



Trae Sexton 6/2

Glen and Carolyn 6/2

Marsha Barnes 6/4

Ron and Pat 6/4



**If you can volunteer, please see Stacy.**

If anyone would like to have some of the old blue folding chairs, they are sitting in the hallway downstairs. Please help yourself, BUT please be mindful of the number of chairs you get until everyone has a chance to get some.

Paint Rock Baptist Church  
(423) 569-8120  
P.O. Box 4551 Oneida, Tennessee 37841  
Dean Barnes, Pastor [www.prbcneida.org](http://www.prbcneida.org)

Sunday, May 30, 2021  
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Morning service: 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday Evening service: 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Evening service: 7:00 p.m.



## The Great Cost of Freedom: Remembering Those Who Gave Their Lives

By Debbie McDaniel

***"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."* John 15:13**

Freedom is never free. It's a precious gift. And often, it comes at a very great cost. Through the years of our nation's history, countless brave men and women have given their lives in order to protect our country and to allow us to live free today.

But often, we may forget. It's easy to take for granted what we've always had. And most of us alive today have always enjoyed wonderful freedom in our lives, and in our nation.

Yet somewhere along the way, many others have paid and sacrificed dearly for the liberties we enjoy so freely today.

Originally known as Decoration Day after the Civil War in 1868, Memorial Day was established as a national holiday in 1971, a time for pausing to remember all of those who have died while serving in the American armed forces.

This is a day to be thankful.

To remember.

For all those who have protected our nation, for the men and women in uniform, together, we say "Thank You."

There's great power and strength in the loyalty of your service, because of these things:

- There's power in unity and standing strong together.
- There's power in fighting on behalf of our nation, and for those who cannot fight for themselves.
- There's power in rising up in courage, pursuing victory for what is right.
- There's power in knowing that God Himself fights on our behalf.
- There's power in prayer and in the One who sets us truly free.

May we never forget the cost of it all, the great price that was paid for our freedom, and the courage that our nation was founded on as "One Nation Under God." Thank you to those who paved the way for our liberty, to those who have fought hard, and were willing to pay such a great price.

May He help us to always stand strong for what we know is true. May He help us to walk in love. May He help us to live brave. For all those who wear the uniform today and for those who have gone before, we pause to pray...and give thanks...and to remember.

The Lord bless you greatly for your service and sacrifice.

And may God bless America!

## When a Nation Turns Its Back on God

### 2 Chronicles 33

Hezekiah was a god-fearing king who brought about reformation among the Israelites. His son Manasseh, however, was an evil ruler. He had watched his father walk with God and live according to Scripture. Yet he chose to ignore the Lord.

Manasseh worshipped false gods, even to the point of sacrificing his sons by fire in order to praise Molech. He practiced much evil - including witchcraft and sorcery - and led Israel astray, thereby provoking God to anger. The king, along with the people, paid a high price for his rebellion.

This story illustrates the Lord's intolerance of a nation's disregard toward Him. Now consider our country. We, too, are a nation that pushes God aside - one that has turned away from the only true God and embraced idols. Perhaps these aren't statues of stone, but we worship money, sports ability, fame, and reputation, to name a few.

The United States of America was founded on biblical principles with the intent to guarantee freedom of worship. But over time, we have removed the Lord from many aspects of public life. Prayer in schools, for instance, was deemed unconstitutional. What was once a "nation under God" has turned into a country that tolerates a growing number of sins and yet belittles absolute truth.

If a nation turns its back on the Lord, His judgment is inevitable unless the people repent and make Him Lord once again. As believers, our responsibility is to pray that God would draw the heart of our country back to Himself - and to help the gospel and truth spread through our land.