GNA Revisited

I started the GodNAmerica ministry to help "reconnect God and America by telling His story in our history." In over 700 podcasts, I've attempted to blend contemporary events, American History, and the Bible into a unified narrative. Many of today's issues bear striking similarities to events in the scriptures and America's past, underscoring the relevance of our ministry in the current political climate.

We are aware, for instance, that there is a Deep State shadow government controlling our political leaders. We have very little legitimate representation because our legislators serve their financial backers rather than the people. That sounds like the American colonial days. The king set up governors in the thirteen colony states to do his bidding, while Parliament prohibited any elected representatives from America. Thus, we had "taxation without representation." We have that today. The Bible warns us of wicked leaders in Proverbs 29:2 (NKJV):

When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice, But when a wicked man rules, the people groan.

Imagine, for a moment, a scenario where God's influence returns to America. What would our nation look like? Would a single church or a combination of churches wield political power? Would we establish a theocracy akin to Islamic countries? Or would we elect leaders who embody godly principles to guide us as a nation of devout individuals? I envision the latter choice, an America like we had originally.

The early colonies had "state-sanctioned churches" based on their populations. Virginia was Anglican, and Maryland was Roman Catholic, for instance. Peter Muhlenberg was a Lutheran pastor who settled in Virginia but had to have Anglican credentials before the government allowed him to preach. He qualified in England, then returned to Virginia, where he preached for the German-speaking Lutheran Church and the English-speaking Anglican Church in Woodstock.

When the Framers amended the Constitution, they prevented government interference in religion. They built a wall of separation to keep the government out of church business but did not prohibit Christians from participating in the government or from including God. The fact that they barred the government from creating laws about religion prohibits a national church government or dangerous theocracy. In part, the First Amendment reads:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof;

The Founders and Framers were eager for Americans to incorporate the Bible into the government and let God direct its affairs by adopting His word and godly principles. They wanted Christian leaders, not secular pagans, to direct the nation. Listen to a few quotes.

- John Jay was America's first Supreme Court Chief Justice and Co-Author of the Federalist Papers. On October 12, 1816, he declared:
 "Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty, as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers."
- Francis Scott Key stated on February 22, 1812:
 "The patriot who feels himself in the service of God, who acknowledges Him in all his ways, has the promise of Almighty direction, and will find His Word in his greatest darkness, a lantern to his feet and a lamp unto his paths.' He will therefore seek to establish for his country in the eyes of the world, such a character as shall make her not unworthy of the name of a Christian nation...."
- Historian of the American Revolution, Dr. Jedidiah Morse, wrote: Let us resolutely resolve that we will spare no exertions to elect such rulers as God shall approve. This, believe me, is the only course of relief and safety to our afflicted country. Under rulers of no other character has any Christian nation ever flourished for any length of time. Under rulers of a different stamp, nations have always degenerated and been finally brought to desolation and ruin.

The men who fashioned the US with the Constitution assimilated basic church leadership models into the government. Some churches are Pastor-led, and we have a president. Some churches are led by representative bishops or elders, and we have a congress and SCOTUS. Some churches are led by the consent of the governed within their membership, and "we the people" vote on issues and people.

After Harvard President Samuel Langdon addressed the New Hampshire delegates with a message titled "The Republic of the Israelites an example to the American States," they voted to ratify the Constitution. In part, He stated:

"Instead of the twelve tribes of Israel, we may substitute the thirteen states of the American union and see this application plainly ... The Israelites may be considered as a pattern to the world in all ages ... Government ... on republican principles, required laws; without which it must have degenerated immediately into ... absolute monarchy ... It was a long time after the law of Moses was given before the rest of the world knew anything of government by law ...

All thirteen states ratifying the Constitution were "Christian States." Each acknowledged the Christian religion in their state constitutions in some form. Throughout the land, Christians became the leaders in government on every level.

I have heard Donald Trump's campaign theme, "Make America Great Again," for over eight years. While having capable political leaders in place is important, America will only be great again by doing what made it great initially. The French Statesman Alexis de Tocqueville witnessed that original prominence in action. He saw GodNAmerica and wrote:

Upon my arrival in the United States, the religious aspect of the country was the first thing that struck my attention; and the longer I stayed there, the more I perceived the great political consequences resulting from this new state of things, to which I was unaccustomed. In France, I had almost always seen the spirit of religion and the spirit of freedom marching in opposite directions. But in America, I found they were intimately united and that they reigned in common over the same country.

"GodNAmerica" is about character, not construction. Structures can be adapted, but spirit cannot. To reconnect with GodNAmerica, I envision the following steps:

- First, American citizens earnestly embrace God and His word.
- Second, a widespread national repentance.
- Third, our countrymen liberate themselves from the chains of tyranny and disinformation by adhering to and applying the truth found in the Bible daily.
- Fourth, Americans develop a biblical worldview and integrate biblical principles into every aspect of life, including government.

As a result of our devotion to God, the study of His word, sharing His message, and untiring prayer, we will become a devoted nation seeking heavenly guidance in our affairs.

God will not bless a nation that rejects Him. A country cannot return to Him without repentance, and repentance does not happen without individual Christians deciding to get serious with God. It begins with each of us determining to "fear God and keep His commandments" (Ecclesiastes 12:13). GodNAmerica begins with God in you and God in me.

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