

'Oh Say, Can You See?'

By Pastor Bill Hayden

3/7/2024

When I ask you, "Oh say, can you see?" I'm not asking you to join me in the singing of "The Star Spangled Banner." I'm asking if you are witnessing the change in our moral integrity as a nation.

It is considered a character assassination when a person says anything about another individual that isn't true. No one should be able to walk into a business, take something they want, and walk away without paying. It may seem as if some people live without restraints, as we stand by helplessly, allowing others to do as they please. In the past, we held people to a higher standard by respecting others and their property.

Freedom is a blessing until that freedom is misused by those who take it for granted and violate the rights of others without thinking of the consequences or accountability. Allowing people to do and say whatever enters their hearts is terrifying, which jeopardizes the freedoms of all of us. Failure of those in authority to act and keep boundaries may create a lawless society and cause the downfall of a nation.

When you observe people worldwide, there is a central theme: People want love, acceptance, appreciation, and forgiveness when they repent. Regardless of age, religion, sex, ethnicity, culture, education or lack thereof, the desire is the same...to live in peace. If you know these things, the power of wisdom is within your grasp to reciprocate each other's needs with integrity. You can have a life-changing impact on a person forever by the grace you extend to them.

With our relationship with Christ, knowing we are getting closer to His return is encouraging. Therefore, we will continue to prepare ourselves to live with Him eternally as we share His love and forgiveness with all people.

1 Peter 1:3-5 NIV 3 *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil, or fade. This inheritance is kept in*

heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

Celebrate with us at the Villages community Chapel in Cribari Auditorium every Sunday at 10 a.m. to be encouraged over the Word of Life, and enjoy a cup of coffee and cookies with friends. The Chapel is a place for *needs to be met, faith to be affirmed, and new friends to embrace.* You can view our worship services on YouTube at Villages Community Chapel San Jose, CA or at villagescommunitychapel.vgcc.club