

that he could not understand why they would have a British subject preaching on the national holiday when they had loyal US citizens who could do it with a patriotic flair. He was smiling but I took it as a hint and thereafter tried to say something spiritually uplifting in the nature of Christian commitment to home and country. I am a vet and have a reasonable patriotic attitude so thought the day could have some emphasis in that area. I did not give the same messages very often but worked basically along two lines: 1) how we should remember God's blessing on this land and 2) what we might hope the Lord would do for us in time to come. I offer here a representative outline selected from these talks.

JULY 4, 1996.....A SUGGESTION FOR NATIONAL PRAYERS

Biblical text Psalm 144:11-15

I. Introduction:

This Psalm allows us to look at both our national heritage and to think of what we desire the Lord to do in the future. We are aware of many needs but as we pray for the nation we may follow the guidelines of this psalm.

II. Discussion

- A. Pray that we will be governed by (in) truth. v 11
- B. Pray that our children may be established to live v 12
- C. Pray that our needs may be supplied v 13
- D. Pray that contentedness will be out lot...that we may live in peace, free from contention

III. Conclusion: Every part of our society will go better and be better maintained as God grants us these things.

JULY 4, 1998: REVIEWING THE BLESSINGS OF GOD ON OUR LAND

Biblical text: Psalm 144