

117.5 Dissing Our Defenders

Americans are in desperate need of heroes. When I was growing up, we admired the WWII veterans and those of past generations who served in the Revolution and Civil War. That is not permissible today.

In the Marxist Americans' zeal to overthrow the nation, they have emphasized the flaws of early Americans to the extent that we can no longer admire them. Instead, we are to disparage those who put their lives on the line for our Liberty. Slavery is the number one criticism of our Founders. It is an emotional subject that the Left uses to manipulate conscientious citizens into repressing the memories of otherwise brilliant people.

We are adrift in an ocean of chaos when we remove our past leaders and denounce our nation. Whoever can control the rudder will take us wherever they want to go. Right now, they are navigating dangerously close to the waterfalls. Along that line, John Henrik Clarke wrote, "To control a people, you must first control what they think about themselves and how they regard their history and culture. And when your conqueror makes you ashamed of your culture and your history, he needs no prison walls and no chains to hold you."

What I find worthwhile is to ask ourselves, "What country in history has been a better nation than America?" We were not and are perfectly sinless. What nation has been? None, not even Israel, God's specially chosen nation. The beauty of America, at least early on, is that we have made course corrections. We ended enslavement in America unless you want to call our current excessive taxation "slavery." We are taxed on every level, and the controlling powers want to tax us even more.

Aside from Jesus, no one who has ever lived has a clean slate. "**For there is no difference; ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.**"¹ I hate to break it to you if you did not know, but the "all" in that verse means "all" and includes us.

In our arrogance and hypocrisy, we can think we are better than our American ancestors or even our forefathers of faith. As a result of our myopic judgments, we denigrate flawed people and ignore their positive contributions.

Preachers often say, "God does not call the qualified. He qualifies the called." I used to think that Abraham was an unapproachable leader. Then I studied his life and found that he was defective and unqualified, a lot like me. He hesitated to obey God early on, lied, and took matters into his own hands. Yet God chose him to be the father of nations. God did not give up on Abraham but worked with him to produce a spiritual giant by the end of his life.

The same can be said of Moses, who tried to act before God told him and fled in fear to hide in the wilderness among sheep. When God called him from the burning bush, Israel's leader resisted and made excuses. God worked on him and with him anyway. He led the people out of Egyptian slavery and presented them with the words of God.

The "Hall of Faith" chapter, **Hebrews 11**, lists numerous significant Bible characters. Go down the list and see that each one had a failing of some kind. Again, Jesus is our ultimate sinless example, but the other characters deserve honor as they gave their lives to following God.

¹ See Romans 3:22-23 (NKJV)

It is safe to say that most of us give ourselves the benefit of the doubt. We know we are sinners in the hands of a gracious God, so we ignore our insufficiencies. We excuse ourselves but will not offer the same gift to others. Jesus warns us:

“Judge not, that you be not judged. ²For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.”²

We must be careful. If we act judgmentally, we will receive the same kind of condemnation we give. Haman plotted to destroy Mordecai and the Jews in the Book of Esther. You will remember that the king ended Haman by impaling him on the gallows he had prepared for Mordecai.

Haman reaped what he had sown, and we will, too. There is no expiration date on this kind of judgment. We may criticize our ancestors but must be prepared to receive what we give. We can't excuse ourselves for our shortcomings if we don't excuse theirs. The same things that happened to Haman will happen to any arrogant actor.

When we strip away respect for our heroes, we wind up with no one to admire. In one way, that isn't good. **George Washington** was a role model for Americans for decades. Today people trash him and ignore the qualities that made him great. At Washington's funeral, **Henry Lee** eulogized him with, "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

Washington no longer holds that position with Americans. Our children know little more than his name. Even his portrait on the one-dollar bill is slipping away as we go to digital currency. The same applies to Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Jackson, and others.

JFK hosted a dinner at the White House attended by forty-nine Nobel Prize winners. Kennedy toasted the room and stated, "I think this is the most extraordinary collection of talent, of human knowledge, that has ever been gathered together at the White House, with the possible exception of when **Thomas Jefferson** dined alone." He also applauded Jefferson as "a gentleman of 32 who could calculate an eclipse, survey an estate, tie an artery, plan an edifice, try a cause, break a horse, and dance the minuet." I wonder if the MSM would censor Kennedy today.

If we apply the same criticisms to modern Americans, we must degrade **John Kennedy** and **Martin Luther King** for their immoralities. Congress should have convicted **Bill Clinton**. **George W. Bush** should be chastised for lying to Americans about the unfounded Weapons of Mass Destruction.

The good side of stripping away our earthly heroes is that we will focus more on Jesus. Numerous passages speak of the sinless perfection of the Son of God. Here is one:

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.³

We can honor people who have paid the price for our Liberty and security even though they had deficiencies. More importantly, we can honor Christ, our ultimate hero, and aspire to be like Him. There are no shortcomings of any kind in Him.

Keep The Light of Honoring Our Genuine Heroes Burning!

GodNAmerica.com

GodNAmerica@gmail.com

405.361.3123

² See Matthew 7:1-5 (NKJV)

³ 2 Corinthians 5:21 (NKJV)