

1Ti 2:1 First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, (2) for kings and all who are in authority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. (3) This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,

Eph 6:11 Put on the full armor of God, that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. (12) For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. (13) Therefore, take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

“History is driven over the long haul,
by culture – by what men and women
honor, cherish, and worship; by what
societies deem to be true and good
and noble; by the expressions they
give to those convictions in language,
literature and the arts; by what
individual and societies are willing to
stake their lives on.” —

Rev 2:10 'Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

We hold these truths to be self-evident,
that all men are created equal, that they are
endowed by their Creator with certain
unalienable Rights, that among these are
Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.
That to secure these rights, Governments
are instituted among Men, deriving their
just powers from the consent of the
governed -- Declaration of Independence
July 4, 1776

The proper function of government —

Rom 13:4 for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath upon the one who practices evil.

As a result of the atrocities of WWI and WWII, Europe lost its faith in God and has come to be a secular state in which no mention of God is made in public and where the people in the street are amazed that religion intrudes on the lives of those in the US.

Catholics fought other Catholics as well as Lutherans who were fighting both Lutherans and Catholics, throwing in the Church of England.

No one loved their brother, not even their cousins.
They all failed to honor God.

Alexander Solzhenitsyn pointed out, “The failings of human consciousness, deprived of its divine dimension, have been a determining factor in all the major crimes of this century. ... World War I, World War II .. The only possible explanation for this is a mental eclipse among the leaders of Europe due to their lost awareness of a Supreme Power above them.”

1Co 15:58 Therefore, my
beloved brethren, be steadfast,
immovable, always abounding in
the work of the Lord, knowing
that your toil is not in vain in the
Lord.

We are surrounded by a those who are focused on self and the pleasures of this world. As children of God, we have chosen goodness.

Neither of the candidates in this race can claim any moral high ground – they are both steeped in sin – one denying it while the other ignores it.

Heb 13:4 Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

Both stand condemned!

The founders of the country in which we live threw off the ideas and qualities of life in Europe to establish a new nation built upon different principles – which appear to be in danger of even more rapidly eroding.

I read both the Wall Street Journal (a conservative paper) and the Washington Post (a liberal paper) and in their Oct 13 editorials on the leaked emails, both have expressed fears about the future of the Christians and their practices in this country.

Don't get upset, just listen to their fears and consider the Scriptures.

The Post Editorial Opinion Oct 13, 2016 –

“Speaking to the 2015 Women in the World Summit, Clinton declared that ‘deep-seated cultural codes, religious beliefs and structural biases have to be changed.’”

“The hostility to people of faith here is simply breathtaking. Apparently when Clinton aides speak in private, their basket of "deplorables" includes faithful Catholics and evangelicals who believe in the sanctity of human life. If they had made such comments about any other group, they would be politically excommunicated. Yet the mainstream media has, for the most part, ignored these revelations of anti-religious bias.”

The Post Editorial Opinion Oct 13, 2016 -- Has anyone asked Clinton's running mate, Sen. Tim Kaine (D-Va.), who professes to be a faithful Catholic, whether he will quit the ticket over this? Does he agree that Catholics are "backwards," that the Catholic Church is a "middle ages dictatorship" and that it is the job of politicians to foment a "Catholic Spring"? Does he agree that Democrats should be creating front groups to launch a "revolution" against the bishops? Does he share Clinton's belief that the "religious views" of American Catholics "have to be changed"? He should be forced to answer.

To summarize the Wall Street Journal op-ed (Oct 13, 2016, p A12), “ Religious Americans know that much of the political establishment detests them. ...

To the progressives who dominate American culture and politics, anti-Christian views are the most socially acceptable form of bigotry.”

The nations of Europe are no longer led by those who believe in God, but who feel that government can right the injustices seen in the world without guidance other than their own.

Such is also the case at the present time in the US. Those in places of authority who do not seek God have inserted an atheistic secularization which led to the “crisis of civilization” -- the moral crisis which the wars fought in Europe in the last century emphasize.

2Ti 3:13 But evil men and impostors
will proceed from bad to worse,
deceiving and being deceived. (14) You,
however, continue in the things you have
learned and become convinced of,
knowing from whom you have learned
them; (15) and that from childhood you
have known the sacred writings which
are able to give you the wisdom that
leads to salvation through faith which is
in Christ Jesus.

As you think about the government and what you can do, remember the example of Edward Baker, a congressman and preacher in the church of our Lord, who in 1844 befriended his opponent, Abraham Lincoln. After this, Lincoln, who never adopted the Hard Shell Baptist beliefs of his parents, used an increasing amount of Scripture and constant belief in God in his public statements.

God does not advise us to fail to speak, to fail to know, to have a weak faith, or to fail to act.

Eph 5:11 Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.

He tells us we must help others because we care.

Phil 4:8 Finally, brethren,
whatever is true, whatever is
honorable, whatever is right,
whatever is pure, whatever is
lovely, whatever is of good
repute, if there is any excellence
and if anything worthy of praise,
let your mind dwell on these
things.

We must adjust our attitude to one of caring for
(loving) others.

Jud 3... appealing that you contend earnestly for the
faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

We cannot change our religious beliefs!

If our cultural codes are incompatible with God's
word, we must change, not for the sake of change
but to honor God.

It is only by acknowledging the God of heaven and the revelation of His Son to mankind that you can truly participate in making such a society.

Would you make Jesus your Lord and King this day?

Act 2:38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.