WILL GOD BLESS AMERICA? (Proverbs 14:34)

Introduction: 1.

A little boy once asked, "Mother, do you remember that priceless vase that's been in our family for generations? Well, this generation just broke it."

- 2. Things regarded sacred and dear for centuries are being broken by this generation today.
- 3. For this, as a nation, we must give account to God.
 - a. God is sovereign (Isaiah 40:15) "Behold the nations are as a drop in the bucket."
 - b. (Daniel 5:21) "The Most High God rules in the kingdoms of men and He appoints over it whoever He wills."
 - c. (Proverbs 14:34) "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."
- 4. In light of these passages, where do we stand as a nation? Will God continue to bless us? Or will He judge us? Is it too late? Can we do anything to affect change for the better?

I. American Academic Deterioration

- A. "The philosophy of the school room in one generation will be the philosophy of the government in the next." --Abraham Lincoln.
- B. A system of "Values Clarification" is the philosophy behind many of our schools today.
 - 1. Some of the tenants of Values Clarification are:
 - a. Pluralism "one man's ceiling is another man's floor."
 - b. Situational Ethics right and wrong are determined by the situation, not by the action.
 - 2. To expose our children to difficult ethical questions asking them to make a values judgment, while suggesting that there are no wrong answers is as I see it, criminal.
- C. Evolutionary thought is being taught in our schools as fact.
 - 1. How can we expect our young people to grow up respecting human life when they think it does not differ from animal life?
 - 2. The statement that creation cannot be taught in school because it is not scientific is simply a quibble.
 - a. The question of origins is a philosophical question, not a scientific one to begin with.
 - 3. Give a child a distorted view of his eternal origin, and guarantee you that he will also have distorted view of his eternal destiny.

II. Moral Deterioration In America

- A. The moral fibers that hold the fabric of our nation together are unraveling.
- B. The following are several areas of moral deterioration:

- 1. Marriage and the home as God would have it.
 - a. 1890 5000 divorces; 1992 1,250,000 divorces.
- 2. Abortion more babies have been killed in their mother's wombs than all the soldiers killed in all the American wars combined.
- 3. Sexual Perversions of all kinds are being legitimized.
- 4. Dishonesty.

III. Religious Deterioration In America

- A. America's religious bodies that claim to be "Christian" have to a large degree cut themselves off from the authoritative nature of the Bible.
- B. Relativism reigns even in religion.
- C. Division is accepted and applauded in religion.

IV. Words Of Warning

- A. Edward Gibbon's work, "*The Decline And Fall Of The Roman Empire*" listed five reasons for Rome's fall.
 - 1. The rapid increase of divorce & undermining the sanctity of the home.
 - 2. Higher taxes and spending money for free bread for the people.
 - 3. The mad craze for pleasure & sports.
 - 4. The building of gigantic armaments when the real enemy was from within; the decadence of the people.
 - 5. The decay of religion.
- B. "If we abide by the principles taught in the Bible, our country will go on prospering ...but if we and our posterity neglect its instructions and authority, no man can tell how suddenly a catastrophe may overwhelm us and bury all of our glory in profound obscurity." --Daniel Webster.

V. What Can We Do To Assure God Continues To Bless America?

- A. Return to the Bible (II Timothy 3:16-17).
 - 1. That will demand strong doctrinal preaching (Titus 2:1).
 - 2. That will demand plain teaching about sin (Galatians 5:19-21; ICor. 6:9-11).
 - 3. That will demand relevant preaching (II Timothy 4:1-4).
 - 4. That will demand renewed self discipline beginning in your home (II Corinthians 13:5).

Conclusion: 1. Do you see doom and gloom, or do you see a ray of hope?

- 2. No matter how wicked our society as a whole may become, we can make a difference.
- 3. (Genesis 18; Matthew 5:13).