## Introduction by Ernest L. Easley AMERICA'S ONLY HOPE 2004

Today ... as we celebrate the 240th birthday of our nation ... join me in the Old Testament book of Psalms. And once there, turn to chapter 33.

Years ago one of our American submarines sank off the eastern coast. Divers attempted to rescue them and when they went down, they could hear the survivors tapping on the side of that submarine in Morse Code.

They were tapping a question: "Is there any hope? Is there any hope?" And that same question is being asked today across America: "Is there any hope for America?"

Well on this the 240th birthday of America ... I want to show you from God's Word that there is hope for America!

Regardless of what is being written and taught today ... we are the only nation on earth built upon the Christian faith!

President George Washington said, "It would be impossible to govern rightly without God and the Bible."

President John Adams said, "It would be impossible to govern without God and the Ten Commandments."

The Pilgrim Charter of 1620 states that its purpose was "to advance the enlargement of the Christian religion to the glory of God Almighty."

Before the Pilgrims arrived on our shores they gathered below the deck of the Mayflower and signed the Mayflower Compact which revealed their intent: "for the glory of God."

In 1632 ... when Maryland was chartered as a colony, they wrote, "We are motivated with the pious zeal for extending the Christian religion."

Andrew Jackson, the 7th President said, "The Bible is the rock upon which our Republic rest." The last sentence of the Declaration of Independence signed 240 years ago today says, "For the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance upon the protection of the Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

Eight days after signing the Declaration of Independence ... printed on the side of the Liberty Bell was a quote from Leviticus 25.10, "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof."

Listen to the fourth verse of the "Star Spangled Banner" ... our National anthem that Congress adopted in 1931, "Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation, then conquer we must, when our cause it is just, and this be our motto, in God is our trust."

It is a prayer of praise to almighty God! If you're going to take prayer out of school, you have to remove our national anthem because it is a prayer to God!

God has blessed America because she was founded upon the promises and principles of the Word of God! Don't let some secularist tell you that America did not have a spiritual beginning! America was born out of a revival! Patrick Henry, that patriot and founding father of our country said, "It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded not by religionists but by Christians, not on religions but on the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

SO, Is There Any Hope For This Nation Headed For Destruction? PSALM 33:12

Many are the evidences that God has blessed or nation. Many are the evidences that God's blessing is departing from our nation as it did from the Temple in the days of Ezekiel because of Israel's sin.

## Adapted from BLESSED IS THE NATION CBC 7-2-80, FBC 7-6-03 AM

## GOD'S THOT'S ON NATIONS

Righteousness exalted a nation but sin is a reproach to any people.

Proverbs 14:34

When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked bears rule, the people mourn. Proverbs 29:2

If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do? Psalm 11:3

Psalm 33:12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.

I.	Blessed = strait, level, right, happy - Psalm 1:1; 321,2; 34:8; 40:4; 41:1; 65:4; 84:4,5,12; 89:15; 94:12; 106:3; 112:1; 119:1,2; 128:1; Proverbs 8:32; Ecclesiastes 10:17; Isaiah 30:18
II.	Nation = country, province, - Psalm 14:3; Isaiah 1:2-8; Malachi 3:9
III.	God = Creator, Sovereign, King, Savior Deuteronomy 6:1-9 Israel by interpretation, America by application

IV. LORD = Jehovah, Self-existent One

"Consider the description that Jehovah gave of Himself to Moses on Mt. Sinai: "Jehovah, God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth; keeping mercy unto the thousandth generation, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin; and that will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children unto the third and the fourth generation" (Exodus 34:6-7). He keeps mercy to the 1000th generation, He punishes to the 4th; the proportion is 250:1. He is Goodness and Truth--He's the God we serve." – Dr. Wilbur N. Pickering

## SO, IS THERE ANY HOPE? Yes...

if My people, who are called by My name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from Heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14