



# FIRST HAND FAITH

## THE NEED FOR GODLY HOMES

# **"THERE IS A PROBLEM IN THE LAND!"**

## **2 Chronicles 7:13-15**

*"When I shut up heaven so that there is no more rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people. 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 will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and will heal their land. Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place."*

# The Constitutional Convention of 1787

Read from "The Light and The Glory" by Peter Marshall, Jr.

# Harvard, Princeton, William & Mary all have this in common!?

- ◆ They were founded primarily for the purpose of training young men for the ministry.
- ◆ Would you venture a guess as to these institutions' position on the Bible today?

# TALKING POINTS

- In 1890 the divorce rate was 1 in 17.
- Atlantic coast life saving stations were founded to save victims shipwrecked off the rocky coast.
- Today they are the exclusive “yacht clubs” which are invitation only.
- In the late 20’s the divorce rate was one in six
- Scopes Monkey Trial, Evolution, 60’s God is dead movement. Since there is no God and therefore no repercussions nor any absolutes, the 60’s and 70’s were earmarked by free drugs, free love, anti-marriage, anti-establishment, etc.
- GWTW had to climb mountains in the 30’s in order for Rhett to utter the forbidden four letter word “damn” in his now famous line. Been to the movies lately?!
- Father Knows Best, Ozzie & Harriet, My 3 Sons, Donna Reed Show, Leave It to Beaver, Lucy were soon replaced by the more “with it” programs like Married With Children, The Simpsons, Dawson Creek, Springer, Jenny Jones, Rikki Lake, etc.
- Now 6 of every 10 marriages will fail, 1 of every 4 children out of wedlock.

# How did we go from Pilgrims & Patriots with Principles to Perversion?

Joshua 24:14-15 *“Now fear the Lord and serve Him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your forefathers worshiped beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom your will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”*

# How did we go from Pilgrims & Patriots with Principles to Perversion?

- Joshua 24:16-18 *Then the people answered, “Far be it from us to forsake the Lord to serve other gods. It was the Lord our God Himself who brought us and our fathers up out of Egypt, from the land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. We too will serve the Lord, because He is our God.”*
- *Verse 31: Israel served the Lord throughout the lifetime of Joshua and the elders who outlived him and who had experienced everything the Lord had done for Israel.*

# How did we go from Pilgrims & Patriots with Principles to Perversion?

- Judges 2:7 *The people served the Lord throughout the lifetime of Joshua and of the elders who outlived him and who had seen everything the Lord had done for Israel.*
- Verse 10 *After that whole generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation grew up, who knew neither the Lord nor what He had done for Israel.*

# FIRST HAND FAITH

JOSHUA'S	ELDER'S	ANOTHER
<u>1<sup>ST</sup>. CHAIR</u>	<u>2<sup>ND</sup>. CHAIR</u> Over 70% of evangelical Christians are here	<u>3<sup>RD</sup>. CHAIR</u>
<u>KNOWS GOD</u> (Saved)	<u>KNOWS GOD</u> (Saved)	<u>KNOWS NOT GOD</u> (Lost)

# JOSHUA    ELDERS    ANOTHER

<p><u>HAS THE WORKS</u></p> <p>Plagues, Red Sea, Manna, Quail</p>	<p><u>KNOWS ABOUT THE WORKS</u></p> <p>Told by their parents</p>	<p><u>KNOWS NOT THE WORKS</u></p> <p>Never told for there was nothing to tell.</p>
<p><u>SERVES THE LORD</u></p>	<p><u>SERVES THE LORD OF THEIR FATHERS</u></p>	<p><u>SERVES FALSE GODS</u></p> <p>Rise of occult, new age, etc.</p>

# JOSHUA ELDERS ANOTHER

<u>SPIRITUAL</u>	<u>CARNAL</u>	<u>NATURAL</u>
FIRST HAND <u>FAITH</u>	SECOND HAND <u>FAITH</u>	NO <u>FAITH</u>
<u>COMMITTED</u> GOD-OTHERS Josh 24:15b & 22b	<u>COMPROMISE</u> GOD-ME/ME-GOD Judges 1:28	<u>CONFUSED</u> GOD-TAO-TREES- BUDDHA Judges 2:10

# JOSHUA      ELDERS      ANOTHER

<u>CONVICTION</u>	<u>BELIEF</u>	<u>OPINION</u>
Jesus is the only way	Jesus is Christ	Jesus was 1 of many teachers
<u>CHOOSES THE LORD TO BE HIS/HER LORD</u>	LOOKS COMMITTED BUT DOESN'T <u>TRUST &amp; OBEY</u>	DOESN'T KNOW GOD OR HIS <u>WORKS</u>
<u>WHOLEHEARTEDLY SERVES THE LORD</u>	<u>DISOBEYS GOD FOR PERSONAL PLEASURE/ POSSESSIONS</u>	WORSHIPS/ SERVES THE <u>GODS</u> OF THE LAND

# JOSHUA    ELDERS    ANOTHER

ABIDING

BONDAGE

CLUELESS

TRUSTS &  
OBEYS THE  
WORD OF THE  
LORD

ACCEPTS THE  
VALUES OF  
THE 3<sup>RD</sup>.  
CHAIR WITH

BECOMES ONE  
WITH  
SOCIETY

FULL  
TOLERANCE  
AS IF EQUALLY  
ACCEPTABLE.

# JOSHUA      ELDERS      ANOTHER

<u>INERRENCY</u>	<u>INCOMPLETE</u> Davinci Code	<u>IGNORANCE</u>
<p>CHRIST AS <u>LORD</u></p> <p>Jn. 13:12</p>	<p>CHRIST AS <u>SAVIOR</u></p> <p>"fire insurance"</p>	<p>A <u>RELIGIOUS</u> <u>LEADER</u></p> <p>Mohammed Buddha</p>
<p><u>RELATIONSHIP</u></p> <p>Ps.34:8 "taste the Lord"</p> <p>Eric Liddel "I feel his pleasure"</p> <p>0 Divorces</p> <p>Whats right in God's eyes</p>	<p><u>RESPONSIBILITY</u></p> <p>Expected of good people. "Get back in church"</p> <p>50-60% divorce rate</p> <p>Whats right in "your" eyes</p>	<p><u>REBELLION/</u> <u>REJECTION</u></p> <p>"cut the ground from under" 2 Cor. 11:12</p> <p>"Partners".</p> <p>Whats right in "my" eyes</p>

# JOSHUA      ELDERS      ANOTHER

<u>GODLINESS</u>	<u>GOODNESS</u>	<u>GODLESSNESS</u>
<u>DAVID</u> See 1 Kings 14:21	<u>SOLOMON</u> Started out right in 2 Chron. 1:7  \$4 Billion yrly. 2 Chron. 9:13 Be careful (1 Kings 11)	<u>REHEBOAM</u> 1 Kings 14:21

# SCRIPTURE WARNINGS

Exodus 20:5-6 .....*for I the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the father to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me...*

Numbers 14:18 *You punish the fathers fault (sin) in the children to the third and fourth generation.*

# SCRIPTURE PROMISE

*Psalms 103:17-18 But the lovingkindness of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting, to those who reverence Him; His salvation is to the children's children of those who are faithful to His covenant and remember to obey Him.*

# TALKING POINTS

- GOD HATE THE SIN OF COMPROMISE.
- Only 34% of American families eat one meal together each day.
- The average father spends only 8 to 10 minutes a day with his children including t.v. time & meals
- Only 12% of American families pray together.
- The average couple spends only four minutes of uninterrupted time together a day.

**IN MY OPINION**

**WE NEED**

**BIGGER HOMES**

**AND SMALLER HOUSES.**

# JOSHUA

# ELDERS

# ANOTHER

## PASSION

Views living for the Lord as their main goal in life.

## PASSIVITY

Views life as live & let live  
Faith is personal. Don't push it.  
Fanaticism is not popular and is uncomfortable.

## PURGED

"Religion is the opiate of the masses".

# PROBLEMS OF PASSIVITY

- Isaiah 3:11-14. God told Samuel Eli's family would be punished forever because Eli knew his sons' sins and did nothing.
- In 1 Kings 18:21 "the people said nothing"
- "All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing."

# TALKING POINTS

- ◆ We are committed to the Lord and His kingdom or to the world and its values.
- ◆ 4 DISTINCT RESOURCES TO MOVE FROM COMPROMISE TO COMMITMENT:
  1. Turn to the commands and principles of the Scriptures.
  2. Examine the lives of Old & New Testament saints.
  3. Mimic the lives of outstanding Christian Saints.

# TALKING POINTS

4. Remember the lessons the Lord has taught my family.

\*\*\*\*These are in order of reliability.

# CONCLUSION

- ◆ We should live our lives in the First Chair so as to please & honor God and to raise Godly children.
- ◆ Malachi 2:15 *"Has not the Lord made them one? In flesh and spirit they are His. And why one? Because He was seeking Godly offspring. So guard yourself in your spirit and do not break faith with the wife of your youth."*