

SERMON SUMMARY

Date: July 2, 2006	11:00 am Worship Service
Preacher: Rev. Donald Lawrence	Reference: Psalm 33
Topic: Celebrating Our Privilege and Guarding our Responsibilities in Christ...as a Country	

There is no disputing the fact that there are many privileges of living in the great land called America. Here in the United States, there is a plethora of educational and economical opportunities, free expression, express service, express travel, just to name a few. But with the privileges also comes responsibility of living in America. As inhabitants, there ought to be a show of gratitude for blessings, stewardship of the many things at our disposal, respect for other people whose labor make a lot of things possible, a life marked by reverence of God who had definitely blessed America, a guard against ignorance and arrogance and a promotion of peace and prosperity of other people around the world.



As we get ready to celebrate another Independence Day, a reflection and examination of Psalm 33 seems to be appropriate, as Psalm 33 is widely recognized as a National Hymn of Thanksgiving, seemingly calling upon the godly to praise God for His greatness, goodness and guidance.

Since Psalm 33 is seen as a hymn, a pertinent question that needs to be asked is ‘[who to sing?](#)’ Verses 1-3 indicate that the answer is a consecrated people. Individuals (*verse 1*) ought to be singing with instruments (*verse 2*) with a degree of innovation (*verse 3*). There is a song to be heard in America and that song is that God is to be lauded. He is to be praised and we as His people ought to sing God’s praises more. America has what to celebrate.

Another pertinent question is ‘[what do we need to sing for?](#)’ and verses 4-11 points to God’s comprehensive power. The character of God (*verses 4-5*), the creativity of God (*verses 6-9*) and the control of God (*verses 10-11*) are all indicators of His power. There is a standard to hold in America and that standard is that God is Lord. Our responsibility is to study God’s principles more.

Verses 12-19 seem to answer the question of ‘[why sing?](#)’, as because of His care and providence. The people who are blessed (*verse 12*), whose lives are bare before Him (*verses 13-15*), who can be beaten (*verses 16-17*) and who can boast (*verses 18-19*) are all people who have benefited from such a care and providence. There is strength to have in America found in the fact that God is loving. Our response to His love ought to be a stretching of hands in prayer to God. America has who to call.

Finally there is the question of 'when to sing' with the answer pointing to a continuous posture in verses 20-22. There is a confidence to be found in the Lord (*verse 20*), a celebration in the Lord (*verse 21*) and a cry to the Lord (*verse 22*). We can take assurance in the certainty that America has a shield to hide under and that should lead us to stand on God's promises more. America has who to commit all to. The God who gives us reason to rejoice holds us accountable to be righteous and reverent in all we do and seek to become.