

Is Our Nation Intolerant of Christianity?

Recently I was at a White House meeting with Vice President Joe Biden and had the opportunity to remind him that our main problem in America is that we have taken God out of our society and out of our government. We need God's Word and His laws now more than ever.

Disobedience to God's Word and His laws has wreaked havoc across the political, economic, and spiritual landscape of our country. There is scandal after scandal, and yet our nation's leaders seem even more belligerent toward Christians.

If we hold up God's standards, we are accused of being intolerant. "Tolerance" is one of today's hot buttons, but in reality the true and fast-growing "intolerance" is for Christianity—anything that stands for Jesus Christ.

You may have read recently about the IRS apology for targeting conservative groups in 2011–12. I was not surprised to hear this—BGEA was audited last September, and many believe it was because we encouraged voters to take a strong stand on **same-sex marriage** issues and biblical values. The audit process was complex and time consuming, but as we expected, it ended well. During the process, in fact, the focus that BGEA puts on sound management and financial accountability was acknowledged as excellent.

Christians must never compromise their allegiance to the Savior, no matter what others may think.

The Lord is looking for men and women who will fully commit their heart, soul, and lives to His kingdom. We find in 1 Samuel that Saul was anointed to lead the Hebrew people. At first he won favor with the people and was victorious in battle. But in chapter 13, we read that Saul feared the

opinions of men more than the commands of almighty God.

In a raid in the desert outside Jerusalem against Israel's enemy the Amalekites, God had told Saul to fully destroy this enemy along with all their possessions. Instead, Saul spared King Agag and kept some of the choice sheep and oxen. He disobeyed God's command. When the Prophet Samuel arrived and saw the evidence of Saul's clear disobedience, he pronounced God's judgment. "Has 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 listen than the fat of rams. ... Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, he has also rejected you from being king" (1 Samuel 15:22-23, ESV).

Think about it—partial obedience is really no obedience at all. Complete obedience is what the Lord desires. We must never back down from fully following Christ because we fear public opinion or the ridicule of others.

Jesus Christ has commanded us to "go ... and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)—that commandment applies to each one of us, all of His followers. We can't fix all the social injustices and problems of our day, but we have been called to take this Gospel to the ends of the earth. BGEA is an evangelistic ministry. We exist to proclaim the lifesaving Gospel of our Savior to as many as possible.

Right now, we have a great opportunity to be involved in reaching others through My Hope America with Billy Graham. It is a simple plan. Make a list of lost friends, acquaintances, and loved ones and begin fervently praying for their salvation. In November, each of us will invite people we care about to our home, church, or favorite hangout to watch a dynamic new program we are developing with a message from my father. You can learn more about participating at [. We have training available online to help equip you to share your faith.](#)

A young man who has signed up to be a part of My Hope America wrote us recently to say that he had been praying for a long time for his brother's salvation. While looking through the My Hope America resources we sent him, he felt a strong sense that the Holy Spirit was saying, "The time is now." He realized God was prompting him to talk again to his brother about Jesus. "Having this conversation was hard for me at first," he says, "but, boy, am I glad I was obedient, because today a man who once studied hard to try and prove that God was not real, now follows Jesus Christ!" God works through our lives in mighty ways when we are obedient to His leading.

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