

GLEANINGS

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ARE WE PAST OUR PRIME?

Perhaps the United States of America is past her prime. I read somewhere that a democracy usually lasts about 200 years. The reason may have been best explained by an economist of the late 18th century. Alexander Tyler said that many nations decline when the majority of the people discover they can vote themselves benefits from the public treasury. That has certainly happened in the United States today. The average citizen has become a lover of pleasures more than a lover of God (*2nd Timothy 3:4*). They have learned that they can help to elect people who will see to it that they receive benefits from the public dole. The old adage “If you steal from Peter and put part of it into Paul’s pocket, you will always have Paul’s vote” is certainly becoming a truism.

One of the major problems in our country today is that so few citizens know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior (*Matthew 7:13-14*). It is hard for a saved person to seek and follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit of God. They need God’s leadership as they cast their ballot in the voting booth so that the person God wants to lead this country will be elected. For a lost person, it is impossible for them to vote for a person who will lead our country in a manner that will bring honor and glory to God. Unless, of course, they think they will benefit in some way after the election.

When each of us was born, we inherited an old sin nature. The fleshly body of a saved person is not changed at the moment their spiritual body is born again or restored back into fellowship with God (*John 3:1-8*). Our material body will still have its old sin nature until it expires or is changed at the catching up. Every person alive on the face of this earth, lost and saved, still has a material body with an old sin nature. We should not be surprised that a lost person seeks the promotion of those who will provide them the things their fleshly nature desires.