

Yes, America Is Experiencing the Judgment of God, but There Is Hope

Over 50 years ago God called me to be an evangelist, to proclaim the good news—the gospel. I have never ceased declaring it around the world in person and through television. Even while preaching and witnessing, God clearly revealed the importance of living as a yielded servant. First, to serve the Lord, loving Him with all my heart, and then to serve my neighbors, caring for them as I do myself and my own family. I have diligently sought to do this. I am joyfully your servant, the servant of the family of God and all those Jesus died to redeem.

“When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice” (Prov. 29:2). And when they don’t, we all do and should mourn. No words can describe the depth of concern that I have for the church and our nation. As Jesus wept over Jerusalem, extending the glorious invitation to return to the shelter and shadow of the Almighty like chicks to the wings of a hen, I offer faithfully and continually that invitation from our Lord to every person with ears to hear. One of the ways God has impressed me to serve is by encouraging Christ’s body—each individual, unique part—to join the other parts, supplying one another according to each person’s need and all together submitted to the Head. This is the only way Christ’s body can reveal Him in all of His fullness, and the only way we can grow into the unity of the faith. We must recognize the importance of every member and seek with all our heart to be brought together in a bond of peace and commitment to the spiritual unity Christ prayed for.

We are clearly witnessing the judgment and wrath of God already revealed against all ungodliness as we see people

given over to ravenous and demonic appetites and practices. The greatest horror occurs when God's standard is discarded in idol worship and, as Romans 1:25 says, "They turned the truth of God into a lie." Then people are given over to unnatural, vile affections. We are witnessing the most awful decisions on the part of the highest authorities in this land. There is great reason to mourn, if only with a broken heart for a nation gone mad. Hear me: God is ready and able to heal our land if we will humble ourselves, pray and seek His face, and turn from our wicked ways. The land will indeed be healed beginning with our own personal lives, then nationally.

Next year LIFE Outreach will continue offering help to everyone who needs to be lifted out of any pit of defeat, depression or unbearable debt bondage. If we return to God with our whole heart, He will return to us and make up for "the years the locusts have eaten." In addition to media outreach through television and missions, we will launch an online presence called The Stream. This will be a free-flowing, truth-filled river of life, wisdom and divine guidance. The Stream will be fed by tributaries of wisdom from Spirit-filled individuals set in the church by God to build us up into the fullness of Christ's stature. Too often the tributaries become reservoirs that no longer freely release the benefit and blessings of God, ultimately becoming like the Dead Sea. I am led by the Lord to seek sold-out believers and church leaders to release transforming truth and wisdom that comes only from above.

We still desperately need what only divine providence can give. His truth is marching on, even now flowing from the very throne of God into tributaries that joyfully receive it. When they receive it, the result is fruitfulness. Life springs up! The bountiful blessings of Almighty God become apparent. We will be giving you more information concerning The Stream in the next few weeks as we prepare for a January launch.

I am asking you to please meditate on these verses from

Philippians 2:1-4 (NAS): "Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not *merely* look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others."

There is encouragement in Christ. I am encouraged. I am an encourager. You must be encouraged and encourage others. We have fellowship in the Spirit of the living God that lifts us up above any secular, denominational or partisan wall of division. We have God-given affection and true compassion. We care so deeply we suffer with others. Our joy is made complete, just as it is with Jesus, when we have the same mind—the mind of Christ, and minds renewed by the power of God's Word. We maintain the same love, God's love, united in the Spirit, because we are filled to overflowing with the power of the Holy Spirit. We must not allow the fleshly dissension, strife and contention to prevail. Pastor Ronnie Floyd, my friend and current president of the Southern Baptist Convention, wrote in a challenge to the 16 million members of his denomination and the whole church the following, and I agree: "Complacency and conflict categorize the church more than contrition and compassion."

We will be intent on one purpose: Christ's Kingdom purpose on this earth now through true believers. His kingdom is first established in us, and then under His rule we extend the blessing and benefit of His authority and His standards, as well as faithfully build on the unshakable foundation Christ referred to as the solid rock against which no storms or the gates of hell will prevail.

We will regard each other as more important than ourselves, never merely looking out for our own personal interests. Keep

in mind that self-interest and personal concern for your family and their well-being is not selfish. The desire to achieve and succeed in order to bless others is precisely the nature and will of God. Betty and I are totally sold out not only to our own family's well-being, but to your well-being, your children's, grandchildren's and that of those yet to be born. We will spend our lives looking out for the interests of others.

However, we will not stand back and allow national leaders in the house of Congress or the White House to defy both the law of God, the law of man and the Constitution by writing laws according to their own interests or desires and breaking the commandments of God. What we are witnessing today is far more than excessive executive action; it is, in fact, arrogant action. As American citizens we must not allow this lawlessness to continue.

We are going to see a new day in America. There will be a spiritual awakening and the children of light are going to come out from under cover. Please begin even now praying for The Stream, and always know there is even now a river flowing from the throne of God. "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done." Right here, right now, in our lives in this day.

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