



## God Bless America Into the Arena

### I. God's Perspective

#### A. All Sufficient

Psalm 2:1-6 (NIV®)

<sup>1</sup> Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? <sup>2</sup> The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD and against his Anointed One. <sup>3</sup> "Let us break their chains," they say, "and throw off their fetters." <sup>4</sup> The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them. <sup>5</sup> Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying, <sup>6</sup> "I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill."

Psalm 50:12 (NIV®)

<sup>12</sup> If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is mine, and all that is in it.

#### B. A Deliverer

2 Chronicles 14:11 (NIV®)

<sup>11</sup> Then Asa called to the LORD his God and said, "LORD, there is no one like you to help the powerless against the mighty. Help us, O LORD our God, for we rely on you, and in your name we have come against this vast army. O LORD, you are our God; do not let man prevail against you."

Daniel 3:16-18 (NIV®)

<sup>16</sup> Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. <sup>17</sup> If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us from your hand, O king. <sup>18</sup> But even if he does not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up."

#### C. Aware --"well done"

Matthew 25:21 (NIV®)

<sup>21</sup> "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

### II. Which Side?

Isaiah 59:1-4 (NIV®)

<sup>1</sup> **Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear.** <sup>2</sup> But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear. <sup>3</sup> For your hands are stained with blood, your fingers with guilt. Your lips have spoken lies, and your tongue mutters wicked things. <sup>4</sup> No one calls for justice; no one pleads his case with integrity. They rely on empty arguments and speak lies; they conceive trouble and give birth to evil.

Isaiah 59:13-15 (NIV®)

<sup>13</sup> rebellion and treachery against the LORD, turning our backs on our God, fomenting oppression and revolt, uttering lies our hearts have conceived. <sup>14</sup> So justice is driven back, and righteousness stands at a distance; truth has stumbled in the streets, honesty cannot enter. <sup>15</sup> Truth is nowhere to be found, and whoever shuns evil becomes a prey. The LORD looked and was displeased that there was no justice.

Isaiah 59:16-17 (NIV®)

<sup>16</sup> He saw that there was no one, he was appalled that there was no one to intervene; so his own arm worked salvation for him, and his own righteousness sustained him. <sup>17</sup> He put on righteousness as his breastplate, and the helmet of salvation on his head; he put on the garments of vengeance and wrapped himself in zeal as in a cloak.

Isaiah 59:19-20 (NIV®)

<sup>19</sup> From the west, men will fear the name of the LORD, and from the rising of the sun, they will revere his glory. For he will come like a pent-up flood that the breath of the LORD drives along. <sup>20</sup> "The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins," declares the LORD.

### III. Preparation, for Those Listening

Ephesians 6:10-18 (NIV®)

<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup> For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

<sup>13</sup> Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. <sup>18</sup> And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

A. Strong in the Lord & His mighty power, v.10

B. Put on the full armor of God . . . enabled to stand, v.11

1. Belt of truth around your waist, v.14
2. Breastplate of righteousness, v.14
3. Feet fitted with readiness from gospel of peace, v.15
4. Take up the shield of faith---extinguish all flaming arrows of evil one, v.16
5. Helmet of salvation, v.17
6. Sword of Spirit, word of God, v.17
7. Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kind of prayers, v.18

C. Know the adversary, v.12

D. Day of evil comes, v.13

E. Have done everything ---stand, v.13

F. Be alert, v.18

G. Always keep on praying for all the saints, v.18

#### Prayer

Heavenly Father, we have gathered in Your name because in You there is hope. You are a God of great mercy and compassion, a God who restores and renews. We are a people in great need. We have turned our backs on truth and justice. We have walked in pride and rebellion. Forgive our sins, pour out upon us a spirit of humility and repentance. May the Fear of God wash over our hearts and minds. Our hope is in the name of our Lord. May Jesus be honored in this generation, amen.

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