



“Constitution Day September 17th”

September 13, 2026

INTRODUCTION:

- 1. Our vision for the year: Preparing the church for troubled times** “understanding the times that we may know what we ought to do”
- 2. What it means to be an under shepherd for Christ:** “4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You [are] with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.” [Psa 23:4 NKJV] - Don’t needlessly trouble God’s people.

I. God has called us to evangelize and _____ the nations.

“18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 “teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, [even] to the end of the age.” Amen.” [Mat 28:18-20 NKJV]

- 1. God appoints the times and boundaries of nations _____.**

“24 “The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; 25 nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all [people] life and breath and all things; 26 and **He made from one [man] every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined [their] appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation,** 27 that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; 28 for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we also are His children.’” [Act 17:24-28 NASB95]

- 2. God desires that none should _____ but turn back from evil ways.**

“10 “Now as for you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, ‘Thus you have spoken, saying, “Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we are rotting away in them; how then can we survive?”’ 11 “Say to them, ‘As I live!’ declares the Lord GOD, **‘I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked,** but rather that the wicked turn from his way and live. **Turn back, turn back from your evil ways!** Why then will you die, O house of Israel?’” [Eze 33:10-11 NASB95]

- 3. God holds responsible those who know what to do but do not ____.**

“1 And the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 2 “Son of man, speak to the sons of your people and say to them, **‘If I bring a sword upon a land,** and the people of the land take **one** man from among them and make him their **watchman,** 3 and **he sees the sword coming upon the land and blows on the trumpet and warns the people,** 4 then he who hears the sound of the trumpet and does not take warning, and a sword comes and takes him away, his blood will be on his [own] head. 5 ‘He heard the sound of the trumpet but did not take warning; his blood will be on himself. But had he taken warning, he would have delivered his life.” 6 ‘But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet and the people are not warned, and a sword comes and takes a person from them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but **his blood I will require from the watchman’s hand.**” [Eze 33:1-2, 6 NASB95] [Eze 33:1-5]

II. God desires for nations to _____ from _____.

“7 “At one moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to uproot, to pull down, or to destroy [it;] 8 **if that nation** against which I have spoken **turns from its evil,** I will relent concerning the calamity I planned to bring on it.” [Jer 18:7-8 NASB95]

1. President John Adams — a Proclamation issued March 23rd 1798

AS the safety and prosperity of nations ultimately and essentially depend on the protection and blessing of Almighty God; and the national acknowledgment of this truth is not only an indispensable duty which the people owe to Him, but a duty whose natural influence is favorable to the promotion of that morality and piety, without which social happiness cannot exist, nor the blessings of a free government be enjoyed; and as this duty, at all times incumbent, is so especially in seasons of difficulty and of danger, when existing or threatening calamities, **the just judgments of God against prevalent iniquity are a loud call to repentance and reformation**; and as the United States of America are at present placed in a hazardous and afflictive situation, by the unfriendly disposition, conduct and demands of a foreign power, evinced by repeated refusals to receive our messengers of reconciliation and peace, by depredations on our commerce, and the infliction of injuries on very many of our fellow citizens, while engaged in their lawful business on the seas: — Under these considerations it has appeared to me that the duty of imploring the mercy and benediction of Heaven on our country, demands at this time a special attention from its inhabitants."

2. Prostrating Christianity by the advance of _____ should nor be tolerated.

"The real object of the First Amendment was **not to** countenance, much less to **advance Mohammedanism, or Judaism, or infidelity, by prostrating Christianity**, but to exclude all rivalry among Christian sects and to prevent any national ecclesiastical establishment which should give to a hierarchy the exclusive patronage of the national government." Joseph Story *excerpts from Bill Federer*

III. Become an _____ prayer warrior.

English translations use the word "importunity" which means insistent or pressing solicitation. But "shameless audacity" or "persistent impudence" is a more accurate translation. Why would Jesus teach His disciples to bother the Heavenly Father with our shameless audacity? Because when our prayers are desperate the value and treasure of His gracious gift is rightly appreciated. "to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembles at my word." [Isaiah 66:2] Persistent prayer grows our faith and we learn that all important lesson of utter dependence upon our God and Creator. **October 11, 2017**

1. There is always hope because godly _____ delivers.

"10 For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death." [2Co 7:10 ESV]

2. Hosea Ballou, an American preacher once said

"Between the humble and the contrite heart and the majesty of heaven there are no barriers; the only password is prayer."

Fred Beck said

If you are swept off your feet, it's time to get on your knees.

Louis Evans the famous Presbyterian Pastor said

The man who kneels to God can stand up to anything.

3. Prayer Warriors _____ in prayer.

"Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up." [Luk 18:1 NIV]

"I tell you, keep asking, and it will be given you. Keep seeking, and you will find. Keep knocking, and it will be opened to you." [Luk 11:9 HNV]. **October 11, 2017**