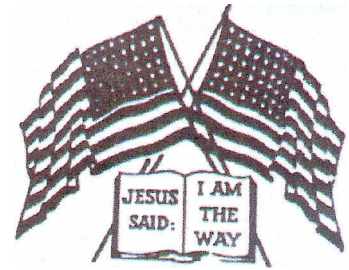


GOD GIVEN FREEDOM



The Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4, 1776 by 56 men who took this oath: “we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.” A new nation was forged. Someone said that our founding fathers came with a gun in one hand, and a Bible in the other and that the picture has now changed to men holding a gun in each hand and the Bible is gone. Honoring God paid off, for the Scriptures declare that... “them that honor me I will honor them.” - 1 Samuel 2:30 In our pledge to the United States as we salute the flag we say the words: “ONE NATION UNDER GOD.”

I. To be “under God” speaks of SELECTION:

- Selection has to do with choice - with decision.
- Our forefathers founded a nation dedicated to God. They made the choice.
- A South American president once said, “South America was settled by men who were seeking gold, but North America was settled by men seeking God.”
- You as an individual are what you are by CHOICE either FREE in Christ or a captive of Satan.
“If the Son shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.” - John 8:36
- the world can be divided into two classes:
 1. those under God by selection.
...choose you this day whom ye will serve. - Joshua 24:15
- HAVE YOU ASKED CHRIST TO BE YOUR SAVIOUR? - Romans 10:13
 2. Those under direction by the god of this world.
... in whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not -
2 Cor 4:4

II. To be “under God” speaks of PROTECTION:

- Yes, when our trust is in Him and not in men, weapons, money, etc.
“Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that that fear Him, upon them that hope in His mercy” -
Psalm 33:18
- America is and has thus far experienced protection, wealth, prosperity, and blessings untold because of believers giving forth His Word. God is not blessing our nation because of the ingenuity of man.
- Note what Laban, a rascal, said to God's man, Jacob.
“I have learned by experience that the Lord hath blessed me for thy sake.” - Gen 30:27
- And we read that:
“the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake.” - Gen 39:5

III. To be “under God” speaks of DIRECTION:

- Note Psalm 33:13 - “The Lord looketh from heaven, He beholdeth all the sons of men.”
- He looks down from heaven with concern to those who look up heavenward to Him for direction.
- Man's greatest freedom is freedom from sin.
- In New York harbor stands a lady with a torch raised to the sky. She stands for liberty for all Americans. On Golgotha's hill stood a cross with our Lord raised to the sky proclaiming liberty to all from sin who call on Him for salvation. The statue liberates the citizen. The cross liberates the soul, Are YOU really free?

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