

What would this country be like if the large majority of its citizens did not believe that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God, and that the Bible was God's word?

How far must we drift from a philosophy of life rooted in Christianity to destroy what we now enjoy?

What would happen to this town,
this country or any town or
country in which the principles of
the Bible were studiously
ignored.

That is not to say that one must
be in favor of promiscuity,
divorce, adultery, drunkenness,
lying and cheating in order to be
an atheist

– but what if no one spoke
against these things?

In 1880, George H. Walser, one of the leading atheists of his day, founded the town of Liberal, Missouri, with others whom he was able to convince to exclude religion from their town. No church could exist within the city, and religious people were encouraged not to live in the community.

By 1895, the experiment had failed. Crime and immorality became so rampant that the city failed and townspeople finally asked churches to come in and establish a religious base for the moral and legal system of the town. There was so much promiscuity, divorce, adultery, drunkenness, lying and cheating that no rule of law existed in the town. No persons of honesty, integrity, and moral uprightness wanted to live there.

These facts are recorded in 3
books. *The Strange Town of
Liberal Missouri - Liberal
Sentinel*

The Story of Liberal Missouri by
O.E. Harmon

*George H. Walser and Liberal
Missouri* by Boyce Houton

As you think about what it would be like to live in such a place where no one has any reason to do something for someone else, ask yourself why the US is the way it is.

God put the home in place as one of his founding acts and God directed that this was a desirable state in His New Covenant.

Gen 2:18 Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him."

1Co 7:2 But because of immoralities, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband.

A helper for what? For his loneliness only? A man and his wife form a team for the future. What is the natural consequence of the team? Children although exceptions occur.

Gen 4:1 Now the man had relations with his wife Eve, and she conceived and gave birth to Cain, and she said, "I have gotten a manchild with the help of the LORD." 2 And again, she gave birth to his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of flocks, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

Wives are helpers in man's quest to fulfill God's command to Adam. Not only to have children but to rule over the earth.

Gen 1:28 And God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Be aware that there are times and persons who are exceptions to this law – 1Co 7.7, 39

God's wisdom is seen in societies where men do not put their wives and children first. Progress is slow or comes to a dead halt. Simply look at Muslim and pagan societies and their economic standings in the world.

The economic rank of nations
correlates directly with the
willingness of the population to
follow the principles found in the
Scriptures — based on World Economic
Outlook, Cato Institute 2004

When one looks at a society in which atheism rules consider Russia where alcohol consumes 15% of all funds spent in retail trade.

Women are supposedly equal and children are raised by the state rather than by parents committed to God. The birth rate is now 1.3 children per woman – below the replacement rate of 2.1 children/woman.

The belief in God in this country 83% has decreased, while commitment to church 42% weekly attendance ranges from virtually none to extremely dedicated, yet virtually all citizens of the community are committed to a greater degree to progress than in any atheistic, Muslim or pagan country.

In the US, we are surrounded by believers.

The requirements of economic development may be summarized as, “a legal structure that provides for secure property rights, [and] even-handed enforcement of contracts and rule of law is essential”.

God’s plan for the family as a team of Christians fulfills this requirement best.

Eph 4:28 Let him who steals steal no longer; but rather let him labor, performing with his own hands what is good, in order that he may have something to share with him who has need

James 2:9 But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

1 Tim 5:21 I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of His chosen angels, to maintain these principles without bias, doing nothing in a spirit of partiality.

Rom 13:1 Let every person be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.

The rule of law and subjection to
it are not observed for long
where Jesus and His words are
not honored.

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.

This is a statement of the purpose of government as God sees it.

The Biblical principle is we are to pay taxes and our government is to use them for our good.

Matt 22:19 "Show Me the coin used
for the poll-tax.KJV tribute money"
And they brought Him a denarius. 20
And He said to them, "Whose
likeness and inscription is this?" 21
They said to Him, "Caesar's." Then
He said to them, "Then render to
Caesar the things that are Caesar's;
and to God the things that are God's."

This tax was paid by every person a
capitation tax. In our society we
recognize the teaching of the parable
of the talents Mt 25:14-28 and our
taxes are progressive. Those who
are poor pay less than those who are
rich bottom 50% in earnings pay 3%
of total taxes while the top 1% pay
37% of total taxes

Americans take our way of life and those who have provided it for granted – not recognizing value of the efforts made by those who are at least partially committed to faith in Jesus Christ. Consider immorality, which is increasing in this country, but we are still far behind Europe. The incidence of herpes a sexually transmitted disease is 21% in the US and 55% in Sweden and France.

The Christian approach reduces immorality and its consequences.

Think once again of what it
would be like to live in Liberal,
Missouri in 1885.

No one to tell you not to live a
life of immorality, drunkenness,
lying or cheating.

We need to give thanks for our wives, our children and those who truly love the Lord, as well as for those who may follow Him poorly through ignorance.

Joh 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,

We need to spread the gospel throughout our land as well as go into all the world.

2Pe 3:9 The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. ... 14 Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless, 15 and regard the patience of our Lord to be salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, 16 as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction.

We need to teach those who twist the Scriptures the right way lest they be eternally lost. God is giving us time.

It is only in this way that we will save our souls and prepare a way for our children that we might all be together in heaven.

It may be that you are here today, never having thought about your responsibility to our God.

Act 8:35 And Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him. 36 And as they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?" 37 And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." 38 And he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch; and he baptized him.