

Daily Devotion For January 12, 2023

“If My people who are called by My name will 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 heal their land” 2 Chronicles 7:14

So much of our nation’s attention was focused on the United States Capitol last week as the Republicans sought to elect the Speaker of the House. It took 15 votes before Kevin McCarthy was elected amidst a group of 20 people who wanted a change. I remember visiting the Capitol several times. The first time in the early 1970’s when my brother Ken was stationed at the Pentagon and my mother, sister and I visited Washington D.C. In 1983 I visited D.C. following my OMF Candidates course in Reading Pennsylvania, and in 1994, my mother, Kazuko, and I visited again because Kazuko wanted to visit Washington D.C.

Peter Marshall, a Chaplain to the US Senate, made this statement in 1947: “The choice before us is plain: Christ or chaos, conviction or compromise, discipline or disintegration.” What, then, is the future of our country? Are we doomed to go in the way of so many other nations? Will America end up on the ash heap of history? Or, are our greatest days still ahead?

No one can say with any certainty what the future of America will be. History tells us that no country lasts forever. Rome, for example, was once the reigning superpower on the face of the earth. It had the most powerful military anywhere. But before Rome collapsed externally, she collapsed internally.

Historian Will Durant had this observation about the fall of Rome: “A great civilization is not conquered from without until it has destroyed itself from within. The essential causes of Rome’s decline lay in her people and her morals.”

Thought For Today: Take time today to thank God for our nation and the freedom we enjoy. Thank God for the opportunity to worship Him openly, to proclaim the gospel and to read His Word without fear of persecution.

Today’ Prayer Focus: Take time today to also pray for our nation, for our nation's leaders, for our nation to examine ourselves, to humble ourselves, and pray and seek God’s face, and turn from our wicked ways. Pray that the Lord will hear from heaven, and forgive our sin and heal our land.” Deo Volente.