

The Springfield Redeemer



The Newsletter of Redemption Gate Mission Society

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“The Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.” 2 Cor. 3:17

Independence in the 21st Century by Roberta D’Amico

What is happening to our America in these early years of the 21st Century? Violence is drastically increasing. Immorality and sexual promiscuity is not just accepted, but a person can hardly get away with opposing it. Defending the lives of unborn babies and biblical marriage are considered criminal. Even our educational system is turning our children against their traditional family values. Our society’s response to these problems seems to be to pass more laws against defending one’s self, one’s beliefs, and one’s family. As we see all this chaos day after day on the nightly news, some people turn away from God, blaming Him for what is happening. The Name of Jesus is not allowed in school, in government buildings, and increasingly, what the Bible says is right and wrong are reversed.

It wasn’t always this way. What is now America was once a colony of Great Britain. Great Britain wanted to own us and rule us and impose taxes without any input from us here in the New World. As we all know, the colonists who lived here objected to this arrangement, and so there was a war and we became our own free independent country. For 200 years we prospered and grew and became a world leader. Other countries sent ambassadors here to find out what made America great. They went back home with some interesting ideas.

These ideas revolved around freedom, rights, and God. What kind of government did we create here in the New World? We had no king to impose his desires on us. We had a government that was designed to rule by the consent of the people. First one ever! Furthermore, it declared that human rights, like life, were God-given, not bestowed by the government, and therefore could not be taken away by judicial fiat. Independence worked for them, because although

people were not under the control of kings, military, or tyrants, but were making their own laws, they were, by their own choice, under the authority of Almighty God.

They were not perfect, but on the whole, people believed in a God who would hold them accountable for their actions. Our first President, George Washington, said “It is impossible to rightly govern a nation without God and the Bible.” He was followed by John Adams who said, “Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.” For a long time, people considered godliness a necessary attribute for public office. We have come a long way down from our beginnings.

Today, many look at “independence” the way I did



when I was 17. I was going to do whatever I wanted to do, and no one was going to tell me what to do. The problem with this is that it does not take into account our human

nature. Ever since Adam and Eve, we are born to sin, and evil lurks in the hearts of the best of us. If there is no king to rule, and government is run by the people, and these people bow to no authority except their own desires, there is a problem.

Only God has the wisdom to guide a nation, as our founding fathers clearly stated. But what have we done? Banned God from public schools. Made any “religion” equal to Christianity. We are no longer a Christian nation. Many people believe we ought not to be a Christian nation. The Name of Jesus is not allowed

to be spoken in public places. The Ten Commandments are removed from view. A whole generation of children has grown up with little to no concept of God, Jesus, and the Bible. By removing God and His Word from society, we are left with chaos.

What is freedom, anyway? The answer is in the Bible, the book of John, chapter 8, "You shall know the

Truth, and the Truth shall make you free." Jesus stated that He is the truth, and He "shall make you free." Not free to do whatever you want, but free to do what is right. Free to say no to selfish desires, lies, corruption. What this country needs is not more laws, but more Jesus.

DON'T MISS IT! Family Day August 13

Family Day is happening at Magazine Park on August 13, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This free event is an opportunity to minister to inner-city families who need a chance to enjoy a day at the park.

Family Day focuses on encouraging families to come and have lunch, enjoy the bounce house, Basketball tournament, face painting, special music, and other activities like getting Family Portraits. In addition, we will offer bible Stories, the making of Gospel

bracelets and we hope to do Baptisms for new Christians as we have in past years.

Family Day is sponsored by Redemption Gate Mission Society and United Temple C.O.G.I.C., but we also need your help. It is not too late to volunteer to help or send a special donation to help defray the cost of this outreach. For your convenience, please use the enclosed contribution slip to make your contribution for Family Day expenses.



Music Nights at Holy Grounds Coffee House

Music: God's gift to us in His garden of creativity. Music feeds the soul, brings us joy, helps us through hard times, creates fellowship and unity amongst believers, ushers in the Spirit, and cleanses the atmosphere. Music has a beautiful way of seeping into lives to open hearts with a message of hope and healing!

At Holy Grounds Coffee House we see God doing just that! 2nd Saturday of the month is TBA. Matt Walker of Small Names Ministries hosts a Band Night, bringing to the Coffee House Christian music artists from around New England and those who desire to glorify God with their music gift! Every 4th Saturday of each month I host an Open Mic Night! There is a steady growth of people coming out for these events. Some come out to share their talents, others for the fellowship and to hear some great music, sing along, and enjoy some delicious snacks including coffee, or tea.

Both Open Mic and Band Night are blessed times. If you have the desire to glorify God with your talents come out and join us! All are welcome. Between music sets feel free to give a testimony or a short Bible reading. Door opens at 6:30 p.m. Feel free to bring a snack to share! For more information contact me, Cat Marvici, 413-233-7242 or email lvsongs2u@gmail.com.

Upcoming Music Events schedule is as follows:

August 13th Band Night
August 27th Open Mic Night

September 10th Band Night
September 24th Open Mic Night

For more Information call 413-301-0918

Ongoing Events:

SUNDAY SERVICES 10 a.m., 2 p.m.
MON thru FRI BIBLE STUDY 7:30 a.m.
WED BIBLE STUDY 4:30 p.m. & RECOVERY 6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY Women's Bible Study 1:00 p.m.
SATURDAY Sabbath 9 a.m. -12 noon
1ST, 3RD SAT MONTHLY MARRIAGE SEMINAR 4 p.m.
SATURDAY LUNCH on vacation 'til September!

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