***Prayer Time for God to Direct and Bless Our Nation – Aug 13, 2017***

*This is to ask God to direct, protect and bless the US of A; to pray that we will follow the truth and reality of God.*

***Thoughts about* LIBERTY *and current events in the USA –***

Liberty is one of our most cherished possessions, so every threat to liberty is a dangerous problem, and we need to understand our situation. After all, without liberty, we have no ability to enjoy God-given rights protected by our Constitution. Without liberty, we cannot live a life of self-determination; we cannot pursue happiness. Is there any argument that we have been losing liberty, step by step, for decades? When the government uses our money to indoctrinate our children to believe things we have always held to be wrong, sinful, even evil, do we even sense the active aggression directed against us and our liberty? When we cannot speak our minds any longer without fear of reprisal sanctioned by government, do we still have a First Amendment right to free speech? When we are told we cannot fully participate in this republic as long as we hold religious values that contradict majority rule, are we aware that liberty goes only so far as our willingness submit to the mob? When we cannot run our businesses according to our own consciences, consciences shaped by God and centuries of tradition, and when we face fines, threats, jail and even violence should we exercise our right of conscience, do we begin to conclude that liberty has already been seriously injured, perhaps beyond remedy?

For many decades Americans learned about citizenship, about what it takes to be a good citizen, about honor, virtue, responsibility, good manners, common sense, and the oath to protect and defend the Constitution from enemies both foreign and domestic. But we let our guard down. We let anti-American voices take over. We fell asleep at the wheel. We forgot our oath.  And we forgot the One who makes the whole system work, the One True God who gives us the strength and the wisdom to live as free people. So in the end, the most lethal problem we face is of our own making: our rejection of the One True God, our decision instead to rely on our own wisdom. That resulted in the loss not only of liberty but of all that makes life meaningful, including the position to be of utmost blessing to the poor, the widow and the orphan. *Adapted from an on-line Opinion column in Western Journalism by Allan Erickson, August 9, 2017*

Indeed, what *will* the righteous do as our nation moves away from the founding concept of **LIBERTY**?

**Praise God for giving us the right and the duty to make choices, individually and as a nation; pray that we will choose God, and that we will return to the solid foundation of scripture**

**James 1:25, 4:4; Lk 16:13; Deut 11:26-28; Josh 24:14-16** (Choosing God is the proper response of all mankind when they understand the truth about who God really is; pity the nation who chooses to reject God.) Prayer time to:
 - praise our God who watches all the nations and who has raised up, and destroyed, nations
 - thank Him for giving us a nation founded on a true Biblical understanding of who God really is
 - ask that God will give us a great hunger and thirst for His truth and righteousness
 - seek strength to live our lives obedient to God rather than any directions from man
 - seek how we can influence our government to preserve the liberties our fathers enjoyed
 - ask God to guide the USA in matters of both internal and international affairs
 - find balance in regard to the proper role of government and the role of God
 - ask that God will lead our nation to obey Him on sanctity of human life, marriage, and other issues foundational to a just and healthy society, pleasing to God and His revealed truth
 - cry out to God so he will raise up just and righteous candidates to be elected in 2018
 - pray that our leaders will make wise laws that are built upon scripture, the solid rock
 - pray that our leaders will seek and use God’s wisdom in deciding national finances
 - ask God to sustain our nation during these times when Satan is storming against it
 - pray that God will pour out the Holy Spirit on our people to keep our scriptural foundations
 - seek how you can repent and turn to God’s ways in your own life
 - ask God to expose lies and that truth will triumph all across our nation