



Prayergram®

Challenging Christians to Pray — February 2010

America, God is not mocked

It is fitting to say that God has a controversy with America, a nation that is blessed of God more than any other nation in history. In many ways, America has become a spiritual Israel through the providence of Almighty God. As we know that God placed Israel in a strategic place, and given the opportunity to be a showcase among the nations of the world. But after pledging faithfulness to God, she turned her back on the God of glory. Can you see the connection here? In spite of all America's economic and social standing, she has been on a downward spiral for the last several years, sinking in "secularism and debauchery" equal to that of the pagan cultures of yesteryear. America's hour has come to repent and turn to the God of our forefathers who sought the wisdom and guidance of the Almighty on bended knees at every turn.

There is a rebellious streak in all of us as we go about establishing our own righteousness and precepts over God's righteousness. The history of the world is replete with the remains of once great nations and cultures that refused to be governed by the precepts of God. The culture watchers would agree that every sacred

institution in America is currently under attack, and the free exercise of the Christian faith without government intrusion will soon become a thing of the past, and we have no one else to blame but ourselves. As Christians, we've become weak and powerless to go up against the tide of rising secularism because we are not a 'holy people' of God. It's obvious that we are in the midst of a war, and we are not going to win this war by a heterogeneous mob of the cowards and careless, but by a holy minority committed to the proposition of soul-travail, a believing few to saturate and infiltrate the world as the "salt of the earth."

The "Golden Age" of American influence is waning or has nearly faded into oblivion. America's new 'god of humanism' has now enshrined itself as the object of worship in the school house, the state house and even the church house. Preachers who used to preach about the "costly grace" of Calvary have now become peddlers of "cheap grace," which requires neither repentance, restitution, separation from the world, nor obedience. The gospel of redemption from all sin they have altered to a psychosomatic,

*Judgment
waits at the door;
the rejection of
the blood of Christ
brings the worse
darkness upon the
human race, and it
has proven down
through history.
As Christians,
let's not be like
jellyfish, but rather
men and women of
rectitude, tenacity,
courage and faith,
ready and willing
to put up a glorious
fight so that we
may lay hold of
God's power and
strength! Always
remember, our God
reigns supreme.*

politically correct, sweet gospel which excuses sin and carnality. They have manufactured a gospel of health and wealth to supplant a gospel of holiness.

In the last fifty years, America has transformed itself from a Christian nation into a nation somewhat similar to ancient Rome. The insatiable hunger for materialism and the prurient lust for power and the ever increasing demand for sports and entertainment exceed that of the paganized Roman civilization now lies buried in their national graveyard as a constant reminder of the severity of a just and righteous God who holds people accountable for their deeds. *God blessed America beyond measure when the Bible was the most precious book in the average home and our leaders were men of faith, humility and integrity.* For example, Abraham Lincoln's farewell words in Springfield, Illinois on February 11, 1861, "*Unless the great God who assisted him (Washington) shall be with me and aid me, I must fail; but if the same omniscient mind and mighty arm that directed and protected him shall guide and support me, I shall not fail I shall succeed. Let us all pray that the God of our fathers may not forsake us now.*" Is it any wonder we have the Gettysburg Address!

But now, America's national leadership has been in the control of inept and insipid and weak-kneed men who sell their vote to the highest bidder. Tell me, why many professing Christians shy away from uttering that America is indisputably a Christian nation? Supreme Court Justice Brewer, delivering the opinion of the Court (143 U.S. 457), stated: "*These, and many other matters which might be noticed, add a volume of unofficial declarations to the mass of organic utterances that this is a Christian nation.*" But how times have changed and now the current occupant of the White House goes to Europe and the Middle East declares that America is not a Christian nation. *Bah humbug!* In my humble opinion,

I believe God has taken America to the woodshed, and instead of complaining and whining, let's take our medicine at once and ask Him for forgiveness, mercy and pardon for the sins we have committed against His holiness.

Our leaders are no longer interested in serving the American people or to uphold the oath of their office. The old adage is now proven to be true that "*when small men cast long shadows, the sun is about to set.*" The day of national reckoning is upon us, and the storm clouds are gathering, and judgment is about to fall upon an irreverently blatant nation and its people. Sad to say, our national rebellion did not begin in our civil government or our educational institutions, but in our churches and the tolerance of sin came from men who stand behind the sacred pulpits. A nation's culture is a direct result of that nation's faith and spirituality. When so called religious leaders refuse to behold the holiness of God, they begin a crusade to redefine God and biblical morality. Is it any wonder that America stands over the precipice of eminent danger? *Unless we return to the God of our fathers in true repentance and brokenness, we shall soon find ourselves compromising with the enemy.*

The Holy Bible is the charter of our freedom in Christ Jesus. The precepts established in the Bible have provided the moral and social structure upon which the United States of America has been founded. Many in today's religious circles have become so accustomed to New Age lectures, snack-bar sermons, and religious pabulum that they no longer feel the "shiver of fear" that God will judge those who reject His Word and continue to live in defiance. *America is cutting away the branch on which she is sitting.*

— *Matthew Skariah*



The word “intolerant” appears to be an awful word in our modern culture. But before you draw any conclusion, let’s take a look at the early Christians. The early Christians were intolerant in many ways because they were tenacious in their faith and did not compromise with the enemy for material vantage.

But today, “intolerant” has become a scandalous word among many progressive religionist who seem to be eager and ready to appear modern and in tune with the times. He pretends to be the religious avant-garde, constantly mouthing clever arguments to prove that the “ugly is beautiful and the false is true,” have succeeded in brainwashing a large part of the general public into accepting the “ugly” as a sign of moral superiority and sophistication. As a progressive religionist, he takes pride in the fact that he is “broad-minded.” Yes, he has become so “broad-minded” to the extent that he has become shamefully shallow and it doesn’t bother him the least. He is no longer opposes sin but appeases it. The tolerance crowd always

accuses the Christian for being intolerant. But of course, many progressives in the tolerance circle can be notoriously intolerant of those who do not share their “broad mindedness,” but that does not bother them at all.

The early Christians never tolerated sin. Intolerant, exuberant, unashamed, unshaken, unpopular, electrifying — such were the early Christians. So if we try to follow Jesus like them we will meet with the same fate as they did. Who were these early Christians? They were soldiers, disciplined; set out to make Christ known to the world with a ferocious and unstoppable spirit. They enthroned Christ as King of their lives; they believed in the One who had died, and was risen and coming again. They were fearless in the face of persecutions, trials, lampooning and even death; they were supernatural, not superficial; delightful, not defeated, electrifying, not electronic. Best of all, they knew the true meaning of discipleship which led many to martyrdom.

Culture Watch

by
Matthew Skariah

The Intolerant Christian

Dr. Ronald Mushat Frye, writing in the scholarly journal Theology Today, said: “The greatest threat to contemporary Christianity comes from pseudo sophisticates so eager to accommodate the Gospel to the presuppositions of modern culture that they have emptied it of all ‘distinctively Christian content’.” Biblical precepts cannot be determined by the changes in our culture. Being tolerant is no virtue.

I believe that the teachings of Christ are the substance of my life. If I doubt them, I could not go on living. I believe that to remember God every day and every hour of the day, to fulfill His will by loving one’s neighbor, raises us above mere animal existence. This is simple, so very simple that nothing can exceed its simplicity, and at the same time it is so important, and great, and such blessing to all people, that nothing can be greater, because this is the Truth of God.

Christianity leads the way to self-improvement. I believe that moral laws are so simple that people cannot excuse themselves by their wisdom, which is what they are doing. I believe that in subconscious atheism of people, and with the conscious denial of faith of the so-called educated people of the Christian world, lies the reason of the greatest misfortune of the people of our time.

Leo Tolstoy (1828-1910)

Beloved Christian, Russian Thinker/Philosopher

Voice
from
the
Past

HOPE SPRINGS

By Annie Skariah

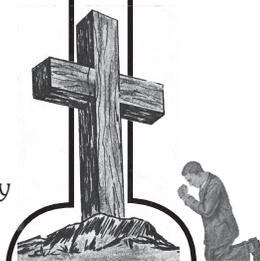
It is worth more than our flesh.
Our souls long for more.
Nothing satisfies the empty spaces,
but a full soul.
We have wreckage still left from the storm.
We have tossed aside the meaning of love,
Wounded our brother's spirit,
Taken what is not ours.
We have created empty bodies of
empty desires.
We can restore what is still ours and
Salvage the broken pieces.
Make it new again,
Let us reconstruct our failing hearts.
Whatever we do, we will do with all of
our might.
It is not worth anything if it is not a
sacrifice.

We will live victoriously in this life on
earth and
Wait for the good that is waiting for us.
Let us not put our faith into the things of
this world.
We are weary and faint, but only alone in
ourselves.
In Jesus Christ, we are warriors.
To death will be put our sorrow.
To life will spring freedom.



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MIRACLE, GOD'S WAY

Jesus said to Jairus, "Be not afraid, only believe." That is the key to miracles — don't allow the message of "hope and faith" become so garbled and askewed in needless theological jargons and inflammable redundancy. Let us never stop believing God for miracles! Miracles happen only when we look beyond what our finite mind can grasp.

In the realm of the spirit, there is an element of "faith and trust" that is not readily understood by the skeptical world. It is discovered only by those who long to be in His inimitable presence. Let us put "doubt and fear" aside and believe God with a daring faith for the miraculous!

*"Never give up on
the brink of a miracle."*

Matthew Skariah



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