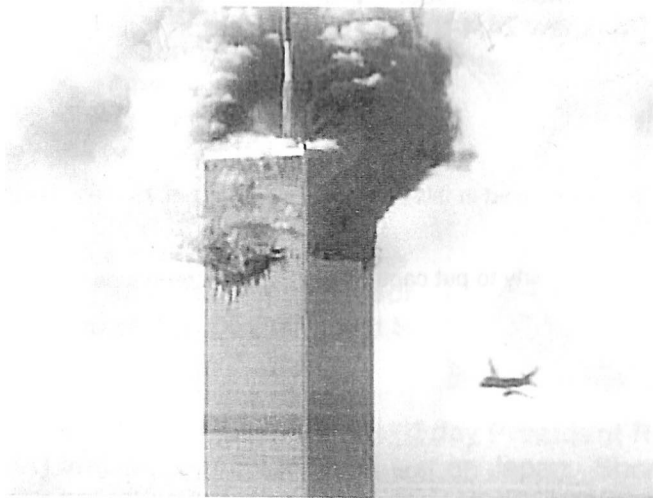


A Day that Changed America!



By:
Frederick L. Pattison,
a Christian!

"Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways." (Genesis 6:11-12)



Jesus issued the following warning:

"Watch out that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Messiah,' and will deceive many. You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes, in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains." (Matthew 24:4-8)

The biblical quotes used in this booklet are taken from *Today's New International Version (TNIV)*.

I have taken the liberty to put caps on the personal pronouns referring to deity.

The Infamous Day!!

I was sitting on the deck of my home in the mountains of central Arizona among the pines, drinking coffee, and reading the morning paper. I decided to go back inside to watch the



morning news on TV . . . and there it was. The burning, collapsing, twin towers of the **World Trade Center** in my beloved New York City. I, along with millions of other Americans, sat glued to my TV set as I watched the horrific events unfolding before my eyes **on that infamous morning**. I could hardly believe what was happening, but it was.

As a transplanted New Yorker, now living in rural Arizona, my mind raced back to another event that happened on **December 7, 1941**. I was 9 years old. It was a Sunday afternoon and I, along with my family, were getting into our Ford car to take a drive from our home in Brooklyn out to the island; Long Island that is. The landlady of the house where we were renting asked my parents if they had heard the news of what had happened that morning. Remember, there was no TV in those days. My parents had not heard the news. The Japanese had **attacked Pearl Harbor** sinking several of the ships of our U.S. Pacific fleet. Even though I was young, I can still remember wondering just how this would affect us. The next day **President Roosevelt [FDR] and Congress** declared war on Japan. Shortly after this our nation also entered into war with the axis powers of Europe; Nazi Germany and fascist Italy.



On September 11, 2001 the destruction of the **World Trade Center**, coupled with the events at the **Pentagon**, and the plane crash in **Pennsylvania** had once again awakened Americans to reality. **President George W. Bush** announced

that America was in a war. Not a traditional war, if there is such a thing, but a war with an **unseen enemy**, a war with terrorism. It seems ironic that immediately after 9/11 hordes of Americans prayed and flocked to various houses of worship. However, **within three months** the praying largely ceased and the increased attendances at the churches and synagogues of the nation returned to what it had been **prior to 9/11**. How quickly we forget.

What happened on **September 11th** should not surprise **Christians**. There is an **enemy** at work in the world. The foremost enemy **is not** the Muslims, Communists, terrorists or even the fanatical **religionists** of the world who hate Jesus Christ, Christianity and Judaism. The apostle Paul warned of **the real enemy** that the people of God face,

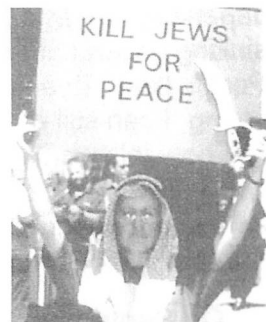
“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.” (Ephesians 6:12)



The forces of evil have been with us since the Fall of our original parents in the Garden eons ago. This evil opposes all that God has set in place. We, Christians, usually refer to this force of evil as the devil, i.e., **Satan**. **Satan bitterly hates the people of God.**

Contrary to what many Americans seem to believe, **our nation is not the center of the world**. Now don't brand me un-American or un-patriotic. **The center of this world's events revolves around that tiny piece of land in the Middle East known as ISRAEL**. Our nation is one of the few countries that have **steadfastly stood with Israel** since its birth as a modern nation in **May 1948**.

Satan hates both the nation of **Israel** as well **the Jews**. **Anti-Semitism** is once again emerging in **Europe** and even in our own land. There are troubling signs of these evil forces gaining



power among some of our nation's leaders. **God help our nation if and when we turn our backs on Israel and the Jews. See – Genesis 12:2-3.**

It appears that **“the Enemy”¹** has been able to **energize** large numbers of **Muslims** in their hatred toward **Israel, the Jews and our nation**. Militant Muslims refer to our nation as **“the Great Satan.”** I am convinced that hatred toward our nation is largely because of our support and standing with Israel. Many **Muslim leaders** have declared that they will not be satisfied until they have driven **the Israelis** into the sea and Israel is utterly destroyed. This vicious, ungodly, demonic stance appears to be spreading.



Islam is a monotheistic religion founded in the seventh century by an Arabian that we know as **Mohammad**. In **the Qur'an**, the “holy book” of Muslims, there are some passages that advocate **violence toward the Jews**. Many **Muslims**, especially Muslim youth, are being exposed to teaching and preaching in **some of their mosques**, that is **fermenting this hatred** toward Israel, all Jews and now also against Christians, especially **Christians of America**. Teaching youth to hate is always **dangerous**. The **“hot-heads,”** in their youthful zeal, often are not able to keep their emotions in check. We see this in the large number of **terrorists** being recruited among Muslim youth, not only in the Middle East, but in Europe and in our own nation as well.

Contrary to what is being said by many politicians and religious leaders, **Islam overall does not appear to be a peaceful religion.**² There are many individual Muslims who are advocates of peace. I know that I am not being **politically correct** when I state that those Muslims who are creating violence are **terrorists**. I do not look at or label every follower of the false prophet Muhammad a terrorist. As a disciple of Jesus Christ I seek to reach out to **Muslims** in love.

¹ “The Enemy” is Satan, i.e., *the devil*.

² This ministry offers a booklet “*Is Islam a Peaceful Religion?*” as well as a workshop titled “*Understanding Islam.*”

Muhammad was not only a misguided, false prophet but he was also a man of his time and culture. **Jesus Christ**, on the other hand, was and is *“the Prince of peace!”* I am fully aware that **some** of the followers of Christ have not been a peaceful people. I am also aware of the fact that many, maybe most, of those people who *“claim”* to be Christians, **have never** come into a **personal relationship** with Jesus Christ. Authentic followers of Jesus Christ are advocates of His peace, His love and His grace toward even those who oppose Him.

I am convinced that what happened on 9/11 is a prelude of what we may expect to see happening in our world and our nation in the days ahead. This, I believe, is one of the many signs that we are living in **End Times**.

*“Jesus answered: **‘Watch out** that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many. **You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains.**” (Matthew 24:4-8)*



America is not a perfect nation. Some of the individuals that we elect to public office to guide and govern our nation fail miserably. Yet, I am convinced that **the United States of America** is the best thing going on this planet. We've made mistakes as a nation. And though many of our politicians **do not** measure up to biblical standards in areas of morality and honesty, as a free people we can still vote them out of office. I continue to love my country. God, through His grace, enabled me to be born in this land. I am not ashamed of my heritage

which reaches back to the early days of this nation. On my father's side, my ancestors came to this land from **Ireland and Scotland** in the early seventeen hundreds before our nation was free from the English monarchy. On my mother's side her maternal ancestors came in the early eighteen hundreds from **Prussia**.

I part company with the **“Religious Right”** in a number of areas. Contrary to what some believe and teach our nation **has never** been a Christian nation. I do admit that as a nation we were built upon **Judeo-Christian values** that we now appear to have largely forsaken and forgotten. Many of our ancestors came to these shores to be a free people. Many came to escape the religious tyranny of Europe where State and Church were married. **In America there was freedom** such as had not been previously experienced in other nations.

There is **only one nation and one people** who were established and set-up by God and that is the ancient Israel. I am not necessarily referring to **the modern State of Israel**. However, I believe that God has been and continues to be in that nation even though **its government** and people are largely in **unbelief**. At this point in history it is a very **secular** country. Yet, it is **in God's Will and one day** biblical prophecy will come to fruition **when our Lord returns**. Christ will return to sit upon the presently unoccupied **Throne of David in Jerusalem**. As disciples of Yeshua [Jesus] it is our responsibility of pray for peace in Jerusalem. **See – Psalm 122:6**. It is also our responsibility, as believers, to share the Gospel with the Jews. **See – Rom. 1:16-17**.



As I have already mentioned I am convinced that God has **blessed our nation** because we have stood with the **State of Israel**. Not only does Satan hate both our nation and Israel but **the radical religionists of Islam** hate both Israel and America as well. If the truth be known **secular Europe** also hates both

Israel and America. **If our nation forsakes** the Jews and the State of Israel, I believe, that we will experience judgment.

Could 9/11 be a warning of what is ahead?

Too many Christians in America are depending upon politicians, whereas **we must depend** solely upon God.

Are you praying daily for Israel and Jerusalem?

America is not a godly nation! The hymn “*America, the Beautiful*” has a petition imploring God to “***mend thy every flaw.***” This should be the prayer of every New Testament believer who is an American.

It is popular today, in many circles, to ***put-down*** our nation. In spite of the fact that we are not a godly or a Christian nation, we have a **heritage and foundation** that is known by **no other nation** on earth. As I mentioned earlier, in this material, a goodly share of the **original settlers** came to the shores of this land in order to worship God **without the fear** of repressive State-Church governments who often persecuted those Christians who differed from whichever was the State Religion of the country from which they fled. I am also aware that **not all of our founding fathers** were New Testament Christians, **yet nearly all of them** had a biblical-background and **respect** for the Bible. I become upset as I see the God of the Bible and the Bible itself being thrown-out of our nation.

George Washington, one of our founding fathers and our first president, was a man of prayer. Note this portrait of Washington in prayer.



Whatever his understanding of Christ as Savior and Lord was I do not know. However, I do know that he often prayed and that he was a Bible-reader.

Thomas Jefferson, another of our nation’s founding fathers, was not afraid or ashamed to offer the following prayer when being installed as president of the United States. This prayer was offered on March 4, 1805 petitioning God thusly:

“Almighty God, Who has given us this good land for our heritage; We numbly beseech Thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of Thy favor and glad to do Thy will. Bless our land with honorable ministry, sound learning, and pure manners.

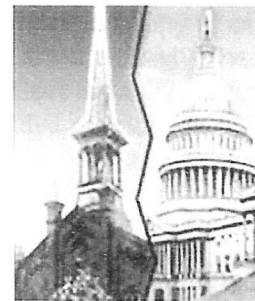
Save us from violence, discord; and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitude brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues.

Endow with Thy spirit of wisdom those to whom in Thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that through obedience to Thy law, we may show forth Thy praise among the nations of the earth.

In time of prosper fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in Thee to fail, all of which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

Can you imagine such a prayer being offered in our day? There would be lawsuits galore. Most of today’s politicians are careful to be “***politically correct.***” ***Why?***

Why do we as a nation and as a people, even many Christians, either ignore God or are afraid to stand up for what we believe is right?



The “**Separation of Church and State**” does not mean that God cannot and should not have place in our nation. It simply means that our government is not to declare any one religion the religion of the land. It was **Thomas Jefferson** who originally coined this phrase. In a letter sent by **Jefferson** to the Baptists in Danbury, Connecticut he wrote that phrase. I do not believe that it was **Jefferson’s** intent that **America** would become a nation ignoring God, throwing the Bible out and dismissing the Ten Commandments as sectarian. **Jefferson** was simply praising the Baptists that they

had followed the example of their American founder, **Roger Williams**, in not establishing a state church in Rhode Island, the colony **Williams** had founded in colonial days.

The following is from the letter that **Jefferson** wrote to the Danbury Baptists:

"Believing with you that religion is a matter which lies solely between man and his God, that he owes account to none other for faith or his worship, that the legislative powers of government reach actions only, and not opinions, I contemplate with solemn reverence that act of the whole American people which declared that their legislature should 'make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,' thus building a wall of separation between Church and State."

Remember, it was this same **Thomas Jefferson** who penned the words to what we know and accept as Americans "**The Bill of Rights**" in our nation's Constitution:



I would oppose any move in our nation to make **Christianity** the established and only faith allowable by the American people. As a nation, since our beginning, we have allowed people of any religious belief, sect or non-belief, to settle in our nation. That has and continues to make America great. Yet, to

deny **Christians and Christianity its rightful place**, I too, believe is wrong. God is God and **God cannot and must not** be ignored and/or banished from our nation.

I am writing this material as first and foremost a Christian. Notice I did not say a church member but as a Christian. To me the New Testament Christian Faith is the most important part of my life. I was "**saved**" in an **old-fashioned, independent, fundamentalist Baptist church** many years ago. I came into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ when **15 years old**. I'm **now approaching my eighties**. In spite of the fact that I am no longer part of a Baptist church, I am thankful for my biblical and spiritual background. It grieves my heart to see the direction that nearly all churches in our nation are taking today. I am saddened to see churches following a path that can spell nothing but disaster. To me what is often dubbed "**the Religious Right**" is nothing more than **Christians being deceived by politicians**. The same holds true for "**the pseudo-religious left**." The Church and the State make for strange, unholy bedfellows. Since the time of Roman Emperor **Constantine** this has been a **curse upon Christendom**; the marriage of Church and State.

We, as a **people and as a nation**, have lost much. Even New Testament believers appear to no longer be a God-fearing, God-believing, God-loving people. We've become **self-satisfied and settled** in this world. We've allowed **secularism** to rule and reign in our government, in our schools and even in many of our churches. Our churches have largely become overwhelmed with the **Laodicean spirit**. **See – Revelation 3:14-22**. Many Christians have bought into the heresy of civil religion.



The picture to the left is that of our Lord knocking at the door taken from **Rev. 3:20**. In its biblical context this passage is referring to the fact that the day would come, and is now here, when Christ would be standing **outside** of the Church knocking to once again enter in.

Will we let Him come into our churches?

Why the Violence?



America is a violent nation. **Why is violence on the increase?** I have no doubt that with each act of violence the so-called “experts” and “authorities” will come forth with answers . . . their opinions, I might add. **But why is violence so prevalent?**

America **does not** have a monopoly on violence. Go nearly anywhere in the world and you will find violence in varying degrees. One of the major points in the theology of the Protestant Reformer **John Calvin** was:

“the total depravity of man!”

Was **John Calvin** on target in setting forth this belief or was he simply exacerbating the matter of sin?

Most people would agree with Calvin in believing that men such as **Adolph Hitler, Joseph Stalin, the Roman Emperor Nero, Charles Manson, Jeffrey Dahmer, etc.** were evil to the core. **But what about the rest of us? Certainly we are not all evil, or are we?**

I am convinced that **the root of the violent actions** that we see taking place in our world, in our nation, and in our individual communities, and at times in our families, **stems from** the inner recesses of each human being. What happened on **9/11**, is simply an insight into the human **heart** of every human being, whether religionist or secularist. All are the same. Note what the prophet Jeremiah wrote,

“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?” (Jeremiah 17:9) KJV.



We learn from Scripture that the heart, mind and soul of every person who has ever lived, other than our Lord Himself, is tainted by sin. In fact the Bible declares,

“There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” (Romans 3:22b-23)

Later in the same letter the apostle Paul declared,

“Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man [Adam], and death [physical and spiritual] through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned.” (Romans 5:12)



The above biblical passages teach that **sin is universal**. All human beings have a nature that is sinful, hence all human beings sin. A small infant is *not taught* how to have a temper tantrum. Neither is a young child taught how to lie and deceive. **Sin is part and parcel** of each one of us. Sin entered the world when **our first parents, Adam and Eve**, heeded the Deceiver’s voice.³ They believed his lie. Thus they sinned. As one who believes that God is the Creator of human beings, each of us ultimately has descended from the original two; Adam and Eve. As a result of the Fall, **we have inherited**, what theologians refer to as **“the sin nature.”** Sin is very natural to each of us. We do not have to learn how to sin. Each one of us, other than our Lord, is a sinner by nature. **No exclusions!** You and I are in this number.

I am concerned by **the violence** that has become common in our nation especially on the campuses of our schools. *Isn’t it ironic that we, as a nation, have **outlawed** the posting of the biblical guidelines for living life from our schools and other public places? Could it be that this violence is, in part, the result of this action taken by the courts of our nation?*

³ “The Deceiver” in this instance is Satan a.k.a. the Devil.

Though no one is able to fully keep these guidelines, “**the Ten Commandments,**” they provide **common sense** for living life. They provide good guidelines as individuals, as families, as communities and as a nation.

Yet, these guidelines have been outlawed.

The **second section** of these guidelines instructs human beings how to **get along** with one another exhorting:

- Honoring and respecting parents and elders.
- Doing no murder.
- Not committing adultery but being faithful to one’s spouse only.
- Not stealing what belongs to others.
- Refraining from giving false testimony against others.
- Not wanting what belongs to others with such intensity that it destroys, i.e. *greed*.

GOD	MAN
1: Do not worship any other gods	5: Honour your father & mother
2: Do not make any idols	6: Do not murder
3: Do not misuse the name of God	7: Do not commit adultery
4: Keep the Sabbath holy	8: Do not steal
	9: Do not lie
	10: Do not covet

The violence around us is **not limited** to the schools. *What about the gang activity in nearly every major city, town and community of our nation? How about domestic violence? Drive-by shootings? Home invasions? Mothers and fathers who kill their children? Children who kill their parents? Aborting babies not yet born, terrorists both domestic and from abroad?*

I could go on-and-on with a listing of acts of violence that boggles the mind. **Sin** is indeed with us and “*in*” each of us.

Violence has been with us from the dawn of civilization. Early in the Book of Genesis we are told that *Cain*, one of the sons of Adam and Eve, killed his brother *Abel*. Then in the **6th chapter of Genesis** we read,

“**Now the earth was corrupt in God’s sight and was full of violence.**” (6:11)

The biblical account records God’s judgment upon the planet, as a result of the sin condition, in the days of Noah.

When Jesus was on earth He was asked, “**What will be the sign of Your coming and of the end of the age?**” (Matthew 24:3b). In that biblical account Jesus told of numerous signs and events that would **increasingly** take place as His return drew near. We are two thousand years nearer to our Lord’s return than when He issued this declaration. *Does this mean that He will be returning in our lifetime? No one knows.* All that we do know is that Jesus will one day return. In the **24th chapter of Matthew’s Gospel** one of those signs is,

“**Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold.**” (Matthew 24:12)

Are not we living in a day when it appears that there is an increase in wickedness as never before? Wickedness, which is sin, abounds. The evidence and consequences of sin seems to be steamrolling. Note the biblical passage quoted above declares that “the love of most will grow cold.” This too, it seems to me, is happening in our lifetime as never before. In our own nation there was a day when nearly every



child attended a Sunday School or catechism class every week. This is no longer true.

Many churches no longer have Sunday Schools. **The vast majority** of our children and youth have had **little or no exposure** to any kind of “religion” or “church” let alone exposure to the Gospel. **Europe** already is in the clutches of raw paganism and godless secularism. Our own nation is **rapidly becoming “cold”** to the things of God.

Cults and false religious teachings abound. **Unbelief** fills many of our Protestant seminaries and churches. Many evangelical and charismatic churches put on extensive entertainment and smooth palatable preaching and programs to **draw people**, rather than proclaiming the **simplicity** of the Gospel. It appears to me, that what the apostle Paul declared in his letter to the believers in Corinth, is especially true today. Note what the apostle wrote:

“For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written: ‘I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.’ Where are the wise? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save **those who believe. Jews demand signs and Greeks [Gentiles] look for wisdom, but **we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks [believers], Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.**” (1 Corinthians 1:18-25) TNIV.**



I am of the belief that **the only real solution**, to the problems that we as a nation are experiencing, will be a **return** to the preaching, teaching and living-out of the Gospel of Jesus Christ by believers. Often in our attempt to pad the church rolls, we **compromise and water-down** the Gospel, resulting in a message that is not what we find in the New Testament. The Gospel is powerful. It is life-changing. It is the best news ever proclaimed to humankind. Jesus Christ came to seek and to save those who would believe, by faith, in Him as Savior and Lord. The apostle Paul wrote of the power of this Gospel,

“I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.” (Romans 1:16)

A quote from a sermon by Penny Harris aptly describes the condition of the human heart,

“All of us are capable of cruelty, hatred, brutality . . . all of us . . . all of us have that in us.”

I think of some of the violence that our country has experienced in recent years:

- the 9/11 attack on the Twin Towers when nearly 3,000 died;
- the Virginia Tech shootings when 33 were gunned down;
- the Columbine High School where 12 students and a teacher were killed;
- the Amish school shootings where several children were gunned down in Lancaster County, PA;
- the senseless killings happening every day in our cities and all over the world;
- the ethnic, racial, religious and sexual hatred that consumes many people creating tension and numerous acts of violence.

Does all of this seem to be doom and gloom?

Yes, in some respects, yet as a disciple of Jesus Christ I **have good news**. This good news is found spelled out in the written Word of God, i.e., *the Bible*. The News is that the God of heaven and earth still reigns. **God is still** on the throne in heaven. Coupled with the love of God is the fact that this God, whom we Christians praise and worship, is the Author and bestower of Grace. I am one of those followers of the Prince of Peace who believes, that **it is through the grace of God**, that the sinful condition of the human heart can be healed.

At this point you may be wondering, **“Just what is grace?”** Probably the very simplest definition of grace is that,

“Grace is God’s favor, love and acceptance extended, without any strings attached to it, to any and to all who will personally accept it.”

Though our hearts are sinful and often we cannot understand some of our actions, yet God’s love, mercy, forgiveness and grace are ours by receiving it. In and through accepting God’s grace we are **reconciled** unto God,⁴ **adopted** into God’s family,⁵ and **given the gift** of eternal life.⁶

⁴ 2 Corinthians 5:17-20.

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast." (Ephesians 2:8-9)

In writing to the church at Rome the apostle Paul proclaimed,

"If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. As Scripture says, 'Anyone who believes in Him will never be put to shame.' For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile – the same Lord is LORD of all and richly blesses all who call on Him, for, 'Everyone who calls on the Name of the LORD will be saved.'" (Rom. 10:9-13)

God's
Riches
At
Christ's
Expense



God's grace is yours for the receiving! When you *repent* of your sin, open your heart and life to Jesus Christ and receive Him as your Savior and Lord **you, too, will become** a child of God. When we receive Jesus Christ into our lives we are literally **adopted** into the family of God. **Salvation is God's free gift** to anyone who will simply receive it. No amount of our working or religious effort can obtain it. Remember, **God's grace** is extended to each person freely. Not one of us merits or deserves God's grace but it is ours for the **believing and receiving** of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Once we are *"in"* Christ, we are given a new nature. **See- 2 Cor. 5:17.**

How about you? Have you personally believed in and received Jesus Christ into your heart and life? If you have not done so as yet, **why not** let Christ come and live in your heart and life.

⁵ Galatians chap. 4.

⁶ Romans chap. 5.

Nationalism and Patriotism

Since the events of 9/11 and other events that have been and are taking place today, there is a **blurring** between **nationalism and patriotism.**

I differentiate between nationalism and patriotism. It appears to me that some Christians do not see the difference.

The Christians of Nazi Germany failed to see the difference between their German super-race nationalism. A goodly number of Christians appear to equate Christianity with **Americanism.** Biblical



Christianity **is not** an American religion. It was not invented by Americans. **God was not and is not an American. God is not a Republican or a Democrat or an Independent. God is God!** As Christians, whatever country we may be residents of, we should be loyal and pray for the leaders of our country. This is a New Testament premise. Whether we like and/or agree with our national leaders, as Christians **we are to pray** for them. **As an American Christian** I am first and foremost part of **God's Kingdom.** In fact, **my sojourn** here is but temporary. **My citizenship** is in heaven. I cannot get overly enthused over the various political candidates. Through the years I've seen one politician after another, who **claimed** to be Christian, fail to be a witness and an example of Christlike living. In fact, I'm not totally sure that it is possible for a godly, Christlike individual to hold a high political office. However, this does not mean that I do not love, appreciate and thank God for my native land. As I have already indicated **I am first and foremost a Christian.** After that I am an American.

I am not a part of what is dubbed **"the Religious Right."** I seek to separate my political views from my belief-system as a New Testament Christian. The so-called **"Religious Right"** has made strange bedfellows. I reject the hard-line sell of many political-religious leaders creating a false gospel that is not the pure, unadulterated Gospel of Jesus Christ. There is only one Gospel.

To sum it all up!

What happened on **September 11, 2001** indeed was a day that none of us presently living will ever forget. It has changed not only our nation that was the brunt of the violent, brutal, godless attack by false religionists, but has changed much of the world as well.



Christian wake up! America wake up! Church wake up!

I am convinced that the attack on our nation was **motivated by Satan**. In his hatred first for the Jews and then for the authentic Body of Christ, the believing Church, he has sought to **unleash** all within his power to destroy Israel and the friends of Israel: the Church and our nation. But I have news for him. **God** is still on the throne of heaven. **Jesus** will one day return in the clouds. He will then take control. The forces of evil will be overcome and destroyed.

As a believing Christian I am:

- **obligated to pray for my [our] enemies;**
- **to be a man [and people] of peace, both with God and of God;**
- **to avoid hating those religionists [militant Muslims and others] of the world who seek to destroy God's special people, the Jews;**
- **diligently pray for the salvation of the enemies of Christ and of the Gospel, both those at home and those throughout the world.**

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