



AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION
 Clinton Chapel AME Zion Church
 1901 Rozzell Ferry Road
 Rev. Morgan W. Tann, minister
 East Stonewall AME Zion Church
 1729 Griers Grove Road
 Rev. James E. McCoy, minister
 Gethsemane AME Zion Church
 531 Campus Street
 Rev. George E. Battle Jr., minister
 Grace AME Zion Church
 219 S. Brevard Street
 Rev. Smith Turner III, minister pastor
 Greenville Memorial AME Zion Church
 6116 Montileth Drive
 Little Rock AME Zion Church
 403 N. Myers Street
 Rev. Williams M. White, minister
 Walls Memorial AME Zion Church
 2722 Bancroft
 Rev. J. T. White, minister

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL
 Greater Bethel AME Church
 201 Grandin Road
 Rev. L. S. Penn, pastor

BAHA'I
 Baha'i Faith
 4122 Providence Road

BAPTIST
 Antioch Baptist Church
 3701 Monroe Road
 Rev. Preston Pendergrass, pastor
 First Baptist Church
 1020 South Church Street
 Rev. J. B. Humphrey, pastor
 First Mount Zion Baptist Church
 1515 Remount Road
 Rev. F. G. Lowery, pastor
 Friendship Baptist Church
 3301 Beatties Ford Road
 Rev. Coleman W. Kerry Jr., pastor
 Gethsemane Baptist Church
 1300 S. Winnifred Street
 Rev. C. E. Dewberry, pastor
 Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church
 1243 West Boulevard
 Rev. Norman E. Kerry, pastor
 Greater Providence Baptist Church
 1829 Cleveland Avenue
 Rev. J. W. Wallace Jr., pastor
 Macedonia Baptist Church
 1401 Hatteras Avenue
 Rev. J. Wallace, minister
 Mayfield Baptist Church Memorial
 700 Sugar Creek Road
 Dr. L. Diggs, pastor
 Mount Carmel Baptist Church
 412 Campus Street
 Rev. Riddick, pastor
 New St. John Baptist
 Newell-Hickory Grove Road
 Rev. R. H. Leak, pastor
 Pleasant Hill Baptist Church
 517 Baldwin Avenue
 Rev. Andrew Culbertson, pastor
 St. Luke Baptist Church
 1109 Rodney Avenue
 Rev. L. D. Parker, minister

EPISCOPAL
 Christ The King Center
 425 E. 17th Street
 Father James Jenyon, Priest

EVANGELICAL
 United House Of Prayer
 2321 Beatties Ford Road
 Elder C. Wilkerson, pastor
 Derita House Of Prayer
 7520 Cheshire Road
 Elder S. Ford, pastor

LUTHERAN
 Prince Of Peace Lutheran Church
 3001 Beatties Ford Road
 Rev. Bryant E. Clancy, pastor

METHODIST
 Cathey Memorial AME Church
 424 Chicago Avenue
 Rev. Eli Price, pastor
 Logan Chapel CME Church
 9505 Parkton Road
 Rev. James L. Cotton, pastor
 Weeping Willow AME Zion Church
 304 Billingsley Road
 Rev. J. W. Henderson, pastor
 Simpson-Gillespie United Methodist
 540 Winston Street
 Rev. James McCallum, minister

PRESBYTERIAN
 Amay James Presbyterian Church
 2400 West Boulevard
 Rev. M. A. Cochran, pastor
 PRESBYTERIAN-UNITED
 First United Presbyterian Church
 261 N. E. 7th Street
 Rev. E. J. Moore, pastor
 Grier Heights Presbyterian Church
 325 Skyland Avenue
 Memorial United Presbyterian Church
 2600 Beatties Ford Road
 Rev. H. W. Givens, pastor
 St. Paul United Presbyterian Church
 Robinson Church Road
 Rev. Robert L. Walton, pastor
 Statesville Avenue United Presbyterian
 2804 Statesville Avenue
 Rev. Wilburn M. Sanders, minister

PRIMITIVE BAPTIST
 Mount Moriah Primitive Baptist Church
 747 W. Trade Street
 Rev. Thomas W. Samuels, pastor
 Nazareth Primitive Baptist Church
 2230 Bancroft Street
 Rev. James A. Frieson, pastor

Message Of The Week

"If My People"

11 Chronicles 7:14

Our land, America, is in trouble and it appears that the troubles are becoming more numerous.

God allowed men of the so-called old world to discover on this continent what they called a new world. This new world represented new hope, new opportunities, new riches, and a chance for the redirecting of life's ways. This land, America, promised hope to the imprisoned ones of man's shackles and chains. It promised joy to the hearts. It decreed hope and help to men who desired to start life afresh and anew. It promised joy to the hearts who desired to worship God as they pleased. This land, so rich and full of natural resources; this land, vast and wide stretching itself from ocean to ocean, from the eastern Atlantic to the western Pacific; this land, yet unpolluted and defiled, in just 200 years finds itself in serious trouble.

Many are they who sought relief from oppression and became, in this land, the oppressors. Many who came to this land to be able to obtain freedom, made slaves of other men. Some who sought to be able to worship God as they pleased, have now pleased not to worship Him at all. A nation founded on prayer and trust in God now decrees that it is not lawful to make children learn how to pray. A nation that has never lost a war has apparently lost the peace because we have turned our backs on the "Prince of Peace".

And that once glorious land of promise and hope finds itself confused and distrusted by both so-called friend and foe. We have stood men on a moon, 240,000 miles away but refuse to help destitute, hungry, sick men stand on their feet just 240 feet away. We have elected to the

presidency of our country, men who have sought to enslave, or at best, allow a minority people to become second class citizens. We, in less than 6 months, will decide upon a leader for the next four years, and of all the candidates there are to choose from, it is hard to find one who is willing to be president of all the people, and who will earnestly, genuinely, and honestly work for all America's people. Our present leader is trying with all his might to turn the clock of progress back simply because a few hate-mongers would cast a vote for such a leader.

Our churches are seeing masses of confusion because we refuse to let God lead and rule His church. Again, I say, we are in trouble.

Like the catastrophe that the Hebrews found themselves a part of, we have clung to the notion that God's care for us implies a measure of leniency or indulgence, so that even the light repentance of a day would gain renewal of His favor. But we need to remember that if the Prodigal son had returned home unrepentant, he could not have been received as the lost son born again. I know it is always hard to accept the fact that God's mercy upholds the reality of the moral order, but it is nonetheless true.

When Solomon had finished building the house of the Lord, he prayed and God heard and answered. He finally tells them, as it were, that I know of your wickedness, but there is a way out. For, "If My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

Now, I feel that we



Submitted By

Rev. H. S. Diggs,

Pastor

Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church

should hear God speaking to us in our day and condition just as the people of the day in which these words were first uttered heard God speaking to them.

He says:
 I-If My people...He is saying that if conditions are to be bettered, and if our land is to be healed, and if our sins are to be forgiven, then the responsibility for the needed change rests upon the shoulders of so-called Godly people. Although Godly people are not wholly responsible for the chaos of our nation, yet we are totally responsible for its healing.

II-By implication I hear Him saying that there are many who claim the name and are also they who are bringing the shame. "If My people who are called by My name..." We, some of us, fail to walk or talk. Many of us cry Lord, Lord, and fail to do what He says. Our city of Charlotte is one of the most church-going cities of America and yet it is one of the most wicked. It appears that many of our lights are not shining, and much of our salt has lost its saving power.

III-He further states that "If My people...humble themselves and pray..." The accusation is blatantly and boldly discernable. God's people are accused of being haughty, proud, and lacking in humility. It is

unmistakably true that many of us simply don't listen to God. We want to dictate to Him. As one has said, "We attempt to make God in our own image." Humility is reverence of God and respect for our fellow-man. It is saturated with courage and love. Love is possible because of man's response to the love of God as is manifested in Christ Jesus. If we love God, we will automatically love our fellow-man. If we love God, we will automatically do what He requires. "What does the Lord require of thee but to do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with thy God."

To pray, there must

be contact made. True prayer involves dialogue between him who prays and Him to whom the prayer is directed. Real prayer involves listening as well as talking, thanking as well as asking, confessing in order to be forgiven, and a total surrendering of self and all that involves and in which self is involved. Sincere prayer is absolute submission of the will of the creature to the Creator.

The thundering

echoes come down through the centuries falling upon the ears of a people in trouble and saying, "If My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from Heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

America, and each individual in America, the promises are to you.

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GLIMPSE OF HOPE

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