

Title: God's Address to the Nation

Scripture: Proverbs 14:34

Speaker: Vic Redding

Date: January 27, 2013

Proverbs 14:34 "Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."

What would God say to America if he addressed the people? Would we hear him even if he spoke?

1. The righteousness of a nation: Righteousness is something God demands. It means to do the right thing. There are three facts about righteousness:
 - a. It implies sovereignty: Someone has to know what's right and what's wrong. See Psalm 98:2 *"The LORD hath made known his salvation: his righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen."*
 - b. It implies a standard: We have a low standard when it comes to God's word. See Psalm 119:121 *"I have done judgment and justice: leave me not to mine oppressors."*
 - c. It implies a straightness: We don't want to take responsibility for our actions. It's our choice to do right or wrong.

Where are our standards in the U.S.? No one wants to take responsibility for what they do.

2. The reward of a nation: Our nation is full of success and prosperity. America has been exalted because its history is full of men who had morals. At this time, every other nation looked to the U.S. as an example. Psalm 37:34 *"Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it."* Godly morals brought up this nation. Psalm 119:114 says *"Thou art my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy word."* America is a safe place. When Pearl Harbor was bombed, it broke the hearts of the American people. The Civil War was an internal war in the U.S. America was exalted and God protected. The people were healed. A nation was divided and brought back together.
3. The revolt of a nation: "but sin..." Proverbs 29:2 says *"When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn."* God will never overlook sin. God would never condone our sin. As a nation he would have to condone abortion, homosexuality, murder, theft, and all sorts of other sins. Our president compromises on moral issues and everything else. He is defiling the sanctity of marriage. We are mocking God and then we are laughing because he hasn't brought judgment. When he does, it will be swift and strong. We are ungrateful and unthankful to a God who rescued us.
4. The reproach of a nation: There are three things about reproach:
 - a. It means to be brought low; be reviled.
 - b. God will bring down any nation who does not exalt Him.
 - c. America no longer has the fear or respect that it once did. We need to repent – as a nation.