

# How can we help turn this nation back to God?

## Super Saturday Jesus Rally July 11, 2015

### Agenda

1. Record the call
2. Introductions
3. Songs -
  - a. Good to me
  - b. Blessed Assurance
  - c. What a Friend We Have in Jesus
4. Prayer
5. Welcome
  - a. Who I am and what is the Bible Team (see previous call)
6. Study - **How can we help turn this nation back to God?**
  - a. Discussion of the topic
    - i. This is NOT a political problem Our church has been divided over political lines and it's caused the right to blame the left and the left to blame the right.
    - ii. Our hope is not in any one party, candidate or ballot box.
  - b. God's track record of judgement
  - c. Our Spiritual Heritage/ Why might we be judged?
  - d. Our part, what we can do

### **Does this sound familiar:**

#### **Habakkuk**

1 This is the message that the prophet Habakkuk received in a vision.

2 How long, O Lord, must I call for help?

But you do not listen!

"Violence is everywhere!" I cry,  
but you do not come to save.

3 Must I forever see these evil deeds?

Why must I watch all this misery?

Wherever I look,

I see destruction and violence.

I am surrounded by people  
who love to argue and fight.

4 The law has become paralyzed,  
and there is no justice in the courts.

The wicked far outnumber the righteous,  
so that justice has become perverted.

#### **God's track record of judgement**

#### **The Flood - Genesis 6**

## **Sodom and Gomorrah -Genesis 18**

**20** So the LORD told Abraham, "I have heard a great outcry from Sodom and Gomorrah, because their sin is so flagrant. **21** I am going down to see if their actions are as wicked as I have heard. If not, I want to know."

### **Lamentations 4:6**

The guilt of my people is greater than that of Sodom, where utter disaster struck in a moment and no hand offered help.

### **Ezekiel 16:48**

As surely as I live, says the Sovereign LORD, Sodom and her daughters were never as wicked as you and your daughters.

### **Ezekiel 16:49**

Sodom's sins were **pride, gluttony, and laziness**, while the poor and needy suffered outside her door.

**Matthew 11: 23** "And you people of Capernaum, will you be honored in heaven? No, you will go down to the place of the dead. For if the miracles I did for you had been done in wicked Sodom, it would still be here today. **24** I tell you, even Sodom will be better off on judgment day than you."

**Luke 12 47** "And a servant who knows what the master wants, but isn't prepared and doesn't carry out those instructions, will be severely punished. **48** But someone who does not know, and then does something wrong, will be punished only lightly. When someone has been given much, much will be required in return; and when someone has been entrusted with much, even more will be required.

## **The Canaanites - Leviticus 18**

**24** "Do not defile yourselves in any of these ways, for the people I am driving out before you have defiled themselves in all these ways. **25** Because the entire land has become defiled, I am punishing the people who live there. I will cause the land to vomit them out.

## **Egypt Isaiah 19**

This message came to me concerning Egypt:

Look! The Lord is advancing against Egypt,  
riding on a swift cloud.

The idols of Egypt tremble.

The hearts of the Egyptians melt with fear.

**2** "I will make Egyptian fight against Egyptian—  
brother against brother,  
neighbor against neighbor,  
city against city,  
province against province.

**3** The Egyptians will lose heart,  
and I will confuse their plans.

They will plead with their idols for wisdom

and call on spirits, mediums, and those who consult the spirits of the dead.

4 I will hand Egypt over  
to a hard, cruel master.  
A fierce king will rule them,"  
says the Lord, the Lord of Heaven's Armies.

5 The waters of the Nile will fail to rise and flood the fields.  
The riverbed will be parched and dry.

6 The canals of the Nile will dry up,  
and the streams of Egypt will stink  
with rotting reeds and rushes.

7 All the greenery along the riverbank  
and all the crops along the river  
will dry up and blow away.

8 The fishermen will lament for lack of work.  
Those who cast hooks into the Nile will groan,  
and those who use nets will lose heart.

9 There will be no flax for the harvesters,  
no thread for the weavers.

10 They will be in despair,  
and all the workers will be sick at heart.

11 What fools are the officials of Zoan!  
Their best counsel to the king of Egypt is stupid and wrong.  
Will they still boast to Pharaoh of their wisdom?  
Will they dare brag about all their wise ancestors?

12 Where are your wise counselors, Pharaoh?  
Let them tell you what God plans,  
what the Lord of Heaven's Armies is going to do to Egypt.

13 The officials of Zoan are fools,  
and the officials of Memphis are deluded.  
The leaders of the people  
have led Egypt astray.

14 The Lord has sent a spirit of foolishness on them,  
so all their suggestions are wrong.  
They cause Egypt to stagger  
like a drunk in his vomit.

15 There is nothing Egypt can do.  
All are helpless—  
the head and the tail,  
the noble palm branch and the lowly reed.

16 In that day the Egyptians will be as weak as women. They will cower in fear beneath the upraised fist of the LORD of Heaven's Armies. 17 Just to speak the name of Israel will terrorize them, for the LORD of Heaven's Armies has laid out his plans against them.

Other Nations/Cities

Tyre, Edom, Assyria

## Nineveh - **Jonah 1**

The Lord gave this message to Jonah son of Amittai: "Get up and go to the great city of Nineveh. Announce my judgment against it because I have seen how wicked its people are."

### Why might we be judged?

#### Our Spiritual Heritage:

- Founded by Pilgrims, Puritans, Quakers **who sought to bring the Good News**
- Great revivals - 1730's/40's Jonathan Edwards, George Whitefield, David Brainerd
- Declaration of Independence "Rights are given by God"
- In **1789** George Washington along with Congress attended a service at **St. Paul's Chapel** in New York City after his swearing in. The ceremony was presided over by Bishop **Samuel Provoost**.

#### Prayer for the United States of America

*"Almighty God; We make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy holy protection; that Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government; and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large.*

*And finally that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."*

- Miraculous events that helped us win the war against Britain
- Great revivals - 1820's/30's Charles Finney

### We have been given much, therefore much is required

- Lack of death penalty

#### *The Command*

**Genesis 9: 5** "And I will require the blood of anyone who takes another person's life. If a wild animal kills a person, it must die. And anyone who murders a fellow human must die. **6** If anyone takes a human life, that person's life will also be taken by human hands. For God made human beings in his own image.

#### *Why*

The problem without the death penalty:

**Numbers 35: 30** "All murderers must be put to death, but only if evidence is presented by more than one witness. No one may be put to death on the testimony of only one witness. **31** Also, you must never accept a ransom payment for the life of someone judged guilty of murder and subject to execution; murderers must always be put to death. **32** And never accept a ransom payment from someone who has fled to a city of refuge, allowing a slayer to return to his property before the death of the high priest. **33** This will ensure that the land where you live will not be polluted, for murder pollutes the land. And no sacrifice except the execution of the murderer can purify the land from murder.

- Mass Abortion
  - Not taking care of the homeless, welfare is not compassion, it's slavery
  - Not taking responsibility for teaching our children
    - We handed our children over to Caesar
1. The Church in America was replaced by the gov't in it's roles of taking care of the homeless and education
  2. Secular schools provide no context of God and they have been deliberately teaching an inaccurate history for many decades.
  3. Schools created to teach people about God have completely removed God
    - a. **Harvard, Yale, Stanford**
  4. Our church has not been making true disciples. The focus is only on conversion and true discipling is not being taught from the seminaries.

**Words from Jeremiah that might apply today:**

**Jeremiah 2**

4 Listen to the word of the Lord, people of Jacob—all you families of Israel! 5 This is what the Lord says:

“What did your ancestors find wrong with me  
that led them to stray so far from me?

They worshiped worthless idols,  
only to become worthless themselves.

6 They did not ask, ‘Where is the Lord  
who brought us safely out of Egypt  
and led us through the barren wilderness—  
a land of deserts and pits,  
a land of drought and death,  
where no one lives or even travels?’

7 “And when I brought you into a fruitful land  
to enjoy its bounty and goodness,  
you defiled my land and  
corrupted the possession I had promised you.

8 The priests did not ask,  
‘Where is the Lord?’  
Those who taught my word ignored me,  
the rulers turned against me,  
and the prophets spoke in the name of Baal,  
wasting their time on worthless idols.

9 Therefore, I will bring my case against you,”  
says the Lord.

“I will even bring charges against your children’s children  
in the years to come.

10 “Go west and look in the land of Cyprus;  
go east and search through the land of Kedar.  
Has anyone ever heard of anything  
as strange as this?

11 Has any nation ever traded its gods for new ones,  
even though they are not gods at all?

Yet my people have exchanged their glorious God  
for worthless idols!

12 The heavens are shocked at such a thing  
and shrink back in horror and dismay,"  
says the Lord.

13 "For my people have done two evil things:  
They have abandoned me—  
the fountain of living water.  
And they have dug for themselves cracked cisterns  
that can hold no water at all!

14 "Why has Israel become a slave?  
Why has he been carried away as plunder?

15 Strong lions have roared against him,  
and the land has been destroyed.  
The towns are now in ruins,  
and no one lives in them anymore.

16 Egyptians, marching from their cities of Memphis and Tahpanhes,  
have destroyed Israel's glory and power.

17 And you have brought this upon yourselves  
by rebelling against the Lord your God,  
even though he was leading you on the way!

18 "What have you gained by your alliances with Egypt  
and your covenants with Assyria?  
What good to you are the streams of the Nile  
or the waters of the Euphrates River?

19 Your wickedness will bring its own punishment.  
Your turning from me will shame you.  
You will see what an evil, bitter thing it is  
to abandon the Lord your God and not to fear him.  
I, the Lord, the Lord of Heaven's Armies, have spoken!

20 "Long ago I broke the yoke that oppressed you  
and tore away the chains of your slavery,  
but still you said,  
'I will not serve you.'

On every hill and under every green tree,  
you have prostituted yourselves by bowing down to idols.

21 But I was the one who planted you,  
choosing a vine of the purest stock—the very best.  
How did you grow into this corrupt wild vine?  
How did you grow into this corrupt wild vine?

22 No amount of soap or lye can make you clean.  
I still see the stain of your guilt.  
I, the Sovereign Lord, have spoken!

## **Our part, what we can do**

**Joel 2:** 12 That is why the LORD says,

“Turn to me now, while there is time.

Give me your hearts.

Come with fasting, weeping, and mourning.

13 Don’t tear your clothing in your grief,  
but tear your hearts instead.”

Return to the LORD your God,

for he is merciful and compassionate,  
slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.

He is eager to relent and not punish.

14 Who knows? Perhaps he will give you a reprieve,  
sending you a blessing instead of this curse.

Perhaps you will be able to offer grain and wine  
to the LORD your God as before.

## **A lesson from Daniel 9**

4 I prayed to the Lord my God and confessed:

“O Lord, you are a great and awesome God! You always fulfill your covenant and keep your promises of unfailing love to those who love you and obey your commands. 5 But we have sinned and done wrong. We have rebelled against you and scorned your commands and regulations. 6 We have refused to listen to your servants the prophets, who spoke on your authority to our kings and princes and ancestors and to all the people of the land.

7 “Lord, you are in the right; but as you see, our faces are covered with shame. **This is true of all of us, including the people of Judah and Jerusalem and all Israel, scattered near and far, wherever you have driven us because of our disloyalty to you.** 8 O Lord, we and our kings, princes, and ancestors are covered with shame because we have sinned against you. 9 But the Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him. 10 We have not obeyed the Lord our God, for we have not followed the instructions he gave us through his servants the prophets. **11 All Israel has disobeyed your instruction and turned away, refusing to listen to your voice.**

**“So now the solemn curses and judgments written in the Law of Moses, the servant of God, have been poured down on us because of our sin.** 12 You have kept your word and done to us and our rulers exactly as you warned. Never has there been such a disaster as happened in Jerusalem. 13 Every curse written against us in the Law of Moses has come true. Yet we have refused to seek mercy from the Lord our God by turning from our sins and recognizing his truth. 14 Therefore, the Lord has brought upon us the disaster he prepared. The Lord our God was right to do all of these things, for we did not obey him.

15 “O Lord our God, you brought lasting honor to your name by rescuing your people from Egypt in a great display of power. **But we have sinned and are full of wickedness.** 16 In view of all your faithful mercies, Lord, please turn your furious anger away from your city Jerusalem, your holy mountain. All the neighboring nations mock Jerusalem and your people because of our sins and the sins of our ancestors.

17 “O our God, hear your servant’s prayer! Listen as I plead. For your own sake, Lord, smile again on your desolate sanctuary.

18 “O my God, lean down and listen to me. Open your eyes and see our despair. See how your city—the city that bears your name—lies in ruins. **We make this plea, not because we deserve help, but because of your mercy.**

19 “O Lord, hear. O Lord, forgive. O Lord, listen and act! For your own sake, do not delay, O my God, for your people and your city bear your name.”