

“America: Exalted or Disgraced?”
Proverbs 14:34-35

We live in the greatest nation on earth. Our nation has truly been blessed by God. However, America is not the same that we knew just 30-40 years ago.

I am reminded of what Jeremiah said in **Lamentations 3:51**, “Mine eye brings suffering to mine heart because of all the daughters of my city.”

In light of God’s blessings and the preacher, they turned from their allegiance and dependence upon God. The weeping prophet saw the destruction and degradation of the temple and holy city, and he wept.

The Bible is plain and direct; those nations who know and follow God are blessed. Those who turn their backs on God and live unrighteous lives will suffer God’s judgment.

TT- I want to equate this passage with our dear America. I want to share the past exaltation of America, the present sin of America, and the present and future judgment of America.

I. The Past Exaltation of America (14:34a).

1. How has God exalted this nation?

The word “exalted” means “to promote, lift up, bless, and extol.”

(1). *God has blessed us with prosperity-* We are a nation with unlimited wealth and resources. We are truly blessed material abundance.

(2). *God has blessed us with prestige-* We are respected, honored, and desired of by the nations. I got news for the bleeding heart liberals and terrorist. They don’t hate us because of our privilege and foreign policy; they hate us because our allegiance to Israel and desire to help the nations.

(3). *God has blessed us with power-* We are the only superpower feared on the battlefield. The best deterrent and defense is a strong defense.

(4). *God has blessed us with divine protection-* The divine hedges were up because we feared God and were founded by Christian forefathers. Those among us want to destroy our Christian history and tear down our statues, documents, and any reminders of God’s blessings.

They hate our constitution and founding documents that tell of our Christian heritage. These must go for Marxism and socialism to overcome us.

2. Why has God exalted us?

The word “righteousness” means “upright and moral behavior.” Our best Homeland Security is spiritual not military. The nation that fears and serves God has God’s divine favor (v. 35a).

(1). *Our allegiance to God*- The founders of America were God-fearing people.

Dr. J.D. Gray said, “Among the 56 signers of the declaration of Independence, 47 were graduates of Christian colleges. Most were Christians before they landed on Plymouth Rock; they bowed and thanked God, not the Indians, for bringing them to America and providing their needs and provisions.”

A noted secular educator said, “All children under 5 years of age are mentally ill. They are sick because of wrong ideas about the founding fathers, the belief in a supreme God, and America as a sovereign nation. It is the duty of secular educators to “fix’ them.”

(2). *Our Allegiance to Israel*- A friend of Israel is and friend of God. God has promised to bless those nations than bless Israel and curse those who don’t (Gen. 12:1-3).

(3). *Our Allegiance to the Gospel*- God has raised up America to be the main thrust in the great commission. He has used America greatly to get the gospel to the whole world.

I. The Past Exaltation of America (14:34a, 35a).

II. The Present Shame of America (14:34b, 35b).

The word “reproach” means disgrace or shame. What are the sins of shame?

(1). *The sin of secularism*- Those who hate God, America and us, what to rid America of any belief or mention of God. Pluralism gives rise to political correctness, and then to secularism.

(2). *The sin of sexual immorality*- Same-sex marriage, couples living together, gambling, legalized drugs, murder, crime, sexual perverts and pedophiles. Churches accepting non-repentant immoral people into their church as members and even ordaining them into positions of spiritual leadership.

(3). *The sin of self-indulgence and Hedonism*- Acquiring and gaining things to satisfy self-gratification.

(4). *The sin of baby murder*- Abortion whether partial birth or the morning after pill. Roe vs Wade in 1973 that legalized the holocaust of infanticide.

(5). *The sin of a social church*- A lukewarm church that has conformed to the culture. A doctrinal and moral compromising church. A church that has left the gospel for social reformation.

III. The Present and Future Judgment of America (14:34b, 35b).

1. God’s judgment comes in two ways:

(1). *External-* invasion by a more godless nation as in the book of Habakkuk where God used the Chaldeans to bring judgment to Judah. **Ex.** of immigration invasion and terrorists.

(2). *Internal-* from within by our sins of shame.

2. The hedge has been taken down. America is coming under God's judgment now and will be in the future.

Our unrestrained and permissive sin is our judgment (Rom. 1:21, 24, and 28).

It is as if God says, "You want to run this nation without me, then have at it. You want sexual perversion, then drown in it. You want self-indulgence, your blessings have become your curse. You want to kill innocents in the womb, their blood be on your hands. Church, you want to become like the world, I'll make you despised and disgraced before the world. You want to legalize marijuana, not stand with Israel, I give you open rebellion and anarchy, open borders and loss of nationalism.

Con:

We are under God's wrath because of our sins of shame. We cry out like the prophet Jeremiah, "My eyes bring suffering to mine heart."

Let's read our text again...