

# PARK HEIGHTS CHURCH OF CHRIST

1300 E. Boynton St. • Hamilton • [www.parkheightscoc.com](http://www.parkheightscoc.com)

*Thus Saith the Lord*

## **GOD'S COUNTRY**

By Jeff Sweeten

One of the greatest dangers of a full stomach is forgetting from whence it came and the hands that prepared it. God warned Israel, as they moved into houses they did not build and reaped from crops they did not plant, *"lest, when you have eaten and are full... then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God"* (Deuteronomy 8:13-14). They did!

We live in God's country, literally, and enjoy freedoms that we dare not take for granted. We have freedom in this country and the right to have a voice in governing powers, even when these same leaders seem to ignore us. We have the right and privilege to congregate to worship and praise God without fear of being persecuted, in spite of persistent attacks on the name of Jesus, the Son of God. We have the right and honor to serve our country to keep liberty alive, no matter what radical fringe tries to undermine it. Many countries around the globe do not have prerogative of self-determination.

Nevertheless, it is God Who sustains us (and any country), *"For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God"* (Romans 13:1). If we are to continue in the freedoms we enjoy, we must never forget that our country was founded upon the truth that we are "endowed by (our) Creator" with the source of all that is good in government. The further a government (or it's people) gets from God, the more unjust (Isaiah 59:14), the more oppressive (Jeremiah 7:5-6) and the more predatory it becomes (Malachi 3:5). As our country continues its long downward descent (the path many great empires of eons past have travelled), we are seeing these things come to fruition in what was once "One Nation under God."

We cannot live like the devil and expect God's blessings. Gratitude and humility are the characteristics of a godly nation and Christians must lead the way, in example and in word. If we live righteously (rejecting sin) and let our voice be heard (from polls to pulpit) we can turn this path to perdition onto the way of wisdom (Proverbs 1:7) and reclaim a once-great nation. *Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people"* (Proverbs 14:34). We must not allow our country to forget God.

**JOIN US ON SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY!**

**SUNDAY: 9:30 a.m. Bible Class • 10:25 a.m. Morning Worship • 1:30 p.m. Afternoon Worship**

**WEDNESDAY: 7:00 p.m. Bible Study • Contact the minister at 254-370-4130**