

**Welcome to Promise Land Bible Church**  
**We're glad you're here!**



# O For A Thousand Tongues

## Hymn 349



# Higher Ground

## Hymn 469





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**We're glad you're here!**





An open Bible is shown from a low angle, looking up at the pages. The pages are filled with text, and the background is a bright blue sky with wispy white clouds. The text is centered on the pages.

# **Call to Worship**

***Psalm 119:65-72***

**Psalm 119:65-72** You have dealt well with your servant, O LORD, according to your word. Teach me good judgment and knowledge, for I believe in your commandments. Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep your word. You are good and do good; teach me your statutes. The insolent smear me with lies, but with my whole heart I keep your precepts; their heart is unfeeling like fat, but I delight in your law. It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn your statutes. The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

# Heaven Came Down

## Hymn 657



# I Need Thee Every Hour

## Hymn 443







# Praise and Prayer Request

All Prayer request can be e-mail to:

[plbiblechurch@gmail.com](mailto:plbiblechurch@gmail.com)

***We would love to pray for God's will to be done  
your life and for His Name to be glorified in and  
through you, as you seek His Holy Face!***

# Receiving of the Offering



**An offering for the Church can be mailed to:  
Promise Land Bible Church  
PO Box 1437  
Mountain Home, AR 72653**

# ***Famous Quote:***

*“The greatest proof of Christianity for others is not how far a man can logically analyze his reasons for believing, but how far in practice he will stake his life on his belief.”*

**T. S. ELIOT**





**Today's Message**

**“Time to Act”**

**Scripture text: Proverb 25:26**

**WARNING:** God did not build this nation just for us; He built it for the world. Since its founding, our nation has been a beacon of hope and help to the lost and vulnerable around the globe. If America falls, our freedom to provide that hope and help falls with her. Keep this in mind as we go through the following.

You are blessed to be living during one of the most critical times in our nation's history. **It is a time when enemies are being exposed, heroes are being raised up, allegiances are being revealed, battles are being waged, and the course of our nation is being decided.**

# **It is not a time for spectators!**

And yet, during this critical time, millions of Christians are just that: Spectators.

Justifying their inaction with Scripture, they are opting to stay on the sidelines while our nation and its founding principles are under siege.

This is a grievous wrong.

It is unbiblical.



It is also a slap in the face of our nation's Founders. One of the greatest ironies of our time is that we Christians, who claim to admire and appreciate the Founders of this nation, are **giving up *without a fight* the very things they fought and died to obtain for us.** Our celebrations of their heroic efforts and sacrifice ring hollow when, in response to our nation being under siege, **we do nothing.** Could there be a more telling contrast between the Founders and ourselves? We cannot claim to truly appreciate them and the nation they secured for us while simultaneously **refusing to do what it takes to keep and maintain this nation.**

The Founders understood that there is a time to stand and fight.

They also understood that one of **the most critical times to stand and fight is when truth, justice, and freedom are at stake.**

They would be shocked to hear that Scripture is being used today to justify staying on the sidelines **while these very principles are being destroyed.** They would be doubly shocked to learn **that those taking this approach are the very people who profess to love truth, justice, and freedom.**

# **“God is in Control, So I Don’t Have to Do Anything” Does Not Apply Here**

Those who use God’s sovereignty to justify doing nothing while our nation is under siege **are misusing Scripture**. If God did not want us to have an active role in His plans, **He would not have called us to action repeatedly throughout Scripture**.

Again and again, from Genesis to Revelation, He calls on His people to act, to stand against evil, and to stand up for the needy and vulnerable (Isaiah 6:8, Matthew 28:18-20, Ephesians 5:11, Proverbs 31:8-9).



**Isaiah 6:4-8** And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for." And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "**Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?**" Then I said, "**Here am I! Send me.**"

**Matthew 28:18-20** And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **Go therefore and make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.** And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

**Ephesians 5:11-12** **Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.** For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret.

**Proverbs 31:8-9** Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all who are destitute. Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy.

If we continue to sit on the sidelines while every good thing our nation stands for is destroyed, we will have violated far more Scripture than the handful of passages currently being misused to justify inaction.

# “Turn the Other Cheek” Does Not Apply Here

Those who use Jesus’ admonition to “turn the other cheek” to justify doing nothing while our nation is under siege are also misusing Scripture.

Turning the other cheek is about not taking every slight to heart, about not taking revenge, and about returning evil with good when appropriate (Matthew 5:39, Romans 12:19, 1 Thessalonians 5:15).

**Matthew 5:39** But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.

**Romans 12:19-21** Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "**Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.**" To the contrary, "**if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.**" Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

**1 Thessalonians 5:15** See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but **always seek to do good to one another and to everyone.**



It has nothing to do with voluntarily turning our nation over to those who despise everything it stands for and are intent on replacing its righteous principles with unrighteous ones.

The Founders understood the difference, and so, when truth, justice, and freedom were at stake, they defended those righteous principles to the death.

## **“Submit to the Authorities” Does Not Apply Here**

Those who use Scripture’s admonition to “submit to the authorities” to justify doing nothing while our nation is under siege are also misusing Scripture.

Passages such as 1 Peter 2:13-17, **are not a blanket command to always submit to authorities in every situation.** Rather, they are a general admonition **to be applied under certain conditions.** Note that Peter clearly states in verse 14 that the authorities in question recognize the difference between good and evil, *and commend good.*

**This is not the case today.** Congressmembers, judges, governors, mayors, and local authorities are openly fomenting and funding lawlessness. They celebrate those who break our laws while vilifying those who uphold them. They clearly do not stand for, nor commend, good.

**1 Peter 2:13-17** Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him **to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good.** For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. **Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.** Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

Are the leaders today, serving the God of the Bible?

**Romans 13:1-5** Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. **For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad.** Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? **Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good.** But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience.

There is another important implication of both this passage and the Romans 13 passage that is often overlooked: **Through the act of obeying the authorities, *believers help maintain their freedom to do good*** (1 Peter 2:14, Romans 13:3-4). This is also not the case today. Rather than maintaining it, our obedience — **played out in silence and inaction** — **is costing us our freedom to do good.** We are being vilified for our beliefs, silenced in the public square, and forced out of and denied jobs. **If we believers do not stand now against the lawlessness overtaking our land, we will lose our freedom to do good *for good*.** It is only a matter of time.



It is not surprising then that we see Peter, who penned 1 Peter 2:13-17, defying the authorities in Acts 4 and 5 when those authorities command him to stop preaching the gospel. Peter's response? An emphatic, "We must obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).

**Peter knew when to obey the authorities and when to disobey them.** Clearly, that inflection point occurred for him and John where the command of human authorities **was in direct contradiction to a command of God**, i.e. when human authorities were not commending good and were instead **commanding against it.**

Put another way, that inflection point occurred where **obedience to human authorities robbed the governed of their freedom to follow and obey God.**

**Where are we today in this?**

**A Moment of Decision**

We stand at this same inflection point today. Our freedom to follow and obey God is actively being undermined and eroded before our eyes by the very authorities established to protect it.

The freedom to speak the truth, preach the word of God, follow our convictions, and evangelize the lost is **being aggressively challenged in the courts**, in the public square, by the education system, and by the media. Yet, alarmingly, the governing authorities established to uphold our God-given rights enshrined in the Constitution — and act as a bulwark between such an onslaught and our freedom — **can no longer be trusted to do so!**

Thus, we have a decision to make. Will we remain spectators while our nation is under siege?

**Know this:** If we choose to remain spectators, the United States of America — and the great principles she was founded on — **will fall**. This would be a terrible travesty not only for Americans, but for the world. Since its founding, the **United States has been a beacon of hope and help to the lost and vulnerable around the globe**. Through evangelism, aid, and protection, we have helped lift whole nations out of poverty, injustice, and tyranny. ***This ability to help other nations is dependent on our nation remaining free and true to its founding principles.*** If America falls, our freedom and ability to preach the gospel to the nations falls with her.

If America falls, our freedom and ability to provide aid to those in need falls with her. If America falls, our freedom and ability to provide protection to those who need it falls with her.

**Or, will we join our nation's Founders and make the sacrifices necessary to keep and maintain the nation they secured for us?** For, when great principles are at stake, **great sacrifice is required.** The Founders understood this and made that sacrifice. It is not right for us to celebrate their sacrifice and not be willing to **make the same sacrifice when what they fought for is at risk of being destroyed.**



Know that whatever it is you are clinging to, whatever it is that keeps you from standing, **will be lost in the end if you do not stand now.** It is only a matter of time. You have a choice: Sacrifice it yourself willingly now for the sake of your country, or lose it in the not-too-distant-future by force.

## **What Can You Do?**

So, this raises the question, “What actions can I take that will make a real difference?”

As your pastor, I must sound the alarm to this congregation. I do not have the option of being silent. For I am the modern-day Watchman on the Wall.

God has placed me in a position of responsibility to watch over and warn this flock.

If Pastors shirking this duty out of fear of losing tax benefits or offending today's culture, or some misguided idea that secular matters should not be discussed in the pulpit, are placing themselves and their congregations in grave danger.

As Proverbs 25:26 says, "Like a trampled spring and a polluted well is a righteous man who gives way before the wicked."

Pastors, you do not want to be a trampled spring and polluted well. Warn your flock that the enemy is at the gates. Call them to stand. Prepare them for action. Give them specific actions to take. Here are just a few ideas:

**All believers of voting age must vote.**

It is a disgrace, the number of Christians who do not vote. God provided our nation's citizens with a powerful and effective way to keep our leaders in check, and yet, *millions* of Christians ([~40%](#)) shirk their duty to do so every single year.

As a result, our federal, state, and local governments have become overrun with corrupt, self-interested leaders, many of whom are against the very principles this nation was founded on.

**Voting is not optional for the believer.** It is your duty to be informed and vote. It is your duty *to God*, who **provided you with such a powerful means to keep and maintain the nation He gave you through the election of leaders worthy of leadership; *to the Founders*, who secured for you at great sacrifice this great nation; *to your fellow citizens*, who depend on your vote to help keep and maintain this nation; and *to the unsaved*, who depend on our nation's charity, missions work, protection, and much more.**

A [quote](#) attributed to Thomas Jefferson states, **“We do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate.”** This is true.

**Those who vote play a critical role in determining the course of our nation.** So, commit today to do your duty to God, the Founders, your fellow citizens, and the unsaved by voting.

Fast and pray to Almighty God, ask Him, what He would have you do!

Be a Poll Worker

Run for office

Contact your Congressmen

File a lawsuit

Do a peaceful protest

Inform others and spur them to action.

Remember to obey Almighty God!



# When We All Get to Heaven

## Hymn 123

