



**“Four score and seven years ago today, our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.”** For most Americans, those words, even one hundred and fifty two years after the sixteenth President of the United States of America issued them in his “Gettysburg Address”, still “ring a bell”. They call to mind “when in the Course of human events it became necessary for one people” to declare “these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights, that amongst these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.” And they call to mind the men and women who on the beaches of Europe, in the jungles of Korea and Vietnam, and in the deserts of Iraq and Afghanistan endured more than just the threat of rain in order to preserve, protect, and defend those rights.

Today, our Armed Forces and “we the people” are still enduring attacks on our freedom. From California to the New York Island, from the Redwood Forest to the Gulf Stream waters, forces are trying to bring forth on this continent, a new nation, not conceived in Liberty but conceived in executive order, and dedicated not to the proposition that all men are created equal but dedicated to mandate that “we the people” stop ringing the bell.



Inscribed on The Liberty Bell are the Old Testament Words from the Book of Leviticus XXV:10, “proclaim liberty throughout the land unto all the inhabitants thereof.” That Divine Mandate took flesh in Jesus Christ Who in turn inscribed it upon the hearts not only of believers in the Upper Room (cf. Acts 1:15) but also upon those who came to the “new world” and in 1776, declared independence from Great Britain to establish this “one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all”! *And God looked at the America He had made in 1776 and found it very good!* (cf. Genesis 1:31)

It is undeniable that the America of 2016 looks a lot different than the America that was created according to the image and likeness of God 240 years ago. And if “we the people” are going to restore and preserve that image and likeness, then “we the people” must continue to “hold these truths to be self-evident” and we must continue to proclaim them throughout the whole land. “Whatever town you enter and they do not receive you” says the Lord, “go out into the streets and say, 'The dust of your town that clings to our feet, even that we shake off against you.' “I tell you,” says the Lord, “it will be more tolerable for Sodom on that day than for that town” (cf. Saint Luke X:10-12).

