

## ***“Is there not a cause greater than ourselves?” Part 1 of 4***

As I convey what the Lord has placed on my heart, I ask each of you reading this to take the time to answer the question “Is there not a cause greater than ourselves?” Never before in our lifetime has the need been greater to answer this thought provoking question.

We need to decide and answer this question for ourselves now and be prepared to sacrifice our time, our money, pledge our sacred honor, and possibly be willing to lay down our lives no matter what may come.

Many of you are already engaged in this fight to save our nation for various reasons. Some of us will say we are concerned with the staggering amount of debt enslaving us and future generations. Some of us will say we want to preserve and restore our freedoms that are being eroded almost on a daily basis. However, I believe there is not a man or woman who would not agree that the real reason we are engaged in this fight to save America, is for the legacy we will leave behind for our children and grandchildren.

There is a sign in my son’s school gymnasium which states, “Whoever wants the next generation the most will get them.”

As many of you already know, our children are being consumed by enemy forces in their public schools with the Islamic/Marxist/Socialist/Communist/Homosexual indoctrination taking place all over America.

Furthermore, our children and some of us are being ensnared and taken captive by the enemy—the prince of the airwaves, by the lyrics of the songs we listen to, what we watch on television, at the movies, and read in magazines, books, and on the internet. The media and arts/entertainment industry is the number one source for **perpetuating** the moral decay in our society.

Unfortunately, just like the type and quality of the food we eat affects our physical bodies, what we listen to with our ears and watch with our eyes also affects our spiritual condition. The bottom line is we become what we meditate and feed on and many have exchanged the truth of God’s Word to embrace the worldview of what our society deems acceptable and right in our own eyes.

Therefore, as a result, many have left the narrow path which leads to life and are running toward the wide, easy path which always leads to destruction and death.

Furthermore, our families are breaking up due to divorce which brings with it despair and abandonment issues no matter how much mom and dad tell our children it is not their fault. Even if their parents aren't divorced, one or both parents are emotionally checked out due to the stress of having to earn a living and attending to other things they believe to be more important.

The downward spiral for our country started in 1963, when we allowed prayer to be taken out of public schools. Now 49 years later, our children do not know God's Word unless they attend church which has declined significantly, or they are taught from their parents, which by the way we are commanded to do based on Deuteronomy 4:7-10.

Furthermore, with the great apostasy taking place in many pulpits across America we are now witnessing what happens when we do not renew our minds and our hearts with God's Word for ourselves. As a result, we are taken captive by the enemy of our souls.

Moreover, most of us work hard to give our children all the material possessions they could ever possibly want which fosters the entitlement mentality we see so prevalent in our society today. The truth is the one thing our children want and need most is our love, our time, and our guidance.

Perhaps your children are fortunate enough to have you as their parents but for the vast majority of children in America their most basic need of love and acceptance goes unmet. Therefore, they look for love and acceptance in all the wrong places. So they turn to drugs, alcohol, sex—anything that they feel will make them worthy, loved, and accepted.

Why? Because this is what they see their parents doing as they pursue their definition of the American dream and the pursuit of happiness.

Our children and many adults in our society are crying out, show us something true, something lasting, something of real value so I can truly feel loved and accepted.

Why? Because when we all take off the masks we wear when no one is looking, this is the deepest innate need every individual has—to be love and accepted for who we truly are, not what we pretend to be.

**What is really going on here?**

The enemy of our souls has taken many individuals captive, including our children and this will continue until we all choose a better way and return to the ancient paths that lead to life not death, blessings and not curses.

I know what I am talking about because for the majority of my life I lived in despair, fear, torment, misery, depression, and was looking for love and acceptance in all the wrong places due to the sense of despair that something was wrong with me, something was missing in the deep abyss of my soul.

Long story short, I was abandoned by both parents until age nine, and was emotionally, physically, and sexually abused during the foundational years of my life. As a result, I experienced hell on earth for the majority of my life because of it.

For many years I wanted nothing to do with God because I was repulsed by the hypocrisy I saw and experienced by my parents and others who said they were Christians. The tragedy of my journey, like so many others is that the very people who were supposed to protect me, nurture me, guide me, and love me were the very people who violated every protective boundary in my life and I suffered greatly as a result.

I grew up believing that God, our Heavenly Father, was the same way as my earthly parents and other Christians I came in contact with and couldn't be trusted and didn't love me either.

Therefore, I spent the majority of my life running from God in rebellion and tried to fill that deep void in the recesses of my soul with the pursuit of happiness we have all come to think will make us happy.

Like the majority of people I thought I would be happy *if only* I could make a lot of money, have a beautiful house, drive a nice car, get married, have children, have lots of friends—you know the pursuit of the American Dream we have defined as “our” pursuit of happiness.

When the pursuit of all these things didn't bring me the happiness I was searching for I turned to drugs, alcohol, shopping, uncommitted relationships—anything and everything that would ease the pain of my existence that something significant that really mattered was missing.

How many of us have bought the lie from the tormentor of our souls of I will only be happy if...

I have learned that happiness is fleeting and is based on the circumstances in our lives, whereas joy, peace, and a contented spirit are God's blessings for those who truly enter His rest by fully trusting in His ability and not our own.

And, my story is not unique, we all have shattered dreams. You may be wondering what I am sharing with you has to do with saving America?

Everything! For children live what they learn and then they grow up and become parents and the cycle repeats itself until someone chooses a better way. Moreover, our children are the future of this nation, and as such, children have "Shattered Dreams" when the most important people in their world—their parents, either disappoint or devastate them.

You may have dreamed of retiring and it seems you cannot even survive. You may have lost someone you love due to death, abandonment, divorce, addictions, illness, etc. We all have different "Shattered Dreams" in life and everyone can relate in some capacity to their dreams being shattered.

The "American Dream" is being shattered before our very eyes. And the cycle of our downward spiral will continue unless we choose a better way.

And this is exactly what we need to decide for ourselves today that each of us will choose a better way. We are at a crossroads in our nation and we will not save this nation until the "root" cause is dealt with and it begins in our hearts and our homes!

The "root" cause of everything we are reaping as a nation is because we have forsaken and rebelled against God, our Creator. As such, **we** have broken the covenant we entered into when we accepted Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, and the covenant our Founding Fathers established with God when this nation was founded under Judeo-Christian values.

We have become a nation of people who call evil, good and good, evil. The answer is so simple yet we still don't understand. Jesus said in John 14:15, "***If you love me, obey my commandments.***"

If you are still not sure if what I am proclaiming is true, look up the curses of Deuteronomy 28 and you will fully realize we are already reaping the consequences of our actions. The curses of Deuteronomy 28 talks about people losing our homes, jobs, divorce, break up of families, ability not to provide for our families, our children going astray, health issues

from diseases and plagues (cancer, aids, diabetes, ADHD, depression (which by the way is at an all time high, especially in our children), hot scorching summers, etc.

Speaking of hot scorching summers and the record heat wave we have been experiencing the past few years, this is one of the curses of Deuteronomy 28. Drought is always a curse in the land which results in fires, crop failure, excruciating heat waves, etc.

*“The Lord (this is judgment from the Lord, not the enemy) will strike you with wasting disease, with fever and inflammation, **with scorching heat and drought**, with blight and mildew, which will plague you until you perish. **The sky over your head will be bronze** (no rain), the ground beneath you iron (crops will not prosper). The Lord will turn the rain of your country into dust and powder; it will come down from the skies until you are destroyed.” ~ Deuteronomy 28:22-24*

**We will continue on this downward spiral until we have sincere sorrow for our sins and turn from them and back to God, our Creator.**

We are quick to blame our leaders in government and the church for the condition of our nation, but the truth is the character of our leaders and the choices they are making are a direct reflection of the state of spiritual darkness inhabiting the hearts of those who are called by His name. We have no one to blame but ourselves as we witness the consequences of our moral, ethical, and spiritual decay because of our self-serving prideful propensity to do what is right in our own estimation.

So how do we make a difference for our children and help save America? Before we can save this nation, I believe we need to briefly reflect on why God blessed America in the first place.

The underlying factor which made America the greatest nation ever to exist was not our differences but those things which joined us together in unity. The Founding Fathers of our great country had one common denominator: their trust and devotion to God, our Creator.

America inherited the promises of God because we built our nation for His honor and glory from the very beginning. As a result, America became “One Nation under God” and personified the truth of 2 Corinthians 3:17, *“The Lord is the Spirit. **Wherever the Lord’s Spirit is, there is freedom.**”*

Let the significance and truth of 2 Corinthians 3:17 answer the “root” cause of why we are losing our freedoms and everything we cherish, especially our children.

As believers we are supposed to walk **in Spirit and in Truth**, and the reason the Lord’s Spirit for the most part does not reside in His people is because we are not walking according to the Spirit, but rather according to the flesh (our carnal mind).

Most Christians in America are caught up and living according to the patterns of this world and our fleshly desires rather than being set apart (consecrated) for God’s glory and purposes to prevail.

The Lord’s Spirit is manifested in those who are set apart for His purposes and glory to prevail only by our total submission and obedience to His Lordship in our hearts and our lives.

The only way the Holy Spirit will indwell in our bodies which are the temple of God, is by us no longer conforming to the patterns of this world and living Holy because God is Holy. His Spirit will not and cannot dwell in carnal Christians and this is one of the reasons we see the fruit of the enemy at work in our lives and nation!

***America is comprised of 60 million evangelical Christians who profess Jesus Christ is their Lord and Savior. Does America look like “One nation under God” or more like Satan’s lair?***

Never before has the “fruit” of the enemy been more apparent in our hearts, our lives, and our nation. I call these the D’s of the Devil. Some of the enemy’s fruit are Debt, Division, Debate, Deception, Dependency, Depression, Despair, Distrust, Division, doubt which always leads to destruction and death.

Our founding fathers and other leaders foreshadowed what would become of our country if we forgot our roots. We have been led astray and we have lost our way of what was envisioned by our Founding Fathers as they penned our Declaration of Independence which states, *“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by **their Creator** with certain unalienable rights that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”*

These unalienable rights are based on the foundation of **Religion** and **Morality** as the only way to preserve our Republic!

**So how do we save America?**

It begins in our hearts and minds! God has already given us the answer to saving this Republic. 2 Chronicles 7:14!

***“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”***

Let me paraphrase what God is truly saying to His people not the lost! He is saying if we will stop being self-reliant and prideful by **humbling ourselves and submitting to His Lordship** in our lives by seeking to cultivate a personal intimate relationship with Him, then we will want to please Him and stop sinning. Only then will He answer our prayers by forgiving our iniquities and heal “our” land!

This promise from God, our Creator, isn’t only for His intervention and healing of our nation. It is also His promise for **“our”** land—our children, our marriages, our finances, our afflictions, our diseases, our addictions, our hopes and dreams.

I know this to be true because my life has been totally radically transformed by the power of His love. But it was only after I finally realized the Lord is my shepherd I shall not want. The Lord is my shepherd He is all I need.

I received this life altering revelation after I spent the majority of my life suffering greatly based on the unwise choices of others and myself. I came to realize He is all I ever wanted or needed when He stripped me of everything I thought defined me and He literally became all that I had.

But first I had to come to the end of myself by living my life according to what I deemed right in my own eyes based on the deception of the one whose mission is to steal, kill, and destroy the inheritance we already have as sons and daughters of God, our Creator, and His Son, Jesus Christ.

Unfortunately for most it takes great pain before we are willing to change the course we are on and is why America’s darkest days are before her unless we decide to arise and radically rededicate ourselves to the only one who can save our children, our souls, and our nation.

The enemy of our souls stole my childhood, my innocence, my family, my health, my happiness and I would have continued on this path of destruction until I decided I had enough and for the sake of my children I would choose a better way.

God has a way of getting our attention and usually it is not until we hit rock bottom do we realize our way of doing things is insane. We all know the definition of insanity. Oftentimes it is only after we come to the point we have exhausted all our other options, do we finally understand we cannot save ourselves and need a savior.

And this is why in this hour the Lord is shaking everything we have placed our trust and reliance in other than Him. This is why we are losing our freedoms, our wealth, our houses, our jobs, and even our children. Money and Greed has replaced God, our Creator.

It is a result of our prosperity in America that we have become proud and self-reliant. We have rebelled against and forsaken God, our Creator, for the pursuit of stuff rather than **His Kingdom** and **His Righteousness**. And it is for this very reason God will allow the financial collapse of the United States of America.

In His great mercy and love for us He must chastise those He loves and the cup of our iniquity is overflowing in America. Yes, our God is a loving and merciful God; however, He is also a just judge. **Righteousness and Justice** is the foundation of His throne. (Psalm 89:14) God's judgment always begins in His own house.

God will do and allow whatever it takes to wake up His Church and His people not only in America, but worldwide so they know that He is their Savior when we lose everything we have place our trust and pledged our allegiance to other than Him.

Many people who are called by His name are living no differently than the lost, and like Esau, we have sold our souls and traded our inheritance, and our birthright, as His children and people of this nation. **We** have broken the covenant with God we entered into when we accepted His Son, Jesus Christ.

There are many reasons why this is happening, however, the main reason is His people do not truly know who we are in Christ Jesus. We do not fully understand we have been purchased by His blood and our lives are not our own.

When Jesus Christ said, "*It is finished*" as His life force left His body and His precious blood was shed for all of us who would accept God's free gift of salvation the deal was sealed. The moment we accepted Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we exchanged all that we are for all that He is **now** not when we die and get to heaven.

This truth is proclaimed by John 1:16-17 which states, “And of His fullness we **have all received**, and grace for grace. For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”

***ONLY BY THE BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST ARE WE...***

***Offered God's free gift of salvation***

***Redeemed for the forgiveness of our sins***

***Atoned (reconciled) to a right relationship with God, our Creator***

***Cleansed and made righteous (justified) in the eyes of Yahweh, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob***

***We are given grace and mercy by Our Heavenly Father to equip and anoint us to “do” everything according to His will which includes living Holy***

***As the bride of Christ, and sons and daughters of our Heavenly Father, we inherit everything that is His.***

***As a result...***

***We are given Dominion, Power, and Authority over all the works of Satan including being healed, delivered and set free from all the ploys of the enemy***

***All this culminates in Eternal Life***

Yet, we are taught and believe all we have to do is profess with our mouths that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior and nothing else is required—congratulations you now will not go to hell when you die. Many have accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior not because they reached the point in their lives that they knew they could not survive unless they submitted to His Lordship. Rather many have accepted Him as some type of “fire” insurance, to escape the fires of eternal salvation when they die. Then they go right on living no differently than before they heard the gospel believing their salvation is secure. They have their one-way ticket to heaven. Halleluiah!

There is no talk about the need to repent and stop sinning by submitting to the Holy Spirit and living according to the precepts and principles in God's Word, which are the terms and conditions of the new covenant established by God through His Son, Jesus Christ.

The Lord has placed it on my heart to proclaim the need for His body, the Church, to "get back to the basics" in our walk with Him. So the most basic need for the Body of Christ—to return to our first love—Jesus Christ.

We need to learn how to have a personal intimate relationship with the Creator of the universe. He longs to be in fellowship with His children and many are not taught the simplicity of how to establish this relationship with our Heavenly Father, Yahweh, and His Son, Jesus Christ.

As a matter-of-fact this is how we will have eternal life by **knowing Yahweh, the only true God and His Son Jesus Christ**. In John 17:1-5 (NKJV), Jesus spoke these words as He lifted up His eyes to heaven, He said, *"Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. **And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.** And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was."*

It is one thing to know the Word of God, but the most important thing we must seek to do is to **know** on a personal intimate level our Heavenly Father, Yahweh, and His Son, Jesus Christ. Then like Jesus, we must finish the work our Heavenly Father has called us to do while on earth for His glory and purpose to prevail.

This is the only way we will be able to finish the race set before us so we will inherit eternal life! It is a fatal mistake to know the Bible, yet not walk with and establish a personal intimate relationship with the author and finisher of our faith. Listen to Jesus' words regarding this sobering truth.

*"But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe. You search the Scriptures, **for in them you think you have eternal life**; and these are they which testify of Me. But you are **not willing to come to Me that you may have life.**" ~ John 5:38-40 (NKJV)*

The question which must be addressed by those who profess to be believers is not whether Jesus Christ is their Savior, rather is He Lord of our lives?

At the moment we accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior **every** sin we have **ever** committed is forgiven and we are cleansed and redeemed by Jesus' blood. In other words, we have a clean slate and will not be held accountable for what we did **when we were lost in our sin and held captive by the enemy**. This truth is conveyed in *2 Corinthians 5:17*, "*Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things are passed away; behold, new things have come.*"

This is why we tell the lost no matter what sin they have committed, it is never too late to receive forgiveness and cleansing by accepting Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. This is also the case for believers who are backslidden as well. All we have to do is ask Jesus for forgiveness with a humble and a contrite heart. Then we must stop sinning and rededicate our lives to God. He is waiting with open arms, how will we respond?

We have reached the line of demarcation and we must choose this day "*whom we will serve.*" We only have two choices, we either serve God or Satan, and this is no time to straddle the fence and "play" church.

Then we must get busy about the Father's business because the hour is later than most realize. The truth is each and every one of us has a God given destiny to fulfill while we are still on earth. I cover this truth in Part 2 of 4 of this series titled "*Is there not a cause greater than ourselves?*"