



How is the great symbol fallen and cast down—the people with vision and virtue dragged to the materialistic dregs of decadence and the rape of everything virtuous and worthy, the "Christian" nation where God's Name is used as a general byword of filth. In the beginning, it was a people of quality, inspiration, courage, and faith who set sail with a hope: a dream of a new nation based on liberty, quality, and God. It was a dream carved out of the hard rocks of the wilderness, a frontier of hope crossed by those who believed in a new order: a people with the right to develop their human energies and individual personalities to the fullest positive extent without suppression in any form from the society or its government. A society built on a foundation of faith and morality will crumble under an erosion of filth and faithlessness. Our daughters have become the harlots of old London, scathed with the stench of seduction and uncleanness. Our leaders reek with unethical corruptness. Our faith has become a stale, pathetic, lifeless ritual of ceremony. Our "god" has become the clanging of cash registers. Our "free press" has become a pornographic four-color rape of man and womanhood. Our credo has become "compete with thy neighbor" instead of "love thy neighbor." Faith and virtue were the two most important ingredients in the mortar of our nation and without these, the structure sways, helplessly unsupported with the flooding of decadence and greed. Our heritage is not just a highball or a stock certificate. Many blunders and birth pangs have produced a strange, crumbling mutation of our new nation. Even now our foundations tremble to remind us of our precarious status—before 200 years, we have stagnated below the dregs of ancient Rome.

THE CHANGING OF VALUES

Did it all begin when a dollar meant more than a soul and when a pleasure meant more than a virtue? You sowed the seeds of corruption, and you are reaping a day of harvest. Your children are brought forth to the murderer. You have stood for pleasure and enjoyment and worldly success: Hedonism—enjoy at all costs. Now, this alien philosophy has stripped a Christian nation of her virtue. The mothers of a nation moan over their six-packs of beer and pain pills, lamenting over their children damned by drug addiction. "Mama, why do you drink?" The mother replies, "Because I enjoy it." The boy answers, "That's the same reason I shoot drugs." Truly our day of harvest has become a lamentation and mourning.

The quasi-intellectuals and head shrinks have helped erode the values and foundation of our nation. The pleasure loving hedonists have swathed an effective cut at the very heart of our character. The chief values of our nation have been twisted around opposite to their original ideal: To be "good"—is now to be repressed. To "hope"—is now too unrealistic. To have "faith"—is now too delusional. To "believe in

- God"-is totally mythical. To be "different"-is now considered abnormal. To "care"-is now a sign of weakness. To want to "help" is to have hidden guilt feelings. To "question anything"-is to challenge authority. To have "courage"-is now considered bold and pushy. So evil has been called good and good evil as the whole spiritual, moral, and intellectual climate of our country has been contaminated, thereby suppressing and changing the very foundations of America. Today, filth pours forth from our shores as we defile the nations with our immorality, pride, and monetary gain. We play the harlot for the world; we have sold ourselves to our enemies; yet none love us. Our affections are bought and the soiled lady of licentiousness shuffles even further backward
- while her enemies watch in amusement the fall of one so mighty.

Once the queenly lady of liberty, now she becomes the sordid, streetlady of greed—selling her wares and allegiances to the world at bargain prices. Marvel not that she finds so few volunteer protectors. Will one die for so un noble a cause? Are we to stand drenched in blood to protect a harlot? A eulogy to the beautiful lady who fell—selling her ideals and virtues to the highest bidder:

A PEOPLE OF COURAGE ... became a people of cowardice.
A PEOPLE OF UNDERSTANDING ... became a people of callousness.
A PEOPLE OF HOPE ... became a people of hardness.
A PEOPLE OF FAITH ... became a people of skeptics.
A PEOPLE OF LIBERTY ... used this as a license to sin.
A PEOPLE OF DETERMINATION ... became a people of pride.
A PEOPLE OF SHARING ... became a people of greed.
A PEOPLE OF VIRTUE ... became a people of depravity.

What future does she hold; what hope lies within the sordid breast of one so sordid? Where is the original faith and dream of America? Truly the torch has been handed to a new generation; and yet, without a return to God all our efforts will be in vain; for as our late President wrote, in a speech undelivered, stopped by bullets "We in this country, in this generation, are-by destiny rather than choice-the *watchmen on the walls* of world freedom. We ask, therefore, that we may be worthy of our power and responsibility-that we may exercise our strength with wisdom and restraint-and that we may achieve in our time and for all time the vision of peace on earth, good will toward men. That must always be our goal-and the righteousness of our cause must always underlie our strength. For as it was written long ago: "Except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain ... "

THE WORD OF RESTORATION

"In my mercy, I will deal with you. But do not grab for your coins as your foundations begin to crumble. Run and weep and lament and repent of your sins and I will hear. For my ways and my mercy go beyond your understanding. I can forgive when you would destroy. You cannot understand my divine mercy-only receive it. You will remember that I condescended to reach you, even in your polluted state; and my justice shall be established in your regard. Whether you will hear or whether you will forbear. My Word shall go forth: I shall reach out for the materialistic businessman who leans on the martini for strength-to the selfish matron who lives on extravagance—to the self-contained intellectual who prides himself in a carnal knowledge that cannot save, cannot heal, cannot satisfy.

I shall reach out to the sophisticated, immoral souls who cling to depravity for security, and to the brittle hearts of those in bondage to manmade religion, those drunken with the stench of a dead faith-to those who are twisted with

the fallacy that political systems can change the hearts of men—my love shall be extended to all—every nation, every kindred, every tongue, every age level. "The eyes that evil has had, God shall have; and the ears that evil has had, He shall have also. And on the same dimension and scope that corruption and evil has been brought forth in this time, so likewise shall the glory of God be revealed to you in your time."

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