

“A NATION INHERITED – A NATION TO REVIVE – A NATION TO PASS ON”
ACTS 17:22-28

INTRO: For those of us who live in America, we HONESTLY MUST SAY that we have **INHERITED A GREAT NATION**. In the history of the world there has never been a nation like the U.S.A. and that is because GOD IN ETERNITY PAST, DETERMINED **WHO HE WOULD RAISE UP TO “DISCOVER” THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE, TO EXPLORE THE TWO GREAT CONTINENTS OF THE HEMISPHERE, AND TO FOUND THE NATIONS ON THE TWO GREAT CONTINENTS OF THE HEMISPHERE. (23 ON NORTH AMERICA AND 14 ON SOUTH AMERICA)**. Regarding the U.S.A., God RAISED UP those seeking for RELIGIOUS FREEDOM to come to these shores as early as the 1500’s followed by the PURITANS, THE PILGRIMS, and others, who, ever since, were and are looking for the **FREEDOM AMERICA HAS TO OFFER**. In 1776 God raised up **56 MEN** to sign the **DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE**, who, UNDER GOD, laid the foundation for the GREATEST NATION IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD. America quickly rose up BY GOD’S GRACE. **BUT** within 100 years of her founding, through **DARWINIAN SECULARISM, THE WEAKENING OF THE PULPIT, THE COMPROMISE OF THE CHURCH, AND THE WORLDLINESS OF THE CHRISTIAN**, she began to turn away from God WHO BROUGHT HER INTO EXISTENCE. We have INHERITED A GREAT NATION, but NOW, **FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS, GOD HAS PLACED YOU AND ME ON THIS CONTINENT AND IN THIS NATION TO REVIVE AMERICA AND TO PASS IT ON TO THE GENERATIONS TO FOLLOW UNTIL CHRIST RETURNS.**

EXPLANATION OF THE TEXT OF ACTS 17:22-28

THE APOSTLE WAS ON MARS HILL IN ATHENS PREACHING ABOUT THE TRUE GOD

- 1) God Made the World – Vs. 24
- 2) God Is to be Worshipped – Vs. 25a
- 3) God Is the Author of Life – Vs. 25b
- 4) God Made All Nations of One Blood – Vs. 26a
- 5) God Determined the Appointed Time of all Nations – Vs. 26b
- 6) God Set the Boundaries of Every Nation – Vs. 26c
- 7) God Purposed in all of this that people would Seek Him – Vss. 27,28

THREE THINGS TO CONSIDER IN LIGHT OF THIS TEXT

I. WE HAVE A NATION INHERITED

AMERICA WAS ESTABLISHED BY GOD, FOUNDED BY MEN AND GIVEN TO US

- A. We have Inherited a Great Nation with Benefits
 1. The Benefit of Life
 2. The Benefit of Liberty
 3. The Benefit of the Pursuit of Happiness
- B. We have Inherited a Great Nation with Purpose
 1. To Provide Freedom
 2. To Proclaim the Gospel
 3. To Protect Israel
- C. We have Inherited a Great Nation with Influence
 1. Influence in Democracy
 2. Influence in Education
 3. Influence in Industry
- D. We have Inherited a Great Nation with a Solid Foundation
 1. From the Biblical Perspective
 - a. As seen in our Motto – **“IN GOD WE TRUST”**
 - b. As Seen in our Pledge – **“ONE NATION UNDER GOD”**

2. From the Constitutional Perspective

(Based upon **DIVINE LAW** and **THE LONGEST LASTING NATIONAL CONSTITUTION**)

- E. We have Inherited a Great Nation with Flaws
 - 1. Because we are Human
 - 2. Because we are Sinful

II. WE HAVE A NATION TO REVIVE

AMERICA NEEDS TO REVIVE SPIRITUALLY AND TURN BACK TO GOD THROUGH CHRISTIAN BELIEVERS ADOPTING THE BIBLICAL WORLD VIEW

- A. That Promotes the Existence of God – Genesis 1:1
- B. That Promotes the Sanctity of Life – Genesis 1:26,27
- C. That Promotes the Biblical Monogamous Family – Genesis 2:21-24
- D. That Promotes the Divine Work Ethic – Genesis 3:19; 2 Thessalonians 3:10
- E. That Promotes Biblically Based Civil Government – Genesis 9:1-6
- F. That Promotes the Abrahamic Covenant – Genesis 12:1-3
- G. That Promotes God-Centered Education – Deuteronomy 6:4-9
- H. That Promotes Ecclesiastical Influence – 1 Timothy 3:15

III. WE HAVE A NATION TO PASS ON

AMERICA HAS GOD-GIVEN PRINCIPLES WE MUST PASS ON TO THE NEXT GENERATIONS

- A. By Maintaining our Heritage
- B. By Maintaining our History
- C. By Maintaining our Hope

APPLICATION/LESSONS

- 1) God has each of us here RIGHT NOW for **SUCH A TIME AS THIS!**
- 2) God expects us to STAND FOR HIM in **SUCH A TIME AS THIS!**

FOR THE AMERICA THAT WE HAVE INHERITED TO BE REVIVED AND TO BE PASSED ON TO FUTURE GENERATIONS UNTIL THE RETURN OF JESUS CHRIST, EACH OF US WHO KNOW THE LORD MUST LEAD THE WAY ACCORDING TO BIBLICAL TRUTH.