

A Christian Patriot, More or Less?

Jeremiah 29:4-7; Philippians 3:12-21; Matthew 10:24-33

There are a number of things lately that have made me think, “*I’m proud to be an American.*” At the same time, our country can really be a _____ at times! So, I’ve been asking myself some questions lately, like, “*Can a Christian be a _____?*” Or better, “*Does being a Christian make a person MORE patriotic or LESS?*”

See, there are 2 kinds of “_____.” One says, “*I did a _____ job and value my worth.*” Another says, “*I’m _____ than everyone else and above criticism.*” So, American pride or patriotism can’t be unambiguously good. Neither one is completely _____ on its own.

First and foremost, “*Every good and perfect _____ is from above...*” (Jam 1:17) If we enjoy the blessings, freedoms and prosperity we have, we must give credit to GOD. (Deut 8:11-20) “*God shed his grace on thee...*”

To say there is nothing good about America is to contradict the _____ who has sustained it for 250 years.

To say there is nothing bad about America is to believe this is “as good as it gets” and to _____ God’s Word.

So, I believe being a Christian Patriot makes someone _____ MORE “patriotic” and LESS “patriotic”.

Being a Christian makes us:

MORE “patriotic” because we know where our _____ really come from.

MORE “patriotic” because we are to seek the well being of our _____. (Jer 29)

MORE “patriotic” because we are called to honor those in _____ over us. (Rom 13:1-7)

MORE “patriotic” because we pray for our leaders that the _____ may spread. (1 Tim 2:1-7)

LESS “patriotic” because we are _____ of another, greater kingdom (Matt 10:24-33, Rev. 21:1-4)

LESS “patriotic” because, “*We must _____ God rather than men.*” (Acts 5:29)

LESS “patriotic” because we called to live a life of, “*...speaking the _____ in love...*” (Eph 4:15)

LESS “patriotic” because we are called by God, not to evangelize for America, but for _____. (Acts 1:8)

My prayer is for another 250 years of peace and prosperity for America, and the world...if Christ does not _____ first.

Until then, we are called not simply to be beneficiaries of God’s blessings through America, but _____
TO this historic nation’s greatness and continued _____. Share the Gospel. Teach God’s Word.

How is the Holy Spirit leading you to rethink patriotism today?

How is the Holy Spirit leading you to be LESS “patriotic” in the worlds eyes?

How is the Holy Spirit leading you to be MORE “patriotic”?

What are you going to do about it?