

Righteousness exalteth a nation
but sin is a reproach
to any people
Proverbs

14134
Independence day } national P. day
celebrating

We only have to look down through
history's pages to see the truth of this text. When
Israel sinned she was let down when she
was righteous she was exalted

Other examples: Temple of Democracy

1. Egypt 2. Babylon, 3. Greece 4. Rome, 5. Ger-
many, 6. U.S.

Righteousness is a saving principle
and sin is a destructive principle. Now
it makes no difference whether it is a nation, a
state, a community, a town, or a person
sin will ruin and righteousness will save.

Our thoughts as Americans as we approach
the fourth of July should turn to the great principles
on which our nation was founded and to the
even greater thoughts of Christ concerning us
to-day as the Spirit has guided us into deeper
interpretation of the truth in our national
fourth of July.

What do I mean? I mean this, we were
started out as a X-m nation but at the same
time we were wholly American in our
outlook. Our teaching in the schools was
wholly in the direction of an America super-
lative. That much I am sure. I can see any
other country with one hand tied behind
him no American boy was allowed to
doubt.

But the Spirit of God has been working
and interpreting in a fuller way Christ's
thoughts regarding us. There is a new
patriotism springing up in the heart
of Columbia. Evolution of national ideals

Two qualities have marked Americans from first Colonial pioneers

1. Self reliance { our fathers had to do this
2. God-reliance { the pilgrim fathers would hardly have come alone or self-reliant but faith in God brought them

There is a danger in self reliance of our becoming self centered. This we have done to some extent. "America first" we have said. The Church usually falls in and fosters the war of its country.

The new note that is beginning to be sounded is glorious to hear. We are the "Big brother" instead of assuming that America has been in herself the objective of all Providence preceding her emergence upon the field of history. We are asking ourselves what service Providence had in mind for us to render to Christianity when humanity when she was cast out of European despotism and planted in the promised land of liberty.

In other words our point of view has shifted from self seeking to self giving.

This must be our goal, and we have real duties in building our nation up to that standard.

We must be righteous.

During perilous times in ancient Rome there were two aspirants for the throne, Constantine, a professed Christian, and Maxentius, a fierce fanatical pagan. The conflict appeared to be between Christianity and Paganism, between Christ and the devil. Constantine relates that about noon, when in prayer, on his march, a flaming cross appeared in the sky, with the words, "In This Sign Conquer." He then displayed the standard of the cross in his army and fought in the name of Christ, and was victorious. So, too, our beloved nation must exalt the cross, must resist evil and cleave to the good, in the name of Christ. In his name we shall conquer and reach the highest and holiest destiny. In Christ's name, in the sign of the cross, we shall be ever victorious. It is the duty of an American citizen to recognize the God of nations who has given us our "goodly heritage," and to exalt the banner of true Christianity.

We must obey and engross the values of the land.

We must note and note for the man who will do right. Away with your sneaking politics