

*America!
Happy 250th Birthday!*

**THE BELLS OF LIBERTY BEGAN IN THE
HEART OF GOD!**

Is this even important? Is it important that we have existed as a nation for 250 years?

I. FREEDOM & LIBERTY CAME FROM THE HEART OF GOD:

A. IN THE BEGINNING: (Gen. 2:16; Gen. 1:28; Gen. 2:24-25)

1. Man was free in his earthly home to enjoy all that God had provided for him. (Genesis 2:16)
2. God intended and commanded man and woman to be fruitful in their lives and their purpose. (Genesis 1:28)
3. God created freedom in the family for each person to be uniquely themselves and fully accepted and loved. (Genesis 2:24-25)

B. AMONG THE NATION OF ISRAEL: (Leviticus 25:8=17)

1. The YEAR OF JUBILEE occurred every 50 years. In that time the land rested and the people rested from planting.
2. Slaves were released and allowed to go back to their families
3. Land that had been sold to pay debt was allowed to be bought back...based on the number of years it had been gone.

What does this have to do with America? What did the founders of this nation understand that we need to be reminded of today?

C. FREEDOM BEGINS WITH TRUTH: (John 8:31-32)

1. Before a nation can think and live as a free people, they must know the truth of who God is and who HE has made them to be.
2. IF YOU DON'T KNOW THAT GOD CREATED YOU UNIQUELY...to live in relationship with Him...you will settle to be a slave to sin or a slave to someone else because you will believe that is all you deserve.
3. IF YOU DON'T KNOW THAT GOD HAS CREATED YOU FOR PURPOSE...you will be content to live in doubt and fear. You will be content to live without joy and hope.
4. BUT....something happens in your heart when you begin to grab the truth...even in our sin...Jesus came to die for us!