

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

- Week of August 7, 2022 -

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|----|
| Sunday Morning Service | ----- | 41 |
| Sunday Evening Service | ----- | 26 |
| Wednesday Eve., 08/10/22 Service | ----- | 27 |

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

- Week of August 7, 2022 -

| | | |
|---|-------|--------------------|
| <u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings | ----- | \$ 2,763.95 |
| Love Offering | ----- | \$ 73.95 |
| Education Wing Hallway Carpet Fund | ----- | \$ 530.00 |
| TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 08/07/22: | | \$ 3,367.90 |

- Week of July 31, 2022 -

| | | |
|---|-------|--------------------|
| <u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings | ----- | \$ 1,060.00 |
| Love Offering | ----- | \$ 145.00 |
| Education Wing Hallway Carpet Fund | ----- | \$ 100.00 |
| TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 07/31/22: | | \$ 1,305.00 |

- Week of July 24, 2022 -

| | | |
|---|-------|--------------------|
| <u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings | ----- | \$ 1,431.56 |
| TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 07/24/22: | | \$ 1,431.56 |

- Week of July 17, 2022 -

| | | |
|---|-------|--------------------|
| <u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings | ----- | \$ 1,252.00 |
| TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 07/17/22: | | \$ 1,252.00 |

- Week of July 10, 2022 -

| | | |
|---|-------|--------------------|
| <u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings | ----- | \$ 1,149.27 |
| Love Offering | ----- | \$ 20.00 |
| Church Gas Line Repair Fund | ----- | \$ 1,548.28 |
| Church Sign Repair Fund | ----- | \$ 491.72 |
| TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 07/10/22: | | \$ 3,209.27 |

Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed for church operating expenses EACH WEEK, as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00

- ED. WING HALLWAY CARPET FUND -

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------|-------------|
| Total Amount Needed | ----- | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Amount Received Thusfar | ----- | \$ 630.00 |
| Amount Still Needed: | | \$ 370.00 |

Thank You For Your Help With This Need!

LISTEN TO -



ABIDINGRADIO.COM

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

1. Admit that you are a sinner.
2. Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.
3. Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.
4. You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).
5. By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, Who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.



THANK YOU For Your Continued Faithfulness In Giving!

During the early part this pandemic, we were unable to meet in the church-house. But - that did not mean that the expenses of having a church-house were suspended. We still had bills to pay - electricity, gas, water, trash pickup, phone, internet, facility insurance, copier lease, office supplies, etc., and, praise the Lord, His people kept praying, watching online, & supporting their church with their giving.

Sadly, some people only give when they are in attendance at church - sort of like paying for "services rendered" - but the truth is that they are robbing **THEMSELVES** of God's blessings when they withhold their tithes and offerings and only give when they are here (see Malachi 3:10). Thankfully, most of our people have remained faithful, in so many ways, during this crisis, including financially.

WE HAVE 3 WAYS YOU CAN GIVE:

1. **By mail** - 23 East Wells Blvd., Sapulpa, OK 74066
2. **Drop it off** - call the Church Office to arrange it. 224-1924
3. **Online** - Go to the link below and give electronically:

<https://tithely.com/give?c=433047>

**WE ARE GLAD WE CAN NOW GATHER TOGETHER TO PRAISE GOD & STUDY HIS WORD TOGETHER IN THE CHURCH-HOUSE!
YOUR FAITHFUL AND GENEROUS GIFTS WILL HELP US KEEP UP WITH THE BILLS AND CONTINUE OUR RENEWED OUTREACH EFFORTS!**

Church Directory

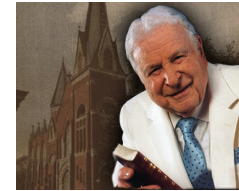
| | | |
|--------------------|-------|-------------------|
| Todd W. White | ----- | Pastor |
| Lois Mae Floyd | ----- | Pianist/ Organist |
| Mickie Shatwell | ----- | Evening Pianist |
| Derek Quinnelly | ----- | Greeter |
| Larry & Mary Byars | ----- | Outreach |
| Bertha Segebarr | ----- | Custodian |
| GinaMarie Shufelt | ----- | Flowers |
| Seth White | ----- | Sound/Video |

**SOUTH HEIGHTS BAPTIST'S WEEKLY
REMINDER**

Volume XXVIII

August 14, 2022

Number 33



Passing Through Deep Waters

by Dr. W. A. Criswell, Pastor - First Baptist Church in Dallas
1944 - 2002
Preached February 8, 1976

In our preaching through the Book of Isaiah, we have come to Chapter 43, and we read the first few verses:
"Thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and He that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art Mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the Lord Jehovah, thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Savior, Fear not: for I am with thee, Every one that is called by My name: I have created for My glory."

The address of the passage is very apparently toward Israel, **"I have created thee, O Jacob, I have formed thee, O Israel."** Now, when the Lord speaks of the fire and the water through which the nation should pass, He is speaking of His preservation of that holy and chosen family.

For centuries now and for centuries, the tribes of Israel, the Hebrew nation, has known nothing but persecution, bitter and fierce. They have been hated and hounded to the ends of the earth. Some of the figures through which the nation has gone are harbingers of their history. When they stood at the waters of the Red Sea and again when they stood before the swollen Jordan overflowing its banks, it was God who parted the waters, that they might have deliverance and find a way through.

When Moses saw the bush burning unconsumed, and when the three Hebrew children, Meshach, Shadrach, and Abednego were thrown into the fiery furnace, heated seven times hotter, these are figures of the trial and tribulation and persecution of the nation. But God promised they should always be. They should never find destruction in any effort or plan or persecution of man, and the eleventh chapter of the Book of Romans outlines for us the future conversion and salvation and glory of Israel. But the passage, also in its glorious and incomparable assurance and promise, is also the possession of all of God's people through all of the ages. For, you see, break down the children of the Lord into groups as small as you please, the promise ever keeps its same form, and its same pertinency, and its same shape. It never changes. Whether the promise is to the people of God in Israel, or whether the promise is to the people of the Lord in the church, or whether it is broken down into family groups or into two, or three, or just one, the promise is ever the same - it never loses its shape or its form.

Like crystals that are created by the hand of God - like an emerald, or a topaz, or an amethyst, or an aquamarine, any of those beautiful crystals - when God shapes them, He forms them in atomic patterns, and the pattern is never broken. When you take one of those crystals such as an amethyst, it takes a form such as a hexagonal rhomboid. Break it and it will break into the same pattern, hexagonal rhomboids. Crush it with a mighty stroke, a great hammer, and every piece that remains, maybe fine as powder, will always break into those same forms. The atomic structure never changes, and however it is broken, it always keep that same form. So it is with the promises of God; however you break down the group, a nation, or a church, or a family, or a couple, or just one lonely soul, the promise is ever the same. It never changes. It is forever true.

Thus God's promise here, **"When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the floods, they shall not overwhelm thee: and when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee";** God's promise to His children.

First, I see that God has revealed to us a fearful and a frightful revelation. Not **"IF** thou passest through" the water, through the flood, and through the fire, and through the flame but **"WHEN"** - **"WHEN thou passest through the waters,"** and **"WHEN thou**

(continued inside)

passtest through the floods,” and **“WHEN thou walkest through the fire,”** and **“WHEN the flame is kindled upon thee”**.

Isn’t that an astonishing revelation? In the first verse I read such heavenly benedictory words about God’s people, **“I created thee, I formed thee, I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name, and thou art Mine.”** Therefore, I would imagine, I would suppose, that these heavenly, celestial ones that belong to God would never know trial, or suffering, or heartache, or tribulation, or trouble. They are God’s. He knows them. He calls them by name, and He says, **“They are Mine.”** Therefore, I would conclude they are exempt from all of the tragedies and sorrows of life.

No - For the next verse immediately follows, **“When thou passtest through”** the floods, and the waters, and the fire, and the flame.

It must Be That the Nearer One Gets to God, the Nearer We Get to the Fire.

There is a saying of Jesus, one of those apocryphal ones, where the Lord is quoted as saying, **“He that is near Me is near the fire.”** And in the Book of John the Lord did write, **“In the world, ye shall have tribulation”** (John 16:33).

Is that true of the children of God? They’re not immune. They’re not exempt from the bitter trials and persecutions and heartaches of the world. It must be, for everything I read, everything I see, and everything I experience is just that. God said Job was the best man in the whole world, and the Bible said there was none like him in the earth, but there never was a man more tried than Job.

The Lord chose Peter to be the head of the apostles. He is the chief spokesman of the great opening of the door to the Gentiles. God said, **“I give to thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven”** (Matthew 16:19), and He opened wide the doors to the Jews in Jerusalem, to the Samaritans in Samaria, to those who were proselytes in Caesarea, to the Gentile world. Yet, the Lord said to Simon Peter, **“When thou art old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee wither thou wouldst not”** (John 21:18). Then, the next verse says, **“This spake He, signifying by what death he should glorify God”** (John 21:19), that is, Simon Peter should die with the outstretched hands. He should be crucified, and in crucifixion and suffering unspeakable, he should glorify God.

Saul of Tarsus, when he was called to be Paul the apostle, in the ninth chapter of the Book of Acts, the Lord says, **“I will show him how great things he must suffer for My name’s sake”** (Acts 9:16). To be an heir of heaven is to be an heir of trial and tribulation, and every disciple of our Lord, somewhere, sometime, somehow, shall know that confrontation and that sorrow. There is no escape. It is inevitable.

Education may help us, and it does. Science may bring us achievements, and it does. Medicine and pharmacy may comfort us, and it does. But no grasp of man’s wisdom or knowledge is able to deliver us from the fury of the fire or the overwhelming flood. Wealth cannot buy redress from it. There’s not a house a

rich man can build with walls so thick or locks so strong to keep out that trial and that trouble.

The Lord God had one Son without sin, but He has no children without suffering, and these trials and these troubles come in many forms and in many fashions. You see that in the passage, **“When thou passtest through the waters, and when thou passtest through the rivers, and when thou walkest through the fire, and when the flame is kindled upon thee.”** Some of the experiences inevitable in our life are chilling to the bone, when we’re swept away by the fury of a rapid river, and some are heated in the extreme and would sear and consume and burn our souls.

Not **“if”** - but **“WHEN.”**

There is no one of us, even the truest most faithful follower and disciple of Christ, but shall know the trial, and the heartache, and the tribulations, and the sorrows of life - the flood, the flame, and the fire. But, **“When thou passtest through the waters, I will be with thee, and when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; nor shall the flame consume thee.”**

God says, **“I am with thee.”**

No rolling river shall separate us from God, and no consuming flaming fire shall destroy His presence. **“I am with thee.”** There are no more precious words to the soul of the saint than those verses that close the eighth chapter of the Book of Romans:

“For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creation, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8:38-39).

There are no providences, however tragic, there are no trials, however heartbreaking, that can separate us from God. **“I will be with thee.”**

I am not the less loved of God, nor am I thrust from His presence because I’m troubled, or I’m poor, or I’m helpless, or I’m weak, or I’m sick, or I’m needy. Nay, it is *IN* those difficulties and trials that I most shall sense the presence, and the nearness, and the tenderness, and the gentleness, and the encouragement of God! **“When thou passtest through the flood and the fire, I will be with thee.”** The text does not say, **“When you’re walking down a primrose path, I will be with thee.”** Nor does the text say, **“When the carpet is strewn with green, soft grass and flowers, I will be with thee.”** The text says, **“When thou passtest through the floods, and when thou walkest through the flame, I will be with thee!”**

I do not wish for each of you or any one of you trials and troubles and heartaches, but I do say this, **“If you never experience a broken heart and you never know fierce trials, you’ll never have the experience of the real closeness and nearness of God. It is in the day of our deepest need and necessity that God draws the nearer to us.”**

Do you notice also in our passage, He uses the word **“THROUGH?”** It says, **“When thou passtest THROUGH the**

waters, it shall not drown thee, and when thou walkest through the flame and the fire, it shall not consume thee” - THROUGH.

The Christian pilgrim not only comes to the edge of the chilling tide nor does he look into the furiously fiery furnace, but when he is plunged into the tide, and the roaring seas, and the overflowing river, and when he is thrown into the fiery furnace, the word is always **“THROUGH!”** The flood never drowns us and the fire never consumes us, for God is *WITH US* through the fire and through the flood!

How many times have I heard saints of God say the comfort of the twenty-third Psalm is this, **“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me;”** – the symbols of Thy presence – **“Thy rod and Thy staff to lean upon, comfort me.”**

- Through, **THROUGH.**

When the three Hebrew children were cast into the fiery furnace, the king looked and said, **“Did we not throw three men into that burning cauldron? But I see four, and the face of the fourth is like unto the Son of God”** (Daniel 3:24-25). And they WERE walking free in the fire and in the furnace, for the fire did naught but to bring to them the living presence of the living Lord, and it burned up their bonds - *they were free.*

So it is that the trials and the fires and the floods that overwhelm us in our lives, they just free us from the visible, that we might live in the invisible. Not that our bodies are to carry our souls, but our souls are to carry our bodies. The flame and the fire burn our bonds and liberate us to walk in the presence of the great and living God.

That is the song that we sang:

**When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace all sufficient shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dress to consume, and thy gold to refine.**

This is God’s way of preparing us for the victories of the kingdom. “Everyone that is called by My name: I have created for My glory.” And this is God’s purpose for us, that we might reign with Christ, but I cannot reign if I do not suffer WITH Him. As the Scriptures say, **“If we suffer with Him, we shall also reign with Him”** (II Timothy 2:12).

No man could know a victory who has not first been in a battle and in a conflict. If we are to wear the crown in heaven, we first must bear the cross down here in the earth. Shall I shun from it? Shall I be intimidated by it? Shall I cower and cringe before the warfare?

No.

**Am I a soldier of the cross?
A foll’wer of the Lamb?
And shall I be afraid to own His cause
Or blush to speak His name?
Must I be carried to the skies
On flow’ry beds of ease,
While others fought to win the prize**

**And sail through bloody seas?
Are there no foes for me to face?
Must I not stem the flood?
Is this vile world a friend to grace,
To carry me on to God?
No, I must fight if I would reign –
Increase my courage, Lord!
I’ll bear the cross, endure the pains,
Supported by Thy Word.**

Through the fire, through the flood, through the flame, **“But I will be with thee,”** to victory, to triumph, to glory. He hath promised, and He will not fail us.

And that is our last part in the text - **“Fear not: for I am with thee.”** And ah, how the Lord comforts us in the Word that He says, **“For I am the Lord Jehovah. I am thy God. I am the Holy One of Israel”** – that is, He would not lie or deceive us – **“the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour.”**

Then, He speaks to us in beautiful and encouraging words, **“I created thee.”** I made you - I formed thee, and I redeemed thee.

You are twice His. By a great and awesome price, He bought us to Himself.

“I have called thee by thy name.”

We are not in God’s sight just numbers and digits or oceans full. We are somebody dear and known. He says, **“I even count the hairs in your head”** (Matthew 10:30). He knows all about us, **“I have called thee by thy name, thou art Mine (Isaiah 43:1). He that toucheth thee toucheth the apple of Mine eye”** (Zechariah 2:8).

Don’t be afraid when you pass through the water, and pass through the fire, and when you walk through the flame, and when you face overflowing tides of the river. Don’t be afraid. Fear not, for all is under the surveillance and the elective purposes of God. The fire will not consume you, and the river shall not overwhelm or overflow you.

Listen -

**Is there any heart discouraged as it journeys on its way?
Does there seem to be more darkness than
there is of sunny day?**

**Oh, it’s hard to learn the lesson, as we pass beneath the rod,
That the sunshine and the shadow serve alike the will of God!**

**But there comes a word of promise,
like the promise in the bow–**

That, however deep the waters, they shall never overflow.

**When the flesh is worn and weary, and the spirit is depressed,
And temptations sweep upon it like a storm on ocean’s breast,**

**There’s a haven ever open for the tempest driven bird,
There’s shelter for the tempted in the promise of the Word;**

**For the standard of the Spirit shall be raised against the foe,
And, however deep the waters, they shall never overflow.
When a sorrow comes upon you that no other soul can share,
And the burden seems too heavy for the human heart to bear;**

*There is One whose grace can comfort,
if you'll give Him an abode;
There's a Burden Bearer ready
if you'll trust Him with your load;
For the precious promise
reaches to the depths of human woe,
That, however deep the waters, they shall never overflow.*

*When the sands of life are ebbing,
and I near the Jordan's shore,
When I see its waters rising, and I hear its billows roar,
I will reach my hand to Jesus, in His bosom I shall hide,
It will only be a moment till I reach the other side.
It is then the fullest meaning of the promise I shall know—
“When thou passest through the waters,”
they shall never overflow.*

“WHEN THOU PASSEST THROUGH THE WATERS, I WILL BE WITH THEE; AND THROUGH THE RIVERS, THEY SHALL NOT OVERFLOW THEE: WHEN THOU WALKEST THROUGH THE FIRE, THOU SHALT NOT BE BURNED; NEITHER SHALL THE FLAME KINDLE UPON THEE, FEAR NOT: FOR I AM WITH THEE. AND THOU ART MINE. I HAVE CALLED THEE BY THY NAME. I HAVE REDEEMED THEE” (ISAIAH 43:1-5).

Look - Look! If God loses just one soul - just one - if God were to lose just one soul, the fire consumed it, and the flood overwhelmed it, and it was lost in perdition and damnation, if God were to lose just one soul, in the depths of hell, in the heart of the fury of damnation, there would be a hellish, fiendish demon who, in blasphemy, would look up to God in heaven and say, “Ha, ha! You up there in Glory, HERE is a soul redeemed by the blood of the Crucified One. HERE is a soul that trusted in Jesus! HERE is a soul that committed his life and hope to the blessed Lord, and look at him - he's damned! Look at him - the fire has consumed him, and the floods have drowned him, and he's down here in hell and perdition! Ha! Thou callest Thyself Redeemer; You didn't redeem THIS one! He's damned and down here with me, even though he trusted in Thee and gave heart and life and hope to Thee. Ha, ha!” And he mocks the great, mighty God in Heaven.

My brother, if there is **one** of us - just one of us - that is lost, that is damned, that is consumed by the fire, overwhelmed by the flood, if there's just one of us, then all Heaven is shaken to its foundation, and all the authority, the ableness, and the love of God have become of none effect. And, if that one were I, O Lord, how tragic and how sorrow; “I've trusted in Thee and I had the promise in Thee. But, Lord, You deceived me, and You let me down, and You didn't redeem, and You didn't save, and You didn't keep, and I'm here burning in this everlasting fire. O God, O God.”

No! - A thousand times, NO!

“I have created thee, I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; and thou art Mine. And when thou passest waters, I will be with thee; and through the overflowing

rivers, they shall not drown thee: and when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.”

God holds us and keeps us by His unchanging hand.

**How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!**

**What more can He say than to you He hath said,
To you who to Jesus for refuge have fled?**

**The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I'll never, no, never [desert to its foes]**

**Though all hell should [endeavor] that soul to [shake],
I'll never, no, never no, never forsake.**

That's God. That's the Lord. And to the least of us who turn in faith, and in repentance, and in belief, and in acceptance to His unchanging, omnipotent grace, He saves us. He keeps us. He blesses us. He guides us forever. And this is the joy unspeakable and full of glory that we share with you this day.

Have you opened your heart heavenward and Godward? Christward? Have you? Does the Lord live in your heart, and in your house, and in your home, and in your life? Is He the partner in every business transaction? Do you go to Him for strength and for health? Do you ask Him for wisdom? Would you like to have the omnipotent God in heaven walking by your side? It's His open-hearted invitation, “**Come, come, come - I will bless thee. I will walk by your side. I will see you through. In every trial I will be your Partner, and your Saviour, and your Guide, your Strength and Shield and Buckler.**”

He is ours for the opening of my heart to the invitation. Would you accept Him today? ■

NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS

□ **GIRLS SCHOOL NEAR NASHVILLE OPENING ITS DOORS TO TRANSGENDER GIRLS** - An elite girls school in Tennessee plans to change its admissions standards to include the prospective enrollment of biological males who identify as female. This week, Harpeth Hall Upper School - in the Nashville suburb of Green Hills, Tennessee - announced that it would accept transgender girls.

The school has a 157-year tradition of housing only biologically female students.

□ **INVENTOR OF THE MRI PASSES AWAY** - Noted Christian inventor Raymond Damadian passed away on Aug. 3. He was 86. Dr. Damadian, biophysicist, was the recipient of the Lemelson-MIT Achievement Award as “the man who invented the MRI scanner.” In 1988, he was awarded the National Medal of Technology, America's highest award for applied science, and a year later, he was inducted into the Inventors Hall of Fame, an honor he shared with Thomas Edison, Samuel Morse, and the Wright Brothers.

The first MRI scanner that Dr. Damadian and his colleagues built in 1977, “The Indomitable,” resides at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. In a 2012 interview, Dr. Damadian was asked, “Why do you believe that the Bible is

true?” He replied, “If you take the trouble to examine the evidence supporting the Bible and contradicting alternative theories, from my perception, the evidence is overwhelmingly in support of the biblical record and vacates alternative thoughts such as evolution. The evidence for evolution is non-existent. In my opinion, evolution is science fiction.”

Dr. Damadian was also asked, “How can you be sure of going to heaven?” He replied, “In John 3:3 and 5, Jesus makes this unequivocal. Jesus said, ‘Except that a man be born again, he shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.’ And John 3:16, ‘For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.’”

□ **WE MUST SEE AMERICA THROUGH GOD'S EYES** - America is in a mess, socially, politically, economically, educationally, by almost any standard. Patriots are perhaps more discouraged than since the darkest days of the War of Independence, and that's saying a lot because the nation has been through many severe trials.

What's going on? We need to look at things in this world through God's eyes, and we can do that by His Word.

America is in a mess because of rebellion against God. It's that simple. America's problem today is not systemic racism; it is systemic wickedness. America is unique in that it has had more spiritual light than any nation in history (ancient Israel had only part of the Scriptures), yet, America has sinned greatly and brazenly against that light.

* Her churches are in a most wretched condition. Most are entirely apostate, and most of the rest are lukewarm and worldly, Sardis at best. **“I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead” (Revelation 3:1).** Churches that are praying instead of partying are shockingly **rare**. God's name is used everywhere in vain, and the holy name of Jesus Christ is a cheap curse word across vast swaths of society.

* Holy matrimony is despised and defiled. The Bible says, **“Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge,”** but most Americans think that is unreasonable.

* Science and mother nature receive the glory due to the Creator.

* The gospel is widely perverted. Babies are cut to pieces by the millions.

* The nation is besotted with drink and drugs. Moral abominations are accepted as “alternative lifestyles.”

* The justice system dispenses very little justice. Thugs, rapists, sexual predators, and murderers are released to continue their careers.

* Lying in politics is applauded.

* Atheism is on the march.

* Occultism is pervasive.

* The Bible says life is for God's will, but most Americans think life is a party.

* The nation's cities are moral cesspools.

* The entertainment industry would make ancient Corinth blush. Children are sexualized. Pornography is a national past-time.

* The public educational system is in flagrant rebellion to the Bible.

* The government confiscates the wealth of hard workers and redistributes it to bums.

* The highest judges thumb their noses at God's Word.

* The Bible says “there is none that doeth good,” but most Americans think of themselves as good.

* God is allowed as a Saviour, but not as a Judge. Hell is denied. At funerals, everyone goes to heaven, which is a great deceit.

The only surprise is that America is not in more of a mess than she currently is. That is because of God's mercy, but the day of the Lord is fast approaching.

“Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people” (Proverbs 14:34).

“The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God” (Psalm 9:17).

“Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him” (Isaiah 3:11).

| New Version Opposites (from 100s of examples) | |
|--|---|
| Psalm 10:4,5 | |
| KJV | wicked... His ways are always grievous |
| NIV | wicked... His ways are always prosperous |
| NKJV | wicked... His ways are always prospering |
| HCSB | wicked... His ways are always secure |
| Ecclesiastes 8:10 | |
| KJV | wicked... were forgotten |
| NIV | wicked... receive praise |
| ESV | wicked... were praised |
| Isaiah 14:12 | |
| KJV | How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer |
| NIV, etc. | ...you have fallen from heaven, O morning star (Who is the morning star? - see 2 Pet. 1:19, Rev. 22:16) |
| Matthew 11:12 | |
| KJV | The kingdom of heaven suffereth violence |
| NIV | ...heaven has been forcefully advancing |
| Galatians 2:20 | |
| KJV | nevertheless I live |
| NIV | I no longer live |
| Colossians 2:18 | |
| KJV | things which he hath not seen |
| NIV, etc. | ... he has seen |
| 1 Peter 3:3 | |
| KJV | Let it not be that outward adorning |
| NIV | Do not let your adornment be merely outward |
| NASB | Let not your adornment be merely external |