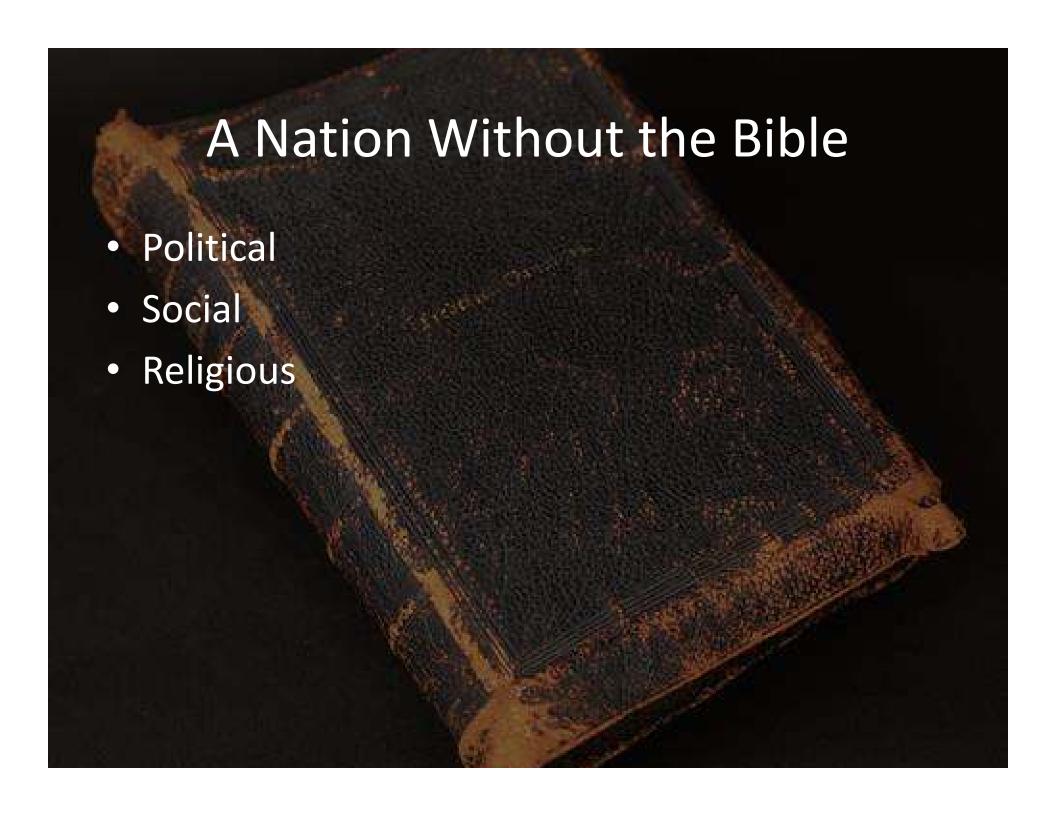
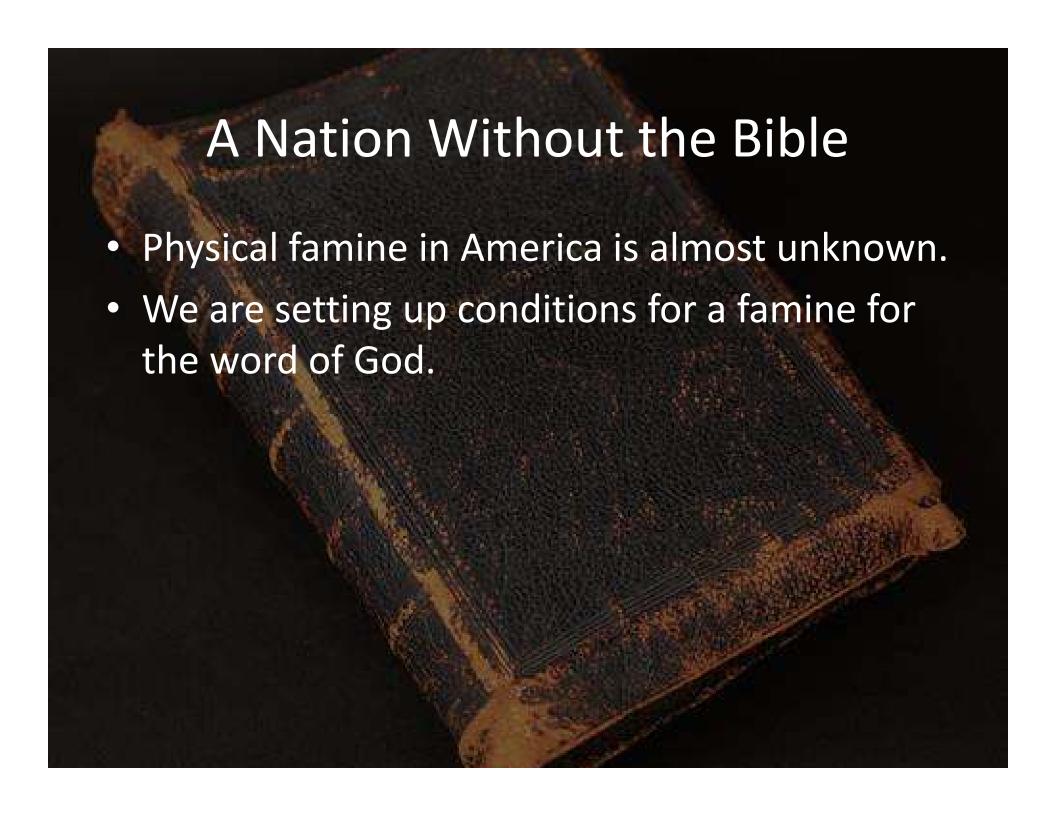


A Nation Without the Bible

2Chron. 15:1-6 - "Now the Spirit of God came upon Azariah the son of Oded. 2 And he went out to meet Asa, and said to him: 'Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin. The LORD is with you while you are with Him. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you. 3 For a long time Israel has been without the true God, without a teaching priest, and without law; 4 but when in their trouble they turned to the LORD God of Israel, and sought Him, He was found by them. 5 And in those times there was no peace to the one who went out, nor to the one who came in, but great turmoil was on all the inhabitants of the lands. 6 So nation was destroyed by nation, and city by city, for God troubled them with every adversity."





- John 8:32 "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."
- Did you know that it is impossible to enslave a Bible reading people?
- Wherever Bible reading is on the increase, freedom is on the increase. Wherever, Bible reading is in decline, freedom begins to diminish.

- The life built on the Bible stands
 - Luke 6:46-49 "But why do you call Me Lord, Lord," and do not do the things which I say? 47 Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like: 48 He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock. 49 But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great."

- Job 4:17-21 "Can a mortal be more righteous than God? Can a man be more pure than his Maker? 18 If He puts no trust in His servants, If He charges His angels with error, 19 How much more those who dwell in houses of clay, Whose foundation is in the dust, Who are crushed before a moth? 20 They are broken in pieces from morning till evening; They perish forever, with no one regarding. 21 Does not their own excellence go away? They die, even without wisdom."
- Prov. 14:34 "Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people."

- God's Word provides a solid foundation
 - Psalm 11:3 "If the foundations are destroyed, What can the righteous do?"
 - 1Cor. 3:10-11 "According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. 11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

 Eph. 2:19-21 - "Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord"

- Apart from the Bible, there are no absolute truths
- "Of all the major religions, or lack thereof, the atheist's is one of the best pretenders: his foundation for all existences, as well as moral behaviors for the permanent good of mankind, begins at science but ends at himself, the Napoleon complex of both intelligence and imagination." (Crissjami)
- Everything becomes relative or dependent on random circumstance.

- It's not possible to determine right or wrong
 - Psalm 119:11, 89, 101, 105, 130, 140 "Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You! 89 Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven. 101 I have restrained my feet from every evil way, That I may keep Your word. 105 Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path. 130 The entrance of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple. 140 Your word is very pure; Therefore Your servant loves it."

- Neglecting the Bible starves the soul, resulting in a more deadly famine than caused by a drought or flood
 - Psalm 119:28, 50, 74, 76, 81 "My soul melts from heaviness; Strengthen me according to Your word. 50 The proud have me in great derision, Yet I do not turn aside from Your law. 74 Those who fear You will be glad when they see me, Because I have hoped in Your word. 76 Let, I pray, Your merciful kindness be for my comfort, According to Your word to Your servant. 81 My soul faints for Your salvation, But I hope in Your word."

- Rom. 10:1-4, 17 "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. 2 For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. 3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. 4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. 17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."
- Heb. 5:12 "For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food."

- Faith comes by hearing the Bible
 - 1Peter 1:23 "Having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever"
 - James 1:18 "Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures"
 - 1John 3:9 "Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God."

- What can be done?
 - Psalm 2:10-12 "Now therefore, be wise, O kings; Be instructed, you judges of the earth. 11 Serve the LORD with fear, And rejoice with trembling. 12 Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, And you perish in the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him."

 Rom. 1:19-20 - "Because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse."

- "We hold these truths to be self-evident" (Declaration of Independence)
- "The God who gave us life gave us liberty. Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed a conviction that these liberties are the gift of God?" (Thomas Jefferson)
- "We are a religious people whose institutions presuppose a Supreme Being." (William Douglas, U.S. Supreme Court Justice, Zorach v. Clauson)

- In Romans 1, Paul gives the four step decline in the history of the nation that forgets God:
 - 1) A nation rejects God,
 - 2) it turns to false religion or bans religion,
 - 3) it becomes bogged down in immorality and violence,
 - 4) and then God judges it.
- Consequently, a nation without God is a nation has no future. (Allan Turner, Preceptor, May 13, 1990)

Eph. 6:10-18

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; 18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all saints"