

# Gospel Gazette

Salt Lake City Mission, P.O. Box 142, Salt Lake City, UT 84110 - Phone 801-355-6310 August 1, 2008

## STANDING STRONG



**Santiago Tovar**

"I was raised in El Paso Texas in a building that had nearly 100 people on my floor and one small restroom. It was common place to see mice everywhere, drug dealers, junkies and prostitutes coming in and out of the building daily. I remember at the age of 8 years old sniffing inhalants to get away from the crazy world I lived in."

"By the age of 10, I was drinking alcohol with people much older than me, however my mother was always there loving me and taking me to church. At the age of 10, I went to jail because of bad choices made in my crazy, insecure world. In High School I started to really put effort into my studies because my mother taught me the importance of finishing high school. After graduation I settled down and worked as a driver for many years. I still drank alcohol though and had to deal with the poverty stricken neighborhood I grew up in.

"I've always believed in God but I had a hard time staying close to Him. I also love to play guitar and wrote songs to Jesus. Still alcohol was a part of my life that kept me stuck in a rut."

"As time went on I began to unravel and started looking for help. I went through a few programs and missions but many seemed to just be places of business and not real about studying the bible and developing a relationship with God, through Jesus."

"Finally, one day God led me to the Salt Lake City Mission where I found people who were serious about loving others and sharing Jesus with anyone who wants to listen."

"I now have joy and purpose in my life because God is leading me every step of the way. I am very grateful for what the Lord has done and the people at the Salt Lake City Mission and those who support this light house in a dark world. God truly saved the best for last in my life. I would like to encourage you to give your life to Him and experience the abundant life that only Jesus can give. "

## ONE NATION UNDER GOD

America became a free country on July 4, 1776, however, what many may not know - or forget - is that America is also a nation under God founded on Christian principles.

54 of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence were Christians, 27 held theology degrees. Many went on to form Bible societies.

The signers based the Declaration which has served as a foundation to the beginnings of the American nation upon a greater foundational belief that our "Creator", was the source for men's irrevocable rights.

Samuel Adams, who signed the historic document, once said, "Just and true liberty, equal and impartial liberty, in matters spiritual and temporal is a thing that all men are clearly entitled to by the eternal and immutable laws of God."

Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration, also believed "The God who gave us life gives us liberty."

Two of the Continental Congress's first actions were to hire military chaplains and to purchase 20,000 Bibles.

George Washington suggested that only religion could uphold its morality. He said, "forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle."

The Pilgrims clearly stated the purpose for their voyage even before stepping off the Mayflower: "...undertaken for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith..."

The U.S. Supreme Court also identified America as a Christian nation in 1892. The justices came to the unanimous conclusion that: "this is a religious people, a Christian nation."

John Quincy Adams, the sixth president of the United States, summed up the historic event that led to America's independence best when he said, "The highest glory of the American Revolution was this: that it connected in one indissoluble bond the principles of civil government with the principles of Christianity."

According to the late Ronald W. Reagan, the 40th President of the United States, "Without God there is no virtue because there is no prompting of the conscience...without God there is a coarsening of the society; without God democracy will not and cannot long endure...If we ever forget that we are one Nation Under God, then we will be a Nation gone under."



# The Christian's Declaration Of Independence

*Sanctify them through thy truth:  
thy word is truth.  
John 17:17*

In Jesus Christ;

**I am free from failure for** "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me." Phil.4:13

**I am free from want for** "my God shall supply all my need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus" Phil:4:19

**I am free from fear for** "God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." 2Tim1:7

**I am free from doubt for** "God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith." Rom. 12:3

**I am free from weakness,** "the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" Ps.27:1

**I am free from the power of Satan** "because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." 1Jn.4:4

**I am free from defeat** "Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ." 2Cor.2:14

**I am free from ignorance,** "for Christ Jesus is made unto me wisdom from God." 1Cor.1:30

**I am free from sin** "for the blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth me from all sin." 1Jn.1:7

**I am free from worry** "for I am to cast all my cares upon Him." 1Pet.5:7

**I am free from bondage** "for where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." 2Cor.3:17

**I am free from condemnation,** "for there is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." Rom. 8:1

# Salt Lake City Mission Offers Estate Planning Services

Estate planning is a very easy task to procrastinate on but it is a very, very important task. If you do not have an estate plan in place that protects your family and protects your estate from unnecessary taxation or if your estate plan is out-of-date, we urge you to take action and correct this situation.

For Christians, there is an added dimension to estate planning – recognizing that God is the owner of our estate places us in a responsible position as a steward. It is important that we use our estate assets to their fullest potential during our lifetimes for our personal, family, business and for His glory. As a steward, we must also arrange for the most efficient and effective transfer of our assets at death to individuals or charitable interests who will continue to use them to reflect biblical values.

While almost all of the reasons for procrastinating are understandable, none will serve to lessen the reality that the absence of an estate plan can have devastating impact on an estate. A proper estate plan should accomplish the following:

- **Express God's plan of stewardship.**
- **Provide for all financial and guardianship needs for all dependents.**
- **Transfer the assets God has entrusted you to individual and charitable beneficiaries.**
- **Transfer your estate in a tax efficient manner with the least possible amount of heartache, cost or delay.**

To learn more about this service, please visit our website at [www.saltlakecitymission.org](http://www.saltlakecitymission.org), or call Philip Arena at 801-388-1968 or Brad Jaques at 801-637-2622. We do hope that you will find this service a blessing to you and your family.