



One nation away from God **May 1, 2017**

2 CHRONICLES 15:3-7 NKJV - (3)For a long time Israel has been without the true God, without a teaching priest, and without law; **(4)** but when in their trouble they turned to the Lord God of Israel, and sought Him, He was found by them. **(5)** And in those times there was no peace to the one who went out, nor to the one who came in, but great turmoil was on all the inhabitants of the lands. **(6)** So nation was destroyed by nation, and city by city, for God troubled them with every adversity. **(7)** But you, be strong and do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded!"

Our nation, along with many other nations, is confronted with a serious problem. God has been pushed outside of our cities, far away from the standards He has established for us. We are destined to repeat history...doomed until true repentance takes place. Be advised that even the standards assumed by most of our churches are not the standards established by God. It is unfortunate that many cannot see this. Read **2 Thessalonians 2:10-12**. The Bible clearly states God's plans: "They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. For this reason, God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness". Simply put, God sends a strong delusion to those who chose not to believe the gospel of Christ. He will condemn those who take delight in mocking and rejecting Him.

So how does this relate to **2 CHRONICLES 15:3-7**?

VERSE 3 - For a long time Israel has been without...

1. The true God - The verse does not say that Israel has no god. It does not say Israel did not have a worship service. It doesn't even say they did not sing praises. It does say, "They were without the true God!"
2. Teaching priest - Teaching is not what the people of Israel wanted and, because of this, they went in the wrong direction! Read **EZEKIEL 33:31-33** and **2 TIMOTHY 4:3-4**.
3. Without law - **2 TIMOTHY 3:16** tells us that all scripture is inspired by God! But the Bible has always been a book that the people (including many in the church) refuse to read, understand and apply!

VERSE 4 - Yet when the people were in trouble, they turned to God quickly! Especially when the trouble was in their back yard.

VERSE 6b - It does not say the Devil - it says God "troubled them with every adversity". For God, enough was enough.
What do you say to those who are doing God's will?

VERSE 7 - "But you, be strong and do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded!" Hope is in the "BELIEVER!"

SCRIPTURE READING ISAIAH 66:3-4

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Eternity is a long time to think about what you did wrong.

