



and that's...  
**The Gospel Truth!!**  
with Pat Corn

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*a brief message of encouragement to make your day just a little bit brighter*

I can vividly remember the pride and honor that I felt in the first grade at Valley Hill Elementary School when I was asked to hold the little classroom flag as we learned to say the Pledge Of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. As I stood there with my feet together assuming an erect position of being "at attention", I held that little flag out as the other kids placed their hands over their hearts and said the pledge with me. What a source of pride that small amount of time, spent in respect to our country, gave every child who had the opportunity to assume that position of leadership that day.

When we went to the lunch room it was a position of honor to lead the prayer that we said before lunch....God is great....God is good....Let us thank him for our food..... Of course there were the kids who made up their own prayer to be funny, but there was never an intentional attempt to be irreverent, just an attempt to be funny. I can't remember a time as we sat there together that a care in the world ever bothered us. We were much more interested in making sure we slipped our Kalmia Dairy milk bottle tops into our pockets making sure we had all five for that week so we could get into the Carolina Theater on Saturday to see the cowboy movies and cartoons for free.

Oddly enough, I don't recall any of our classmates that turned out to be hardened criminals. In fact, we have all turned out to be pretty hard workers and positive influences on the communities in which we live. I don't recollect that these acts of respect and patriotism have scarred a single one of us.

I can remember how our little hearts were convicted when we recited the Ten Commandments together. Having another "God's before me" wasn't even a question. He was our God, the only God. But it constantly reminded us that He was in control and was acutely aware of everything we did or didn't do. "Thou shall not lie"...oh man, that one would get you if you didn't do your homework. "Thou shall not take the Lord's name in vain"...kept us from cussing. "Thou shall not steal"....kept us from forgetting to return a borrowed pencil or a library book. "Thou shall not bear false witness"....kept us from blaming others to save our own skin and accepting the responsibility for our own actions. " Thou shall not covet"....provided an attitude of thanksgiving for the successes and blessings received by others. It caused us to work harder and do more to achieve, yes earn, rights and privileges. We were never promised a handout. You were to earn your way in life. "Thou shall not kill"....who had even heard of abortion at that time?

Somehow, we all came through those times without being emotionally scarred or harmed in our psyche. Pledging allegiance to the flag, giving thanks at lunch, and reciting the Ten Commandments made us stronger, more principled individuals.

As I reflect on those days, I realize why I still tear-up at the playing of the Star Spangled Banner. I have a hard time watching movies about men giving their lives for our country.

It's been said that "If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything". How far are we willing to fall? We can turn things around in our country and communities. We don not have to accept anything that erodes the fabric of our heritage and faith. We Christians are majority.

The following is a poem written by Judge Roy Moore from Alabama. Judge Moore was sued by the ACLU for displaying the Ten Commandments in his courtroom foyer. He has been stripped of his judgeship & now they are trying to strip his right to practice law in Alabama. The judge's poem sums it up quite well.

America the Beautiful,  
or so you used to be.  
Land of the Pilgrims' pride;  
I'm glad they'll never see.

Babies piled in dumpsters,  
Abortion on demand,  
Oh, sweet land of liberty;  
your house is on the sand.

Our children wander aimlessly  
poisoned by cocaine,  
Choosing to indulge their lusts,  
when God has said abstain.

From sea to shining sea,  
our Nation turns away  
From the teaching of God's love  
and a need to always pray.

We've kept God in our temples,  
how callous we have grown.  
When earth is but His footstool,  
and Heaven is His throne.

We've voted in a government  
that's rotting at the core,  
Appointing Godless Judges  
who throw reason out the door,

Too soft to place a killer  
in a well deserved tomb,  
But brave enough to kill a baby  
before he leaves the womb.

You think that God's not angry,  
that our land's a moral slum?  
How much longer will He wait  
before His judgment comes?

How are we to face our God,  
from Whom we cannot hide?  
What then is left for us to do,  
but stem this evil tide?

If we who are His children,  
will humbly turn and pray;  
Seek His holy face  
and mend our evil way:

Then God will hear from Heaven  
and forgive us of our sins,  
He'll heal our sickly land  
and those who live within.

But, America the Beautiful,

if you don't - then you will see,  
A sad but Holy God  
withdraw His hand from Thee.

~Judge Roy Moore

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