

## Articles and Sermons :: An Indictment Against America by Shane Idleman

An Indictment Against America by Shane Idleman - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2014/3/13 13:53

An Indictment Against America. God Help Us.

K.P. Yohannan, in his powerful book, No Longer A Slumdog, seeks to help the people of Asia. He makes a striking comparison between life in America and the slums of developing countries: "After a risky home delivery on the dirt floor of the family shack, you were dried off with a dirty rag or an old newspaper. Your home was made of tarpaulin sheets held up by bamboo sticks. It was pretty crowded with your whole family living in less than 100 square feet of space. The shack was right next to a railroad track, and every 10 minutes a train would come roaring through. Sleep was difficult under these conditions."

"When you were born, you were already malnourished. The little milk your mother was able to give couldn't do much to ensure your growth. You might also suffer night-blindness from Vitamin A deficiency. Soon your mom had to resume her day job of cleaning streets with a hand-broom and washing other people's clothes, because when she didn't work, the family didn't eat. So you were left in care of an older sibling."

"As you started to crawl, you explored on your hands and knees the open sewer trenches running along the alley between neighboring shacks. If you had clothing at all, it was made from rags found in the nearby dump."

The truth is always hard to hear but it must be heard. Take, for example, the stories of sex-trafficking thousands of children in Asia as young as six (and younger) to be temple prostitutes. These stories are almost unbearable. But in our pride and arrogance we say, "Those poor third world countries. God help them." No, God help us. Research is being released on sex trafficking that occurred during the Super Bowl. Nearly 2,000 potential sex trafficking victims were identified, including 84 children. How many went unknown? God help us.

The prideful human heart must be convicted and challenged before true change can take place. America's porn epidemic will continue to pervert with the ultimate goal of destroying. Ariel Castro, who was exposed in 2013 for kidnapping three women and holding them for ten years, admitted that a deep addiction to pornography fed his perversion. He eventually committed suicide in prison. His idol promised pleasure but brought death and destruction.

Please don't misunderstand, I love my country. My father was from the farms of Oklahoma and my mother from Southern California. God has blessed and sustained our nation, but His justice cannot sleep forever. We have drifted from God and American Christianity has perverted the gospel. Instead of being the light of the world, we look just like the world. Instead of exposing the unfruitful works of darkness, we participate in them.

Pastors are not CEOs; we are called to lead the people in complete surrender to Christ. He must increase as we decrease.

We don't give to receive; we give to kill the god of materialism that has taken over our nation.

We will not always be happy and healthy; life is difficult. You will be hated, mocked, and possibly killed for following Christ.

We don't come to church to give God His due; we come to church because we desperately need Him.

We don't have to apologize for the gospel; we just need to proclaim it in a spirit of love and grace.

Jesus is not a genie in a bottle; He is the Lord Jesus Christ. Make no mistake: "Every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Christ is Lord" (cf. Philippians 2:10). You will either bow to Him on this side of eternity or you will wish to God that you had when you stand before Him in judgment.

A remnant of early Americans understood that the fear of God is the basis for wisdom, understanding, and genuine faith. He is our only hope.

A paraphrase that is often attributed to Alexis De Tocqueville—a Frenchman who authored Democracy in America in the early 1800s, helps to bring this point home: “I looked throughout America to find where her greatness originated. I looked for it in her harbors and on her shorelines, in her fertile fields and boundless prairies, and in her gold mines and vast world commerce, but it was not there. It was not until I went to the churches of America and heard her pulpits aflame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her success. America is great because she is good, and if America ceases to be good, America will cease to be great.”

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**Re: An Indictment Against America by Shane Idleman, on: 2014/3/13 17:33**

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