

PENTECOST SUNDAY & MEMORIAL DAY



***“NOT BY MIGHT, NOR BY POWER, BUT BY MY SPIRIT” SAYS
THE LORD OF HOSTS. (ZECH. 4:6)***



James A. Garfield

Centennial Speech July 4, 1876

“Now more than ever before, the people are responsible for the character of their Congress. If that body be ignorant, reckless, and corrupt, it is because the people tolerate ignorance, recklessness, and corruption...”



James A. Garfield

Centennial Speech July 4, 1876

If it be intelligent, brave, and pure,
it is because the people demand
these high qualities to represent
them in the national legislature...



James A. Garfield

Centennial Speech July 4, 1876

If the NEXT CENTENNIAL does not find us a great nation... it will be because those who represent the enterprise, the culture, and the morality of the nation ***do not aid in controlling the political forces.***”



DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

“The church must be reminded that it is not the master or the servant of the state, but rather the conscience of the state. It must be the guide & the critic of the state, and never its tool. If the church does not recapture its prophetic zeal, it will become an irrelevant social club without moral or spiritual authority.”

- *“We are not to simply bandage the wounds of victims beneath the wheels of injustice, we are to drive a spoke into the wheel itself.” — Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

- *“The ultimate test of a moral society is the kind of world that it leaves to its children.” — Dietrich Bonhoeffer*



TWO OTHER QUOTES (AMONG MANY)

1. *“I DON’T KNOW WHICH IS WORSE, THE WORDS OF MY ENEMIES, OR THE SILENCE OF MY FRIENDS.”*

- *“TACIT” = BEING SILENT – SAYING NOTHING*
- *The Silence of the German Church led to the rise of the Nazis - 12,000 PASTORS IN “THE MIDDLE” [Eric Metaxas, Author of “Bonhoeffer,” “Letter to the American Church”]*
- *“The Silence of the American Church Has Led to the Rise of What We Are Seeing Today”*

TWO OTHER QUOTES (AMONG MANY)

E. Lutzer: *“People Are Crying For Direction From The Pulpit.”*

This Gen. ask: *“Where were parents/pastors?”*

Church = 1-2 hours Sunday VS. School = 35 hours/wk

Kids learning to love the wrong things!

2. *“THE CONDITION OF THE NATION IS THE REPORT CARD ON THE CHURCH.”*

- THE CHURCH/PASTORS ARE BEING BULLIED INTO SILENCE –
OR ELSE!
- TRUTH IS TRUTH – CHRISTIAN OR NOT

MEMORIAL DAY & PENTECOST SUNDAY

MONDAY – We Remember Our “Honored Dead”

- They Died To Protect, Defend, Preserve **Liberty**

“Greater Love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.” John 15:13

“It is for FREEDOM that Christ has set you FREE!”

Gal. 5:1

Freedom/Liberty = God’s Idea, Not Man’s

MEMORIAL DAY & PENTECOST SUNDAY

HOW DID WE WIN OUR FREEDOM/LIBERTY?

- THE LORD, Great Strategies & Powerful *Weapons*
 - Boot Camp, Military Combat Training, Weaponry
 - THEN – SEND OUT TO BATTLEFIELD!

WE CANNOT FIGHT FOR FREEDOM WITH OUR BARE HANDS AND BRUTE STRENGTH – WE NEED POWER GREATER THAN OURSELVES (WEAPONS, “VEHICLES”)

MEMORIAL DAY & PENTECOST SUNDAY

HOW ARE WE TO ENGAGE THIS BATTLE?

- Acts 1:4 “...wait for the promise of the Father...”

- V. 8 “...will receive **power** & be My witnesses”

1 Cor. 4:20 “*the Kingdom...is not talk, but **power.***”

Luke 24:45 “*He opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures*” (Need to know the Word!)

Heb. 10:25 “*Do not forsake meeting together...as the days draw closer – encourage one another*”

MEMORIAL DAY & PENTECOST SUNDAY

HOW DO WE ENGAGE THIS BATTLE?

- Eph 6:10 NASB Finally, be *strong* in the Lord and in the *strength* of His *might*.
- “Strong” = empowered (from “dunamis” Acts 1:8)
- “Strength” = might, force, dominion
- “Might” = ability, strength

C.S. Lewis on “Truth and Comfort”

If you look for truth, you may find comfort in the end; if you look for comfort you will not get either comfort or truth only soft soap and wishful thinking to begin, and in the end, despair.

The First Ones Cast Into the Lake of Fire?

Rev 21:6-8 ESV And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. (7) The ***one who conquers*** will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

(8) But as for the ***cowardly***, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.”

Rom 1:16-17 NIV84

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. (17) For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

MEMORIAL DAY & PENTECOST SUNDAY

MEMORIAL DAY – HONOR Those Who Gave All They Had

- May WE do Our Part for Liberty & Freedom

PENTECOST SUNDAY – “Give us boldness as the early Church”

Act 2:39 ESV ***For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.***

- ***We have nothing to fear, apologize for, or run from!***

- ***This Good News & Spirit Baptism Transforms Lives & Nations!***