

Independence



July 2nd, 2023

Independence Day History

- During the [American Revolution](#), the legal separation of the [thirteen colonies](#) from Great Britain in 1776 actually occurred on July 2, when the [Second Continental Congress](#) voted to approve a [resolution of independence](#) that had been proposed in June by [Richard Henry Lee](#) of [Virginia](#) declaring the United States independent from Great Britain's rule.¹
- The Fourth of July, also known as Independence Day, has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the [American Revolution](#). On July 2nd, 1776, the [Continental Congress](#) voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the [13 colonies](#) adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by [Thomas Jefferson](#). From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence.

Independence vs. Dependence

- Independence was a good thing for America.
- It freed us from the ties of England.
- It allowed the formation of a new nation to grow and prosper on its own.
- In 1864 “IN GOD WE TRUST” was placed on two cent coins and in 1865 was approved for all gold and silver coins. Paper money was given the motto in 1957. It serves as a constant reminder that the nation’s political and economic fortunes were tied to its spiritual faith.
- David learned, as we also need to learn, the value of being in-dependence on our creator, Savior and LORD.

- **2 Samuel 12:1-15 (NKJV) (the price of independence)**

¹ Then the LORD sent Nathan to David.⁷ Then Nathan said to David, "You *are* the man! Thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul.

⁸ I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your keeping, and gave you the house of Israel and Judah. And if *that had been* too little, I also would have given you much more!

⁹ Why have you despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in His sight? You have killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword; you have taken his wife *to be* your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the people of Ammon.

¹⁰ Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised Me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.'

- ¹¹ Thus says the LORD: 'Behold, I will raise up adversity against you from your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes and give *them* to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun.
¹² For you did *it* secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel, before the sun.' "
¹³ So David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." And Nathan said to David, "The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die.
¹⁴ However, because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also *who is* born to you shall surely die."
¹⁵ Then Nathan departed to his house. And the LORD struck the child that Uriah's wife bore to David, and it became ill.

- **2 Samuel 12:16-23 (NKJV)**

¹⁶ David therefore pleaded with God for the child, and David fasted and went in and lay all night on the ground.

¹⁷ So the elders of his house arose *and went* to him, to raise him up from the ground. But he would not, nor did he eat food with them.

¹⁸ Then on the seventh day it came to pass that the child died. And the servants of David were afraid to tell him that the child was dead. For they said, "Indeed, while the child was alive, we spoke to him, and he would not heed our voice. How can we tell him that the child is dead? He may do some harm!"

¹⁹ When David saw that his servants were whispering, David perceived that the child was dead. Therefore David said to his servants, "Is the child dead?" And they said, "He is dead."

- ²⁰ So David arose from the ground, washed and anointed himself, and changed his clothes; and he went into the house of the LORD and worshiped. Then he went to his own house; and when he requested, they set food before him, and he ate.
²¹ Then his servants said to him, "What *is* this that you have done? You fasted and wept for the child *while he was* alive, but when the child died, you arose and ate food."
²² And he said, "While the child was alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, 'Who can tell *whether* the LORD will be gracious to me, that the child may live?'
²³ But now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me."

Comments

- The king's solemn sentence was then pronounced: His children would be a grief to him. His family would be torn by bloody conflict. His **wives** would be stolen from him and violated publicly (see [2 Sam. 16:22](#)). His sinful **deed** would become a matter of general knowledge. David then came to the place of repentance and confessed his sin as being **against the LORD**. **Nathan** immediately assured him that the *penalty* of his **sin** was remitted—he would **not die**. But the *consequences* of his sin would follow him. Actually, he would have to restore fourfold ([Ex. 22:1](#)), as he himself had decreed concerning the rich man in the parable: The baby would **die**; Amnon would be murdered ([Chap. 13](#)); Absalom would be slain ([Chap. 18](#)); Adonijah would be executed ([1 Kgs. 2](#)).

- Nathan has rebuked David and now exhorts him, explaining and instructing him on what he has done and the consequences that will follow. The deed you have done has given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme!
- *occasion*= opportunity.
- *blaspheme*= to scorn, despise, provoke, flourish.
- This is what Daniel's enemies wanted to do but failed.
- [Daniel 6:4, 5](#)—*Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him. Then said these men, We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God.* Treasures From the Scriptures

- **DANIEL** - We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God.
- **DAVID - 1 Kings 15:4-5 (NKJV)**
 - ⁴ Nevertheless for David's sake the LORD his God gave him a lamp in Jerusalem, by setting up his son after him and by establishing Jerusalem;
 - ⁵ because David did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, and had not turned aside from anything that He commanded him all the days of his life, except in the matter of Uriah the Hittite.
- **Matthew 1:6 (NKJV)**
 - ⁶ and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah.
- **God is very concerned about the reputation and actions of believers. Scripture is filled with challenges and warnings about our example.**

- **Romans 2:21-24 (NKJV)**

²¹ You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that a man should not steal, do you steal?

²² You who say, "Do not commit adultery," do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples?

²³ You who make your boast in the law, do you dishonor God through breaking the law?

²⁴ For "*the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you,*" as it is written.

- **1 Timothy 5:14-15 (NKJV)**

¹⁴ Therefore I desire that *the younger widows* marry, bear children, manage the house, give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully.

¹⁵ For some have already turned aside after Satan.

- **2 Corinthians 6:3 (NKJV)**

³ We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed.

- God is very concerned about how you and I live. He knows people will follow our footsteps quicker than our advice.
- **Why would enemies of the Lord blaspheme today? First of all, because of their *Expectations*.** Unsaved people expect more from Christians. They hold us to higher standards than we hold ourselves. If we claim to be a child of God, they expect us to live that way. The lost are upset when we don't live a godly life and scorn our profession of faith, our Lord and the Bible. What's ironic is they are upset when we do live for the Lord too. The scorn of the lost over our inconsistency does not stop with one hypocritical Christian. They tend to clump all Christians in the same barrel... "All Christians are fakes and hypocrites."
- **The second reason why enemies might blaspheme the Lord is the excuses they give for their unbelief.**

David feels God's Hand

- **Psalm 32:1-5 (NKJV)**

¹ Blessed *is he whose* transgression *is* forgiven,
Whose sin is covered.

² Blessed *is* the man to whom the LORD does not
impute iniquity, And in whose spirit *there is* no
deceit.

³ When I kept silent, my bones grew old through my
groaning all the day long.

⁴ For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me;
My vitality was turned into the drought of summer.
Selah

⁵ I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I
have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my
transgressions to the LORD," And You forgave the
iniquity of my sin. Selah

David's prayer of repentance

- **Psalm 51:1-19 (NKJV)**

¹ Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions.

² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin.

³ For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin *is* always before me.

⁴ Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done *this* evil in Your sight-- That You may be found just when You speak, *And* blameless when You judge.

⁵ Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me.

⁶ Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, And in the hidden *part* You will make me to know wisdom.

- ⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
⁸ Make me hear joy and gladness, *That* the bones You have broken may rejoice.
⁹ Hide Your face from my sins, And blot out all my iniquities.
¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me.
¹¹ Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.
¹² Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And uphold me *by Your* generous Spirit.
¹³ *Then* I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners shall be converted to You.
¹⁴ Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, The God of my salvation, *And* my tongue shall sing aloud of Your righteousness.

- ¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips, And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.
¹⁶ For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give *it*; You do not delight in burnt offering.
¹⁷ The sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart-- These, O God, You will not despise.
¹⁸ Do good in Your good pleasure to Zion; Build the walls of Jerusalem.
¹⁹ Then You shall be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, With burnt offering and whole burnt offering; Then they shall offer bulls on Your altar.

- **2 Samuel 12:24-25 (NKJV)**

²⁴ Then David comforted Bathsheba his wife, and went in to her and lay with her. So she bore a son, and he called his name Solomon. Now the LORD loved him,

²⁵ and He sent *word* by the hand of Nathan the prophet: So he called his name Jedidiah, because of the LORD.

- He comforts or consoles Bathsheba. God may allow us to go through a crisis to develop future ministry with others.
- [2 Corinthians 1:3, 4](#)—*Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.*

- This couple go on with their lives. God strengthens and heals their broken hearts. Bathsheba gives birth to more children ([1 Chronicles 3:5](#)).
- Shimea= "hearing"
- Shobab= "brought back"
- Nathan= "to give"
- Solomon= "peace" This was David's tenth son and the fourth son of Bathsheba. The Lord loved Solomon. God gave Solomon a special name. Nathan chose to tell David God's name for Solomon ([1 Chronicles 22:9, 10](#)). Nathan's previous message, was one of a burden, now it is a message of blessing and encouragement. Solomon is also called "Jedidiah" which means "Beloved of the Lord."
-*Each son shows growth and steps in getting their life right with God as revealed in their names.* Treasures From the Scriptures

- **2 Samuel 12:26-31 (NKJV)**

²⁶ Now Joab fought against Rabbah of the people of Ammon, and took the royal city.

²⁷ And Joab sent messengers to David, and said, "I have fought against Rabbah, and I have taken the city's water *supply*."

²⁸ Now therefore, gather the rest of the people together and encamp against the city and take it, lest I take the city and it be called after my name."

²⁹ So David gathered all the people together and went to Rabbah, fought against it, and took it.

³⁰ Then he took their king's crown from his head. Its weight *was* a talent of gold, with precious stones. And it was *set* on David's head. Also he brought out the spoil of the city in great abundance.

- ³¹ And he brought out the people who *were* in it, and put *them to work* with saws and iron picks and iron axes, and made them cross over to the brick works. So he did to all the cities of the people of Ammon. Then David and all the people returned to Jerusalem.
- **Psalms 51: 15-17**, O Lord, open my lips, And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.
¹⁶ For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give *it*; You do not delight in burnt offering.
¹⁷ The sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart-- These, O God, You will not despise.
- **Psalm 89:1 (NKJV)**
¹ I will sing of the mercies of the LORD forever; With my mouth will I make known Your faithfulness to all generations.