

# FROM ONE HILL TO ANOTHER

Corvallis, MT

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## Do Americans Need a Wake-Up Call?

By Gary and Joan Carlson

**H**as the pioneer spirit and desire to explore the unknown become a lost characteristic in the average American? Too often, it seems that Americans have become too passive and more than willing to roll over and accept whatever the liberal media and current government are selling. Have we gotten too self-centered because we now have access to our personal cell phones, the internet, and a comfortable way of life?

Have all these conveniences become more important to us than reaching out to someone else or doing something more meaningful than just satisfying our own self-interests? Do we have the same sense of purpose demonstrated by our founders who ventured beyond their comfort zones to accomplish something far bigger than they could ever imagine? More importantly, have we lost our moral compass allowing our faith as a Judeo-Christian nation to become meaningless?

After winning the Revolutionary War, the new Americans were determined to transform the United States into a beacon of freedom and liberty that would shine throughout the New World.

But it took faith in God, the leadership of men and women like George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James and Dolly Madison, as well as, a willing citizenry to do what was necessary to make it happen. Together, they had a sense of purpose greater than themselves. Unlike so many leaders today, the founders looked to God for their source of strength rather than relying on their own limited abilities and thirst for power.

On April 30, 1789, George Washington was inaugurated as President on the outdoor balcony of Federal Hall, New York. (Ref: Faith of our Founding Fathers by Tim LaHaye, P. 63) Washington requested that a Bible be brought to him for this historic and auspicious occasion. He placed his right hand on the open Bible and took his oath of office. This serious promise to God and country became the standard for elected officials in America. After the oath was completed, President Washington leaned down and kissed the Bible.

The people in attendance responded with a thunderous ovation as church bells rang and the roar of artillery fire could be heard for miles. The people of America had elected their first president, and on that historic day, General George Washington became the first President of the United States of America. He then proceeded to go inside Federal Hall to give his address to Congress. Interrupted only by more thunderous applause from the

audience, Washington directed his comments to the new legislators:

“No people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the *invisible hand* which conducts the affairs of men more than the people of the United States. Every step by which they have advanced to the character of an independent nation seems to have been distinguished by some token of *providential agency*. (Ref P. 64, Emphasis added)

President Washington served for eight years establishing the two terms of office for the presidency. But more importantly, under his leadership, the US Constitution, and the Bill of Rights, America became a “miracle nation” and an example to the entire world that people can live free and have a vital role in their own destiny.

George Washington set the example concerning the caliber of individual who should have the privilege to serve as America’s President. This begs the question; do those who seek to serve as President of the United States in 2024 have the same qualities and depth of character that was evident in 1789? Can we proudly say today that our current leadership is determined to ensure that America continues to be the great nation that it has been in the past? Do our religious and educational leaders have the same zeal and dedication to excellence that was evident when America was developing in the New World? All we need do is



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to take a look at the original intent prompting the establishment of institutes of higher learning like Harvard and Princeton, and look at what they have become today. The difference is staggering and most revealing as to whom we have now become in comparison to the once God-fearing, justice seeking nation.

So, where do we go from here, or are America's best days behind her? The answer to that question can only be up to us, and from whom we seek to find the answers. America may have lost its way since 1776, but this journey need not be over. Because of our rich history and concerted effort to overcome any wrongs that have hindered our full potential as a free nation, there is no reason that we can't be determined to overcome any current obstacles and make America "all that it can be" once again.

With a determined people willing to seek God's help, America's best days can still be ahead. For America to continue as the leader of the free world is not only vital to its citizens, it is crucial to set the example for all people who yearn to be free. America has an historical obligation to take the lead. All nations of the world need the continued leadership of a strong and stable America. In 2023, America's future hangs in the balance. What happens next greatly depends on the results of the 2024 election and the will of the American people.

Yes, in 1776 George Washington and the majority of colonists were united in purpose. They had separated from Britain and were determined to build a new country dedicated to freedom and liberty for its citizens. As we look forward to 2024, are we united in purpose as were they? Right now, the answer, unfortunately, appears to be "No!"

We currently have an over-reaching federal government with a Presidential Administration that is failing in every way; our large liberally-controlled cities are crime-ridden; our educational

institutions have become bastions of indoctrination and have forced parents out of the equation even to the point of labeling them "domestic terrorists." And sadly, too many religious organizations and church denominations have either become apathetic, or joined forces with those who advocate a "one-world utopia" which will permanently destroy America. The nuclear family, American communities, and traditional American ingenuity are all under attack like never before. All that has been the fabric of America and the backbone of our country are now in jeopardy.

Unlike the unity and enthusiasm demonstrated by the people on that April day in 1789, Americans today are divided concerning far too many issues. However, it is more and more evident that the majority of Americans are becoming genuinely concerned about our country's future.

So, let us pray that it is not too late to turn the tide and set America back on an even keel to be that *shining city on a hill*, so eloquently proclaimed by President Reagan. But, it will be too late for America, if we, the people, decide to stand idly by and let it happen. Do Americans need a wake-up call? We leave that for you to decide!

Thank you and God bless,  
Gary and Joan

P.S.: We are asking all recipients of the *White Hat Express* to please pray for America and thoughtfully consider what you can do to help put our country on the right course once again. Also, be sure to VOTE in 2024 and pray for a positive outcome to the elections at all levels. America needs your involvement, and working together with God's guidance, we can do wonders!



## FYI:

Gary Carlson, Publisher of the *White Hat Express*\*, is a former Reagan Administration Political Appointee, a retired US Marine Corps Officer, and a former candidate for both the US Senate and the House of Representatives. He also teaches Political Science and the US Constitution at the Community College level.

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\*The term "**White Hat**" originates from Vietnam where Gary was a member of the 26<sup>th</sup> Marines. The good guys were referred to as "**White Hats**."

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### THE WHITE HAT EXPRESS

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