

July 4, 2024

The Lord wants you to live in His light.

Ps. 33:12 *Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people He chose for His inheritance.*

Now let me just begin with a defining statement. Obviously, the psalmist is speaking of Israel in this verse, but it is not only for Israel. This is a blessing that will reach to each and every nation that will choose to follow the LORD. Case in point? The United States of America. Founded and based upon the word of God, America has been more than blessed through its initial years. The founding fathers of this great nation knew that it would only be through the help of the LORD that America would stand. According to the Declaration of Independence: *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.*

The LORD chose to use Israel as a nation, to show what He would do for a nation that would follow Him. The covenant He made with Abraham was His word that He would bless Abraham and his descendants; and He is not finished blessing them. Then, right before His death, Jesus told His disciples that His blood was a new covenant, intended for anyone and any nation that would trust in Him. Now I know that there are some who would disagree with me on this point, but I believe scripture shows what I am saying as truth. Some try to say that salvation is only for those who God has “chosen” to be saved. In essence, that is true because He is not willing that *anyone* should perish, but that *all* should come to repentance (**2 Pt. 3:9** *The LORD is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. Instead He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.*) In fact, **1 John 2:2** confirms this: *He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.*

I believe that America has become like the prodigal son. We had everything that the Father had to give, and yet we wanted what we wanted. Our selfish desires have caused us to look to everything else except Him. This happened to Israel multiple times. But the LORD is not finished with Israel. His formula for restoration is found in **2 Chron. 7:14** and I believe it is also the truth for us as well. *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 I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.*

Dear LORD, please forgive us for being such a selfish lot. We have turned to our own ways and our own desires instead for looking to You for everything that we need. Help us to not just ask You to bless us, but instead help us to bless You. In Jesus Name, Amen.