

Krista Sauder: Prayer for America

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There are many verses in the bible that speak of God's impending judgment on a nation as a result of the nation's moral and spiritual decline. A couple of examples include:

The prophet Hosea works diligently to reach the people of Israel regarding the nation's sinfulness and the punishment awaiting them if they do not repent and turn to God. Hosea 4:6 heartbreakingly states, "my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge."

And again, throughout the book of Jeremiah, where Jeremiah's overall message is calling his nation to repent and turn to God, or expect impending judgment. In chapter 2 verse 19 Jeremiah warns, "Your wickedness will punish you" ... Jeremiah is grief stricken and spends most of his time weeping for Judah's slide toward destruction. In chapter 8, verse 18 he states, "My grief is beyond healing; my heart is broken." Sadly, I can certainly relate to this

However, we can take heart because following both of these prophets' messages of condemnation and judgment are words of hope & consolation; and assurance of God's mercy and promise of restoration to those who repent and turn to Him. Specifically, 2 Chronicles chapter 7, verse 14 states, "if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

Let us pray,

Heavenly Father, thank you for the blessing and privilege to be called your children. Father, we recognize our sin and our complete and total reliance on your Son, Jesus, for forgiveness. Like the prophet Jeremiah, we are heartbroken to see our great nation sliding into spiritual and moral decay. We stand before you this morning, as your people/your church, praying for the restoration of our country. Lord, we ask that you open the eyes of the leaders of our country including:

- the administrators & doctors leading our healthcare facilities, we pray that their loyalties lie first and foremost with what is best for their patients
- educators and members of boards of education throughout the country and within all levels of education, please instill in them and inspire them with your wisdom
- men & women serving throughout the ranks of our military, guide them in the fight for our freedoms and bless them for doing so
- for a fair election process and Godly discernment for voters

And Lord perhaps most importantly of all, we ask that you open the eyes of the leaders of our government from the lowest to highest level and turn their thoughts and focus back on you. Lord, reshape our nation to conform to your purposes. Show us how to return to you and become one great nation under God. In Jesus name, Amen.