

# American Wake Up Call 2026: The Year of Testing, The Year of The Lord's Favor

Jesus warned us, "A kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, a house divided against itself will fall" (Luke 11:17).

Not since the days of Abraham Lincoln has America been tested by such bitter divisions. Yet through our year of testing, God has set three milestones to help us overcome it and lead us into the Year of the Lord's Favor.

During his time of testing in 1863, Lincoln called for a Solemn Assembly, asking the people to unite in their churches and homes to humble themselves, fast and pray; to repent of their pride; and to seek God's forgiveness and the restoration of unity and peace. On July 4 of that year, God began answering Lincoln's prayers when the tide of war turned as the Confederates began their retreat after losing the battle of Gettysburg, and the Union captured the last Confederate stronghold on the Mississippi River. In the end, Lincoln overcame the test and kept the promise of equality made in the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

Now we come to another July 4, one being celebrated as the milestone 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of American Independence. As in Lincoln's day, we face war, uncertainty, social turmoil, and division, which are testing our nation. This is an urgent hour, and the Church must shake off its slumber to humble itself, pray, and repent to bring healing to our land (2 Chron. 7:14).

For July 4, let us come against the spiritual darkness over our land in the opposite spirit, not pride but humility, and

not division but unity. As in Lincoln's day, we should come together in Sacred Assemblies in our churches and homes on Friday night, July 3, to repent of our pride and pray for unity around the Christian American values of equality, life, and liberty proclaimed in the Declaration of Independence. We also remember that the American Colonies in 1776 had diverse cultures and religious traditions, yet unified in their diversity to form our nation. Today, we believe that God is calling us to answer Jesus's prayer for Christian unity in our diversity so that the world will know God sent Him (John 17:23). Be sure to take a free download of The American Wake Up Call Prayer Guide for suggestions on prayer for July 4.

On August 12, 40 days after July 3, comes another significant milestone: the 2000<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Jesus's ministry. Many scholars, including those who produced the Zondervan Study Bible, believe that Jesus began His ministry in the summer of 26 AD when He went into the desert for forty days of testing. As an observant Jew, Jesus probably would have gone during the Jewish 40-day summer season of repentance and returning to God, known as Teshuvah. In His time of testing, Jesus humbled Himself and confirmed His trust, His commitment, and His obedience to God, emerging victorious (Luke 4:1-13).

Two thousand years later, we believe the Lord is calling us to hold sacred assemblies on the first day of Teshuvah, Wednesday, August 12, to begin 40 days of prayer through Teshuvah, humbling ourselves and praying so that we can emerge victorious from our time of testing, as Jesus did.

The last day of Teshuvah, September 20, is the Jewish day of Atonement, when the years of Jubilee were proclaimed at the beginning of each 49-year Jubilee cycle. The year of Jubilee was the Year of the Lord's Favor when liberty was proclaimed, and the land was restored, picturing the healing of the land. This year, 2026, is the 70<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Year since Israel entered the Promised Land in 1406 BC, and September 20 is the third

milestone.

After He emerged victorious from His testing, Jesus announced His ministry using imagery of Jubilee, proclaiming liberty and The Year of The Lord's Favor (Luke 4:18-19). On Sunday night, September 20, we believe that God is calling us to celebrate the Jubilee, proclaim liberty and The Year of The Lord's Favor, and dedicate ourselves to taking the Gospel to our cities.

Take a free download of The American Wake Up Call Prayer Guide for suggestions and information about prayer through Teshuvah and the Sacred Assemblies on August 12 and September 20.

Jesus Himself explained God's purpose in sending The Year of The Lord's Favor: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because He has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim The Year of The Lord's Favor" (Luke 4:18-19).

We are praying for nothing less than a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the proclaiming of the Gospel, liberty and wholeness, and the transformation of America.

We are asking you to download The American Wake Up Call 2026 Prayer Guide for free and join us in prayer. Then invite your family, prayer group, and church to take their place to pray and proclaim The Year of The Lord's Favor.

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord" Psalm 146:15.

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# Why do the Nations Rage?

January 10th marks the dubious distinction of being the anniversary of the convening of both the League of Nations in 1920 and the United Nations in 1946.

The League of Nations was established in the aftermath of World War I to promote dialogue among nations and prevent war. Progressive U.S. President Woodrow Wilson pushed the idea, apparently believing that tyrants could be talked out of tyranny. Americans were unconvinced and never joined. Tyrants in Japan, Italy, and Germany ignored the League of Nations, and it collapsed in the flames of World War II.

After the war, the League of Nations was resurrected as the United Nations. In the beginning the U.N. was somewhat successful and even supported the formation of Israel in 1947. The U.N. also supported the Korean War against Communist aggression in 1950, but only because the Russians were boycotting the U.N. when the vote was taken. Thereafter the Cold War overwhelmed most U.N. opportunities, and the U.N. became largely a propaganda entity.

The end of Colonialism and the birth of new nations brought a burst of hope to the U.N. However, most of the new nations were taken over by tyrants and the U.N. became something of a club for authoritarian governments. While the tyrants use the U.N. for their propaganda purposes, putting countries like Iran on the human rights committee is not calculated to produce any real advances in human freedom. Naturally, the tyrants oppose the freedom agendas of the U.S. and the other democracies, as is currently evidenced by the outrage over the removal of fellow tyrant Nicolas Maduro.



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A particular target of the authoritarian governments of the U.N. has been the democratic state of Israel. Acts of terrorism, wanton attacks on civilians by rockets, and military aggression against Israel are routinely ignored, while Israel is condemned for defending herself. The U.N. has condemned Israel for "endangering peace" by building settlements, while ignoring the refusals of Palestinians to recognize Israel's right to exist and their continuing policy of placing a bounty on murdered Israelis. Then, America had to use its Veto to keep the tyrant majority of the U.N. from supporting Hamas after the horrific attack of Israel.

Why do the nations rage? The Bible says that they want to throw off the restraints on their evil activities (Psalm 2:1-3). They are at war with God's plans and purposes, especially as it relates to Israel.

The only force consistently standing against the tyrant majority in the U.N. has been the U.S., which has a Security Council Veto. We must pray that the U.S. will continue to stand up to the tyrants and enemies of Israel.

Still, it is a tragedy that the United Nations, which responded to the Holocaust by supporting the formation of Israel, now has employees who participated in the Holocaust of October 7th, 2023. Perhaps we should let someone else fund the UN club for Tyrants and their Antisemitic program.

Even so, let us not forget to pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

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# Celebrating 2,000 Years of Jesus' Ministry

The year 2026 marks the 2,000<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Beginning of The Ministry of Jesus, according to the evidence we can find in the scriptures.

We know that John The Baptist appeared before Jesus. Luke 3:1 tells us that His Ministry began in the 15<sup>th</sup> year of the Roman Emperor Tiberias. From history we learn that Tiberias began his reign in the year 10AD, so John began 15 years later, in 25 AD.

We know from the Book of John that Jesus cleared the Temple for the first time at the beginning of His ministry, just after He turned water to wine (John 2:11-16). In the course of His discussion with the Jews, they said that it had taken 46 years to build the Temple. From the history of Josephus we learn that Herod began building the Temple in 20BC. Moving forward 46 years (and remembering that there is no year zero) brings us to 27 AD.

These two scriptures point to 26 AD as the beginning of Christ's Ministry, but the Prophet Daniel also established 26 AD as the beginning of Christ's Ministry. In the famous 70 7's prophecy, Daniel said that the Anointed One would come 69 7's, or 483 years, after the decree to restore Jerusalem (Daniel 9:25). The decree was given to Ezra, who was sent to Jerusalem in the seventh year of King Artaxerxes (Ezra 7:8 – 26), or 458 BC. Moving forward 483 years (and again remembering that there is no year zero) brings us to 26 AD.

A fourth scripture which correlates the beginning of Christ's Ministry in 26 AD is the statement at Luke 3:23 that Jesus was

about 30 years old when His Ministry began. This would place Christ's birth in 5 BC (remembering again that there is no year zero). We know from Josephus that King Herod, who tried to kill Jesus, died in the year of a lunar eclipse on Passover. Astronomy tells us that this eclipse occurred in 5 BC, so Jesus could not have been born after 5 BC and could not, therefore, have begun His ministry later than thirty years afterward in 26 AD.

Astronomy provides further support to the birth of Jesus in 5 BC by helping to date the Star of Bethlehem. The Wise Men saw the star and traveled to Jerusalem to find the one, Jesus, born King of the Jews. (Matthew 2:1,2). Scripture does not date the appearance of the star, but another group of skywatchers in China recorded a nova, or new star, which appeared about the time of Passover in the spring of 5 BC. Using the Chinese coordinates and the location of the star directly overhead in Bethlehem (Matthew 2:9), we can locate the remains of the Star of Bethlehem, a nova, at a black hole known as X-1 Cygnus and date it to 5 BC, with Christ's ministry beginning 30 years later in 26 AD.

In addition to establishing 26 AD as the beginning of Christ's Ministry, it may be possible to pinpoint the time of year Jesus was baptized and went into the desert for 40 days of testing (Luke 4:1,2). The Hebrew religious calendar contains a 40 day period for testing, repentance, and moving closer to God, known as Teshuvah, which Jesus would have observed as a faithful Jew. Teshuvah begins on the first day of the sixth Jewish month, Elul, and ends on the Day of Atonement on the tenth day of the seventh Jewish month, Tishri. If Jesus had entered the desert during Teshuvah, He would have gone in August 30, 26 AD and finished His time on the Day of Atonement, October 8, 26 AD. His anointing, the event which fulfilled Daniel's 70 7's prophecy (Daniel 9:25), would have taken place just prior to August 30, 26 AD, during the month of August.

Shortly after Jesus left the desert, He announced His anointing at Nazareth (Luke 4:16). Echoing the proclamation of liberty made on the Day of Atonement (Leviticus 25:9,10), Jesus proclaimed good news, liberty, healing, release, and the Year of The Lord's Favor (Luke 4:18,19).

Now, 2000 years later, we face the same tests as Jesus faced in the desert. Will we trust God to know that we live by "every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4)? Will we "worship the Lord, your God and serve Him only" (Luke 4:8)? Will we not live in presumption but be obedient and "not put the Lord, your God to the test" (Luke 4:12)?



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Let us celebrate the 2000<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Christ's Ministry by imitating Him, as He overcame the testing in the desert, in our lives:

**1. Pass the test** (Luke 4:4–13)

**2. Humility, not pride** (Deuteronomy 8:1–5). Man does not live on bread alone.

- God wants us to be blessed if we do it His way
- He will humble and test us to see what is in our heart
- He humbles us to teach us to live by His word
- He provides our needs
- He disciplines us a beloved child

**3. Serve God, not Self** (Deuteronomy 6:4–15) Worship The Lord Your God and Serve Him only

- Love The Lord with all your heart
- Put His commands in your heart
- Teach God's commands to your children
- Remember Him in your prosperity
- Serve only God
- Serving other Gods can lead to destruction

**4. Obey God, not Self** (Deuteronomy 6:16–24) Do not put The Lord Your God to the test

- Fear God and follow the Commandments
- Do right so it will go well with you
- Teach your children to do right
- Follow God to prosper and be kept alive

Then let us imitate Him in Ministry by receiving the anointing of The Holy Spirit like Jesus did and proclaiming the Good News of the Year of The Lord's favor:

**1. Proclaim the year of The Lord's Favor** (Luke 4:18,19)

- Preach good news
- Freedom
- Recovery
- Release

**2. Be filled with the Spirit** (Luke 4:18,19)

*The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. – Luke 4:18,19*

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## The Power of Giving

They say that Christmas is the season for giving, but smart people give all year round.

Giving is actually one of the keys to financial freedom. Givers are quickly identified in the marketplace as those who go above and beyond the minimum needs of the job. They are cheerful and hard working, and because of their giving attitude, people enjoy working with them. They are first in line for promotion because they are already operating at a level above their pay grade. Givers get ahead.

Giving is also one of the secrets of a successful life. And everyone has something to give. If you have no money, you can give your time, helping deliver food to the hungry, visiting the sick and lonely, repairing homes for the elderly, painting your Church, or mentoring a child. Clean out your closets and give your unused things to the needy. Even if you have nothing to give but a smile, you can make a difference in someone's life. Remember that the more you give, the richer your life will be.



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It seems that God has wired the world to reward givers: "Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you" (Luke 6:38).

Perhaps that is why God instituted the tithe, to let His children in on the benefits of giving. Besides, God loves cheerful givers (See 2 Cor. 9:6-8).

Which brings us back to Christmas, when we celebrate the greatest gift of all: God's gift of Jesus.

So, find something you can give this Christmas, and keep it up into the New Year.

Give and experience the joy of Christmas.

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## **Why We Should All Celebrate Emancipation Day, Jan. 2**

Jan. 2 is Emancipation Day, marking the anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, which started the ball rolling to free all Americans from slavery.

Our organization, the Emancipation Network, takes its name from the Emancipation Proclamation, and we also strive to free Americans from slavery—debt slavery.

The author of the Emancipation Proclamation, Abraham Lincoln, is our example both as an emancipator of others and as one who escaped from debt slavery himself. As a young man, Abraham Lincoln participated in a failed business which left him in debt for an amount about equal to the cost of a home today. Yet he managed to live his life and achieve his destiny despite his financial disaster. He is a pathfinder for all of us who have suffered financially.

Lincoln teaches us that we should continue to build our lives while working through our debt problems. He never quit working, even after some of his assets were taken by his creditors. He increased his earning power by educating himself to become a lawyer. He married and saved money to buy a home, all while still in debt. Eventually, he was able to pay his debt and thereby earned his nickname of “Honest Abe.” He kept control of his life and did not let his creditors rob him of

his future, giving priority to his family but working to be fair to his creditors.

His experiences escaping debt slavery gave him an understanding of the importance of debt relief, and he became a bankruptcy lawyer. His compassion for the down and out led him to oppose slavery of all kinds, whether financial or physical. In the end, his path led him to become the Great Emancipator.

The best way to honor him on Emancipation Day is to follow his example.

Start building your life before you pay off your debts and help others once you are set free. Take a free download of our System of Debt Relief at: [to get on the path to financial freedom today.](#)

And may you have a blessed and happy New Year. {eoa}

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# Join Kenneth Copeland and Lou Engle in These Healing Prayers for the Body

This week, we are in the midst of praying through the 40-day Jewish season of repentance, *Teshuvah*.

The word "*Teshuvah*" literally means to return to the presence of God. It is a season of introspection and repentance for Christians to come into unity with God, as Jesus prayed in John 17:21. However, as Jesus prayed, unity with God also requires unity with each other in Christ (John 17:20-23).

Yet, almost since the beginning of Christianity, believers have quarreled about Christian doctrine and church government. The first Jerusalem Council served as an example of a favorably resolved dispute (Acts 15). However, other disputes resulted in division and treatment of opponents as non-Christians. As Ralph Martin famously said, "The body of Christ is broken."

Today there are many denominations and doctrines which create a great diversity within the body of Christ. Yet, we can still be united in Christ. Lutheran theologian Oscar Cullmann said, "Unity in the church ... is unity in diversity ... recognizing others in all their variety as true Christians."

Pope Francis has said, "Unity brought by the Spirit can harmonize every diversity." Unity in diversity recognizes the contributions of other streams of Christianity and blends them together in a symphony of harmony. It is a unity of the Spirit, not in doctrine or church government.

During the second 10 days of *Teshuvah*, from Sept. 9 to Sept. 18, we will be praying for God's people and the healing of the broken body of Christ as God's people come together, united in

Christ.

- Sept. 9: The blessings of unity (Ps. 133).
- Sept. 10: Unity in Christ (John 17:20–22).
- Sept. 11: Accepting our brothers (Rom. 15:5–7).
- Sept. 12: Do not judge (Rom. 14:13; Luke 6:37–38).
- Sept. 13: Divisions (1 Cor. 3:1–9).
- Sept. 14: Evangelism through unity (John 17:23).
- Sept. 15: Watchmen warnings (Ezek. 33).
- Sept. 16: Appealing to all (1 Cor. 9:27).
- Sept. 17: Salvation for Israel (Rom. 11:11–32).
- Sept. 18: Messianic Jews and the Toward.
- Jerusalem Council II movement (Acts 15).

The unity revival has already begun. In 2014, the pope sent a historic video to Kenneth Copeland, which you can view on the website. The pope's outreach to Kenneth Copeland produced a flood of Christian leaders who traveled to Rome for international reconciliation meetings. There has also been a strong movement for unity among American church leaders. However, the unity movement has not yet reached many of our cities and local churches.

The urgent need to heal the body of Christ must be communicated from the national leadership of movements and denominations to the local churches. The city fathers must become champions of unity, bringing the body of Christ together to impact their communities. The prayer of Jesus in John 17 is not only about unity. It is for unity with a purpose, "That the world may believe" (John 17:21b). Unity is the key to transformation.

We invite you to join with Kenneth Copeland, Lou Engle and Christians of many traditions as we fellowship, worship, pray and work together to transform our communities at the Kairos 2019 conference to be held at Christ for the Nations in Dallas, Texas on Oct. 3-5, 2019. For more information check out the attached short video and visit the website.

The body of Christ must be healed to do its work for Christ.

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# **How Spirit-Filled Believers Must Pray to Demolish This Abominable Curse**

Four hundred years ago, on Aug. 20, 1619, the first African slave was brought to Virginia. Along with him came the curse of slavery.

The slave trade is as old as humanity, with African slaves being sold to Arab slavers long before Europeans appeared. The Europeans, however, took slave trading to a whole new level as they used Africans in the New World to replace the Native American populations who had been decimated by European diseases. By the time African slave trade had been brought to an end, almost 10 million Africans had been brought to the New World. Millions more died in the passage.

The curse of slavery fell hardest on Africa. The work of catching and selling slaves was done by local African kings and traders. In exchange they received European goods and weapons, enabling them to expand their power to catch more slaves. However, the incessant warfare depopulated and destabilized both victors and victims. Ultimately the African kings were subdued by the Europeans. Even today, much of the poverty in Africa can be traced back to the slave trade and its aftermath.

European slavers also suffered greatly from the slave trade. Since they had no immunity to African diseases, over half died

in their first year in Africa, and only 10% made it back alive. The slave ships took yellow fever and other African diseases to the New World, creating deadly disease zones in the jungles of Central and South America. Areas like the Amazon River Basin, which had supported large Native American populations, became virtually uninhabitable. Only in modern times has science rolled back the areas dominated by the deadly African diseases.

The Americans also fell prey to the curse of slavery as the institution undermined American values and then divided the country. The American Civil War was fought to end slavery, and one American died for each person left in slavery after the revolution who was denied the benefit of the Declaration of Independence that all men were created equal. Even today, race relations remain strained because of the curse of slavery. Every so often we get a reminder of our past, as we have with the racial riots in Ferguson, and Baltimore and white supremacist violence in Charleston.

Some have tried to use the Bible to support slavery, but they twist the Scriptures to do so. Slavery was a fact of life in the ancient world, but God established Israel with laws that forgave debts and gave liberty to slaves every seven years. Our modern bankruptcy laws come from God's debt forgiveness laws.

Slavery, like its modern cousins socialism and communism, is a manifestation of the spirit of money, or mammon, which steals the labor of its victims. Make no mistake; God wants to see people set free from bondage.

Let us pray that the curse of slavery will be banished from our world. We must ask and give forgiveness so that God's blessings can bring healing, and reverse the curse, so it may one day be said of us that "an undeserved curse does not come to rest" (Prov. 26:2b, NLT).

*Ron Allen is a Christian businessman, CPA and author who serves in local, national and international ministries, spreading a message of reconciliation to God, to men and between believers. He is founder of the International Star Bible Society, telling how the heavens declare the glory of God; the Emancipation Network, which helps people escape from financial bondage; and co-founder with his wife, Pat, of Corporate Prayer Resources, dedicated to helping intercessors.*

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## **Why Astrology Can't Trump God's Future for You**

People are always coming up to us and saying things like, "I'm a Leo. What does the Star Bible say about that?"

Even some Christians still dabble in the evil occultic practice of astrology.

Those "Leos" think that the astrological dates they see in the papers for Leo, July 23 to Aug. 22, are correct, but they are a little behind the times. About 2,000 years behind.

You see, the newspaper dates are supposed to represent the dates when the sun is moving through the constellation Leo. Astrology fans believe that somehow the constellation Leo exerts some magical power on humans born during this time, so that a "Leo" has some special characteristics. These characteristics then form the basis for daily "guidance" pandered by astrologers.

So the first problem with astrology is that the actual dates when the sun is moving through the constellation Leo have

changed. The dates you see in the newspaper were determined when Julius Caesar was alive, over 2,000 years ago. A process called The Precession of the Equinoxes has moved the Leo dates forward so that Leo now begins on Aug. 11, not July 23.

Also, the sun takes 42 days to travel through the constellation Leo, so the Leo dates actually are to Sept. 21. Thus, most people who think they are Leos are really Cancers (real dates July 21 through Aug. 10). But for all this time the astrologers have been telling people that they are subject to the magical effects of Leo anyway. God has made fools of them.

The second problem follows from the first, whether you are one of those actually born in Leo (born Aug. 11 to Aug. 22) or are a Leo the Crab born in Cancer (July 23 to Aug. 10) For if astrologers can't tell the difference between a Cancer and a Leo for 2,000 years, how can they know anything else?

In fact, while astrology has been used to control people for over 4,000 years, it has no real predictive power and is a demonic practice condemned by God in the Bible (Isa. 47:13-15). Stay away from it! The stars tell the story of Jesus, like pages in the Bible.

It makes no difference which page of the Star Bible you were born under. What really matters is being born again of the Spirit. You are not a Leo or a Leo the Crab. You are a Christian and your future comes from God, not the stars.

God Says "I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you. Plans to give you hope and a future" (Jer. 29:11).

Don't miss God's good future by listening to astrology.

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# **You Can't Prepare for Armageddon, but Here's What You Can Do**

With hurricanes popping up in the Gulf and electrical blackouts in New York, it is a good time to remember that disasters, natural and man-made, are a part of life.

With a little planning, you can be ready:

1. You can't prepare for Armageddon. But you should be ready if the lights go out and the banks go down for a few weeks.
2. Credit cards may not work, and banks may be closed in a disaster. There is no substitute for green cash.
3. You'll need two to four weeks of emergency green cash. Save up a little at a time on your budget.
4. If the transportation and distribution system is in damaged, you won't be able to get any food. You should have at least a two-week supply.
5. Canned goods and bulk items like rice and beans can be bought and stored at a reasonable cost. Get food you like and will actually use.

6. Rotate food from your reserves into your diet. That way, the cost is part of your grocery budget.
7. Consider getting an inexpensive solar cooker. Eating cold food in the dark is no fun.
8. Public water can be contaminated or cut off in a disaster. Have a supply of bottled water on hand.
9. Keep reserve supplies of things like soap and toilet paper. There is no reason to live through a crisis without civilized comforts.
10. Public order may break down in disaster. Get a firearm and learn how to use it to protect your family.
11. Check on disaster preparations in your church and community. You'll need someplace to send your starving neighbors.
12. Don't overlook the option of leaving town. Keep your cars gassed up if you see trouble coming.
13. When disaster strikes, it's too late to get ready. Be ready now.
14. A few sensible preparations can give you great peace of mind. Then live your life without fear.

"The prudent see danger and take refuge, but the simple keep going and pay the penalty" (Prov. 22:3, NIV).

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# America's Godless Liberty Will Lead to This Scary Reality Unless the Church Steps Up

Just 10 days after the Americans celebrate their Revolution, the French celebrate theirs, on Bastille Day, July 14.

The two revolutions could not have been more different. The Americans honored God in their Declaration of independence. The French, on the other hand, adopted the atheistic, anti-Christian values of the French Enlightenment and set out to eradicate God from public life.

Churches were closed, priests were persecuted and the calendar was remade without any Christian holidays. To replace the Virgin Mary, the revolutionary leaders invented the atheistic "Goddess of Liberty," which became the emblem of godless liberty.

The fruit of the revolutions was also very different. America became a beacon of hope for the world as it worked to make its dream of equality and God-given rights become a reality. In France, the godless foundation of the revolution meant that all moral restraint on power evaporated, and the infamous Reign of Terror began.

Neither life nor liberty were safe, and even the revolutionary leaders were carried off one by one to the terror. Finally, order was restored, but all hope of liberty vanished under the iron-fisted rule of Napoleon Bonaparte. It turns out that godless liberty is no liberty at all.

Sad to say, the lesson of the French Revolution has been repeated over and over since then. The Communist revolutions in Russia, China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Cuba and elsewhere produced massive death and eliminated freedom. The same holds true for the Nazis in Germany and the Fascists in Italy who, like Napoleon, led the whole world into war.

The post-colonial socialists in Africa grabbed power after elections, giving rise to the famous statement of "One man, one vote, one time." The same process has also occurred in countries like Venezuela, Argentina and Ecuador. where authoritarians have used the promise of godless liberty to subvert Democratic intuitions.

Even in America, our God-given liberties have been eroded by the proponents of godless Liberty. Beginning in the 1960s, the government has banned God from our public schools, allowed the murder of unborn, worked against Christian morality and mandated same-sex "marriage."

At the same time, big government has increasingly limited the rights of Americans to exercise freedoms of religion, speech and property. The fruit of the godless liberty in America has been fatherlessness, poverty, crime and a government that grows larger while the people grow poorer and smaller.

The success of godless liberty has come about because of failure by the church to preach the gospel of love and truth. Misguided pastors confuse love with exploitation to condone sexual sin, even gay marriage, when they should be setting people free in the name of Christ.

Churches have substituted failed social programs for the life-changing gospel of Christ. And the love of Christ is often hidden behind condemnation, political agendas and church division. America is on the same path which led the great nation of Germany downward from Martin Luther to Adolph Hitler.

Let us pray that the church will repent of its sins and return to the lifesaving work of spreading the gospel and the love of Christ. We must humble ourselves, come together and repent if our land is to be healed.

Let us also pray that the precious gift of godly liberty, and especially religious liberty, can overcome the evil of godless liberty.

**Ron Allen** is a Christian businessman, CPA and author who serves in local, national and international ministries, spreading a message of reconciliation to God, to men and between believers. He is founder of the International Star Bible Society, telling how the heavens declare the glory of God; the Emancipation Network, which helps people escape from financial bondage; and co-founder with his wife, Pat, of Corporate Prayer Resources, dedicated to helping intercessors.