

Being A Wanted Man

Hi,

I'm Derek Cromwell, The Wanted Man.

I thought it may be running through your mind why I call myself, and this Ministry, The Wanted Man. Well, it is my belief that we are all Wanted Men. I can best explain that with a brief outline of my belief in the Awesomeness of the Triune God of Creation.

I believe first and foremost in the undeniable Sovereignty of the God of the Old Testament, and in the equal greatness of His New Testament Incarnation, the Lord Jesus Christ, and of the inescapable presence of Them Both thru the ministrations of the Holy Spirit.

All Three, making one Godhead and yet having separate attributes that make possible a God of Justice, Grace, and Comfort.

Jesus came because we were guilty fugitives from God, Wanted Men, to coin the term. He was sent to seek out the fugitives.

But not for the Justice we deserved, but for Grace.

He came to Love the Loveless, Help the Helpless, and Forgive those who could not be forgiven. In the process, He became a Wanted Man and was tried and convicted in a pagan court that knew nothing of God or justice, and for the offence of our sins He was killed by the very ones He came to save.

The Sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ on the Cross of Calvary, and His resurrection three days later, makes possible not only the redemption from sin, but also the hope of eternal life in glory with Him.

When He arose, He appeared to many as a testament of His power even over the grave, and when He spoke even with Peter (who had denied Him, cursing and swearing, on the night He was arrested) said that He wanted him to share the Gospel with the world.

Peter became a Wanted Man himself, as did the other followers of Christ in the early days of the Faith.

By God's grace, may you, too, become a Wanted Man!

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"It occurs to me that each of us are wanted men, and running this way and that from God only makes us fugitives."

"The only way we can find the Grace we so desperately need is to give ourselves over to God's good justice. Only then can His Grace restore us to Him."

Independence Day and The "Oh Say Can You See" Flag

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On September 11th, 2001, our freedoms came under attack. Each of us will remember where we were and what we were doing when the attacks came, but there is a memory I will hold that came not on that day, but rather on September 15th, four days after the attacks.

I had to go to the hardware store to pick up a few items for some work I was doing. My 4 year old daughter, Elizabeth, wanted to go along. When we arrived at the Hardware and approached the building, Elizabeth noticed the American flag that had been hung between the Entrance and Exit on the front window of the store.

We stopped in front of the flag and I asked her if she knew what it was.

"It's the flag," she said.

"What flag is it?" I asked her.

"It's the 'Oh Say Can You See' flag," was her reply.

I explained to her that it was called the American Flag, and began to tell her what the colors, the stripes, and the stars meant. As I was talking to her, I noticed that a crowd had begun to gather around us. Some dozen or more people, some parents with children, some seniors, were standing there as I shared a little history with my daughter.

When I finished, she was quiet for a few seconds, then she began to sing...

Oh, say can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?

Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through
the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gal-

antly streaming?

And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

By the second line, those who had gathered began to join in, and by the time it was over, there was not an adult present who didn't have a tear in their eye.

When the song was over... all was quiet for a few seconds, when Elizabeth once again broke the silence with one profound word.

"Amen!"

Isn't it reassuring that even when we as adults are lost for what to say, what to do, or what to feel, that our children can bring us such peace, comfort, and reassurance.

God Bless America,

Amen!

Independence Day

Words and Music: Derek L. Cromwell

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Verse 1:

It was the founding of a country we all know.
He was a shoemaker from Boston,
But he knew he has to go and pay the price
Liberty required a sacrifice.

How much fear he felt, it's really hard to know.
Because he knew when he was finished,
He'd be carried home and laid to rest.
But when he gave his life, he gave his best.

Chorus:

It was his Independence Day,
The day that Freedom rang around the World,
The banner of Sweet Liberty unfurled!
It was his Independence Day.

Verse 2:

Conviction led him to a place that we all know.
A simple farmer from Kentucky,
But he knew the life he'd lived had had a price.
Salvation now required a sacrifice.

Why he'd waited for so long, it's hard to know,
But now he knew when his life was over
He'd be going home where he would rest,
And when he gave his life to Christ he gave his best!

Chorus:

It was his Independence Day,
The day that Freedom rang around the World,
The banner of Sweet Liberty unfurled!
It was his Independence Day.

Turn Around:

Well, the mind cannot conceive it,
And some men will not believe it,
Salvation has a price that already has been paid.

The world cannot defeat it,
And the enemy cannot beat it,
The war as won the day the sacrifice was made...

Verse 3:

They made Him walk a path up a hill that we all know.
He was a carpenter from Galilee,
But He knew the life He'd lived could pay the price.
The debt of sin required His sacrifice.

How much pain he felt, it's really hard to know.
But when He cried out, "It is finished,"
He prepared a home where we could rest
And through His resurrection all mankind was blessed!

Chorus:

It was our Independence Day,
The day that Freedom rang around the World,
The banner of Sweet Liberty unfurled!

It was our Independence Day,
Angelic choirs of heaven now proclaim,
Salvation of the world through Jesus' name

It was our Independence Day,
The day that Freedom rang around the World,
The banner of Sweet Liberty unfurled!

It was our Independence Day...

It was our Independence Day...

It was our Independence Day.