

# American Decency Association

PO Box 202, Fremont MI 49412 231-924-4050 www.americandecency.org  
Encouraging Christians to guard their heart May 2021

## FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

By: Steve Huston



*“As nations cannot be rewarded or punished in the next world, they must be in this. By an inevitable chain of causes and effects, Providence punishes national sins, by national calamities.”*

These were the words of George Mason speaking at the Federal Convention, August 22, 1787, against the import of slaves to the United States of America. Since that time this great country has been guilty of adding other great sins. We’ve done many things right and have stood in the gap for the “little guy” around the world who didn’t have the power to stand for himself; yet this nation has committed heinous crimes against the unborn; has neglected our Constitution (lawlessness); and is ready to em-

brace a theology/political ideology that replaces God with man. As these steps are taken, Christianity is put in the crosshairs; those who will steadfastly stand for Biblical truth, daring to disagree with the LGBTQ+ crowd, communism/socialism, Islam, or those things which these promote, will find themselves living out Isaiah 59:15. **“Yea, truth faileth; and he that departeth from evil maketh himself a prey: ...”** The above well describes why we are in dire straits as a nation and where we individually are headed; but what can we do? We must recognize that this is spiritual warfare, and recognize our helplessness and dependency upon God.

In the days of Esther, the Jews were in trouble. What actions did she and others take? What truths can we apply to our day?

First, we must recognize that God is sovereign. The Creator of all has put us into this world, giving us both a birthplace with its culture and an environ-

ment in which we were raised. He has given us various skills and experiences, including hurts, which are meant to be used for His Kingdom’s purposes. We are not accidentally in this time and place; like Queen Esther, we are here *“for such a time as this.”* The book of Esther is full of God’s sovereign acts and amazing timing. When we realize that this same God is allowing us to go through hardship for His purposes, we will grumble less and be more willing to surrender with thanksgiving in the hard times.

Secondly, we have a responsibility to bloom where we are planted. We need to be loving and share truth with others. Most importantly, we must proclaim the truth about heaven, hell, and the way of salvation, with urgency, even if we are persecuted, made fun of, lose family, friends, or even our life. After all, how does one threaten a man who has heaven? Like Queen Esther may we say, *“If I perish, I perish.”* Other truths are im-

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Remember Jesus' warning, "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven."

Fourthly, we dare not go it alone. We know that Jesus is always with us and interceding on our behalf; but there is the human element as well, fellow believers praying with us and for us. Paul asked for prayer that he would have boldness to speak as he ought (Eph. 6:19-20). Esther called upon her handmaids to fast and pray with her; we should let the body of Christ know our spiritual and emotional needs. Are we willing to pray for others and to be prayed for? "*Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise;...*" (Esther 4:16) Let us humble ourselves in brokenness, humility, and repentance. Are we willing to fast and pray, asking others to join us in

doing so? There is a cost in surrender and doing the right thing but the benefits far outweigh the costs, often here and certainly in eternity.

I exhort you to prayerfully read and meditate on this short book; you'll see the twist and turn of power, the seemingly certain destruction of the Jews, the salvation of those same Jews, and the utter destruction of an unrighteous arch-nemesis.

What is the fate of America? Only God knows, but He told Jeremiah regarding a nation's response to His law and His judgment, "If that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them." (18:8) What is the fate of American believers? Will we suffer the same persecution that is witnessed around the globe? Only God knows; but we do know that the Church must boldly proclaim the Gospel; and as each new soul is won to righteousness and right thinking, they will turn from their evil, glorify God, and reach out to others. **Truly, our Hope is in the Lord.**

portant to share, particularly in the days in which we live. But all of them take a back seat to eternity and each soul who will either occupy heaven or hell.

Thirdly, to rightly fulfill our responsibility to God, we must put aside "complacent Christianity" and with boldness, speak up. We speak both to the community around us and to fellow believers, urging them, to stand for truth, exhorting them to live in holiness as believers should live. Mordecai warned Esther, "*Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews.*" We must urge and warn others to act boldly (not rudely or with pride) on behalf of Christ. It will one day come to our doorstep and we will not escape. We either proclaim now or deny (verbally) later. That may not be the case for each individual, but what we practice we will often preach.



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