on the fact there is a broad way and a narrow way. **Matthew 7:13-14, Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: 14: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.**
9. Jesus reminds us one more time in **John 14:6** that He is the only way. **Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

**i. A wise man feareth, and departeth from evil .**

1. **Proverbs 14:15-18, The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going. 16: A wise man feareth, and departeth from evil: but the fool rageth, and is confident. 17: He that is soon angry dealeth foolishly: and a man of wicked devices is hated. 18: The simple inherit folly: but the prudent are crowned with knowledge.**
2. God has said we are to believe the simple record that He has given of His Son. **1 John 5:11-12, 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.**
3. The prudent and wise man will fear God. **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.**
4. The fool has said there is no God. **Psalms 14:1, The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.**
5. **"He that is soon angry dealeth foolishly:"** - We are living in a time where people become angry quickly. They seem to carry their feelings on their shoulders. The boiling point for even believers has low tolerance. **Romans 12:19, Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.**
6. This is a devise that we have to deal with even in this Church among Christian friends. **Philippians 4:6-7, Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7: And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.**
7. Our temper is so hot until we want everything our way.
8. **"The simple inherit folly: but the prudent are crowned with knowledge."** - the prudent are concerned about lasting effects.

9. We must watch our relationship with people in this Church.
10. The fear of the Lord causes the wise to test what he hears and what he repeats.
11. We have people who are not building on the foundation, gold, silver and precious stone. **1 Corinthians 3:12-13, Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13: Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.**
12. We do not understand that the Judgment Seat of Christ is a judgment and not a picnic. This is why we must build on the proper foundation and not wood, hay and stubble. **1 Corinthians 3:14-15, If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15: If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.**
13. Most people have no respect for the Word of God, although men and women have given their lives for that precious Word. **Psalms 119:161, Princes have persecuted me without a cause: but my heart standeth in awe of thy word. Psalms 119:160, Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.**

**j. The poor is hated even of his own neighbour.**

1. **Proverbs 14:20-24, The poor is hated even of his own neighbour: but the rich hath many friends. 21: He that despiseth his neighbour sinneth: but he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he. 22: Do they not err that devise evil? but mercy and truth shall be to them that devise good. 23: In all labour there is profit: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury. 24: The crown of the wise is their riches: but the foolishness of fools is folly.**
2. A slogan in America is "It's not what you know it is who you know."
3. We must build our lives on faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and Him only.
4. The Bible says we are to know Him and the power of His resurrection. **Philippians 3:10, That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;**
5. We are to respect our neighbor and be willing to share the Gospel with them. **1 Peter 3:15, But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: Psalms 142:4, I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me: refuge failed me: no man cared for my soul.**
6. I am so glad our Church slogan is "Where everybody is somebody."
7. **"He that despiseth his neighbour sinneth: but he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he."**
8. We are also in a time where we don't want to do things for each other.
9. **"Do they not err that devise evil? but mercy and truth shall be to them that devise good."**
10. God has indicated to us that mercy and truth will be with us forever.
11. Americans talk a lot; we gossip about our friends and neighbors and we make no attempt to share the Gospel of Jesus with the lost.
12. **"The crown of the wise is their riches: but the foolishness of fools is folly."**
13. The rich are rich in material things. **Jeremiah 9:23, Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: Deuteronomy 8:18, But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.**
14. It is amazing that we do not have to be rich in material things in order to be happy. **Revelation 3:17, Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:**
15. To know one is saved and born again provides true happiness and delight. **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.**
16. In this life we have a situation where we determine our eternal destiny by what we do with Jesus Christ. God is giving righteousness for our belief. **1 John 5:12, He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.**

**k. A true witness delivereth souls.**



1. **Proverbs 14:25-27, A true witness delivereth souls; but a deceitful witness speaketh lies. 26: In the fear of the LORD is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge. 27: The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death. Proverbs 11:30, The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise. Psalms 142:4, I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me: refuge failed me; no man cared for my soul.**
2. As true witnesses we need to focus on leading the blind to salvation. Let's not be guilty of violating **Matthew 15:14, Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.**
3. Jesus has clearly given us direction and light. **Psalms 119:105, Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.**
4. America needs to get back to God.
5. God tells us emphatically a sound heart is the life of the flesh. **Proverbs 14:30, A sound heart is the life of the flesh: but envy the rottenness of the bones.**
6. We live unto ourselves, and the Bible says no man liveth unto himself. **Romans 14:7, For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself.**
7. The World War Two Veterans in particular, had to depend on each other.
8. They will tell you one of their successes was because they were together and depended on each other. **Where there is unity there is strength. Psalms 133:1, Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!** We are commanded to have no division in our churches. **1 Corinthians 1:10, Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.**
9. They were not the perfect generation, but they had it together in a lot of respects and before they all exit the scene, we need to learn from them and apply the principles they use.

#### I. Righteousness exalteth a nation.

1. **Proverbs 14:34, Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people.**
2. This would be nice to be inscribed in Washington DC, but just to have it inscribed would do no good; the nation needs to respect God.
3. The Ten Commandments and the Bible are being removed from many of our public buildings; this is in direct defiance to God and His Word, the nation needs to respect God.
3. There is no question that when the Lord Jesus Christ comes and sits on the Throne of David, He will rule and reign in righteousness. **Proverbs 29:2, When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.**
4. He will cause the nations to turn to Him.
5. **"sin is a reproach to any people."** – We must be careful because we are responsible for the sins of our nation.
6. As I said in the beginning, our military has done a very fine job.
7. During the conclusion, I offer you a personal salvation, not for the nation but for every individual.

#### 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.
- 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. Romans 5:1, Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: Philippians 4:7, And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.**
- 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. 1 John 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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