

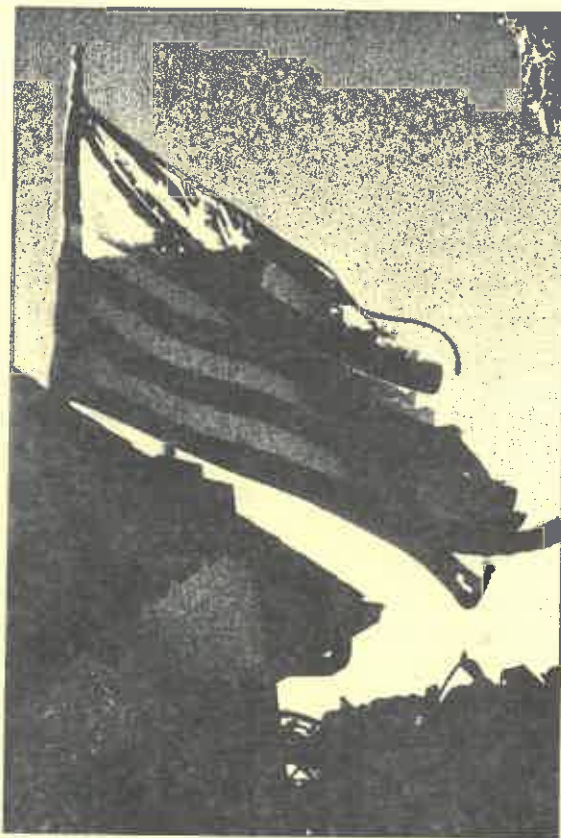
WARNING: THE UNITED STATES IS IN DECLINE!

Some may say the title of this article is highly exaggerated, while others will consider it quite seriously. But like it or not, the trajectory is more obvious today than ever before in the history of this comparably young nation. The decline of the United States of America is now becoming increasingly apparent in many different ways. Yet, some will insist the nation will bounce back—it will do fine, America is resilient; but...is there something different about this time?

This 4th of July will be the 239th “birthday” of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, which separated the original 13 American colonies from the British Empire. Earlier in that *providential year* of 1776, John Adams submitted a resolution that set the circumstances in motion for a vote from the Continental Congress for independence. Thomas Jefferson was selected to compose the draft of which Congress would edit for finalizing the language of this *Declaration of Independence* that was voted on July 2, 1776.

After approving and ratifying the document two days later, on July 4, the United States took the official position that it was *independent* of the British Empire. However, that was not mutually understood until the revolutionary war was finished in 1783, with the signing of the Treaty of Paris, culminating in England’s departure from the colonies, which resulted in their official recognition as a separate nation.

But, make no mistake: the end of the Revolutionary War and Britain’s leaving was by no means the end of the struggles confronting this emerging nation. Since the time independence was declared, the fight to maintain the human and civil



rights and protecting the peace for its citizenry that was ideologically conceived initially by the political forefathers who envisioned a “*free nation*” from the Tyranny of Britain’s King George III, has been relentless.

This year, some 239 years later, the United States reflects many *changes* and includes many political and social features that are different from what those original forefathers had in mind when they envisioned a “Free Nation,” based on *Judeo-Christian values* (request our FREE reprint article: *North America: Listen!*). Clearly, these changes are too numerous

to comprehensively address in this short article. But, suffice it to say, there are a few of the more serious and alarming ones that do indeed need mentioning, if for no other reason than to help us *realize by contrast*, we are in “unchartered waters” and *adrift from the God of our fathers*.

Clearly, we are living in a time like no other, when considering the circumstances we have allowed and the legislation our leaders have passed, which now define the United States’ culture in the 21st Century. Our present *national condition* is *without historical precedent* and the political paralysis, civil unrest, and social polarization

is a clear illustration of this.

Sadly, for decades, leaders of the United States from the entire business and political spectrum of Independents and Democrats, Republicans and Libertarians, Progressives, Socialists, and Communists alike, have had a wide array of influence and impact upon the country's direction—and today we are reaping the fruit of these unfortunate decisions and policies. Leaders within the legislative, judicial, and administrative branches of the political circles on the state and federal levels have consistently challenged many laws that formally provided definition and clarity to this country's *Christian identity, direction, and general social/political health*. And now, regrettably, these challenges have *resulted in changes* that have blurred or altogether abandoned those original intents and laws.

Some Examples to Consider

There are so many items that could be mentioned, which are considered “benchmarks,” or “turning points,” in redefining the country's original intended culture. However, because it has been a slow process, incrementally affecting (or infecting) the hegemony over decades of time, the changes have been subtle—hardly noticeable—but unquestionably would horrify and disgust those original pilgrims of the 1600s and our political forefathers of just a few hundred years ago.

For example, assuredly we're agreed, common sense would tell us something as simple as a “right to life” wouldn't be questioned. Yet, unbelievably it is! It has turned into a political football that has been “volleyed” back and forth, debated every which way but loose, and now is *widely accepted* as an *alternative* to birth control, because in many cases that's exactly how this term—a right to life—is used. It's not a myth, as some would want you to believe; *abortion is used as a birth control method!*

I mention this because, unfortunately, over 3,500 women PER DAY (in the USA alone) don't realize: the *actual time for “choice” is before* engaging in sexual activity, *instead of after* one is pregnant! Otherwise, the decision of “choice” becomes a life or death issue. Categorically, our forefathers *never intended* the laws of this land to allow the total *disregard of the unborn* in order to *protect the rights* of those who engage in irresponsible

sexual activity under the guise of “*freedom of choice*.” But some will argue that's not necessarily true—this is “progressive” thinking—because, due to incest, rape, or the safety and health of the mother and baby, surely there is justification when considering these situations.

But not so! According to the statistics compiled by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and the Alan Guttmacher Institute (AGI), 1 percent *or less of all abortions* are due to rape and incest, and only 5–6 percent is *due to health and safety conditions* to the mother or baby. Frankly, abortion has become a “convenience factor” for “the many” who have approached their sexual behavior irresponsibly. Unfortunately, for *the many*, abortion has become just another way of avoiding accountability. **The result:** according to both CDC and AGI, approximately 55,000,000 babies have lost their lives (that's about 1.4 times the population of the whole nation of Canada) since Roe vs. Wade was passed in 1973 in the USA. Shockingly, about 48 percent have had multiple abortions.

Aberrant sexual behavior has *become accepted as a legitimate lifestyles* and a cultural mainstay. For instance, *pornography/adult entertainment*, including “child porn,” has become a \$12–\$15 billion industry in the United States. Also, presently, approximately 40 percent (ref.: National Center for Health Statistics/2007) of all babies born in the United States are currently *born out of wedlock*. 72 percent of African-American babies are born out of wedlock (ref.: Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/2010). Not surprisingly, with these kinds of statistics, the stigma of having children while engaged in fornication (unmarried) *has become normalized—accepted as culturally okay!* Why even older adults and celebrities, like movie stars and athletes, are all doing it now—just living together and having children. Unfortunately, this provides social credibility, supporting acceptance for this kind of non-committal and irresponsible behavior. Over the years, it has become very destructive to the children, who in some cases don't even know who the other parent is, as well as destabilizing the framework of the family, the institution of marriage, and American culture in general.

Additionally, these trends have influenced our teenagers. They view these “models” and consider sexual relations outside of marriage as normal,

acceptable—never giving thought to the responsibilities of an unwanted pregnancy. However, though teen pregnancy rates have dropped about 6 percent over the last few years, the USA still has the highest rate of teen pregnancies among the Western industrialized nations. 80 percent of all teen pregnancies are unintended; 79 percent are unmarried; and approximately one out of three teens have at least one pregnancy before the age of 20 years (ref.: Teenhelp.com / ref.: Teen Pregnancy). 11 percent of all births in the USA are to teenagers and nearly *one-third of those teens choose abortion* (ref.: Alan Guttmacher Institute).

Homosexuality has also made some very serious inroads toward redefining marriage and achieved a level of success in “normalizing same-sex” marriages within the United States. Presently, as of July 29, 2014, nineteen states have legalized “marriage” for homosexual couples. (Just two years ago only six states had legalized same-sex marriages.) Currently, many states are actively involved in the conflict of attempting to defend and protect their position that marriage be defined as a heterosexual relationship, not a homosexual relationship. However, because this issue is filled with such passion and relentless effort from the homosexual community, in combination with private interest groups attempting to obfuscate any “absolutes” that would support the traditional heterosexual definition for marriage; and now, most recently for the first time in history, *the President of the United States has affirmed his acceptance of homosexual marriages*—the expectations, consequently, are for more normalization of this *abnormal lifestyle* and additional states institutionalizing same-sex marriages in the future, combined with legal rights to adopt children into the homosexual lifestyle.

The above-mentioned *social scourges* have had their effect on the family as has divorce. Presently, about one out of every two marriages in the United States fail for one reason or another. This impacts the children also, who sadly are forced to make choices they shouldn't have to make in order to accommodate the break-up of the family. Many children get confused by these social shifts and disruptions and begin to look to other activities for comfort, belonging, and identity.

One of these *great concerns and/or activities* is urban gangs! Today, they are on the rise in the

United States! In 1970, only about half the states had any sign of gang activity. Today, *every state* has some gang activity with many of these gangs moving out into the suburbs and rural areas. There are about 33,000 separate gangs in the United States, with approximately 1.4 million members (ref.: FBI) averaging between the ages of 14 and 19 years old (ref.: National Youth Violence Prevention Resource, NYVPR). These gangs account for approximately 48 percent of all violent crimes and, in *some areas*, as high as 90 percent of other types of criminal activity (ref.: FBI)

It is believed that about 20 percent of all teens personally know of someone who has been killed or injured by gang members throughout the USA. For example, the city of Denver found that though only about 14 percent of the teens were in gangs, those gangs were responsible for about 89 percent of the violent crimes committed by this age group (ref.: US Dept. of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency). Also a gang member is about 60 percent more likely to experience death by homicide than is a member of the general population. Generally, there are more male gang members than females, but their numbers are growing and trending upward (NYVPR).

And concerning gangs, this situation is exacerbated by the Mexican drug cartels that now have representation in *every state and in hundreds of towns and cities within the United States*. The Tijuana, Las Zetas, and Gulf Cartels are just a few who are now operating within the borders of the United States and conducting their crimes and drug trades! They are teaming up with local gangs within the cities, sharing territories, drugs, warehouses, and personnel for enhancing their operations. Gangs are a major problem that is gaining momentum and jeopardizing the very well-being and safety of thousands of law-abiding American citizens. Threats of “mob” violence and/or mob retail robberies, home invasions, recruitment, terrorism of the elderly, and muggings, rapes, and carjacking are all daily concerns for literally tens of thousands of Americans throughout the country—stemming quite frequently from gangs!

Here's the point: our *young people* are under siege and, consequently, the *future of our nation is at risk!* Laws have been passed outlawing prayer and any references to Christian values in school. They have been replaced with secularism and

moral relativism, conceding to more liberal programs like handing out condoms to our teens at school, or promoting “gender preference classes” at the elementary level. So much of this causes “drama” that aggravates confusion with inter-personal relationships that often breakdown and play out with teen sex, pregnancies, bullying, joining gangs, or school shootings. Combine that with the misguided advice they pick up from *Saturday Night Live*, sit-coms like the *New Normal* or *The Simpsons*, and MTV and you realize it’s not hard to understand why our young people are *troubled and confused!*

If we think this is an acceptable means for stabilizing our youth and helping them to understand life—using pop-culture to define right from wrong—well then, it just goes to prove how disconnected and reprobate our social judgment has become and, most importantly, *how jeopardized our future actually is!* Additionally, the disappointments our young people experience when role models let them down due to violently emotional, immoral, or addictive behaviors and outbursts only further confirm our awareness as to just how brutal and toxic these conditions are for our children to learn from and grow up in today. When considering these circumstances, its no surprise *teen suicide is on the rise* over the last fifteen years according to the CDC.

On the other hand, many business and political leaders in the United States have fallen to the *temptations of corruption* due to a host of reasons, from financial swindling, to infidelity, to living secret lifestyles on the “dark side” that are unacceptable for their public persona. Men like Bernie Madoff, former President of the Board of Directors for the NASDAQ, John Edwards, former Senator and Presidential Candidate, and former Congressman Anthony Weiner, Tiger Woods, along with an handful of NFL players, and so many others that could be mentioned from different sides of the political, entertainment, sports, and business communities. They have violated the trust of their families, clients, and constituents; consequently, losing their reputations, positions, and ultimately even their families in some cases. The amount of *corruption and betrayal* that has infected the business community, politics, and family relationships, from the common man to the leaders of our government in some cases, has grown to

such magnitude that it is stunningly unconscionable and repugnant. Even members of the Secret Service, responsible to protect the President of the USA, have been charged with allegations of immoral behavior while on the job, protecting the President! This kind of behavior at this level, within some of the most professional organizations inside the United States, obviously illustrates dereliction of duty and something far more seriously wrong with the leadership and social underpinnings of the United States—*how about lack of integrity, character, honor, and moral fidelity?*

Additional Observations Proving Things are Unprecedented

Though the above-mentioned issues are just a small *snapshot* of very limited segments of the enormous amount of *social maladies* that are now threatening the very fiber of the United States with far-reaching potential problems for the future, there are some other seriously stressing conditions on the horizon that cannot be ignored much longer. They are *fast approaching* and *pressing* to be addressed in the near future—it concerns the financial condition and national economic stability of the United States as a viable nation and its interaction with the global community of nations within the geopolitical dynamics of world politics. Let me take a moment to explain some points of consideration regarding these *future economic issues* that have become a huge concern and are guaranteed to grow more threatening and *jeopardizing to our currency, lifestyle, and national security.*

Many of you know, by now, that the United States has exceeded its economic gross national output (GDP) with debt! That’s right! America’s national debt (approximately \$18 trillion owed) is now *greater than its total economic yearly output* (approximately \$16 trillion/year—ref.: World Bank, 2014). And, regrettably, we are continuing to generate more debt at the approximate rate of \$1.0-\$1.5 trillion dollars per year. In other words, *currently we are officially generating more debt than what we make!*

Simply stated, unless some very severe *austerity measures* are taken to reduce our national spending and mammoth cuts and reductions of unfunded liabilities (i.e., Medicaid, Medicare, Social Security, Federal Pensions, etc.) are made, the

future for America's children's children will be very uncomfortable and difficult, if they have a nation at all. *This is something all of us need to understand very plainly, honestly, and openly—please allow this to resonate with you.*

However, as sober as that is to comprehend, this is only part of the economic picture. *Not included* in our national debt figure is the *unfunded future obligations* “Uncle Sam” has promised to the American people, which approximately is *an additional* \$13 trillion short fall in Social Security, unfunded prescription drug benefits, pensions, and another \$27 trillion plus of unfunded Medicare liabilities (thanks to both Republicans and Democrats). When added up and totaled, according to the USA's debt clock, the nation has about *\$94 trillion-plus dollars of unfunded liabilities (many are saying its well over \$110 trillion dollars)*! Obviously, this number is *unsustainable* when considering the size of our economy is only about \$16 trillion total GDP per year!

The hard reality is, we can barely pay the *annual deficit* off with what we collect in taxes, let alone the annual interest charges of \$300 billion/year, which is projected to cost \$5.5 trillion dollars over the next decade, while keeping the government running on a balanced budget (which we don't have)! It's *impossible* at our present GDP level of \$16 trillion/year. Most everyone ignores these astonishingly monstrous numbers because no one really understands them or expects this debt ever to be paid, including those foreign nations who are carrying many of the United States' IOU's—China alone holds about \$1.3 trillion dollars in US treasuries or, more correctly termed, *debt* (ref.: US Treasury)!

Is it any wonder why discussions about *replacing the dollar* as the world's standard currency are getting louder around the world? Presently, the United States continues to sell its treasury bonds and has accumulated about \$4 trillion in foreign debt to other nations, China and Japan being the two largest debt holders, England being third, with the oil-producing nations and Brazil being number four and five. Needless to say, this gives China (which holds approximately 21 percent of all foreign investment in American treasuries—debt) a lot of political leverage to resist any American political, social, and/or military pressure they may not agree with. In other words, *China is positioned*

very securely for influencing U.S. foreign policy.

However, what many don't realize is the Federal Reserve retains the majority of debt in the United States. And every time the United States Congress wants to print more money, they (Congress) must agree to pay the Federal Reserve interest on those treasuries (money) and, of course, pay out interest yields to foreign nations who buy those debt certificates (U.S. treasuries) as well.

It should be obvious by now that this is a never ending cycle of *national slavery to debt for generations to come* that will not stop until essentially two very basic things occur: **A)** the U.S. Congress eliminates the Federal Reserve and regains control of the currency according to the U.S. Constitution; and **B)** the United States *operates at all times* within a balanced budget while initiating *brutal spending cuts*.

I hope I'm wrong, but it doesn't appear the American people or the present political leaders have the courage or appetite to make these hard choices and *embrace the austerity measures* necessary to correct the economic mistakes of the past 150 or so years.

What Does God's Word Say About the Future of the USA?

We sometimes *fail to remember* the decline of the United States is not due to the economics or weakness of the country's sociology—those are all just symptoms, effects, or axiomatic to a cause that most are blinded to because we have become so humanistic and politically correct within our “pop-culture.” Instead, what underscores our problems, as a nation, is we have allowed our system to become *secular and CORRUPT* and not just in one area, but throughout the vast variety of our schools, institutions, and industries. It's a moral decay—a greed, a grasping for power and celebrity, driven by varying degrees of narcissism; an internal degeneracy and decadence of dignity, integrity, and civil respect for each other that has infected us from the least and youngest, to the greatest and oldest among us; and it's compounded by a priority of pursuing materialism, which is idolatry. The culture of North America doesn't see that it's a *matter of the heart* of the people—and the “heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it” (Jeremiah 17:9)? Also, God said through the prophet Hosea, “My

people are destroyed for lack of knowledge [why?]: because you have rejected knowledge, I will also reject you, that you shall be no priest to me: seeing you have forgotten the law of your God [that knowledge], I will also forget your children" (Hosea 4:6). This is a daunting thought and horrifying realization coming from God.

So often we *forget* the United States is *providential* in its placement in history. We *forget* it is a land of promise, affluence, and charity, with a focus on human and civil rights and personal freedoms, while ensconced in the values of Christ and the Old Testament. Most do not recognize the United States didn't just happen by "dumb luck," *coincidence*, or *blind chance*. No, quite the contrary: instead, it is the *Providence of God* who was unconditionally committed to Abraham to be the recipient of a renowned land of material wealth and greatness (Genesis 12:1-3; 48:13-22; 49:2-26).

With that being said, we have *forgotten* as a nation *we are responsible* to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to maintain the course and *abide in Him* in all His ways if we want to avoid destruction as a nation/culture—but, sadly, we have *forgotten and abandoned* that too! Perhaps, this is *why* the *prophetic name* of the United States is *Manasseh*; after all, in Hebrew it means *forgetfulness!* (Unfortunately, how fitting...)

Interestingly enough, Moses mentions this very issue of concern that he had with the *original nation of Israel*, but which is very applicable for the United States today. Notice: "Beware that you *forget not* the LORD your God, in keeping His commandments, and His judgments, and His statutes...Lest when you have eaten and are full and have built goodly houses...and your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold is multiplied, and you have multiplied; Then your heart be lifted up and you *forget* the LORD your God...And you say in your heart, My power and the might of my hand has gotten me this wealth. But you shall remember the LORD your God...And it shall be if you do at all *forget* the LORD your God, and walk after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I *testify against you* this day that you shall *surely perish*" (Deuteronomy 8:11-20).

In the years leading up to and during the destruction of the original nation of Israel (the ten

northern tribes, not the Jews of Judah), prophet after prophet came upon the scene to warn Israel to repent and return unto the Lord. Moses warned in both Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28 (before Israel became a nation) that if the people would "walk in [His] statutes, and keep [His] commandments, and do them," He would give them *many blessings*. They would receive "rain in due season," and "the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit." God would "give peace in the land" and "none shall make you afraid.... you shall chase your enemies.... five of you shall chase an hundred and an hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight.... I will have respect unto you, and make you fruitful, and multiply you...and I will walk among you, and will be your God and you shall be my people" (Leviticus 26:1-12).

However, if we as a nation who adopted the God of Israel (which the United Kingdom and United States have done) refuse to obey Him, notice what will happen to the nation: "But if you will not hearken unto me, and will not do all these commandments; and if you shall despise my statutes, or if your soul abhor my judgments...that you break my covenant...I will even appoint over you terror [including, perhaps, actual terrorists?], consumption, and the burning ague, that shall consume the eyes, and cause sorrow of heart.... you shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it. And I will set my face against you.... I will break the pride of your power [military and financial weakness].... I will make your heaven as iron and earth as brass [pollution]; and your strength shall be spent in vain [we will waste our affluence]: for your land shall not yield her increase [famine and drought].... And I will bring a sword [war] upon you, that shall avenge the quarrel of my covenant" (Leviticus 26:14-25). Read the rest of the chapter. It's amazing what Moses warns Israel about and *how applicable in parallel his warnings are to the United States* and, frankly, *all of North America and the Commonwealth nations of today!*

In Deuteronomy 28, we find a similar listing of blessings and cursings as was listed in Leviticus. After the listing the blessings for obedience (Deuteronomy 28:1-14), Moses describes the cursings for disobedience. "Cursed shall you be in the city [crime, gangs, drugs, civil unrest].... Cursed

shall be the fruit of your body [abortion is a curse to the fruit (babies) of our women].... The LORD shall cause you to be smitten before your enemies...and [you] shall be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth [destruction/captivity].... The stranger that is within you [foreign nationals connected to the nation] shall get up above you very high; and you shall come down very low. He shall lend to you [buy up your debt] and you shall not lend to him [you shall be indebted to him]: he shall be the head, and you shall be the tail [your policies will be influenced, leveraged, and controlled, by the foreigner]" (Deuteronomy 28:15-44). Let me also encourage you to read this chapter. It is quite the *contemporary warning from God* to the nations He considered His birth-righted cultures—the United States and those associated with the British Commonwealth.

The voices of the prophets—their messages are just as *contemporary and applicable today* for the United States and those nations of the birth-righted promises to *repent* and turn from their *secular and humanistic ways*. Whether Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Amos, Hosea, or Micah, they all have their part in speaking to the people of North America and the Commonwealth countries, heralding the time is upon us; circumstances are coalescing and threatening; conditions are growing, endangering North American, European, and Eurasian liberties and freedoms, both within and outside of these nations.

The Middle East is in flux and a nuclear arms race is beginning to pickup momentum in that area of the world. The Muslim Brotherhood, along with a variety of other terrorists groups like Al-Qaeda, Boko Haram, Hamas, Hezbollah, and of course ISIS are growing in influence within many countries, driving and pursuing the development of a caliphate nation underscored by Islam and ruled by Sharia law. The European Union struggles with the PIIGS countries and its currency, the Euro, while the United States continues with its own struggles of political gridlock, social unrest, economic insolvency, and terrorist fears. The winds of "change" are indeed increasing and picking up velocity.

Everyday it seems anything can happen at any given moment. Yes, it is indeed quite different today because one thing is for sure: the United States is in obvious social and financial *decline*—without a doubt, American culture is being redefined and it *isn't good*. **Consider:** 101 million Americans receive food assistance from the government (ref.: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture—USDA). Over 151 million Americans receive some kind of government service. Many states are also running immense financial deficits. The United States has the dubious title of being the *largest debtor nation in the history of the world* and *is mathematically bankrupt!* It is paralyzed, having no ability to pay down its *current* debts, or unfunded *future* liabilities. *This has never happened before!* We are in a *brand new* set of national circumstances—a *first* in the history of the United States! These are not normal times, or good signs! And sadly, for now, the Federal Reserve will continue to print more money at the request of the President and Congress. That will cause the debt to exponentially grow, generating the consequence of consigning future generations with prodigious amounts of debt-service. This will ultimately result in debasing the value of the dollar, which will also lead to weakening the military (national security) as happened to ancient Rome—in other words, continuing to "spend its strength in vain."

So what's the solution? The culture of the United States needs the "children" (the people of the nation) to turn themselves back to the God of our fathers, not our *political* fathers, but rather our *spiritual* fathers—Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. If the people of the North America, the United Kingdom, Australia, and Europe would do this, it would lead them to understand *Jesus Christ is who we need* to have as our *central model* for our nations, as well as our Savior. We need to repent of our sins and return to our God by accepting Jesus of Nazareth as our example for our social lifestyle and hegemony. Otherwise, the United States, Canada, and many nations of the Commonwealth will *cease to exist* and He will *come* and smite the earth with a curse (Malachi 4:4-6)!

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