

SERMON OUTLINE

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| SERMON TITLE: | The Generation to Come and the America of Tomorrow |
| SERMON REFERENCE: | Psalm 78:1-6 |
| LWF SERMON NUMBER: | #2232 |

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) There is concern, not only for the America of today, but also for the America of tomorrow.
 - i) What will America be like in twenty years if the Lord Jesus tarries?
- b) America has enjoyed one of the world's top economies but has also been at the top in areas such as divorce, abortion and destruction of family values.
 - i) We need, more so, to leave our children a legacy of great and godly values, rather than a nation of great wealth to be squandered in a godless society.
- c) Psalm 78:1-6
- d) America did not just happen.
 - i) America was a gift from Almighty God.
 - ii) The American dream was placed into the hearts and minds of our founding fathers by God.
 - (1) If we're not careful, the American dream may become a nightmare for generations to come.
- e) God had blessed the nation of Israel.
 - i) He had delivered them from slavery and brought them into a good land.
 - (1) God gave them a law.
 - (2) God gave them a land.
 - (3) God gave them a Lord.
- f) But Israel defiled the land, denied the Lord, disobeyed the law, and judgement came to them.
 - i) The Psalmist in chapter 78 is giving instruction to a nation like this.
 - (1) This is a great parallel and truth for today's world.

2) WE NEED TO REVIEW OUR HISTORY (PSALM 78:4-6)

- a) The Psalmist is telling Israel to look back and see what God had done.
 - i) We need to show our children what God has done.
- b) This passage of Scriptures also shares that fathers have an assignment from God to be a teacher of history to their children.
 - i) If we do not teach our history to the generation to come, then we will be cut off from our roots.
 - (1) This is very important spiritually.
 - (a) We are one generation away from paganism.
 - (b) Many parents today claim that they do not want to force their views upon their children; they want their children to make up their own minds.
 - (i) We must instruct our children.
 - 1. The world is going to teach them.
 - 2. Their teachers will teach them.
 - 3. Their companions are going to teach them.
 - 4. The media is going to teach them.
 - (c) There is a systematic seduction of children today.

- (i) Humanist educators are planning for our children.
- ii) God holds fathers responsible to be teachers of history.
 - (1) Our faith is to go from parent to child to grandchild.
 - (a) Psalm 78:5-6
 - (2) There is a legacy to be left; we are passing off the baton.
 - (3) We have a generation that is in danger of dropping the faith that has been passed down through generations.
- iii) Fathers are to teach both spiritual and national history.
 - (1) America's Declaration of Independence was a declaration of independence from earthly, despotic powers, but it was also a declaration of dependence upon Almighty God.
 - (a) Our Declaration begins by acknowledging our Creator.
 - (i) Our founding fathers believed in creation, but we cannot teach creation in public schools today.
 - (b) Our Declaration of Independence closes by including, "With a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence."
 - (i) "Divine Providence" is a synonym for Almighty God.
 - (2) James Madison, the chief architect of our federal Constitution and the fourth president of the United States, stated that the future of American civilization was staked, not upon the power of government, but upon the capacity of each of us to govern ourselves according to the Ten Commandments.
 - (a) In today's society, we cannot even post the Ten Commandments on classroom walls.
 - (3) In George Washington's inaugural address, he sought the blessings of God and proclaimed our need for God.
 - (4) In 1820, Daniel Webster confirmed that our founding fathers sought to incorporate God in all their institutions and throughout government: civil, political and educational.
 - (5) John Quincy Adams stated that the highest glory of the American Revolution was that it connected in one dissoluble bond the principles of civil government with the principle of Christianity.
 - (6) President Andrew Jackson stated that the Bible is the rock upon which our republic rests.
 - (7) Our founding fathers believed in the separation of church and state in that we're to have no national denomination, but they never believed in the separation of God and government.
- c) Not only are we to teach to our children America's national and spiritual history, but every family should write down and teach its own spiritual history.
 - i) This is so very important with all the societal changes each generation experiences.
 - (1) One generation grew up with "I Love Lucy" and "Father Knows Best."
 - (2) Their children grew up with MTV and HBO.

- (3) The next generation has grown up with online chats and social media, talking with strangers on computers about all kinds of subjects.
 - (4) God is laughed at and mocked and called out-of-bounds for today's generation.
 - (5) What about the generation to come and their children?
 - d) We also need to remember our church history.
 - i) We need to remember what our churches were founded upon:
 - (1) The Bible is the inspired, inerrant and infallible Word of God.
 - (2) Jesus Christ and He only is the Lord of His church.
 - (3) There is a Hell to be shunned and a Heaven to be gained.
 - (4) Sin separates us from God.
 - (5) Judgment is sure.
 - (6) Jesus saves.
 - ii) Too often, churches become program oriented and begin to focus more on methods and the people in the pew rather than the Word of God in the pulpit; and they drift away from the faith that the church was founded on.
 - iii) If we get away from our roots, the fruit will wither and die.
 - e) Individuals need to study their own history.
 - i) Each of us need to understand what God has done in our lives.
 - ii) When our children come to Christ, we need to help them understand their history.
 - (1) Write down when they are saved and rejoice over it.
 - (2) Help your children remember that they have a history.
 - f) The devil wants us to get away from our heritage.
 - i) Psalm 78:4
- 3) WE NEED TO RENEW OUR MEMORY (PSALM 78:7-11)
- a) It is easy to forget.
 - i) It is easy to forget the blessings of God.
 - ii) Psalm 78:9
 - (1) Ephraim was the dominant tribe.
 - (2) They may have been the strongest or the most numerous, but they were defeated.
 - (3) They had excellent military equipment, but they forgot.
 - b) America today is suffering from spiritual amnesia, and we have those who want to rewrite our history.
 - c) There are three memory killers, and both Ephraim and America have suffered from all three:
 - i) The lust of the flesh
 - (1) Psalm 78:17-20
 - (a) America is also provoking God.
 - (b) Rather than thanking God for His blessings, the people in this Scripture are mourning more and more.

- (2) America is suffering today from an erosion of spiritual virtues and values.
 - (a) America is rolling in luxuries but reveling in excesses, reeling in drunkenness and rotting in morals and sin.
- ii) The lure of the world
 - (1) Psalm 78:40-42
 - (a) Not only do we break God's law by provoking Him, we also break God's heart by forgetting Him.
 - (2) This passage in Psalm 78 states that they limited God.
 - (a) The word "limited" in this passage is the word from which we get the word "horizon".
 - (i) They "horizoned" God.
 - 1. If you go to a high place and look around, you'll see a circle which is the horizon.
 - 2. They basically told God to stay within the circle; don't go beyond the horizon.
 - (3) In America, we have also horizoned or limited God.
 - (a) We have made no room for God.
- iii) The lies of the devil
 - (1) Psalm 78:58
 - (a) They forgot the one true God who founded them as a nation and began worshipping false gods.
 - (2) Many of the seemingly disconnected moral issues in our society today may actually be part of a coherent pagan ideology.
 - (3) One false god being worshipped today is the demon god of lust.
 - (a) Much of what happens under the guise of abortion is a blood sacrifice to the demon gods of lust.
- 4) WE MUST RECLAIM OUR LEGACY (PSALM 78:59-61)
 - a) Not only is God our only hope, but He is also America's biggest threat.
 - b) Our nation, that was born in 1776, must be born again; or else we will join the graveyard of the nations.
 - c) What will the America of tomorrow be like if we fail to turn to God?
 - d) We, as Christians, need to be doing the best we can, where we are, with what we have, every chance we get.
 - i) If we do this, then we can change our homes and cities.
 - ii) If we change our homes and cities, then we can change this nation.
 - e) There are enough Christians in America that if we will wake up and review our history and renew our memories, then we can reclaim our legacy.
- 5) CONCLUSION
 - a) America cannot save us; America cannot get us to Heaven.
 - b) It would be a tragedy to live in a God-blessed land and then die and spend an eternity in Hell.

- c) We need the Lord Jesus Christ in our lives.
- d) If we need God in America, then how much more do we need God in our hearts and lives?
- e) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- f) 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