

MORNING SERMON OUTLINE

NATIONS UNDER GOD

Psalm 33

In view of the extraordinary mercies of God bestowed on our nation in its short history, Americans have reason to be thanking the Almighty and seeking the continuation of His mercies by humble and repentant prayer through the mediation of Christ (Psalm 2). Tomorrow is the day for celebrating 240 years of independence and the liberties won then and kept since then. *BUT* a good deal of patriotic fervor (where it even exists) crosses the line into idolatry of nation and national greatness.

We need to reemeber who is God & who we are before Him.

1. The LORD is sovereign Ruler and Judge of all nations

Psalm 33 extols Yahweh, the covenant God & redeemer of Israel, the Creator of the heavens & ALL the earth.

Therefore ALL the earth (all people & nations) should fear Him, vs.8. Do they? Psalm 2:1-3 – NO !!

Arrogant & rebellious nations plot against His rule; they refuse to bow to His Son, the King of the nations.

Notable examples come to mind: Soviet Union, Nazi Germany, reviving Islamic nations like Iran.

Is God's rule in danger? He laughs at puny man's proud posturing.

AND He is wrathful toward rebels – the God who avenges - Ps.94:1, "the the Judge of the earth" – vs.2.

Can any escape? Psalm 33:13-15 – He sees & knows ALL.

vv.16,17 – Armies cannot save from Him.

2. He is the Judge of the United States

We must NOT apply this just to "those wicked nations over there".

Americans like to think of ourselves as the "good guys."

We sing "God bless America" – a good prayer (if it is genuine).

Why should He? What is our national record in the last 50 years?

From our highest officers to the lowest among us,

we are a nation that needs to truly repent of sins, arrogance, and lawless defiance of God & His rule – or receive His judgments.

If we continue to be slaves to sin, then our cherished freedoms will turn to actual slavery under tyrants of one sort or another. Pray!

3. That nation whose God is the LORD

The LORD's promises blessing to that nation "whose God is the LORD".

Who is that natioin?

When Ps. 33 was written – God's covenant people Israel.

Today? Not the USA or any other earthly realm,

BUT only the kingdom of God on earth, the Church.

Hope (as well as warning) for the nations: Psalm 2:10-12

Hope for individual sinners who repent. King Jesus saves sinners.

Hope for Christian believers, no matter what happens to our nation – Christ is building & keeping His church. Heb.12:28