

“I Will Restore Your Judges”

Many theologians tell us the first chapter of Romans was written to show why the heathen nations are “without excuse” for not knowing and worshipping the true God. According to their argument, if a heathen could see the sun, the moon, and the stars, they must know there is a creator, and therefore they are “without excuse” Romans 1:20. The truth is, however, those who have no excuse are those who have received the word of God, but have ignored it. The Apostle Paul said *“the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness”* Romans 1:18. It was against Jerusalem that the “wrath of God” was revealed when God called for the armies of Babylon to destroy her. Paul explained why in his epistle to the Romans.

The sin that brought the wrath of God against Jerusalem was twofold. First, they *“changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things”* Romans 1:23. King David explained exactly how they did this; *“They made a calf in Horeb, and worshipped the molten image. Thus they changed their glory into the similitude of an ox that eateth grass”* Psalms 106:19-20.

It was a spiritual sin Israel committed. Aaron, who became their high priest, built for them a golden calf, and called the congregation to worship the calf as *“the god which hath brought you out of Egypt”* Exodus 32:4-6. Notice, the sin was in *“the church”* (the church in the wilderness Acts 7:38), but it was the nation that suffered the consequences. Paul said, *“Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness ...to dishonour their own bodies between themselves.”* Romans 1:23-24. They worshiped a false image of God, so God let them become slaves to sexual immorality.

The second step in their decline toward a reprobate mind Romans 1:28 was they *“changed the truth of God into a lie”* Romans 1:25. The Greek text says they *“exchanged the truth for a lie.”* They believed the false prophets in their day and persecuted those who were sent by God. *“For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections.”* Romans 1:25-27.

The Bible describes these *“vile affections”* as being the same abominations that caused God to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah. In fact, God said, just before calling for their destruction, that Jerusalem was more corrupt than Sodom Ezekiel 16:46-48. The prophet Isaiah said of the nation of Israel, *“From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment. Your country*

is desolate, your cities are burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence, and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers” Isaiah 1:6-7.

God addressed Jerusalem with a question of amazement. He asked, *“How is the faithful city become an harlot! it was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers”* Isaiah 1:21. Through the prophet Jeremiah, God again questioned Jerusalem; *“I had planted thee a noble vine, wholly a right seed: how then art thou turned into the degenerate plant of a strange vine unto me?”* Jeremiah 2:21. Today, we must ask, *“How has America fallen into her present estate?”* The Bible answers both questions and lets us know that, to our shame, we have followed in the steps of Old Testament Israel.

Jeremiah defined the problem and warned the nation early in his ministry. He said, *“The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?”* Jeremiah 5:31. Jeremiah lived the see *“the end thereof.”* In his “Book of Lamentations,” he looked upon Jerusalem after the destruction by Babylon, and wrote these words; *“The kings of the earth, and all the inhabitants of the world, would not have believed that the adversary and the enemy should have entered into the gates of Jerusalem. For the sins of her prophets, and the iniquities of her priests...”* Lamentations 4:12-13. He laid the responsibility for the desolation at the feet of the prophets and priests of Jerusalem.

“O Israel, thou hast destroyed thyself; but in me is thine help.” Hosea 13:9

Hosea was actually a prophet to the northern kingdom of Israel in the years before Assyria took them into captivity. His words were true for Israel in his day, and for America in our day. America is destroyed, and she has destroyed herself. Actually, it was unrighteous judges who destroyed America, and we let it happen. In 1963, the Supreme Court ruled against school sponsored Christian prayers and bible reading in public schools. In 1973, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of abortion on demand, which resulted in the murder of sixty-three million babies, one of the greatest crimes against humanity in the history of the world. Sometime later, they ruled in favor of “freedom of expression” for pornographers, which resulted in polluting the minds of America’s children. In 2015, the Supreme Court redefined marriage and forced America to allow men to marry men, and women to marry women. The result of these decisions has given us a culture that would make Sodom

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and Gomorrah blush with shame. Never in the history of the world has there been a culture which would seek to change little boys into girls, and little girls into boys. Over sixty years ago, Nikita Khrushchev, the premier of the Soviet Union, said communism would take over America "without firing a shot." He warned that our freedoms would destroy us, and we would fall into the hands of communism "like an overripe apple." The "Iron Curtain" of communism collapsed over the Soviet Union, but less than a generation later our nation is in "freefall." There is hope for our nation, however, which has arisen *"from another place"* Esther 4:14.

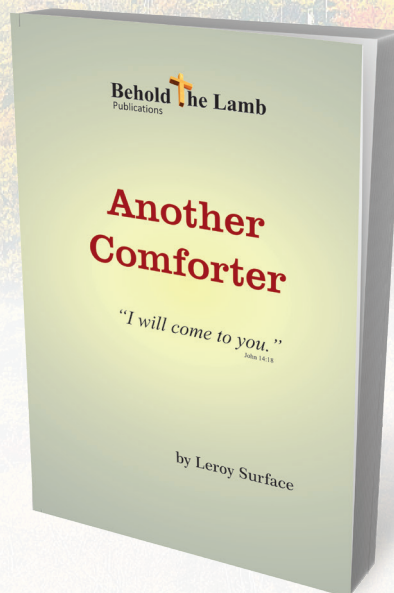
I was awakened early the morning after Election Day, 2016. I had fallen asleep, knowing Donald Trump would be our next president, and I awoke hearing these words from the Spirit of God; *"I will restore thy judges as at the first."* I recognized these words from the prophecies of Isaiah concerning the restoration of Jerusalem. He continued in the scripture, *"...afterward thou shalt be called, The city of righteousness, the faithful city"* Isaiah 1:26. Perhaps this was the purpose and chief accomplishment of the Trump presidency. I immediately wrote an open letter to the President-elect, asking him to appoint righteous judges, and they would "make America righteous again." I do not know if he received the letter or not, but during his tenure in office, Donald Trump appointed 226 judges to the federal courts, and three justices to the Supreme Court. His one requirement in his appointments was that they would be "originalists," which means they would interpret the Constitution of the United States of America as it was originally meant to be, or *"as at the first"*. For the first time in my life we have a "righteous majority" on the Supreme Court, which will restore righteous judgement to America. Just last week as I write this, the Supreme Court overturned the "abortion on demand" ruling from 1973, the first step in many that will restore righteousness to our nation. It took two generations to destroy America, and it may take another generation to restore her. Those who fought to take school sponsored prayer and bible readings out of the public schools sixty years ago had a long-term plan, which they have successfully executed.

America at this present time has reached her lowest moral ebb ever. As God said of Jerusalem before us, America was *"...full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers"* Isaiah 1:21. The words used to describe Jerusalem in the generation just before she was destroyed by Babylon also describe America in our generation perfectly. Our nation is *"Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, and maliciousness Full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenantbreakers, without*

natural affection, implacable, unmerciful" Romans 29-31.

The last words of the Old Testament are *"And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse"* Malachi 4:6. This was the issue that caused Jesus in Gethsemane to pray *"in agony"* until *"His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground"* Luke 22:44. If He did not reconcile the world, He must destroy the world, because that was the promise of the Law. He chose to take the curse of the Law upon Himself Galatians 3:13 and redeem us who would believe. America has been "weighed in the balance, and found wanting." What will God do? Will He restore America, or will He destroy America? There is no other choice.

When I see the *"children of Belial"* II Samuel 23:6, II Corinthians 6:15 rioting in the streets, burning, looting, and murdering, it seems impossible that America can be saved, but when I hear God say *"I will restore thy judges as at the first,"* I have hope. When God restored our Supreme Court with originalist Judges, I know His purpose is to restore our nation. The four men and one woman on the court who ruled against abortion on demand did so after receiving death threats, a planned assassination threat, and continuous demonstrations outside their private dwellings. These were chosen by God for the task set before them, and they will do it if we who believe and trust in Jesus Christ will hold up their hands to strengthen them with our prayers.



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