

Introduction

Why Should America be God's Way?

America should be God's way because the whole world should be God's way. It should be God's way because he created the world and everything in it. As God said about making animal sacrifices to him, **"For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the mountains, and the wild beasts of the field are mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell thee, for the world is mine, and the fullness thereof"** (Psalm 50:10-12).

God said to Job, **"Who has first given to me, that I should repay him? Under the whole heaven is mine"** (Job 41:11). And God said to the prophet Ezekiel, **"Behold, all souls are mine, as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine. The soul that sins, it shall die"** (Ezekiel 18:4).

The idea that everything just evolved on its own is a colossal hoax perpetrated by the humanists and others who love the ways of Satan, God's great enemy. How anybody can believe such stupidity shows the power of deceit, which the devil and other wicked souls use with their morbid skills.

America should be God's way because that is right and good and just. Not being God's way is to rob and cheat him, because we belong to him. Jesus told a parable to illustrate that fact. He said to the Jews, **"There was a certain man who was a house-ruler, who planted a vineyard, and placed a hedge around it, and dug a winepress in it, and built a tower, and leased it to farmers, and went on a journey. And when the time of the fruits approached, he sent his bondmen to the farmers to receive his fruits.**

"And the farmers having taken his bondmen, they beat one, and killed another, and stoned another. Again, he sent other bondmen more than the first, and they did to them in like manner. But finally he sent to them his son, saying, They will be made ashamed by my son. But the farmers, when they saw the son, said among themselves, This is the heir, come, let us kill him, and possess his inheritance. And having seized him, they cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him.

"When therefore the lord of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those farmers? They say to him, Evil men, he will miserably destroy them, and will lease out the vineyard to other farmers, who will render him the fruits in their seasons.

"Jesus says to them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone that those who build rejected, this came to be in the head of the corner. This happened from the Lord, and it is marvelous in our eyes? Because of this I say to you, that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you, and will be given to a nation producing the fruits of it" (Matthew 21:33-43).

In that parable the house-ruler symbolizes God, who created the nation of Israel. The farmers symbolize the sons of Israel, to whom he gave their promised land. The bondmen symbolize the prophets that God sent to urge the people to obey him. The bondman's son symbolizes Jesus Christ the Son of God, whom God sent to bring his people back to him. But instead they murdered him.

In the more general sense, the parable can be applied to the whole world. The vineyard symbolizes the world, which God created and leased to mankind. The farmers symbolize mankind that has rebelled, and has consistently refused to hearken to the prophets that God sent to call them back to him.

And as it was unjust, even cruel, of the farmers in the parable to reject the owner of the vineyard, his bondmen, and his son, so it is unjust and cruel for mankind to reject our Creator God and the prophets he has sent into the world, including his only begotten Son Jesus Christ.

The apostle Paul told how God is calling to us: **“And all things are from God who reconciled us to himself through Jesus Christ, and who gave to us the ministry of reconciliation. How that God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not imputing to them their trespasses, and having committed to us the word of reconciliation. We are therefore, ambassadors on behalf of Christ, as though God were calling through us. We plead on behalf of Christ, be ye reconciled to God”** (Second Corinthians 5:18-20).

Therefore, it is only good and right and just for America to be God's way. It is good and right and just because he created us all and we belong to him. Not only did he create each one of us, but he sustains our lives. Without his constant support we could not even survive. You can read much more about how he does those things in my book *Becoming Sons of God for Eternity*.

Why Did God Make Us?

God made us because he wanted to have offspring, to share his life with him. Offspring made in his image, who would love and trust him, to live and reign with him in heaven as sons of God for eternity. Therefore, he made this world to give us the opportunity to prove our worthiness to be his sons for eternity.

Since he made us in his image, that means we have free will as he has. Consequently, not only do some of his offspring love and trust him, but some of them oppose him and choose evil. And our being of his own Spirit, God cannot foresee who will love and trust him and who will not. Therefore, he must test us, to see who will love and trust him. That is the purpose of living in this world; it is a place for testing our souls, to prove our worthiness to be sons of God for eternity.

Every soul who loves truth and righteousness will love and trust God, because he personifies truth and righteousness. As Jesus said to the Jews who

had no faith in him, **“The works that I do in my Father’s name, these testify about me. But ye do not believe, for ye are not of my sheep, as I said to you. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. And I give them eternal life, and they will, no, not perish into the age, and not any will snatch them out of my hand. My Father who has given to me, is greater than all, and not one is able to snatch out of my Father’s hand”** (John 10:25-29).

Therefore, living in this world of tribulation gives us the opportunity to prove that we love truth and righteousness, that we belong to God, that we are the sheep of his Son Jesus Christ, and we are worthy to become a son of God for eternity in heaven with him.

And since our reward in heaven is so great, our challenges are also great. We must be willing to forsake everything we have in this life for truth and righteousness, which is truly a great challenge. That is why Jesus said, **“Enter ye in by the narrow gate, because wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leads to destruction, and many are they who enter through it. How narrow is the gate, and restricted the way, that leads to life, and few are those who find it”** (Matthew 7:13-14).

The Creation of Our World

According to the record in the Holy Bible, on the last day of Creation (the sixth), **“God said, Let us make man in our image—after our likeness—and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the heavens, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth. And God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him, male and female he created them.**

“And God blessed them. And God said to them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the earth, and have power over it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the heavens, and over every living thing that moves upon the earth” (Genesis 1:26-28). And so it has been throughout history.

It is by our uniting together that we have been able to be fruitful, to multiply and filled the earth, to have power over it, and to have dominion over every living thing that moves upon the earth. Mankind has been able to do all of those things because we have united together into families and nations.

A family unit consists of a husband and wife and their children. Families are crucial because they are the building blocks of every nation. It is by them that we can have order and stability. And it is through them that new generations are developed, without which no nation can survive.

A nation consists of a territory with a population united together by a common language, a common worldview, a common way of living (including its commerce and currency), and with shared laws and a system of government. And healthy nations are the most powerful things in the world. It is

through them that men have done all the marvelous things they have done to make our lives more successful.

By our uniting into families and nations, God has greatly blessed us. Indeed, he works with us in his unseen way, as we labor for fruitfulness, to multiply and fill the earth, to have power over it, and to have dominion over every other living thing. And it is by our obedience to his righteousness that nations are exalted. For Solomon said, **“Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people”** (Proverbs 14:34). It is to the benefit of mankind to have righteous people, righteous families, and righteous nations.

The Forces of Corruption

Nevertheless, the apostle Paul said this world is in the bondage of corruption: **“The Spirit itself testifies with our spirit, that we are children of God. And if children, also heirs, heirs indeed of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if indeed we suffer jointly, so that we may also be glorified jointly. For I reckon that the sufferings of the present time are not comparable to the glory that is going to be revealed for us.**

“For the eager expectation of the creation is waiting for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creation was made subject to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it in hope. Because the creation itself will also be freed from the bondage of corruption into the liberty of the glory of the children of God.

“For we know that the whole creation is groaning and travailing together until now. And not only so, but also ourselves who have the first fruit of the Spirit. And we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for adoption, the redemption of our body” (Romans 8:16-23).

Our world is in the bondage of corruption because God made it that way. He made it that way because he is testing our souls. When the first man Adam sinned he corrupted his own body (and the bodies of every man ever after because he was the prototype man), but he did not corrupt the world. It has always been corrupted outside the garden of Eden, which is no longer accessible to any man.

Life, conflict, labor for survival, and death. Those are the four great forces that control living here in this world of tribulation. Therefore, every man born in the world must endure many conflicts, much labor to survive, and eventually he must die. God created the force of life, the devil introduced the force of conflict, labor for survival and death were the consequences of Adam’s sin.

In itself this is a world of vanity. For Solomon said at the beginning of his book Ecclesiastes, **“Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities, all is vanity.”** He also asked the question, **“What profit has man from all his labor in which he labors under the sun?”** (Ecclesiastes 1:2-3). Solomon answered his question at the end of the book, **“This is the end of the matter, all has been heard: Fear God, and keep his command-**

ments, for this is the whole of man. For God will bring every work into judgment, with every hidden thing, whether good or evil” (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14).

Our world is only a world of vanity in itself. Our lives in it are not vanity—if we keep God’s commandments, proving we love truth and righteousness so that we can be worthy of living in heaven with him.

God created this world as a place to test our souls, to see if we are worthy to become sons of God for eternity in the greater world of heaven where God resides. We must prove that we trust him and will live righteously regardless of how much suffering we must endure. And those who prove their worthiness will enjoy an eternal life where there will be no conflicts, struggles to survive, or death—there be no suffering of any kind for those who trust and obey him.

The First Men

The first man, Adam obtained the knowledge of good and evil prematurely, and every man inherits it from him. That knowledge is not intellectual but intuitive, innate to our conscience (although our conscience can be destroyed).

That knowledge caused Adam’s body to become corrupted because he was not yet able to control his knowledge of evil. And ever since, every man has inherited from Adam our premature knowledge of good and evil. As Solomon said, **“Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him”** (Proverbs 22:15). It is the lifelong struggle of every man to subdue the evil lusts of his flesh.

Early in the history of the world mankind corrupted themselves spiritually. For the Bible record says, **“And Jehovah saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And Jehovah regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him in his heart. And Jehovah said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the ground, from man, to beast, to creeping things, and birds of the heavens, for I regret that I have made them. But Noah found favor in the eyes of Jehovah”** (Genesis 6:5-8).

Consequently, God send a great flood to destroy them all, all except for the man Noah and his family because he was righteous. After the flood, the record says that Noah made an animal sacrifice to God.

Then the record says, **“And Jehovah smelled the sweet savor. And Jehovah said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man’s sake, for that the imagination of man’s heart is evil from his youth. Neither will I again any more smite everything living, as I have done. While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease”** (Genesis 8:21-22). And so it has been ever since.

Nevertheless, since God knew that mankind would again corrupt themselves, he decided to create a nation for himself that would preserve righteousness in the world. God chose the righteous man Abraham (originally called Abram) to begin that nation. Later Abraham's grandson Jacob (also called Israel) bore twelve sons. It was their descendants that became the nation of Israel, the one that God chose to be his own.

The Nation of Israel

Residing in the land of Egypt, the people of Israel grew into a large population (estimated at over two million). The people of Israel were in harsh bondage there serving the Egyptians. God chose the man Moses to save them. And with a mighty hand God brought them out into the wilderness of Sinai, being led by Moses. There at Horeb (mount Sinai) God began the process of creating their nation.

For the Bible record says, **“And Moses went up to God. And Jehovah called to him out of the mountain, saying, Thus thou shalt say to the house of Jacob, and tell the sons of Israel: Ye have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings, and brought you to myself.**

“Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be my own possession from among all peoples, for all the earth is mine, and ye shall be to me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak to the sons of Israel” (Exodus 19:3-6).

God said he would make them his chosen people, a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation—if they obeyed his voice and kept his covenant with them. At the mountain he also gave them a system of laws and some rulers. But they were so rebellious that he kept them wandering in the wilderness for forty years.

Afterward he gave the next generation the land he had promised to give to the descendants of their forefathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. That completed the birth of their nation. Although they possessed less than half of the territory he intended to give them, because they quit trying to dispossess the spiritually corrupt Gentiles in it as God had commanded them.

Nevertheless, the people of Israel were then a nation having a population that inhabited land on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea above the Sinai peninsula and below the Euphrates river. They were united together by a common language and by their faith in Jehovah God, sharing a common way of life, and governed by the laws of Moses and a few rulers under the kingship of God himself. However, their faith in God and obedience to him was weak and sporadic.

The Old Testament of the Bible contains the detailed history of ancient Israel. It tells how often they disobeyed God and broke their covenant with him. The ancient Israelites failed to be the kingdom of priests and holy nation that God desired of them.

Nevertheless, there were a few who remained faithful, and God used his Holy Spirit to inspire some of them to write the Bible, the Word of God. That ancient book is the greatest treasure upon the earth because it is filled with so much truth and wisdom, like a mighty shining light to guide our lives in the way of truth and righteousness here in this dark world, and prepare us for the afterlife in heaven.

The Kingdom of God

With the coming of their promised Messiah—the very Son of God, Jesus Christ—God’s kingdom of priests and holy nation is now the Church of Jesus Christ. For Peter said about us, **“But ye are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for an acquired possession, so that ye might broadly proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light”** (First Peter 2:9).

That divine kingdom is a spiritual one with its territory in the spiritual world of heaven with God himself. And the New Testament of the Bible describes all that we need to know about it.

It is a spiritual kingdom, because Jesus said to the Roman governor Pilate during his trial before him, **“My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world my subordinates would have fought so that I would not be delivered to the Jews, but now my kingdom is not from here”** (John 18:36).

And Paul said about us, **“For though walking in flesh, we do not war according to flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty in God for the demolition of strongholds, casting down imaginations, and every high thing exalted against the knowledge of God, and bringing every thought captive into the obedience of the Christ, and having in readiness to avenge every disobedience, whenever your obedience is fulfilled”** (Second Corinthians 10:3-6).

He also said, **“Put on the full armor of God to enable you to stand against the wiles of the devil. Because our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but against the principal offices, against the positions of authority, against the world-rulers of the darkness of this age, against the spiritual things of wickedness in the heavenly things”** (Ephesians 6:11-12).

The Nations of the World

The supremacy of the Son of God

Since God’s kingdom of priests and holy nation is now a spiritual one, what about the earthly nations of the world? Did not the devil said they were his? For after Satan showed Jesus all the kingdoms of the world, he said to him, **“I will give to thee all this authority, and the glory of them, because it has been delivered to me, and to whomever I want I give it”** (Luke 4:6). And Jesus did not dispute his claim.

But who delivered to Satan the kingdoms of the world? It was not God who delivered them to him, because God gave them to mankind. It has been the peoples of the world who have given themselves to the devil.

Nevertheless, the Bible says that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is not only head of the kingdom of God, the Church, but he is also **“King of kings and Lord of lords”** (Revelation 19:16). That means he is the God endowed ruler of all the nations.

For the psalmist said about him, **“When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou have ordained, what is man that thou remember him? And the son of man that thou succor him? For thou have made him but little lower than agents, and crowned him with glory and honor. Thou make him to have dominion over the works of thy hands. Thou have put all things under his feet”** (Psalm 8:3-6).

It is Almighty God who has given his only begotten Son Jesus Christ the kingdoms of the world. As Jesus said to his apostles just before he ascended into heaven, **“All authority in heaven and on earth was given to me. After going, make ye disciples of all the nations, immersing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things, as many as I commanded you. And lo, I am with you all the days, until the end of the age. Truly”** (Matthew 28:18-20). All authority in heaven and on earth was given to Jesus Christ.

Nevertheless, not one nation in all the world recognizes him as their King and Lord. Every nation of the world has rebelled against his lordship. As the author of the book of Hebrews said, **“Thou subordinated all things under his feet. For in subordinating all things to him, he left nothing not subordinate to him. But now we do not yet see all things subordinated to him”** (Hebrews 2:8).

And the second Psalm says, **“Why do the nations rage, and the peoples meditate vain things? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against Jehovah, and against his anointed [Christ], saying, Let us break their bonds apart, and cast away their cords from us. He who sits in the heavens will laugh. The Lord will have them in derision. Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and vex them in his great displeasure.**

“Yet I have set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will tell of the decree. Jehovah said to me, Thou are my Son, this day I have begotten thee. Ask of me, and I will give thee the nations for thine inheritance, and the outermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shall break them with a rod of iron, thou shall dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.

“Now therefore be wise, O ye kings. Be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve Jehovah with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish in the way, for his wrath will soon be kindled. Blessed are all those who take refuge in him.”

To be America, God's way our people must recognize Jesus Christ as our legitimate Lord and King. America must hearken to these words: **“Now therefore be wise, O ye kings. Be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve Jehovah with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish in the way, for his wrath will soon be kindled. Blessed are all those who take refuge in him.”**

The superiority of righteousness

Righteousness is supreme for individuals. As Paul said, **“For bodily exercise is profitable for a little, but piety is profitable for all things, having promise of the present life, and of that which is coming”** (First Timothy 4:8).

And Peter said, **“For he who wants to love life, and see good days, let him restrain his tongue from evil, and his lips not to speak deceit. Let him turn away from evil, and do good. Let him seek peace, and pursue it. Because the eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous, and his ears to their supplication, but the face of the Lord is against men who do evil things”** (First Peter 3:10-12).

Righteousness is also supreme for nations. Remember, Solomon said, **“Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people”** (Proverbs 14:34). And the superiority of righteousness for nations is guaranteed. However, the blessings of righteousness can fail with individuals in this vain life. For Solomon also said, **“There is a vanity which is done upon the earth, that there are righteous men to whom it happens according to the work of the wicked, again, there are wicked men to whom it happens according to the work of the righteous. I said that this also is vanity”** (Ecclesiastes 8:14).

The blessings of righteousness will not fail for nations any more than the laws of chance will fail for casinos. A gambler may or may not win his bet. However, the owners of casinos are guaranteed to win overall. They are not gamblers; they are business men. The operation of casinos is a filthy sinful business, but it is still a business, not a gamble.

It may be a gamble to attract foolish people to play their games, but the games themselves are not a gamble to the owners. The laws of chance operate predictably. In fact, the governments that oversee them set regulations limiting what percent of the wagers they can profit from each of their games.

The blessings of righteousness for nations are like the results of the laws of chance. Over all, righteousness will exalt a nation. That is as guaranteed as the laws of chance. Which is all the more why America should be God's way.

The example of Israel

Before the sons of Israel entered into their promised land, God gave them a list of blessings and a list of curses. They would be blessed if they kept his covenant and obeyed his commandments, otherwise they would be

cursed. I include that information here to show how significant were the consequences of their obedience to God's laws. The blessings would come if they were obedient to him, and the curses would come if they were disobedient. They were all contingent upon how the people behaved.

There was no nonsense about Jehovah having unconditional love for them. The blessings that Jehovah said he would bestow upon his people for their obedience were many and great. The curses that would come upon them for disobedience were severe and even more numerous than the blessings.

These things are very important lessons for all of us. For the blessings and the curses associated with accepting Christ or rejecting him far outweigh—beyond measure—all that is said about what the sons of Israel would receive. Remember that, and do not harden your heart against him to your eternal regret.

Blessings for the first generation

The book of Leviticus tells how Jehovah described, to that first generation whom he brought out of Egypt, a blessing and a curse. Here is the list of all the blessings they would receive for their obedience.

- Jehovah would give their rains in their season.
- The land would yield its increase.
- The trees of the field would yield their fruit.
- Their threshing would reach to the vintage.
- The vintage would reach the time of sowing.
- They would eat their bread to the full.
- They would dwell in their land safely.
- He would give peace in the land.
- They would lie down and none would make them afraid.
- He would cause the evil beasts to cease from the land.
- The sword would not go through their land.
- They would chase their enemies, who would fall before them by the sword.
- Five of them would chase a hundred, and a hundred would chase ten thousand, and their enemies would fall before them by the sword.
- Jehovah would have respect to them.
- He would make them fruitful.
- He would multiply them.
- He would establish his covenant with them.
- They would eat old storage long kept, and would bring forth the old because of the new.
- He would set up his tabernacle among them.
- He would not abhor them.
- He would walk among them and be their God.
- They would be his people.

When Jehovah said he would have respect to them, it would not be because of their race, but because of their righteousness. And God will have respect to any people that lives in righteousness. When God sent Peter to preach

Christ to the first Gentile, Peter saw the Holy Spirit descend upon them. Peter then said, **“In truth, I am overwhelmed that God is not partial, but in every nation, he who fears him, and works righteousness, is acceptable to him”** (Acts 10:34-35). The enormous blessings that Americans have enjoyed have come from our righteousness before God, and our sins have been our reproach.

Blessings for the Second Generation

The first generation of Israelites whom God brought out of Egypt were cursed to die in the wilderness because of their continual rebellion against him (all but Joshua and Caleb). Forty years after the Exodus the children of that first generation were grown and ready to invade the promised land.

After giving the command of the blessing and the curse to be spoken on the two mountains, Moses said to them, **“And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently to the voice of Jehovah thy God, to observe to do all his commandments which I command thee this day ...”** (Deuteronomy 28:1). Then he mentioned the many blessings they would receive, which I list below:

- God would set them on high above all the nations of the earth.
- They would be blessed in the city.
- They would be blessed in the field.
- The fruit of their body would be blessed.
- The fruit of their ground would be blessed.
- The fruit of their beasts would be blessed.
- The increase of their cattle would be blessed.
- The young of their flock would be blessed.
- Their basket and their kneading-trough would be blessed.
- They would be blessed when they came in and when they went out.
- Jehovah would cause their enemies that rose up against them to be smitten before them.
- Their enemies would come out against them one way, and would flee before them seven ways.
- Jehovah would command the blessing upon them in their barns, and in all that they put their hand to.
- And he would bless them in the land which Jehovah their God gave them.

However, all those blessings were contingent upon their obedience: **“... if thou shalt hearken diligently to the voice of Jehovah thy God, to observe to do all his commandments which I command thee this day ...”** (Deuteronomy 28:1). He would bless their productivity; he would defeat their enemies; he would bless their land and all their activities.

Then he mentioned more blessings:

- Jehovah would establish them for a holy people to himself.
- All the peoples of the earth would see that they were called by the name of Jehovah, and they would be afraid of them.

- Jehovah would make them plenteous for good, in the fruit of their body, and in the fruit of their cattle, and in the fruit of their ground, in the land which Jehovah swore to their fathers to give them.
- Jehovah would open to them his good treasure the heavens, to give the rain of their land in its season, and to bless all the work of their hand.
- They would lend to many nations, and would not borrow.
- Jehovah would make them the head, and not the tail.
- They would only be above, and they would not be beneath.

Again, however, all those blessings were contingent upon their obedience. For Moses said they would be **“if thou shall hearken to the commandments of Jehovah thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do, and shall not turn aside from any of the words which I command you this day, to the right hand, or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them”** (Deuteronomy 28:13-14).

Continuing to receive God’s blessings requires our continuing vigilance. For the enemies of God and his righteousness, Satan and his disciples, are continually striving to undermine and defeat our obedience to him. What happens to a house when it is neglected?

The curses

The list of God’s curses against his people for disobedience is too numerous to list here, being almost four times longer than the list of his blessings. You can read them in Leviticus 26:14-45 and Deuteronomy 28:15-68. It suffices to say they would be cursed,

- if they would not hearken to him.
- if they would not do all his commandments.
- if they would reject his statutes.
- if their soul abhorred his ordinances so that they would be disobedient.
- if they broke his covenant.

Most Americans of this pagan generation have now done all those things. The reason God has spared my country from great grief is because there are yet many righteous souls here who love him and who want to obey him. Paul spoke of the longsuffering of God when he said, **“And if God, wanting to show his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, even that he might make known the wealth of his glory upon vessels of mercy, which he previously prepared for glory, namely us whom he called, not only from Jews but also from Gentiles”** (Romans 9:22-24). And God was not quick to bring the curses against his people Israel.

God even told Abraham he would spare Sodom and Gomorrah if he could find ten righteous souls there. It is to spare the vessels of mercy (those who love truth and righteousness) that God is enduring with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath (unrepentant sinners who abhor his will).

God urged his people to obey him, and he listed many blessings they would enjoy when they did. He also warned his people about what would happen to them if they sinned against him. Those words of encouragement and warning were not given for the sons of Israel only, but for all of us. As Paul said, **“For as many things as were written previously were written for our learning, so that through perseverance and through the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope”** (Romans 15:4).

What nation has lived in wickedness and prospered very long? Some wicked nations have indeed grown powerful and rich, but how long did they last that way? In my own lifetime I have seen it happen to more than one nation. Nazi Germany and imperial Japan are examples. And more recently was the Soviet Union, which former President Reagan said correctly was an evil empire. They continually mocked God and lived crookedly.

Moreover, the Bible tells how God sometimes elevated wicked nations to great power for a time to use them to punish other nations. For example, Jehovah said about the conquering power of ancient Assyria, **“Have thou not heard how I have done it long ago, and formed it of ancient times? Now I have brought it to pass, that thou should be to lay waste fortified cities into ruinous heaps. Therefore their inhabitants were of small power, they were dismayed and confounded. They were as the grass of the field, and as the green herb, as the grass on the housetops, and as grain blasted before it is grown up”** (Second Kings 19:25-26).

America, God’s Way

The Church of Jesus Christ is now God’s holy nation, whose people are his royal priesthood. But it is a spiritual kingdom whose territory is in heaven. Nevertheless, the nation of America can still be a people of God to serve him in the material ways of the world. America can recognize him as their King and Lord, and they can serve him the way he wants all nations to serve him; namely, to love truth and righteousness, and obey all of his commandments.

And Jesus said his commandments are not burdensome: **“Come to me, all ye who labor and have been burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, because I am meek and lowly in heart, and ye will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is befitting, and my burden is light”** (Matthew 11:28-30). It is sin against him that results in grievous burdens and sorrows, which always result sooner or later.

It is the purpose of this book to show how America can become God’s people among all peoples. The first thing our citizens must do to be America, God’s way is to repent of their sins against him. Then and only then can the people establish a covenant with God to commit themselves to him and to his justice and righteousness. That will exalt our nation, for Solomon said, **“Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people”** (Proverbs 14:34).