

## SERMON OUTLINE

**SERMON TITLE:** It's Prayer Time in America

**SERMON REFERENCE:** 2 Chronicles 7:14

**LWF SERMON NUMBER:** #2469

We are grateful for the opportunity to provide this outline produced from a sermon preached by Adrian Rogers while serving as pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee. This outline is intended for your personal, non-commercial use.

In order to ensure our ability to be good stewards of Adrian Rogers' messages, Love Worth Finding has reserved all rights to this content.

Except for your personal, non-commercial use and except for brief quotations in printed reviews, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or any other—without the prior permission of the publisher.

Copyright ©2020 Love Worth Finding Ministries, Inc.

1) INTRODUCTION

- a) 1 Corinthians 10:11
  - i) The Bible says that those things that happened to Israel are examples for us.
- b) 2 Chronicles 7:14
  - i) This is an ancient promise given to Israel.
- c) The United States of America, this wonderful nation born in 1776, must be born again; or it will join the graveyard of the nations.
- d) Jeremiah 10:10
  - i) God is certainly indignant with America.
  - ii) We have insulted the Almighty, and we are ripe for judgment; but we need mercy.
- e) There was a time in America when pregnancy outside of marriage was a scandal, when marriage was sacred, when homosexuality was a sin, when we didn't have to lock our houses or our automobiles, when drugs were something you got at the pharmacy, when public schools allowed students to pray, and when the Ten Commandments were posted on classroom walls.
- f) We have become a proud nation, wallowing in materialism and rotting in sin in the search for what we call pleasure and freedom.
- g) Prophets of God are shunned and laughed at today.
- h) When God's Word is preached today, many call it extreme right-wing rhetoric.
  - i) But the matter is not right or left; the matter is right or wrong.
    - (1) God's Word is right.
- i) There is hope for America.
  - i) America must turn to God, or she will die.

2) THE PEOPLE GOD HAS (2 CHRONICLES 7:14)

- a) The whole promise in this Scripture is predicated on what God's people do.
  - i) God does not look to Hollywood or to the government but to His people.
    - (1) He looks to us.
- b) If America falls and fails, it will be our fault.
  - i) It is not God's fault.
- c) It is not our duty to persuade God to send revival; we must permit Him to do so.
  - i) It begins at the house of God.
  - ii) 1 Peter 4:17
- d) The hope of America is not in the White House, the State House or the school house; it's in God's house.

3) THE PRIDE GOD HATES (2 CHRONICLES 7:14)

- a) We reek with pride; we strut in the face of God.
  - i) God cannot bless an individual, He cannot bless a church, and He cannot bless our nation when we have such pride.

- b) Pride is the root of all kinds of evil.
    - i) America today is filled with humanistic haughtiness.
    - ii) The Bible says we're to humble ourselves.
  - c) James 4:6
    - i) America needs grace.
      - (1) Grace is both the desire and the ability to do the will of God.
      - (2) God puts a desire in your heart and gives you the strength to live as you ought.
- 4) THE PRAYER GOD HEARS (2 CHRONICLES 7:14)
- a) God does not hear every prayer.
    - i) The prayer that God hears is the prayer that seeks His face.
  - b) In America, we are not seeking the face of God; we're seeking His hand.
    - i) Revival is when God can turn His countenance toward us and smile upon us.
      - (1) Can God smile at America today?
    - ii) Most Americans are seeking God's hand; we want God to do something.
    - iii) God is our only hope, and He is also our biggest threat.
      - (1) God will judge us.
  - c) Prayer for revival without repentance is a religious farce.
    - i) Why should God bless America while we're killing little babies?
    - ii) Why should God bless America when He is cursed, maligned and cannot be mentioned in our public concourse?
    - iii) God will not bless America unless we turn from our wicked ways.
  - d) To pray without repentance angers God.
    - i) Psalm 80:4
  - e) Joshua 8:1-35
    - i) Joshua led the children of Israel against mighty Jericho, and the walls came tumbling down.
    - ii) But then Israel, in pride, went against the tiny city of Ai and was soundly defeated.
      - (1) Joshua fell on his face before God questioning why they were defeated.
        - (a) God told Joshua to get up off his face and that Israel had sinned.
          - (i) Prayer is not some sort of smokescreen in which we can hide our pride and sin.
          - (ii) There must be repentance.
  - f) The word "repentance" is used 969 times in the Bible.
    - i) The first message Jesus preached was to repent.
    - ii) The last message Jesus gave from Heaven to the church was to repent.
    - iii) The message that God is giving us today is to repent.
    - iv) Luke 13:3
  - g) What is repentance?
    - i) Repentance is more than a conviction of sin.
      - (1) Acts 24:25

- (a) Felix was convicted of sin, but he would not repent.
    - ii) Repentance is more than confession of sin.
      - (1) Exodus 9:23, 27
        - (a) Pharaoh confessed his sin when the fire and hail came; but the conviction that was born in the storm died in the calm.
    - iii) Repentance is more than contrition for sin.
      - (1) Tears may accompany repentance, but tears are not repentance.
      - (2) 2 Corinthians 7:10
      - (3) The question is not are we sorry for our sin, but will we turn from our sin.
    - iv) Repentance is a turning.
      - (1) The word literally means "a change of mind."
      - (2) We turn from our wicked way, and we seek the face of God.
      - (3) Acts 20:21
        - (a) Repentance and faith are both necessary for getting right with God.
    - v) Repentance is a heart change and a wholehearted change.
      - (1) We shouldn't get the idea that we can get right with God in one area without getting right in every area.
      - (2) Repentance is not gradualism; it is once and for all, now and forever being sick of our sin and turning from it.
      - (3) Ezekiel 14:6
      - (4) Not only must we be broken over our sins, but we must also be broken from our sins.
      - (5) The normal Christian life is to have no unconfessed, unrepented of sins.
    - h) America will perish unless she repents.
      - i) Luke 13:3
    - i) The reason we don't pray is because we reek with pride.
      - i) Pride is the number one thing that God hates.
        - (1) Proverbs 6:16-17
      - ii) Pride is behind every sin.
        - (1) It was pride that made the devil the devil.
      - iii) We must be willing to humble ourselves.
- 5) THE PROMISE GOD HONORS (2 CHRONICLES 7:14)
- a) If we who are called by His name will humble ourselves, pray, and turn from our wicked ways, then God will hear from Heaven and forgive our sin and will heal our land.
  - b) It is not too late for America.
  - c) The God who sent revival to England in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century, who sent revival on Mount Carmel, who sent revival to Nineveh, and who sent revival to Jerusalem, is alive and well.
  - d) God is not a Republican or a Democrat; He is King.

- e) The mighty God who rules from the Heavens will hear from Heaven and will forgive our sins.
- f) God would rather pardon than judge.
  - i) God is angry at our sins, but He is full of compassion and mercy.
- g) God is not talking about the sins of the wicked in this passage in 2 Chronicles, but the sins of His people.
  - i) When the church gets right and we begin to do what we ought to do, we can then deal with the other problems around us.
  - ii) We need to bow the knee before God and stop pointing fingers.

## 6) CONCLUSION

- a) We do not know whether we've crossed God's deadline or not, but this is the time to repent.
  - i) Don't put it off until tomorrow in your personal life.
  - ii) As Christians, we still need to repent of our sins.
- b) We sing "God Bless America", but America needs to bless God.
- c) Have you repented of your sins?
- d) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- e) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
  - i) Romans 3:23
  - ii) Romans 10:9-10
  - iii) Romans 10:13
  - iv) Acts 16:31
  - v) John 3:16