



God Bless America Responsibility of Truth

I. God Gave Us a Land of Liberty

Exodus 3:8 (NIV®)

⁸ So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey--the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites.

Ezekiel 11:9 (NIV®)

⁹ I will drive you out of the city and hand you over to foreigners and inflict punishment on you.

Genesis 2:15-17 (NIV®)

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden;

¹⁷ but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."

Genesis 3:23-24 (NIV®)

²³ So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. ²⁴ After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim ...

II. Heart Healthy

A. "They will know that I am the Lord"

Ezekiel 12:15 (NIV®)

¹⁵ "They will know that I am the LORD, when I disperse them among the nations and scatter them through the countries.

Ezekiel 38:23 (NIV®)

²³ And so I will show my greatness and my holiness, and I will make myself known in the sight of many nations. **Then they will know that I am the LORD.'**

B. An idol in his heart

Ezekiel 14:4 (NIV®)

⁴ Therefore speak to them and tell them, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: When any Israelite **sets up idols in his heart** and puts a wicked stumbling block before his face . . .

Psalms 24:1-4 (NIV®)

¹ The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; ² for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters. ³ Who may ascend the hill of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? ⁴ He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false.

III. Avoiding Deception

A. Acknowledge frailty/Inconsistency

Ezekiel 14:11 (NIV®)

Then the people of Israel will no longer stray from me, nor will they defile themselves anymore with all their sins. They will be my people and I will be their God, declares the Sovereign Lord

Galatians 5:7 (NIV®)

⁷ You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth?

B. What are you "holding to" clinging to

John 8:31-33 (NIV®)

³¹ To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³² Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³ They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?"

C. Accept Discipline

Hebrews 12:7-8 (NIV®)

⁷ Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? ⁸ If you are not disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons.

D. What are you striving for?

Philippians 3:13-14 (NIV®)

But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Hebrews 12:14-16 (NIV®)

¹⁴ Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵ See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many. ¹⁶ See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son.

IV. The Big Trouble

A. Satan

Matthew 4:8-10 (NIV®)

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. ⁹ "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"

B. Antichrist

1 John 2:18 (NIV®)

¹⁸ Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that **the antichrist is coming**, even now **many antichrists have come**. This is how we know it is the last hour.

1 John 4:2-3 (NIV®)

² This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³ but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is **the spirit of the antichrist**, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.

C. False Prophet

Revelation 13:13-14 (NASB®)

¹³ He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men. ¹⁴ And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast.

D. The Return of the King

Revelation 22:12-16 (NIV®)

¹² "Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. ¹⁴ "Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. ¹⁵ Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood. ¹⁶ "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star."

Prayer

Heavenly Father, we humble ourselves before You today to acknowledge You as the creator of all things. You have made us, we are the sheep of Your pasture. Through Your truth we have found freedom. You have given us a home in a place of liberty. Give us the wisdom to maintain what has been entrusted to us. Let the darkness be pushed back and the light break forth in this season. Awaken Your people in this generation. You are our hope and our great redeemer. Let the name of Jesus be exalted and all who oppose him stumble, in Jesus' name, amen.

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