

Episode 4

Topic: DEAR AMERICA, TESTIMONY OF CHRIST, AND A CALL TO ACTION

Scripture: 3 Nephi 11:14

“Arise and come forth unto me, that ye may thrust your hands into my side, and also that ye may feel the prints of the nails in my hands and in my feet, that ye may know that I am the God of Israel, and the God of the whole earth, and have been slain for the sins of the world.”

DEAR AMERICA

Dear America,

I am only one voice among 385 million, but I still believe one voice can speak truth to a nation.

I love your land. I love your country. You are God's chosen country. You are the land of the free and home of the brave. Your spacious skies and vast mountains, and your land from sea to shining sea. I am grateful to be here.

This day, I see the fence you sit on and the different sides you take. However, there you sit, on the fence. One side shows the brokenness, but the other side shows the beauty. And just because the broken side shouts the loudest doesn't mean the beauty is gone. Good people still live here. Quiet people. Faithful people. People who haven't given up on what this nation was meant to be.

Over the last few decades, you have forgotten so easily that these freedoms and rights come with a cost. You forgot that blessings don't come to those who end gratitude. You have forgotten that this is God's consecrated land. You have forgotten so easily that this, this country, the United States of America, is God's chosen land.

Why, America, why have you forgotten so easily who you really are? You are a country bred in hope, faith, justice, and freedom. You are a country bred for protecting and upholding life. You are a country whose flag stands above the torn countries we fight for. You are a protector, and you are a country of servitude toward our Heavenly Creator.

America, you traded truth for comfort. You have become lost in your purpose and your divine identity. You chose the easier wrong over the harder right. You chose to disembodify the morals and standards of your Creator. You chose money and greed over the purpose of life, liberty, and happiness. You are slowly silencing those who are your most loyal supporters.

America, you are not merely set to rise by the hand of men alone. It was meant to rise with the hand of God and His heavenly hosts of His mighty kingdom. Heaven touched the heart

of the explorers. Heaven stirred the hearts of the inhabitants therein to create a free land. Heaven preserved and inspired the Constitution for those who live on your blessed grounds. Do not dismiss the hand of your Creator.

You have let voices convince you that you are less than and that you should be ashamed to be an American.

America, with love and sincerity, you are drifting far beyond that which is survivable. You are drifting away from God and from truth. You are drifting because it has become evil for you to invoke violence rather than turning the other cheek. You are drifting because you choose popularity over truth. You have chosen to build status with popular opinion rather than what is truly right. You used to be a country that stood for something, that stood for greatness, a country that, despite our differences, had pride and joy in being American.

America, you have forgotten humility. You have forgotten so easily that respect and understanding triumph over division and contention. You have allowed the corrupt to control the uncorrupt. You have allowed our debates and conversations to be hostile and ultimately pointless, convincing others that they are voiceless. You have allowed pride to sweep the nation by storm and corrupt all who engage. Do not allow corruption to taint your mind and silence your faith.

America, I say this because I love you. I have hope in you. I have hope that we will be that change. I have hope that we, as a united nation, will choose the harder right than the easier wrong. To no longer choose selfishness. To no longer hate or spite anyone who may disagree. I hope, with all the sincerity and vigor in my soul, that we will be one nation under god.

Your destiny has not been sealed. You can still change. You can still change the future.

God has not abandoned you. God has not forsaken you. God awaits you. God calls you. Choose today whom you will serve. Choose to love thy enemy and choose to love thy neighbor, for God has commanded it. Repent now, America. Choose repentance by and through the Atonement of our Savior, Jesus Christ, over the pride in which the devil stands. God's plan, His plan for you, is far greater than the plan you have for yourself.

So I am calling you — not with anger, but with urgency; not with despair, but with faith. Return to your foundation. Protect your children. Honor your covenants. Seek truth over comfort, principle over popularity, and righteousness over rebellion. Let your people see again that a nation “under God” is not a slogan — it is the only path to true freedom and happiness.

America, you bow to no one. Only your God, your Creator. You are granted power from on high to liberate and free those who choose you and God. You stand as a beacon of hope, tranquility, and promise. You are a country that others look to as an example. You are a country that breathes freedom, born of faith, sustained by sacrifice, and tested by whether we still

remember the God who raised us. Sacrifice is not cheap. Sacrifice does not go unnoticed by the celestial eyes of our Creator.

America, choose today to be better. Choose today to remember who you truly are. Seek to understand and seek to learn. Seek to listen and seek to gain a new perspective. We are the United States of America.

With hope, conviction, and love for this promised land

, Joshua Roberts

TESTIMONY

- Share my testimony of the Bible and the Book of Mormon, Jesus Christ, God's plan, our divine identity, and the Church

CALL TO ACTION