

We must find our way again and repent before it is everlastingly too late. We must look to the Ten Commandments, not as a means of salvation, but as a schoolmaster to lead us to Christ again.

Galatians 3:24

*"Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith."*

Already we are hearing our children say:

- "Daddy, where were you when they took prayer out of schools?"
- "Where were you when they stopped the Bible reading?"
- "Where were you when they started killing millions of babies?"

You know what you can say? "We were in church, we were at home minding our own business while the devil's crowd raped and pillaged our country." And here we are again at another turning point. What are you going to do?

Are we again, 25 years from now, going to hear our children say:

- "Daddy, granddaddy, where were you when they took the Ten Commandments down from the courthouse?"
- "Where were you when Judge Moore was removed?"
- "Where were you when they took 'one nation under God' out of the Pledge of Allegiance?"
- "Where were you when they made gay marriage legal?"

"What are you going to say?"

I hope it won't be like it was in the days of Nazi Germany. You see, in those days many pastors had bought into Hitler's lie of "separation of church and state" - the same doctrine that pastors and churches are buying into today! Hitler himself had told a group of pastors in 1934, "you confine yourself to the church. I will take care of the German people."

Pastor Martin Niemoeller responded:

"We are not concerned with the churches in Germany. Jesus Christ will take care of them Himself. We are concerned with the heart and soul of our nation."

(Why? Because nations come and go but the gates of hell shall not prevail against God's church! Matthew 16:18 tells us of the future of the church.)

Another German pastor, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who stood with Niemoeller was imprisoned and eventually executed during the last year of WWII. Niemoeller himself was sent to a concentration camp for the duration of the war.

Niemoeller, was known on another occasion to tell Hitler, *"we pastors have a responsibility for the German people laid on us by God. Neither you or anyone else can take that away from us."*

I say in closing to all of you, that we, as citizens of the United States of America, have that same responsibility as those German pastors did! We must not disengage ourselves from the moral and cultural war that is raging in our country. If Christ tarries we will regret the day that we ignored the signs of coming destruction.

Proverbs 29:2 says,

*"When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule the people mourn."*

My dear friends, there is no way we can continue in the direction we are going as a nation and there not be a whole lot of "mourning" on the way!

Does America need revival? Of course it does! Do you want to plan for it? Then one of the surest ways is to bring the law of God back; let's put it in our hearts, let's put it in our homes, let's put it in our churches, and see it have an effect in our public buildings and institutions! Why? Because we are living in a day when men and women don't believe they are sinners, they don't believe they are really lost! We are trying to get people saved who haven't been convinced they are lost!

The statement has been made, and I have agreed with it on many occasions, that says: *"All that is required for evil to prevail is for good men to do nothing!"* But at this point in American life I am seriously questioning

**"May the Lord help us all before history repeats itself!"**

if one can continue to call himself good and continue to do nothing! How can we "knowingly" stand by? Is it really possible if we are who we say we are? I think not!

The decision that each of us must face is this: am I going to sit passively by, do nothing and watch the foundations continue to crumble or am I going to stand up for what I know is right - committing myself and my family to know and obey the Ten Commandments and as a Christian citizen to remind others of the absolute necessity of the Ten Commandments as the moral foundation of our country.

If not now, when?

If not you, who?

If not this, what?

What is it going to take?

I refer us again to Martin Niemoeller, the pastor who lived in Germany during Hitler's rule, who said,

"In Germany, the Nazis first came for the communists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a communist.

Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew.

Then they came for the trade unionist and I did not speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist.

Then they came for the Catholics but I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant.

Then they came for me and by that time there was no one left to speak for me."

May the Lord help us all before history repeats itself!



*Pastor Mike Griffin is chairman of the steering committee for Ten Commandments-GA, Hart County. For more information on Ten Commandments-GA see our website at [www.thoushalt.org](http://www.thoushalt.org). You may contact Pastor Mike at [pastormike@hartcom.net](mailto:pastormike@hartcom.net) if you need him to speak at your church or civic organization about issues related to Ten Commandments-GA.*

# America

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# Ten Commandments

Exodus 20:3-17; Psalm 11:3

By:

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- I. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
- II. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image.
- III. Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain.
- IV. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- V. Honor thy father and thy mother.
- VI. Thou shalt not kill.
- VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
- VIII. Thou shalt not steal.
- IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness.
- X. Thou shalt not covet.

Psalms 11:3

*"If the foundations be destroyed,*

*what can the righteous do?"*

Matthew Henry had this to say about Psalm 11:3: "If you destroy the foundations, if you take good people off from their hope in God, if you can persuade them that their religion is a cheat and a jest and can banter them out of that, you ruin them, and break their hearts indeed, and make them of all men most miserable."

We are living in a day, as never before, when we are seeing the very foundations of our country being torn apart. It has been our foundations that have provided a wall of protection for our country for over 225 years. Today, however, we are seeing those walls tumble to the ground. The walls are falling because the foundations are being destroyed. And when the foundations are destroyed and the walls of protection fall, then the enemy comes rushing in upon us like a flood!

But I've got good news. Isaiah 59:19 says that when this happens God has a standard that can be held up against the enemy.

*"So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him."*

The standard that God uses is nothing less than the Word of God! When the moral walls crumble, there is only one way to repair them and that is to raise the standard of God's laws found in the Ten Commandments.

As we scan the horizon of the Word of God we could divide revivals into two categories: those that were spontaneous and those that were planned. Among those that were spontaneous would be the one that occurred at Pentecost. While everyone knew it was promised, it was unknown exactly when it would happen. And certainly no one could have planned for the results: 3000 saved! Then, among those that were planned would be those in the Old Testament where the law of God was read and proclaimed. The greatest example was when Ezra read and taught the law of God to the people of God for several days! The people listened, and the

You see the reason the walls have fallen and the foundations have crumbled is that for too long God's people have not practiced what they were preaching! For years we have complained about not having Bible reading and prayer in the schools, and rightly so. But even sadder is the fact that there is little or no Bible reading and prayer in our own homes and churches!

I was recently interviewed by a reporter of the Atlanta Journal & Constitution who, upon my explaining TC-GA's philosophy of posting the Ten Commandments said, "I've never heard it put that way." What I told him was that our perspective of knowing and obeying the Ten Commandments starts out individually. We must begin with ourselves, our homes, and our churches. We complain about the Ten Commandments not being in our government buildings and schools, but we don't even have them in our homes and churches! In the average church today barely 1% can even quote all the Ten Commandments - in any order!

"Marietta, GA – On March 14, 1994, a framed copy of The Ten Commandments was removed from the Cobb County Courthouse by order of the 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals. Following this, the American Rights Coalition of Chattanooga, Tennessee, conducted a survey in Cobb County. The survey found that of the fifteen Christian bookstores only one had a copy of the Ten Commandments; of the fifteen Christian schools in the area only one had a copy anywhere in their buildings; and of the twenty churches surveyed, again, only one had a copy on public display.

'So what the Federal Courts mandated for the Courthouse, Christians had already done voluntarily to their own walls,' said ARC President Charles Wysong."

Do you see, my friend, where the real problem lies in this battle of righteousness and morality? It lies with us. "If my people who are called by my name will..." It begins with my house, your house and the church house before we can go to the courthouse! Folks, "they" won't till "we" do! The best way to get them in the courthouses is to get them into our own houses!

Deuteronomy 11:18-20 lays out how the

foundations of our society and country can begin to be restored.

*"Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates..."*

Dad and mom must first know and obey the Ten Commandments themselves. They must in turn teach them to their children and they must post them in their homes. That, along with knowing and posting them in our churches, will go a long way toward putting them in our courthouses. Indeed, when we go into any building, if they are in our hearts they will be in the building whether private or public!

So, here we are today: What are we going to do? Psalm 11:3 says "what will the righteous do?" I'll tell you what they will do. They will do nothing. They can do nothing without the truth of God's law to stand upon! And God's Word tells us what we must do:

We must repair the breach. Isaiah 58:12

*"And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in."*

We must walk the old paths again.

Jeremiah 6:16

*"Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein."*

We must return to the law of our fathers.

2 Kings 17:13

*"Yet the LORD testified against Israel, and against Judah, by all the prophets, and by all the seers, saying, Turn ye from your evil ways, and keep my commandments and my statutes, according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you by my servants the prophets."*