

AMERICA'S CHRISTIAN HERITAGE

8/13/2017

JEREMIAH 29:11

In this passage of Scripture God gives a promise of hope to his people. At the time of this writing they were captives in Babylon. However God showed them through this Scripture that he knew where they were and that He still had plans for them.

God had a special plan for Dwight David Eisenhower.

I. THE EARLY DAYS OF DWIGHT EISENHOWER.

A. Eisenhower was born in Texas in 1890 and grew up in Kansas.

B. While coming home from school in 1903 he fell and skinned his knee:

1. Three days later his knee hurt so bad he could not do his chores at the barn.
2. The rest of the family went to Sunday School and Church but Eisenhower stayed behind.
3. That evening his leg;
 - a. Was so badly swollen that he could not remove his shoe.
 - b. His parents had to cut his shoe off his foot.
4. His mother quickly sent for the doctor;
 - a. The doctor examined Ike and announced that his leg would have to be removed to save his life.
 - b. The doctor left the room to consult with Ike's parents
 - c. Ike called for his older brother, Edgar and made him promise that he would not allow them cut off his leg.

- d. When the doctor returned Edgar stood guard and announced that no one was going to saw off his leg.
- e. For the next two days:
 - 1. Dwight's fever climbed
 - 2. He grew delirious
 - 3. His leg continued to swell
 - 4. The discoloration crawled up his leg toward his hip
- f. The doctor became angry because Edgar would not allow him to amputate the leg of his brother.
 - 1. The doctor called Edgar's refusal "murder".
 - 2. He further stated; "Nothing but a miracle can save the boy now"!
 - 3. In a fit of anger the doctor left the room and slammed the door.
- 5. The doctors remark hit home with the family.
 - a. His mother, father and his brother Ed gathered around his bed and prayed throughout the night.
 - b. Dwight's four other brothers joined in the pray the next day.
 - c. The swelling started slowly subsiding and the swelling and infection left his body.
- C. This Divine intervention in the life of a young Dwight Eisenhower proved to be a blessing to all America.
 - 1. If he had lost his leg he would have been unable to enter the military.
 - 2. The course of World War II could have turned out differently.
- II. DWIGHT EISENHOWERS MILITARY EXPERIENCE IS SEEN IN PART.

- A. He entered West Point graduating as a commissioned army officer at the age of twenty-five.
- B. He served as a young officer under General Douglas MacArthur in the Philippines
- C. When the war broke out he was assigned to command a military training base in Louisiana with almost half-a-million soldiers.
- D. General George Marshall was so impressed with Eisenhower's abilities that he made him the liaison between American and British strategists in London.
- E. Winston Churchill was so taken with Eisenhower's skills that he had him appointed as the Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe.
- F. As a result of his bold, daring and innovative measures the Nazis and their allies were crushed and a wave of freedom swept across Europe and the world.

III. THE EARLY RELIGIOUS TRAINING OF EISENHOWER NEVER LEFT HIM.

- A. Eisenhower was sworn in as President of the United States in 1953.
 - 1. He took his oath of office upon two Bibles
 - a. He used the Bible George Washington used in 1789.
 - b. He also used the Bible his mother gave him at his graduation from West Point.
 - 2. After his oath of office Eisenhower personally offered the inaugural prayer;

"My friends, before I begin the expression of those thoughts that I deem appropriate to this moment, would you permit me the privilege of uttering a little private prayer of my own. And I ask that you bow your heads.

Almighty God, as we stand here at this moment my future associates in the Executive branch of Government join me in beseeching that Thou will make full and complete our dedication to the service of the people in this throng, and their fellow citizens everywhere. Give us, we pray, the power to discern clearly right from wrong, and allow all our words and actions to be governed thereby, and by

the laws of this land. Especially we pray that our concern shall be for all the people regardless of station, race or calling. May cooperation be permitted and be the mutual aim of those who, under the concepts of our Constitution, hold to differing political faiths; so that all may work for the good of our beloved country and Thy glory. Amen."

B. Four years later Eisenhower experienced his second inauguration;

1. Eisenhower was actually sworn in twice.
 - a. The legally designated inaugural day fell on Sunday and he refused to have a public ceremony on Sunday.
 - b. The official oath was administered to him in private.
 - c. The following day there was a public ceremony.
 - d. He was sworn in before a large crowd.
 - e. He took his oath on his West Point Bible he received at his first inauguration.
2. His two inaugurations reflected his commitment to his Lord.

IV. EISENHOWER'S INFLUENCE IS STILL SEEN IN OUR NATION

- A. He started the National Prayer Breakfast.
- B. He made "In God We Trust " the official motto of our nation.
- C. On Sunday in church Eisenhower head a sermon about why "Under God" should be added to our Pledge of Allegiance.
 1. Eisenhower went to work and congress approved the wording and he signed it into law in 1954. When he signed the law he stated;

" From this day forward, the millions of our school children will daily proclaim in every city and town, ever village and rural school house, the dedication of our nation and our people to the Almighty"
 2. May God give America more Dwight Eisenhowers!