

God & COUNTRY

GOD AND COUNTRY DAY

Pastor Mark Hartman, Lead Pastor
July 2, 2017

1. MAKING SENSE OF OUR TIME

- A. *Isaiah 5:20 Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter. (NIV)*
- B. *Isaiah 5:20 You are doomed if you call evil good and call good evil. Destruction is certain when you call darkness light and light darkness; when right is considered wrong and what's wrong is considered right; when you claim what is bitter is now sweet and what is sweet you now call bitter.*
- C. *Matthew 5:18 I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not even the smallest detail of God's law will disappear until its purpose is achieved. (NLT)*
- D. *John 17:17 Sanctify them by the Truth; Your Word is Truth.*

2. THE GROWING PRESSURE AGAINST CHRISTIANITY IN AMERICA

A well-financed war is now being waged by the LGBT community in the US and abroad on the faith of our ancestors. There are some who seek to criminalize our biblical texts as hate speech. Like Martin Luther King, Jr., we do not invite conflict. However, in cases where questions of conscience and religious freedom are at stake, we are prepared, for the sake of the gospel, to suffer the consequences of standing on our convictions. (Open letter of a coalition of African American Pastors – November 1, 2016)

