

Taking It Home:

- Pastor Paul talked by the renewal of America which could lead to revival. He used 3 separate Scriptures to demonstrate what must be done by Americans to reverse the course of this nation's rejection of God: (1) 2 Chronicles 7:14; (2) Micah 6:8; (3) Matthew 22:37-39. Please read those Scriptures and interpret them in your own words. What do these Scriptures personally mean to you?

- After careful heart examination, what can you personally do to **renew** your commitment to Jesus Christ? Has the secular American culture subtly crept into your life causing you to slip in your daily faith? Obedience of God? Love for God instead of love of the world? **READ and interpret: Matthew 6:19; 24; James 4:4; 1 John 2:15-19**

- What America needs is the renewal of every Christian in America. When the body of Christ (the Church) is truly living for Jesus and being ambassadors for the kingdom of God, then God will do an amazing work in the nation. Please pray for the renewal of the Church so we can see a revival in America! **READ Matthew 21:22; 1 Thess. 5:16-18; Eph. 6:18; 1 John 5:14-15.**

Recommended Resources:

- *The Harbinger* by Jonathan Cahn
- *The Isaiah 9:10 Judgment* by Jonathan Cahn

Will History Repeat Itself?

Isaiah 5:8-25

Pastor Paul Bond

Bethel Church

December 1, 2013

Will History Repeat Itself?

Notes:

Growth Group Homework

For the week of December 1, 2013

Isaiah 5:8-25

Quick Review: God gave the Prophet Isaiah a vivid image of the sinful condition of the nation of Judah in Isaiah chapters 1 through 5. Though the nation of Judah was being led by a godly king, Uzziah, the nation had severely lapsed into a state of spiritual and moral decline. Judah had experienced 52 years of godly rule by King Uzziah, which was experienced through wealth, prominence, and military power in the Middle East region. Judah was at its apex of status and power, but because of the 52 years of peace and prosperity, they had neglected to worship God! The Judeans had become arrogant and self-sufficient and no longer sought after God. God shares with His prophet Isaiah His six indictments against Judah. America has been following the same pattern as Judah. Will America fail to learn from history and thus be disciplined by God? Or will America learn from history and turn back to God and restore the broken relationship through repentance and seeking forgiveness?

My Story:

- Think back 5 years, 10 years, or even 20 years; how has America changed? Has the obvious changes in American culture and lifestyle been good or bad? Write down your reflections and discuss with your group.
- Do a personal reflection of your life over the past 5 to 20 years; in what ways have you changed (intrinsically)? Has the secular American culture infiltrated your life, home, values? Write down your thoughts.
- The book by George Barna, “The Frog in the Kettle,” was written to warn Americans of subtle changes that over time can result in catastrophe. Slight changes appear harmless but over time they lead to disaster; this is what happened to Judah during the time of the Prophet Isaiah. Change (adaptation) can be very subtle; sometimes it is difficult to instantly notice how the culture has changed us or the church in America. Examine your heart and reflect on whether any subtle changes have influenced your actions or thinking or the church in America. In what way has the church changed for the worst or the better in America?

Growing Deeper:

- How many kings did the Northern Kingdom of Israel have after the United Kingdom divided in 931 B.C. and became the two nations, Israel and Judah? How many of the kings of the Northern Kingdom were godly? What ultimately happened to the Northern Kingdom of Israel in 722 B.C.; who conquered them and why? (**Cf. 1 and 2 Kings**) What did Pastor Paul mean by the ten “missing” tribes of Israel?
- How many kings and queens did the Southern Kingdom of Judah have during their existence 931 B.C. to 586 B.C.? How many of their kings and queens were godly? What ultimately happened to the Southern kingdom of Judah; who conquered them and why? (Cf. 1 and 2 Kings)
- What was the moral, spiritual, and economic climate in Judah at the time Isaiah reflected on the Scriptures of Isaiah chapters 1 through 5? What were some the reasons Pastor Paul shared with us about why the Judean people departed from worshipping and obeying God? (**Isaiah 5:8-25; Matt. 6:22; Luke 11:34-35**)
- The six indictments (woes) given by God to the nation of Judah were absolutely true and correct. The 6 woes were indictments against the “bad fruit” the nation had been producing as they continued departing from spiritual truth thus causing them to abandon worshipping God. Evaluate each of the 6 woes and write a brief interpretation in your own words. Evaluate each of the 6 woes; in what way has America followed the history of Judah in replicating these very same offenses? Should America be concerned?
 - Woe #1 – 5:8-10
 - Woe #2 – 5:11-17
 - Woe #3 – 5:18-19
 - Woe #4 – 5:20
 - Woe #5 – 5:21
 - Woe #6 – 5:22
- What was George Washington’s biblical proclamation concerning the United States of America during his inauguration in 1789? Where was the inauguration held? Where did America’s first Congressional prayer meeting happen in 1789? Why is it extremely important for America to worship Jesus Christ alone, and no other gods?
- Why do you believe people in America have attempted to continually push God out of our everyday life, culture and society? Does it seem to you that much of mainstream America is attempting to silence Christians and the name of Jesus? Is this dangerous? Discuss.