

JOHN 12:9-11
DESTROYING THE TRUTH!
OUR NATION
PART 1

Please turn in your Bibles this morning to John chapter 12 as we continue our in-depth study of the Gospel of John.

We have seen in John chapter 11 that Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, more of a resuscitation and not resurrection because Lazarus was going to die again one day.

And now, as we are in John chapter 12, we are in the last week of Jesus' earthly ministry.

And, as we saw last time, Mary worships the Lord by anointing His head and feet with very costly oil of spikenard and then she wiped His feet with her hair.

Keep in mind that there were many people there with Jesus at this meal. Mark tells us that this meal took place at Simon the ex-leper's house.

And when word got out that not only was Jesus there, but so was Lazarus who was raised from the dead, many more people showed up to see Lazarus!

As we will see, this is not going to make the Jewish religious leaders happy, and they will try to stop this growing following of Jesus by – ***DESTROYING THE EVIDENCE!***

That is what I have called our study this morning and you will see why as we go through out text.

Let me show you what I mean about destroying the evidence when you don't want to believe something, and you don't want others to believe it either.

This story was written back in September of 2020, and it has to do with the investigation of then President Trump and his so-called Russia collusion. And what I want you to listen to is how they destroyed the evidence, the Democrats, that showed that there was no conspiracy with the Russians, it was made up.

The article is called, “*By destroying evidence, Team Mueller proved they have a lot to hide*” and this is what the story had to say.

More than two dozen government-issued iPhones used in special counsel Robert Mueller's Russiagate investigation were wiped clean.

Justice Department veterans know darn well that destroying potential evidence is a huge breach of ethics. Yet many of the top members of special counsel Robert Mueller's team did just that when the Inspector General's Office came calling.

They have all manner of (ridiculous) excuses for wiping more than two dozen government-issued iPhones used in the Russiagate investigation.

OK, maybe one or two screens really did get smashed so badly that a wipe was needed; perhaps another phone really was wiped by accident. But not dozens of them: Apple's phones are far better designed than that.

One phone “wiped itself,” according to records that Judicial Watch obtained thanks to the Freedom of Information Act: Then-FBI attorney Lisa Page's phone had been restored to factory settings when the IG's office received it.

And Mueller's top deputy, Andrew Weissmann, claims he “accidentally wiped” his phone after entering the wrong passcode too many times - twice in one month, March 2018.

Funny: More than a dozen of the phones suffered the exact same “accident.” . . .

As Senate Finance Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley notes, “Many officials apparently deleted the records after the DOJ Inspector General began his inquiry into how the Justice Department mishandled Crossfire Hurricane” - the Comey-era FBI’s investigation into links between the Trump campaign and Russia.

Weissmann . . . and his cronies may think they’ve been pretty clever. But this coverup is a damning sign that their “investigation” involved a lot of “work” they don’t want the public to hear about.

- <https://bit.ly/3xNtqsg>

What is interesting is that there was no evidence showing that President Trump was in collusion with the Russians and even though that is true, many still believe it because of the lies that they have been told.

And that is what we will see here this morning as these Jewish religious leaders are attempting in – ***DESTROYING THE EVIDENCE!***

I have broken down the verses we will be looking at into the following main points,

LAZARUS – THE EVIDENCE – JOHN 12:9

DESTROYING THE EVIDENCE – JOHN 12:10-11

OUR NATION

THE BIBLE

CHRISTIANS

With that as our introduction, let's begin reading in John chapter 12, beginning in verse 9 and let's see what the Lord has for us as we study His Word, and we look at this topic of –

DESTROYING THE EVIDENCE!

JOHN 12

VERSE 9

Remember what I have called this verse – ***LAZARUS – THE EVIDENCE!***

Word gets out that there is a party, a gathering at the house of Simon, who was a leper but was healed by Jesus.

And, like I have said, not only was Jesus there, but so too was Lazarus!

Make no mistake about it, when someone is raised from the dead, word spreads very quickly even without social media like we have today!

Because of that people wanted to come and see this man named Lazarus!

What is interesting to me is that we have no words that Lazarus said. I am sure he spoke, but that is not the issue here.

What is the issue?

His life was a living testimony to Jesus!

Think about it. He was dead but now, in Christ, He is alive!

Does that sound familiar? It should because that is what our Lord has done for us. We were dead in sin and Jesus gave to us life in Him!

That is what Paul tells us in Ephesians 2:1-9, **“And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”**

That means, like Lazarus, our life is a living testimony of the power of God, of who Jesus is.

Paul put it this way in II Corinthians 3:2-5, **“You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men; clearly you are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart. And we have such trust through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God.”**

Again, as strange as this may seem, we see that Lazarus did not speak or his words were not recorded for us. There are simply no words for Lazarus! He did not say one word and yet, his life was a witness of Jesus! People came to see this man that God raised from the dead!

What is the point?

The point is this.

How many Christians *“Talk the talk”* but they don’t *“Walk the walk”*?

We are to let our light shine that when the world sees our good works, not necessarily hear our good works, but as they see our good works, they will glorify our Father in heaven!

We should be living our lives like someone brought back from the dead, because we have been, spiritually speaking!

Now please understand that I am not saying we are not to share our faith with words, that we are not to speak forth the Gospel message. Not at all! Paul reminds us as he tells us, **“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”** Romans 10:17.

And here is the problem. If our walk does not add up with our talk, then the words we say will be meaningless!

Let me show you what I mean.

You can tell your wife you love her over and over again, but if you don’t show her that you love her, then your words are meaningless, they are empty!

And we can speak a lot about Jesus but if we are not showing the love of Christ, if we don’t care for people, they will see through that façade and they will not want what we have.

And that is truly sad.

Jesus put it like this in Matthew 5:16, **“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”**

The things that we do is a witness to the world of our love for God and it brings glory to God!

I am sure you have heard me say or you have heard it from someone else, ***“Your life may be the only Bible someone will ever read.”***

Now that may be a little shocking, it may even be intimidating thinking that as others look at our life, they are going to make judgments about the God we serve!

If you are going to attempt this in the power of your flesh, you should be scared, you should be intimidated.

But we are not called to do this on our own, but we can accomplish this as we surrender to the leading of the Holy Spirit in our lives each and every day. He is there to help us, to work not only in us but through us.

And whether you want to believe it or not, you are witnessing about Jesus everywhere you go. It may be your actions, it may be what you say on social media, people are coming to conclusions not only about your faith but about the God you serve.

That is why Paul said in Philippians 2:14-15, **“Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.”**

How we behave, what people see us doing, how we interact with others, is going to either be a light to the lost or it will just be more darkness that is seen in this world!

Let me share with you this example and you will see how we live is a witness to others.

We are told,

It was the second day of tennis practice my junior year of high school. I was team captain and ready to begin the season.

My coach pulled me aside about halfway through warm-ups and told me that we'd have new person joining. That this person's family was new in our tiny town.

Despite the fact that the new person had never played before, she wanted to try the team so she could make connections before the school year officially started in three weeks.

From the moment I met Leah, I knew there was something different about her. She was joyful, even though she had just moved eight hours from the town she grew up in right before her senior year. She had an undeniable light behind her actions, and it wasn't intimidating, but intriguing. I wanted to have light and purpose like that.

As I got to know Leah more throughout the tennis season, and then the school year, and then beyond, I'd learn that her faith in Jesus was the source.

God worked through Leah and the rest of her family in my life. (Spoiler Alert: I'm now her sister-in-law.) Their love for Christ and the way they followed Him, led me to the foot of the cross.

Living the Christian life naturally includes knowing and sharing the Good News that Jesus paid for all our sins and that nothing can separate us from Him.

Our lives as Christians reflect Christ and point others toward Him. We want those who do not yet know Christ to join us in heaven!

God works through His people, and that includes you! Evangelism doesn't always mean cold-calling people or walking up to strangers on the street and asking them if they know God personally.

Our actions, as well as our words, can be a witness to Christ.

- <https://bit.ly/3QovkHe>

Exactly.

For Lazarus, he was a living witness to what God can do in person's life. And many were drawn to Him because of that, drawn to Jesus!

But not everyone was excited about what happened to Lazarus and that is our next point – ***DESTROYING THE EVIDENCE!***

VERSES 10-11

I will expound on these verses and then we are going to be looking at three points in which the world tries to – ***DESTROY THE EVIDENCE!***

They are,

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Keep in mind that the *chief priests* were mostly Sadducees, and the Sadducees didn't believe in the resurrection.

Thus, Lazarus was a problem for them because Lazarus was a living example of life after death.

Therefore, having him around was an embarrassment to their theological system. For them, there was only one solution to this embarrassing problem – *to put Lazarus to death!*

You see, with Lazarus being raised from the dead it was the evidence that showed that Jesus is Almighty God and people were being drawn to Him. He was in the tomb for four days and at that point, in the Jewish mind, the spirit departed and there was no more hope. But in Christ all things are possible, and we see that here!

And many came to Christ through the witness of Lazarus as we see that here in John 12:11, where we are told, “**because on account of him [Lazarus] many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus.**”

The evidence was overwhelming, and these Jewish religious leaders should have been rejoicing that Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. But instead of rejoicing, they wanted him dead, and they also wanted Jesus dead!

As I have said before, religion and religious people bring death as they try to silence those that are speaking forth the truths of God found in the Word of God. They don't want to see Jesus and they don't want others to see Jesus!

Poor Lazarus, he died once, and God raised him from the dead. And now they want to kill him!

I don't know if you have seen this in our country but there is this push in –
DESTROYING THE EVIDENCE!

And what I mean by that is they want to remove any evidence of this nation being a Christian nation or that it was founded upon Judeo Christian beliefs, upon Jesus Christ.

The evidence that the Bible is the Word of God is being challenged even by those who are in the church.

And the evidence of Christians being a light in this world is being destroyed by trying to eliminate their voice and in many parts of the world, eliminating them altogether.

So with the rest of our time this morning we are going to look at one of those points and I want to start with – ***DESTROYING THE EVIDENCE THAT OUR NATION WAS A CHRISTIAN NATION!***

I know, for some, they don't think this is a big deal, but it truly is. When you remove Christianity from a nation what do you end up with?

Anarchy, violence, immorality, substance abuse and the like. Now people may laugh at that but hear me out.

Let me show you how much things have changed, and it is even worse today where we think violence is okay as long as it is for your cause.

Ask teachers today and see what they will tell you about the violence in the school system. Last year we had a teacher attacked by a student at Lincoln High School! So this is not a fable, it is a reality and we need to look at the reason for this so we may correct these problems!

Listen to this true story that shows what a liberal town is like, what it becomes.

The story goes like this,

A few years ago, a group of people in Missouri founded a town and named it Liberal. They were so extremely 'liberal' that churches were not allowed. In their boom literature they boasted that it was ***'the only town of its size in the United States without a priest, a preacher, church, God, Jesus, hell or devil.'***

But Elder Clark Braden wrote up an account for the *Post-Dispatch* showing that there was little else than hell and devil there, that it was a den of iniquity, that its hotels were brothels and virtue almost unknown. The account was so terrible that they had Braden arrested for criminal libel and sued him and the *Post-Dispatch* for \$25,000 damages.

After the prosecution had presented all of its evidence, the case was submitted to the jury without rebutting evidence by the defendant and he was acquitted by the jury. The civil suit for damages was dismissed by demand of the plaintiffs, who paid all the costs.

Liberal was a failure, and even lifelong unbelievers, who had moved there for its advantages, left in disgust.

One of them struck the keynote when he said: ***“An infidel surrounded by Christians may spout his infidelity and the community may be able to stand it, but it will never do to establish a society with infidelity as its basis.”***

- Ministers' Research Service

Is this a problem in America? You bet it is. Let me show you how things have changed in the school system in America. These are the top disciplinary problems in the public school system back in 1940. Listen carefully to their problems.

- Talking in class
- Chewing gum
- Making noise
- Running in the halls
- Getting out of turn in line
- Not putting paper in the waste basket

Now we may laugh at that because those are not real problems. But that is what they had to deal with!

Now, as we move on and look at the disciplinary problems in the public school system back in 1982, some forty years ago, listen to how it changed!

- Rape
- Robbery
- Assault
- Burglary
- Arson
- Bombings
- Murder
- Suicide
- Absenteeism
- Vandalism
- Extortion
- Drug Abuse/Pushing
- Alcohol abuse
- Gang warfare
- Pregnancies
- Abortions
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases

And that is not even looking at what is happening today with all these school shootings!
Something changed!

But what changed?

We removed God from the school system. No more prayer, the court had completely removed Bible reading, religious classes and instructions in the public school system, and these are the results of that. Everyone did what was right in their own eyes

Now I know that there is this big push to show that this nation was not founded on Christian principles, on the Lord Jesus Christ. And there are many who agree with that and thus, what we see happening is they are – ***DESTROYING THE EVIDENCE!***

Let me share this with you, it is a review of a book, and this is from Princeton University, their department of history. Keep in mind that they are speaking from the department of history from this prestigious school, and they will be speaking the truth, right? Not exactly.

But listen to this review of this book expounding on the fact we were not a Christian nation. We are told,

We're often told that the United States is, was, and always has been a Christian nation.

But in ***One Nation Under God***, historian Kevin M. Kruse reveals that the idea of "Christian America" is an invention - and a relatively recent one at that. As Kruse argues, the belief that America is fundamentally and formally a Christian nation originated in the 1930s when businessmen enlisted religious activists in their fight against FDR's New Deal.

Corporations from General Motors to Hilton Hotels bankrolled conservative clergymen, encouraging them to attack the New Deal as a program of "pagan statism" that perverted the central principle of Christianity: the sanctity and salvation of the individual. Their campaign for "freedom under God" culminated in the election of their close ally Dwight Eisenhower in 1952.

But this apparent triumph had an ironic twist. In Eisenhower's hands, a religious movement born in opposition to the government was transformed into one that fused faith and the federal government as never before.

During the 1950s, Eisenhower revolutionized the role of religion in American political culture, inventing new traditions from inaugural prayers to the National Prayer Breakfast.

Meanwhile, Congress added the phrase "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance and made "In God We Trust" the country's first official motto.

With private groups joining in, church membership soared to an all-time high of 69%. For the first time, Americans began to think of their country as an officially Christian nation.

- <https://bit.ly/3xwFxJ1>

Keep in mind that this was printed on the website of Princeton's department of history and yet, it is fake news!

Sorry, I had to say that because it is true, it is fake news. When you look at our history, the history of this nation you have to either be blind or ignore the truth to believe that this was not a nation that was founded under the Judeo-Christian faith. Let me show you what I mean.

George Washington said, "*[I]t is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor.*"

John Adams said, "*We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. . . . Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.*"

Keep in mind that he is speaking of the Christian faith!

And think about this. If you have visited Washington, D.C., looked at the monuments and Mount Vernon you are fully aware of the many verses quoted from the Bible, which lends credence to the fact that we were most certainly founded on Judeo-Christian principles.

Our Founding Fathers gave to us a constitution that has stayed the test of time, although, because we have moved away from God and morality, we are dismantling it.

Think about this for a minute. We have the world's longest on-going Constitutional Republic! Almost 250 years under the same document and one form of government is unprecedented.

If you look at France, they have gone through seven completely different forms of government; Italy is on their 51st! We are still on our first!

What insight did our Founding Fathers have when they were writing the Constitution, where did they get their ideas?

A group of political science professors from the University of Houston felt that if they could see whom the Founders were quoting, they could determine the source of their ideas.

They looked at 15,000 writings of that era, taking them 10 years to complete their work and they found that 34 percent of the direct quotes in the political writings of the Founding era were from the Bible!

They formed this government by looking at God's Word and applying it!

Let me give you some examples of what some of the charters of America's first colonies were like and you will see it was not a secular document.

Keep in mind that today if any state had the nerve to make these statements the ACLU would be all over them telling them it is unconstitutional, but it was not unconstitutional in the past, when this nation got its start! And it is not unconstitutional today!

1606 Charter for a Colony in Virginia,

“[T]o make habitation . . . and to deduce a colony of sundry of our people into that part of America commonly called Virginia . . . in propagating of Christian religion to such people as yet live in darkness.”

And yet, we are told that this was not a Christian nation! No, it was but they are –

DESTROYING THE EVIDENCE!

The Colonies of Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Plymouth, and New Haven, back in 1643, joined together to form the New England Confederation and this is what the document said,

“[W]e all came into these parts of America with one and the same end and aim, namely to advance the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

And yet, we are told that this was not a Christian nation! No, it was but they are –

DESTROYING THE EVIDENCE!

Today in our public school system we have removed prayer, Bible studies, even the 10 Commandments from its walls. But Christianity and education were inseparable.

Listen to the 1636 rules of Harvard. They declared:

“Let every student be plainly instructed and earnestly pressed to consider well the main end of his life and studies is to know God and Jesus Christ which is eternal life (John 17.3) and therefore to lay Christ in the bottom as the only foundation of all sound knowledge and learning. And seeing the Lord only giveth wisdom, let everyone seriously set himself by prayer in secret to seek it of Him (Prov. 2, 3). Everyone shall so exercise himself in reading the Scriptures twice a day that he shall be ready to give such an account of his proficiency therein.”

What is interesting is you won't find Harvard even close to promoting Christianity! No, they have – ***DESTROYED THE EVIDENCE!***

In 1699, Yale was founded by ten ministers in order to,

“[T]o plant, and under the Divine blessing, to propagate in this wilderness the blessed reformed Protestant religion.”

And yet, we are told that this was not a Christian nation! No, it was but they are –

DESTROYING THE EVIDENCE!

What was America's educational philosophy?

Listen to what George Washington said as chiefs from the Delaware Indian tribe brought him three Indian youths to be trained in American schools.

First Washington assured the chiefs that ***“Congress . . . will look upon them as their own children.”***

And then he commended the chiefs for their decision by telling them,

“You do well to wish to learn our arts and ways of life, and above all, the religion of Jesus Christ. These will make you a greater and happier people than you are. Congress will do everything they can to assist you in this wise intention.”

And yet, we are told that this was not a Christian nation! No, it was but they are –

DESTROYING THE EVIDENCE!

The New England Primer was the first textbook ever printed in America. It was introduced in Boston in 1690 and for two centuries many in America learned to read from this book.

After learning the Alphabet and putting one, two, and three-letter syllables together and learning how to put them together to make words, after about a fourth of the way through this textbook it returns to the alphabet and attaches phrases to the letter for them to memorize.

Let me give you a few examples.

A – *A wise son makes a glad father, but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother.*

B – *Better is little with fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble therewith.*

C – *Come unto Christ all ye that labor and are heavy laden and He will give you rest.*

D – *Do not the abominable thing which I hate saith the Lord.*

E – *Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God.*

Listen carefully to what was the teaching from this book. ***“The New England Primer was the first textbook ever printed in America and was used to teach reading and Bible lessons in our schools until the twentieth century. In fact, many of the Founding Fathers and their children learned to read from The New England Primer.”***

Do you think that would be allowed even for a day in our schools today? Not at all and yet it was used in our schools to teach children how to read and it is part of our history!

And yet, we are told that this was not a Christian nation! No, it was but they are –
DESTROYING THE EVIDENCE!

Noah Webster had these words to say,

“In my view, the Christian religion is the most important and one of the first things in which all children, under a free government, ought to be instructed . . . No truth is more evident to my mind than that the Christian religion must be the basis of any government intended to secure the rights and privileges of a free people.”

John Jay, the original Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court and one of the three men most responsible for the Constitution:

“Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty – as well as the privilege and interest – of our Christian nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers.”

Can you imagine what CNN would say about that today? And yet, our history is ignored because it does not fit their agenda of removing God from this nation so that sin may abound, and the government can control the people!

Abraham Lincoln made this powerful statement,

“The truth announced in the Holy Scripture, and proven by all history, [is] that, ‘Those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord.’”

How true that is.

And yet, we are told that this was not a Christian nation! No, it was but they are –

DESTROYING THE EVIDENCE!

Back in the 1880’s and 1890’s, Robert Ingersoll, who was a well-known political lecturer, made this untrue statement.

“[O]ur forefathers retired God from politics . . . The Declaration of Independence announces the sublime truth that all power comes from the people. This was a denial, and the first denial of a nation, of the infamous dogma that God confers the right upon one man to govern others . . . Our fathers founded the first secular government that was ever founded in this world.”

Again, that is totally untrue as we have seen.

In the 1920's we see W. E. Woodward, who was a revisionist, declare,

The name of Jesus Christ is not mentioned even once in the vast collection of Washington's published letters.

What did we just read about what **George Washington** said to the chiefs, *"You do well to wish to learn our arts and ways of life, and above all, the religion of Jesus Christ. These will make you a greater and happier people than you are. Congress will do everything they can to assist you in this wise intention."*

And yet, we are told that **George Washington** never mentioned the name of Jesus Christ. You see, they are – ***DESTROYING THE EVIDENCE!***

George Washington rightly said, *"It is impossible to rightly govern a nation without God and the Bible."*

How true that is!

President John Adams made this very true statement,

"[W]e have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion . . . Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

And we are seeing the results of that today!

Patrick Henry said,

“Righteousness alone can exalt them [America] as a nation. Reader! Whoever thou art, remember this; and in thy sphere practice virtue thyself, and encourage it in others. [T]he great pillars of all government and of social life: I mean virtue, morality, and religion. This is the armor, my friend, and this alone, that renders us invincible.”

Then there is **John Witherspoon** who said,

“[V]irtue and piety are inseparably connected; then to promote true religion is the best and most effectual way of making a virtuous and regular people. Love to God and love to man is the substance of religion; when these prevail, civil laws will have little to do.”

And where they have removed God, they have removed the love for man, and we see violence growing, the result of removing God from our lives and this nation!

Robert Winthrop, a contemporary of John Quincy Adams and Daniel Webster, and a speaker of the U.S. House said,

“Men, in a word, must necessarily be controlled either by a power within them or by a power without them; either by the Word of God or by the strong arm of man; either by the Bible or by the bayonet.”

You see, by taking the true and living God out of the heart of our nation we now have a gaping hole that is filled with all kinds of wickedness.

As you move away from God, as you negate His principles, you open the door for all kinds of immoral behavior!

Let me show you what I mean.

In the 1980 court case *Stone v. Graham*, dealing with the posting of the Ten Commandments on the walls of a school in Kentucky, this is what the court said, and listen to how bizarre it is.

But that is truly what happens when a nation or people are not governed by God!

We are told,

“If the posted copies of the Ten Commandments are to have any effect at all, it will be to induce the schoolchildren to read, meditate upon, perhaps to venerate and obey, the Commandments.

The Court therefore concluded:

[This] . . . is not a permissible state objective under the Establishment Clause . . . [T]he mere posting of the copies . . . the Establishment Clause prohibits.”

Now that is interesting because the Founding Fathers would have vehemently disagreed and don't you think they would have understood the laws better, since they were the ones who wrote them?

Of course!

And think about it. The Ten Commandments, wouldn't it be beneficial for our children to follow them? Again, of course!

And yet, take them away and we see that they don't follow them and the wickedness, immorality, that is manifested in their lives!

Let me share with you what some of our Founding Father's had to say about this.

John Adams,

“The moment the idea is admitted into society that property is not as sacred as the laws of God, and that there is not a force of law and public justice to protect it, anarchy and tyranny commence. If “Thou shalt not covet,” and “Thou Shalt not steal,” were not commandments of Heaven, they must be made inviolable [firm] precepts in every society, before it can be civilized or made free.”

James Mchenry, Signer of the Constitution said,

“[T]he Holy Scriptures . . . can alone secure to society, order and peace, and to our courts of justice and constitutions of government, purity, stability, and usefulness. In vain, without the Bible, we increase penal laws and draw entrenchments [protections] around our institutions.”

It is as **Benjamin Rush,** a Signer of the Declaration, said,

“Without this [religion] there can be no true virtue, and without virtue there can be no liberty, and liberty is the object and life of all republican governments. Without the restraints of religion and social worship, men become savages.”

His words turned out to be very prophetic in nature, for we see it happening today all around us and we try to find solutions, but we are looking for them in all the wrong places.

Let's get back to where we began.

We have seen that this nation was founded upon, established upon the Judeo-Christian faith and our leaders spoke openly about their faith, it was important to them. It was taught in our schools, and it made a positive influence upon our society.

They were not speaking of freedom to worship all kinds of gods, but to worship the true and living God, Jesus Christ without the state making one denomination the state religion. When they spoke of religion they were speaking of Christianity!

But then came the revisionists who have been re-writing our history because it goes against what they believe, what they want to do.

It doesn't matter if what they say is true or not, they speak it forth boldly and people believe their lies.

Also, our courts are re-writing the laws, interpreting them to fit their agenda.

Thus, what we see today is just a shadow of what this nation was founded upon.

And the results of that are clearly seen, no one knows what is right, everyone does what is right in their own eyes, there is no fear of God because God is not on the throne of their hearts, and this nation's light is slowly going out!

What can be done to rectify this problem?

Instead of blaming people and pointing your finger at this group or that group, let's rise up and be responsible to make a difference, to find the solution.

May we get back to the basics.

In Nehemiah 8:1-12, listen to how revival broke out.

We are told,

“Now all the people gathered together as one man in the open square that was in front of the Water Gate; and they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded Israel. So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly of men and women and all who could hear with understanding on the first day of the seventh month. Then he read from it in the open square that was in front of the Water Gate from morning until midday, before the men and women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. So Ezra the scribe stood on a platform of wood which they had made for the purpose; and beside him, at his right hand, stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Urijah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah; and at his left hand Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbadana, Zechariah, and Meshullam. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. Then all the people answered, ‘Amen, Amen!’ while lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodijah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites, helped the people to understand the Law; and the people stood in their place. So they read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God; and they gave the sense, and helped them to understand the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, ‘This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn nor weep.’ For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the Law. Then he said to

them, ‘Go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to those for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord. Do not sorrow, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.’ So the Levites quieted all the people, saying, ‘Be still, for the day is holy; do not be grieved.’ And all the people went their way to eat and drink, to send portions and rejoice greatly, because they understood the words that were declared to them.”

You see, as the Word of God was taught it cut to the heart of the matter, they were broken.

We don’t need programs, we need faithful men who will teach the Word of God; read it, explain it and then apply it to the lives of the people!

Listen to what **Daniel Webster** said as he cautioned our nation, and we need to heed his words.

This is what he said,

“I apprehend no danger to our country from a foreign foe. The prospect of a war with any powerful nation is too remote to be a matter of calculation. Besides, there is no nation on earth powerful enough to accomplish our overthrow. Our destruction, should it come at all, will be from another quarter. From the inattention of the people to the concerns of their government, from their carelessness and negligence.”

Make no mistake about it, they are trying to – **DESTROY THE EVIDENCE** of our faith and they are doing a good job. I have even heard Christians who have bought into these lies and believe that we were never a Christian nation!

Again, as we have seen, this was a Christian nation, and we were blessed because of it.

Now that we have turned our backs against God, we are seeing the ramifications of that in our nation! And it is not good!

Let me share with you the words by French writer Alexis de Tocqueville that he said after he visited America back in 1831.

Listen carefully to what he said made America great. He wrote,

I sought for the greatness of the United States in her commodious harbors, her ample rivers, her fertile fields, and boundless forests – and it was not there.

I sought for it in her rich mines, her vast world commerce, her public school system, and in her institutions of higher learning – and it was not there.

I looked for it in her democratic Congress and her matchless Constitution – and it was not there.

Not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power.

America is great because America is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great!

- Alexis de Tocqueville, 1831

Yes, they are ***DESTROYING THE EVIDENCE!*** But we have the truth, and may we proclaim in passionately and boldly to a world that is trying to extinguish God, and they will not succeed. God always has His faithful witnesses!

Obviously we are not going to get to the last two points this morning and we will look at these over the next couple of weeks. We will be looking at,

DESTROYING THE EVIDENCE – THE BIBLE

DESTROYING THE EVIDENCE - CHRISTIANS

May our hearts be stirred, may we go forward with the Good News of Jesus Christ as our Founding Fathers did, to bring the light of God to this dark nation once again!

We have the truth, and the truth will expose the lies! Don't be discouraged, don't lose hope, because we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.

As I close, remember, “**Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people.**”