



Outline

Part 4 - "Declaration of Dependence"

Andy Stanley

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 6:12–13, 32–33; 7:11–14, Psalm 33:12

Idea: Recovery begins with a declaration of dependence.

Introduction

1. When current events intersect with biblical principles/teaching, folks like me ought to talk about it.
2. We may not be a Christian nation, but there are enough of us that if we would quit blaming and waiting around for someone to rescue us, we could be part of getting us on the road to recovery.
3. So, our first recovery statement said:
Recovery begins with WE not THEY.
4. Our second recovery statement said:
Recovery begins with a fearless moral inventory.
5. You can't recover until you are willing to tell yourself the truth. You have to acknowledge where you are before you can get to where you want to be.
6. Last week, we talked about the need for moral authority among our elected leaders:
Recovery begins when moral authority supersedes reelection as the value of choice among our national leaders.
7. Today, our fourth observation:
Recovery begins with a declaration of dependence. Specifically, dependence on God.

I. There is a growing discomfort among our nation's leaders to publically acknowledge God, our dependence on God, or gratitude to God.

- A. The most recent one being the planners of the 9/11 memorial service at Ground Zero deciding there would be no clergy or prayer . . . on the spot where there were more private prayers ten years ago than anywhere else on the planet.

Tragedy . . .

- B. Our leaders disguise this with talk of sensitivity, fairness, or don't want to offend anyone.
 1. **We would rather run the risk of offending God than the 8 percent of Americans who say they do not believe in God** (June 2011 Gallup Poll).
 2. Opinion: that's a mistake. History: that's a *radical* departure from the past.
- C. It's a radical departure from our national motto passed by an act of Congress in 1956: ***In God We Trust.***