# 7-7-19Am God/6ty Dry 2019

# GOD IS ABLE To: "God Save Our Country"

Woe to them *that are* at ease in Zion, and trust in the mountain of Samaria, which are named chief of the nations, to whom the house of Israel came!

Amos 6:1 Heb . 7:25

**Introduction:** There are many illustrations of our theme throughout the Bible. Whereas David's sad fall may well be the most familiar account of the Old Testament, the far country experience of "The Prodigal Son" and the faith relapse of John Mark are at the top of the New Testament list.

Although this chapter records the religious plunge of a nation, all the lessons are very applicable to our individual lives. Through the revelations of these verses, we are reminded of how people depart from God, how a holy God feels about it, and the terrible consequences of spiritual declension.

Tension had been building up between Great Britain and the American colonies for about ten years. The British government passed a series of strict laws, and the colonists resisted them. The disobedience of the American Colonies angered the British government. In 1775, Britain's Parliament declared Massachusetts, the site of the protest to be in rebellion. They ordered their troops in Boston, and the Revolutionary War broke out.

The American Colonies were unprepared for war. They lacked a government, an army, and a navy. The Congress directed the war effort, and appointed George Washington commander in chief of the Continental Army.

During those dark days, certain American patriots greeted each other with the words, "*Friend, God Save Our Country*." God heard their prayers, and this led to the birth of our nation. That prayerful greeting is as good today as it was in 1775. It should be in the hearts and on the lips of every Christian citizen today, for our country needs saving and only God can save it.

#### I. THE DOWNWARD ROAD

The first subtle indication of departure from God is a false peace, a strange "ease" (6:1) that tranquilizes all sensitivity to Him. Interestingly, with this passivity comes a measure of self-confidence, or a false "trust" in objects other than God (6:1). Before long, a spirit of vain conceit, a false esteem of self, overwhelms the life. Lulled to believe that judgment is "far away" (6:3), a false lifestyle, which often involves various degrees of corruption (see 6:4-6; wine, women, and song), is pursued and developed, bringing divine

judgment even nearer. Eventually, the road always dead-ends in captivity and defeat. (see 6:7)

If righteousness exalts, surely the converse is also true. "Sin is a reproach to people." When there is a lack of righteousness, it will destroy a nation; it lead to the ruin of any people. I want to tell you that the greatest threat to America is God. He's our only hope, but He is also our biggest threat. I'm not afraid nearly so much of what the Taliban or the terrorists are going to do to us as I am of what God Himself is going to do, through them or through someone else.

**Character is a missing ingredient today** — that "responsibility assumed." We've lost our character as a nation. Look what we are doing to ourselves:

<u>Government dependence</u> — Rather than depending upon God, self-ingenuity and responsibility, we have come to think Uncle Sam is our source. Our Constitution states that government is to provide for the common defense and promote the general welfare, <u>not</u> promote the common defense and provide the general welfare!

**orce** — Family values are scorned. Since 1920, the divorce rate has risen 1,420%. Baby boomers are divorcing at a rate twice as high as their parents.

<u>Abortion</u> — The Vietnam Memorial has 68,000 names on it. It stretches for 500 feet. If we were to build a similar memorial for the little babies who've died since *Roe vs. Wade*, it would have over 45 million names on it and would stretch over 63 miles.

**Pornography** — A broken sewer pipe is being spewed out on America. Material that was once seen and sold in back alleys is now on open display in magazine racks and neighborhood drug stores and piped into the homes of America's families through cable television and the Internet.

Drugs and alcohol — We live in an alcohol-soaked society. Advertisers have we such a good job that according to one statistic, 95% of college students wink beer. That's not to mention the rampant drug use in our society.

"Sin is a reproach to any people," and when we lose our character, we lose our freedom. Liberty and responsibility are inseparably linked. We are humiliated

+ yet sing "for Bless America" - It is a worder the hera't blotted us from the face of the can'th -

# "He Is Able..." Series

7-7-19 Am God/County Day

#### 1-He Is Able... TO SAVE

**Hebrews 7:25** Wherefore **he is able also to save** them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

#### From the Guttermost To the Uttermost!

Evangelist Billy Sunday had a great sermon, where he talked about how God saved him **from the gutter-most** because he was a gutter-drunk when God saved him.

The emphasis is on the fact that Jesus saves completely, forever, all who put their faith in Him, because He is our High Priest forever.

The KJV "to the uttermost" is accurate and significant. Jesus' priesthood is no halfway measure, as were the animal sacrifices that only symbolized removal of sin (see notes Hebrews 10:4, 10:11). The symbol was important for that covenant. It was God-given and God-required, but still was only a symbol. But Jesus Christ is able to save both eternally and completely.

Spurgeon comments on the uttermost asking...WHAT IS THE MEASURE OF **THE SAVIOUR'S ABILITY**? This is a question as important as if it were for life or death—a question as to the ability of Jesus Christ. How far can salvation go? What are its limits and its boundaries? Christ is a Saviour: how far is he able to save? He is a Physician: to what extent will his skill reach to heal diseases? What a noble answer the text gives! "He is able to save to the uttermost." Now, I will certainly affirm, and no one can deny it, that no one here knows how far the uttermost is. David said, if he took the wings of the morning, to fly to the uttermost parts of the sea, even there should God reach him. But who knoweth where the uttermost is? Borrow the angel's wing, and fly far, far beyond the most remote star: go where wing has never flapped before, and where the undisturbed ether is as serene and quiet as the breast of Deity itself; you still, beyond the bounds of creation, where space itself falls, and where chaos takes up its reign: you will not come to the uttermost. It is too far for mortal intellect to conceive of; it is beyond the range of reason or of thought.

"During the Civil War, there was a young Union soldier who had lost his father and older brother in the war. He went to Washington, D.C., to see if he could get an exemption from military service so that he could go back home and help his mother and sister with the spring planting. When he approached

the White House and asked to see the president, he was turned away. Totally disheartened, the soldier sat down on a park bench nearby. A little boy approached him and said, "You look unhappy, soldier. What's wrong?" After the soldier shared his story, the little boy took him by the hand. He led him through the back door of the White House, past the guards, and into the sident's office itself. President Lincoln looked up and asked, "What can I do for you, Tad?" Tad said, "Daddy, this soldier needs to talk to you"—and the soldier was not turned away. When Jesus completed the work of salvation, He opened up the way so that we could have access to God. Those who have placed their trust in Christ may come directly to the Heavenly Father with their petitions. And the Son sits on the Father's right hand and says, "Daddy, this is someone who needs to talk to You." He is the only intercessor we need. Hallelujah, what a Savior!"

# 1-He Is Able... TO SAVE A NATION

**Hebrews 7:25** Wherefore **he is able also to save** them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

#### 1-He Is Able... TO SAVE A FAMILY

**rews 7:25** Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

### 1-He Is Able... TO SAVE A SOUL

**Hebrews 7:25** Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.