



Independence Day

The date *July 4th* holds special significance to our nation. It marks the date, in 1776, on which the founding fathers signed the *Declaration Of Independence*, declaring our independence from England and our determination to be a free and sovereign nation. Accordingly, we celebrate July 4th as *Independence Day*.

The United States of America have stood as a symbol of freedom to oppressed peoples around the globe for well over two hundred years. We have repeatedly defended our freedom and independence and that of other nations from oppressors.

But I'm afraid that we've taken our freedom for granted for so long, that many of our own citizens do not realize what a precious blessing it is. We would do well to remember that our nation was not always free, that winning our independence was costly and that we could, more easily than we might realize, find ourselves once again under the rule of another. We are truly blessed to live in this land in freedom.

There is a far more important *Independence Day*, however, than that celebrated each year on July 4th. When a person learns the truth of the gospel of Christ, and in obedience turns to Him as his Lord and Savior, he is set free from the guilt and condemnation of his sin (**John 8:32**). As he repents of his sins and is baptized into Christ (**Romans 6:3**), the blood shed by our Lord on the cross cleanses that soul of the guilt of his sins (**Acts 22:16**). He is literally *set free!* *Continued on the next page.....*

