

Proud to be an American: fighting for Justice

November 1st, 2020 by Kasey Crawford

Today's Passages: Phil 3:20, Psalm 14:1-3, Eph 2:14-15

There is a message, now mainstream, is that America itself is a failed experiment, reaching a fever pitch when it comes to racism and slavery in America.

Did America invent slavery?

In July, 2020 Senator Tim Kaine of Virginia declared on the floor of the Senate that: "The United States didn't inherit slavery from anybody. We _____ it."

Every empire that has existed in history has had slavery.

The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, ran from 1501-1875, beginning with a group of Pirates from the North African Coast. It evolved over time and ultimately 12.5 millions Africans were taken as slaves, sold around the world. The United States received 305,000 slaves or _____%.

It is no excuse for the sin of slavery, but it is sobering perspective. The United States certainly did not invent slavery. Sin did.

From the moment that sin entered the world, sin has been erecting what the bible calls "walls of hostility" between various groups of people. **"They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is none who does good. ...They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one. Psalm 14:1-3**

It's such an inherent problem in humanity, it is part of what Christ was destroying on the cross. **For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility..., Ephesians 2:14-15**

Were all of the founding father's racist?

___% of 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence were anti-slavery.

Is the Declaration of Independence racist?

The 1st Draft of the Declaration of Independence included a lengthy section of grievance against the king for his "*cruel war against human nature itself, violating its most sacred rights of life and liberty in the persons of distant people*", talking about slavery of course.

This would essentially founded the United States as and anit-slavery country, but ___ of the 13 colonies voted against it.

Is the Constitution racist?

The in-famous 3/5 clause was not to de-humanize black people but rather to specifically punish slave owners and _____ their representation in Congress.

Was the whole American system built on racism?

In 1807, America signed the ___ law in the world banning the slave trade.

After the Civil War, in 1865 America abolished slavery and became only _____ nation to do so out of 125 nations in the world at the time.

The United States literally fought a Civil War with itself to end slavery, yet the United States has always been at war with itself to end slavery.

Critics says we need to get rid of America's founding ideals. But it is precisely because of its religious and moral foundations that the U.S. had the collective character and will to do the self-reflection that brought justice in less time and in greater measure than any country in history.

Responding to God: What sticks out to you from today's message? Why? What can you do with it?

Answers: created, 2.4, 70, 2, decrease, 1st, 4th