

Where is Hope for Haiti?

I. The Hope for Haiti is in Truth about God

1. God is Love

1Jn 4:7-8 “Beloved, let us love one another; for **love is of God**; and every one that loves is born of God & knows God. He that loves not knows not God, for **God is love.**”

2. God cannot Lie

Tit 1:2 “In hope of eternal life, which God **that cannot lie**; promised before the world began.”

3. God changes not

Mal 3:6 “For I am the LORD, **I change not**: therefore the sons of Jacob are not consumed.”

4. God is sovereign

Dan 2:20-21 Daniel: “Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom & might are His: And He changes the times & the seasons: **He removes kings & He sets kings up**: He gives wisdom to the wise & knowledge to them that know understanding.”

1Kings 8:39 “..for You (God) only, **know the hearts of all the children of men.**”

Jer 31:10 “Hear the Word of the LORD, O you nations & declare it to the isles afar off & say, He that scatters Israel will gather him & keep him as a shepherd does his flock.”

5. God has no respect of persons

Rom 2:6-11 “Who will render to every man according to his deeds: To them who by patient continuance in well-doing seek for glory & honor & immortality, eternal life. But unto them that are contentious, & do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation & wrath, Tribulation & anguish, upon every soul of man that does evil, of the Jew first & also of the Gentile. But glory, honor & peace to every man that works good, to the Jew first & also to the Gentile. **For there is no respect of persons with God.**

6. God sent Jesus to be a light to the Gentiles as well as to the Jews

Acts 13:47 “I have set you to be a light of the Gentiles, for salvation to the ends of the earth.”

7. A Call to Praise: Psalm 145

Ps 145:1-8 v-1 “I will praise you O God, O King; I will bless your name forever and ever.

v-2 Every day will I bless you; and I will praise your name for ever and ever.

v-3 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; and His greatness is beyond understanding.

v-4 One generation shall praise your works to another and shall declare your mighty acts.

v-9 **The LORD is good to all**: His tender mercies are over all His works.

v-10 All your works shall praise you, O LORD and your saints shall bless You.

v-12 To make known to the sons of men His mighty acts and the glorious majesty of His Kingdom.

v-13 Your kingdom is an everlasting Kingdom and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

8. There is hope for Haiti in God if they will seek Him with their whole heart

1Chro 28:9 “..for the LORD searches all hearts & understands all the imaginations of the thoughts: If you **seek Him, He will be found of you**; but if you forsake Him, He will cast you off forever.” 2Chro 7:14.

Isa 40:28-31 “Have you not known? Have you not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, faints not, neither is weary? There is no searching of His understanding. He that gives power to the faint & to them that have no might He increases strength. Even the youths shall faint & be weary & the young men shall utterly fall: But **they that wait on the LORD shall renew their strength**: They shall mount up with wings of eagles; They shall run & not be weary; & they shall walk & not faint.”

Ps 127:1 “Except the LORD build the house, they labor in vain that build it.

Ps 128:1 “Blessed is everyone that fears the LORD, that walks in His ways.”

I. Because of Who God is, There is Hope for Haiti

Where is the Hope for Haiti?

Prov 29:18 “Where there is no vision the people perish, but he that keeps the law happy is he.”

II A Look at Lack of Blessings in the History of Haiti: A Nation that didn't Seek God

Notes from *Haiti: Past, Present & Future: Where is the Hope* by Jacmel Ministries

1. Haiti was once a Caribbean paradise.

Gen 1:31 “God saw all he had made and it was very good.”

But in Haiti in 1492, with the arrival of the Spanish, & later the French, the Taino Indians were wiped out by disease, war & abuse by the Europeans. Because they needed laborers to mine the gold & work the plantations, the French brought slaves there from Africa.

Point 1: Haiti teaches that a new frontier is a test of vision & stewardship to see the bigger picture.

2. The people (slaves) of Haiti fought for Independence achieved in 1804.

Isaiah 66:2 “My hands have made both heaven & earth and they are Mine.” I the LORD have spoken.”

(It was not the one true living God they turned to for victory from slavery, but voodoo gods.)

Haiti wanted freedom, only God could give, but leaders were consumed with greed & lust for power.

Point 2: Haiti teaches us that a war fueled by greed results in death, not peace, cooperation & God's will.

3. They were isolated & alone with their own Haitian Creole language & Haitian voodoo worship of idols & satanic rituals.

Jer 16:11-12 “Because your fathers have forsaken Me, said the Lord, walked after other gods, served them, worshiped them & have not kept My Law. You have done worse.. and don't respond to Me.”

Gal 5:20 “Idolatry, witchcraft, strife, heresies: they which do these things shall not inherit the kingdom.”

Point 3. Haiti teaches us that man's limited vision for self leads to taking advantage or exploitation of others. **But God's inspired vision frees leaders to rule according to his perfect will of humble concern for others.** 1Pet 5:5-6 “God resists the proud & gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time.”

4. Result: Devastating Famine: A Spiritual emptiness.

Amos 8:11 “Behold the days come, says the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread nor of thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD.”

Their minds were in darkness. Only by turning to God could Haiti be blessed & prosperous. But..

Deut 32:17 “They sacrificed to devils, not to God.. God said, “I will hide My face from them.”

Haitian leaders depended on ungodly spirits for leadership. Spiritual poverty leads to physical poverty.

* Not one leader has been able to break the yoke of poverty that threatened the people.

1 Cor 10:20-22 “But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, & not to God: & I would not that you should have fellowship with devils. You can not drink the cup of the Lord, & the cup of devils: you cannot be partakers of the Lord's table & of the table of devils. Do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than He?”

Point 4: Haiti teaches us that we can serve only one Master: sin unto death or **God in holiness who gives you salvation from the penalty of sin by faith in Jesus Christ, a love for others & His righteousness before God.** Mat 6:24 “No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one & love the other; or else he will hold to the one & despise the other. You can not serve God and mammon.”

9. A nation that turns from the One True Living God cannot prosper.

5. Without God, hope was lost! Dreams unfulfilled. People must come to God & turn from Satan's darkness.

Eph 2:1-2 "You He made alive who were dead in trespasses & sins; for you walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air (the devil)."

Col 1:13 "(Christ) who has delivered us from the power of darkness (the devil) and has transferred us into the kingdom of His dear Son."

Point 5: Haiti teaches us that God's purpose is not for a few to gain for themselves but many seeking Him

6. Haiti's New Generation: An Educated young people with a vision for the Future.

They need spiritual guidance. We have a responsibility to pass our faith to them.

Ps 71:18 "Even when I am old & gray, do not forsake me, O God, til I declare your power to the next generation."

Eccl 12:1 "Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil day comes, nor the years draw near, when you shall say, I have no pleasure in them."

Rom 1:16 "For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believes to the Jew first & also to the Greek."

Acts 1:8 "But you shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you & you shall be witnesses unto Me.

Rom 12:1-2 "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice unto God, which is your reasonable service. Be not conformed to this world: but be you transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good & perfect will of God."

Point 6: Haiti teaches us that receiving God's truth & renewing the mind is vital vs way of godlessness.

7. Hope Renewed. Bold Dreams forming.

Jer 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you not to harm you, plans to give you hope & a future." Ps 1:1-3 "Blessed is the man that walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD & in His law dies he meditate day & night. He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water that brings forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; whatever he does shall prosper." John 14:6 "Jesus says, I am the way, the truth & the life: no man comes unto the Father but by Me." John 3:19 "And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world & men loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil."

Hunger, poverty, lack of jobs, loss of natural resources & need for an honest competent government are challenges for Haiti but there are solutions in a right relationship with God in all areas of life.

Point 7. Haiti teaches that faith in God enables the new generation to see thru problems to the solution.

Mat 9:36-38 Jesus saw the problem: "When He saw the multitudes & was moved with compassion for them because they were weary, scattered abroad like sheep with no shepherd. He prayed for the Lord to bring forth laborers to His harvest." Jesus became the solution:

Heb 12:2 "...For the joy that was set before Him, He endured the cross, despising the shame.."

Haiti too, has a choice: look at the problem or to be part of the solution:

- * The future of Haiti depends on you: a generation of young people seeking God, destined to be leaders.
- * Find your faith in God by grace through faith in Jesus Christ and be a good follower of Jesus Christ.
- * Pray for God's will in every situation & lean not on your own understanding. Pro 3:5-6

II. **Hope for Haiti when the Nation seeks the one true God who gives solutions.
Live for Him. Tell of him. Christ in us; the Hope of glory. Col 1:27**

III. Where is the Hope for Haiti?

Prov 29:18 “Where there is no vision the people perish, but he that keeps the law happy is he.”

III Is there Hope for Haiti in the Example of the Blessings of America: A Nation who sought God?

Notes from In the Name of God Amen by Daniel Ford

1. Haiti teaches that a new frontier is a test of vision & stewardship to see the bigger picture.

The Reformers in England were called Puritans & more devout were called Separatists. They were the common people assumed to be uneducated. But with the Bible, commentaries & Reformer’s writings, they learned God’s ways & wanted to practice them. They were persecuted, became refugees in Geneva and in 1620 some came to America: a new frontier to live their lives freely: **In the name of God, Amen.**

2. Haiti teaches us that a war fueled by greed results in death not peace, cooperation & God’s will.

The Pilgrims (Puritans) that settled America in 1620 were a people devout to God and to one another. They were devout members of churches and a devoutly self-governed commonwealth.

Fifty years before the American Revolution, the Great Awakening occurred whereby many multitudes of thousands experienced what they believed to be a spontaneous outflow of the Spirit of God. Through those preachers, Americans sensed the power of God (Providence) at work in the world; to change lives & empower them to gain independence from the power of Great Britain.

Thomas Paine wrote in “The Salvation of God in 1746”: “The French had 40,000 arms, ammunition & blankets for Indians.. 7000 Indians had joined them. Upon the taking of Annapolis, they expected 18 French fleets on their coasts, resolved to destroy the Frontier settlements of the English colonies.

New England again appealed to their Lord in distress: 2Sam 22:18 “He delivered me from my strong enemy & from them that hated me; for they were too strong for me.” In an immediate turn of Providence on behalf of an otherwise hopeless people, an overwhelming storm overtook & scattered the invaders turning New England’s pending ruin into the ruin of the French fleets instead.

. The Congress also published a circular letter to all the inhabitants of the American colonies which appealed to them to reform their lives, to pray, & with penitence of heart & commandment of life, to humble yourselves & seek the favor of Almighty God as we beseech His divine goodness & protection.”

3. Haiti teaches us that man’s vision for self leads to taking advantage of others, but God’s inspired vision frees leaders to rule according to His perfect will of humble concern for others effectively.

There was little progress in human civilization until the founding of the American nation. They were still plowing fields behind animals, moving about in carts & hand weaving cloth. Then something happen-ed, the human spirit was set free: Creativity flourished; Experimentation abounded.

“Americans were beginning to learn how to experience freedom. After the proven principles of liberty were institutionalized by the Constitution of 1787, it took less than 200 years before man was walking on the moon! Man had progressed more in 200 years than previous 5000 years,” from *The 5000 Year Leap*. The Puritans, founders of America, acquired their doctrine by reading, hearing & studying the Scriptures & applied them in prayer, repentance, fasting, intercession, thanksgiving & living their God-given calling. Gal 5:1,13 “Standfast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free & be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.. only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another”

4. Result: A Spiritual emptiness. Haiti teaches us that we can serve only one Master:

Alexis de Torqueville in 1832 wrote about USA, that there was a gradual & progressive order of social equity: the essence of democracy. America’s success was in its devotion to God & a genuine Christianity that prevailed. Luke 4:8 “You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve.”

5. Haiti teaches us that God's purpose is not for a few to gain for themselves but many seeking Him.

Mat 22:37-41 In God's continuing mercy towards mankind, God then put His moral will & all wisdom of the ages for all people into two concise commandments. In God's gracious incarnation as a man, Christ Jesus spoke of an universal obligation to have the Creator God as first of all human concerns. His second commandment was to consider others over oneself. Together, Christ merged truth & God's love.

At Gettysburg, President Abraham Lincoln said, "This nation shall have a new birth of freedom & that of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth."

6. Haiti's New Generation: An Educated young people need a Spiritual vision for the future.

Haiti teaches us that receiving God's Truth & renewing the mind is vital vs godlessness.

The Puritans taught a moral reformation in which all aspects of human relations were brought into biblical conformity for the Glory of God beginning with the believer and his covenantal interpersonal behavior. Then, the covenantal role of parents was to be administered through the everyday interaction, instruction & discipline of their children: Pro 22:6 "Train them up." They saw the covenantal role of churches as distinct, but binding members with their own obligations for needs of others: Gal 6:10 "As we have opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." They saw the wider civil governments as under the authority of God enforcing the overall protection for their families & churches. Jn 15:5 "You can do nothing without me." He is our means for cultural success.

In 1954 the words "Under God" were added to the Pledge of Allegiance but Americans already believed that every man was a creation of God who endowed them with certain rights & responsibilities.

Abraham Lincoln's prayer: "Whereas it is the duty of nations as well as men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God, to confess their sins in humble sorrow yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy & pardon.. Those nations are blessed whose God is the Lord." 1865

7. Hope Renewed. Bold Dreams forming.

Haiti teaches that a faith in God enables the New Generation to see thru problems to the solution.

Americans believed that God has decreed all men to be partakers of liberty, that our "manifest destiny" is to set free the enslaved, to regenerate the needy, to teach old nations new civilization, to conform the destiny of all races, to dissolve the spell of tyranny & exalt charity & shed blessings around the world.

Ronald Reagan at Detroit MI Republican National Convention 7/17/1980, to be nominated for US president said, "Can we doubt that .. a divine Providence placed this land, this island of freedom, here as a refuge for all those people in the world who yearn to breathe free? * The freedom fighters of Afghanistan * Jews & Christians enduring persecution behind the Iron Curtain; * Our own Americans in captivity * The Boat people of Southeast Asia, Cuba & Haiti; * The victims of drought & famine in Africa; .Can we begin our crusade joined together in a moment of silent prayer? God Bless America.

Reagan had just tapped the potential of a spiritual appeal to the American people.

While the Great Awakening prepared hearts & minds of people of the American Revolution, it will take another Great Awakening to renew our right relation with God, saved by grace thru faith in Jesus Christ

Ronald Reagan: "Without God, There is no virtue because there is no prompting of the conscience.

Without God, ..It is the world that tells us only what the senses perceive..

Without God, Democracy will not and cannot long endure.

If we ever forget that we're "One Nation under God" then we will be a nation gone under."

III Yes, The Faith of America can give Haiti Hope because God is no respecter of persons. God has blessed America when they sought Him and can bless Haiti if it becomes a nation that seeks God.

IV What Happens When a Nation Seeks God: Example of King Jehoshaphat (2Chron Ch 17-20)

1. A new king seeks God: Presence of God is with them:

2Chron 17:3-5 “The Lord was with Jehoshaphat because he walked in the 1st ways of his father David & sought not Baal. But sought to the LORD God of his father (Asa) & walked in His commandments & not after the doings of Israel. Therefore the LORD stablished the kingdom in his hand.”

2. There was Revival when the king sought the LORD.

2Chron 17:6 “And his heart was lifted up in the ways of the LORD. He took away the high places (places for pagan worship) & the groves (wooden images) out of Judah.”

3. Biblical Education: Provided by Priests & Levites to teach Law of the LORD:

2Chron 17:7-9 “In 3rd year he sent princes, Levites & priests. They taught in Judah & had the Book of the Law of the LORD with them & went throughout all the cities of Judah and taught the people.”

4. Blessing of God: There was no war and no hunger, but there was prosperity.

2Chron 17:10-12a “The fear of the LORD fell on all the kingdoms of the lands around Judah, so they made no war against Jehoshaphat. Philistines brought presents & tribute silver. Arabians brought flocks.”

5. God Blessed the Nation of Judah with Economic Growth & Business Development:

2Chron 17:12b-13a “He built in Judah castles & cities of store. He had much business in cities of Judah.”

6. God Blessed the Nation of Judah with Security, the army at his Service

2Chron 17:13b-19 “The men of war, mighty men of valor, were in Jerusalem. They waited on the king.”

7. King Jehoshaphat Participated in Evangelism.

2Chron 19:4 “Jehoshaphat dwelled in Jerusalem & he went out again through the people from Beer-sheba to the south & to Mt Ephraim to the north & brought the people back unto the LORD God of their fathers.

8. God brought Justice with Judges who would Fear & Serve God.

2Chron 19:5-11 “He set judges in the land in all the fenced cities to decide & **apply justice in the fear of the LORD with a perfect heart.** There was to be no iniquity with the LORD nor respect of persons..”

9. There was Deliverance from Enemies.

2Chron 20:2-17 “..There comes a great multitude against you. Jehoshaphat feared & set himself to seek the LORD. He proclaimed a fast throughout Judah & gathered themselves to ask help of the LORD, ‘Our God, will you now judge them?’ God answered, ‘Be not afraid, the battle is not yours but God’s.’ “

Nation of Judah with King Jehoshaphat “**that sought God**” & blessed by God can be a hope for Haiti:

Needs of Haiti: Poverty: The Church should help but the people need jobs & income.

To get jobs, people need education to learn skills for the jobs.

To make jobs available, Haiti needs economic growth & business development, security & justice.

What will Save Haiti? It’s us. When we study & hold forth God’s Word; Live our faith as we love God with all our heart & love others before ourselves; & tell The Gospel that will bring people to God.

IV Then Haiti could be a Nation that seeks God, where the presence of God is, not misery & poverty; a nation that in justice fears God & desires to obey Him; **Pray Haiti becomes a nation with hope in God**