

# "I HOPE YOU HAVE AN UMBRELLA"

By Bobby Blanton

No nation in the modern world has seen the hand of God so directly affect its course like America. From the time of her inception, our national identity has been one deeply rooted under the sovereignty of God. As America would begin to follow the ways of God, she would become the most blessed nation on earth.

But over time we began to drive God out of His rightful place, and the nation that had been born and blessed as a vessel for His purposes, has now been transformed into something very different. A nation that once knew the ways of God now rejects those ways, and the most powerful nation on earth is now at war with God. What started as a small crack in the foundation is now much deeper and wider and is setting the stage for national judgment.

Let's get real for a moment.



If America continues on its present course, then there is one "Almighty" shaking coming to a town near you, and coming sooner than most are willing to believe! Have you looked at the weather lately? The black clouds gathering on the horizon are signs of an approaching storm and the Lord wants us to open up our eyes. More on that in a minute.

We are without excuse and have all been divinely warned with a prophetic message that told us to be ready as...*"we begin to see these things happening, recognize that He's near, right at the door."* Mark 13: 29.

Folk's those latter days that the ancient prophets spoke about, they've arrived and it's late!...*"The time has come for judgment, and it must begin with God's household. And if judgment begins*

*with us, what terrible fate awaits those who do not obey the gospel of God?"* 1 Peter 4:17.

This week our families have gathered for Thanksgiving celebrations, and the one thing most noticeably missing from the celebration and indeed our culture, is the One to whom we give thanks. Black Friday is now the most exciting event of the week, Wow!

Our founding fathers believed that, as individuals and as a nation, we should give thanks to our Creator and acknowledge that He alone was the source of our blessings. The Psalmist agreed and wrote...*"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord."* Psalm 33:12.

Today, we see that this truth is downplayed and even downright ignored. Storm Alert: Removing God from our identity as a nation is a tragic deception and done at our own peril!

Consider what the prophet Daniel said...*"God controls the course of world events; He removes kings and sets up other kings."* Daniel 2:21 and what Isaiah recorded...*"The nation or kingdom that will not serve You will perish; it will be utterly ruined."* Isaiah 60:12.

Do you believe that? I do, and ask, how much longer do you really think the leaders and people of this land can get away with mocking God? Answer, they won't, and boy oh boy, have they been mocking Him big time!...

"Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows." Galatians 6: 7..."*And I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.*" Matthew 12:36-37.

We are now reaping what we've been sowing and clearly what we are watching is the removal of blessings and unrivaled prosperity that has made America the beacon light for an entire world. But no nation can defy the ways and will of God and expect those blessings to continue...

*"The Lord is slow to get angry, but His power is great, and He never lets the guilty go unpunished. He displays His power in the whirlwind and the storm. The billowing clouds are the dust beneath His feet."* Nahum 1:3.  
Now that's a biblical size storm warning!

This country has turned up the volume and reached a new level in it's spiritual and moral descent, and the wickedness and transgressions are moving a patient and merciful God to lift His hedge of protection.

The news and imagery of anarchy unfolding in Ferguson, Missouri is shocking. The normality of rule of law and order has given way to a wave of violent racial hatred, rebellion, lawlessness and the burning of a city. Like a firestorm, other protests and demonstrations have ignited in cities all across this country. The testimony of a culture that is doing everything in its power to mock, attack, and deny the veracity of God's Word is being played out live for all to see. The spirit of defiance has hit a fever pitch and America is now in a tailspin and you can't miss it!

So what in the world is going on? We weren't left to speculate about where this is all headed. The Bible gives us the details about the dangers we would face, so let's take a look...

*"You should know this, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control. They will be cruel and hate what is good. They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. Stay away from people like that!"* 2 Timothy 3: 1-5.

That Word picture speaks volumes, and if that describes you or someone you know, then you had better get some identity-theft protection, and fast, His name is Jesus and He's free!

When the President of the United States, Barack Obama tells the world, "we do not consider ourselves a Christian nation", from Cairo, "I have come here to to seek a new beginning between the United States and Muslims around the world", "the Muslim call to prayer is one of the prettiest sounds on Earth at sunset", "I applaud the Supreme Court's decision to strike down the Defense of Marriage Act", to the LGBT community "We're on the right side of history", to Israel, "America does not accept the legitimacy of continued Israeli settlements", and the list goes on and on, Benghazi, Syria, Iran, illegal amnesty, and now Ferguson, you know that we are in the eye of a hurricane!

Let's wrap this up! A Word to Jeremiah from the Lord..."*O Israel, can I not do to you as this potter has done to his clay? As the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand. If I announce that a certain nation or kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down, and destroyed, but then that nation renounces its evil ways, I will not destroy it as I had planned. And if I announce that I will plant and build up a certain nation or kingdom, but then that nation turns to evil and refuses to obey me, I will not bless it as I said I would.* Jeremiah 18: 5-10.

The message is simple but clear: "*Repent and turn to God, or He will punish.*"

Now back to the weather, Jesus is giving this evening's forecast..."*When you see clouds beginning to form in the west, you say, 'Here comes a shower.' And you are right. When the south wind blows, you say, 'Today will be a*

*scorcher.' And it is. You fools! You know how to interpret the weather signs of the earth and sky, but you don't know how to interpret the present times."* Luke 12:54-56.

***An umbrella will not be sufficient, seek shelter immediately!***

"Those who live in the shelter of the Most High  
will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty.  
This I declare about the Lord:  
He alone is my refuge, my place of safety;  
he is my God, and I trust him.  
For he will rescue you from every trap  
and protect you from deadly disease.  
He will cover you with his feathers.  
He will shelter you with his wings.  
His faithful promises are your armor and protection.  
Do not be afraid of the terrors of the night,  
nor the arrow that flies in the day.  
Do not dread the disease that stalks in darkness,  
nor the disaster that strikes at midday.  
Though a thousand fall at your side,  
though ten thousand are dying around you,  
these evils will not touch you.  
Just open your eyes,  
and see how the wicked are punished.  
If you make the Lord your refuge,  
if you make the Most High your shelter,  
no evil will conquer you;  
no plague will come near your home.  
For he will order his angels  
to protect you wherever you go.  
They will hold you up with their hands  
so you won't even hurt your foot on a stone.  
You will trample upon lions and cobras;  
you will crush fierce lions and serpents under your feet!  
The Lord says, "I will rescue those who love me.  
I will protect those who trust in my name.  
When they call on me, I will answer;  
I will be with them in trouble.  
I will rescue and honor them.  
I will reward them with a long life  
and give them my salvation."  
Psalm 91

God Bless,

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