

Where were you when it happened? Do you remember the moment you heard that the World Trade Center was being attacked by airplanes? I certainly do.

My folks, Ernie and Barb Gommel, and I were on our way to Phoenix, Arizona for a meeting with the IGA group there, a group our store was a part of. We were going to take a couple of days to come home after that as a sort of a minivacation.

My dad (whom we called "Gommel") never liked to have the radio on when driving, but preferred watching the surroundings, the traffic, the countryside, and then just thinking. So as we drove to Phoenix, we knew nothing about what was happening at that moment

We arrived at the meeting place and walked in, to be greeted by Judy, the secretary, asking in a panicked voice, "Where have you been? Don't you know? We're under attack!"

No, we didn't know; we'd been driving on the freeway - we hadn't joined the cell phone brigade yet - and we were horrified to see what was happening.

Needless to say, our meeting had been cancelled, and so we returned home, without taking our little 3-day vacation, so that we could be ready for whatever came our way as a result of this calamity.

What do I think about 9/11 now, twenty-five years later? I'm still horrified when I think about the individuals involved, some so desperate that they jumped out of windows hundreds of feet up. Or the heroic firefighters who ran up the stairs to rescue people and save lives, while losing their own. Or the heroes on United Airlines Flight 93 who fought back against the terrorists and took actions that they knew would lead to their deaths. Or their families who actually talked to them on their phones until the connection broke off leaving only that dreadful silence.

There are dozens of theories about what really happened, some as wild as saying there were no planes in the attack, but that the attack was strictly internal to the building, yada, yada, yada. Those wacko ideas form when the government has lied to the people and lost their confidence and trust, so the vacuum is filled with other explanations that fill the need to know what's going on.

I have my own conviction, not about what actually happened or who did it. What I know is that our nation has given God the finger for so long in ways so detestable to Him that it is inevitable that He would respond to us. I believe that the terrible direction we have taken since the turn of this century and this millennium (2000) is a result of our society's abandonment

of God. In particular, we have committed what He considers to be abominations by allowing the murder of more than 65 million babies since passing the Roe vs. Wade legislation in 1973, and we have legalized marriage between two men or two women, destroying the sacred institution of the family. We have allowed our government schools to gradually eliminate any mention of God and to dumb down our youth so that several generations know little and care less about our sacred commitment to God

9/11 was a warning of God's impending judgment on the United States, and for a short while, the nation responded by setting aside the differences between Right and Left and determining to work together to prevent this ever happening again. If you'd like further fascinating detail on this subject, I recommend Jonathan Cahn's book "The Harbinger", both numbers 1 and 2. What he turns up is absolutely amazing, and it's not cheap conspiracy stuff. It's facts and dates that point to God's involvement and the need for our recognition of the signs of the warning and then turning to Him in repentance as a nation. (I would be glad to order it for you if you like, or you can get it on Amazon yourself.)

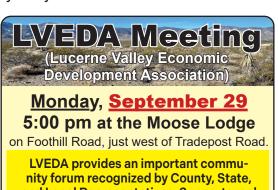
Bottom line: looking over the past 25 years, I don't see that our nation has done at all well at reorienting ourselves to God. The woke values - gender fluidity, homo-

> sexual marriage, baby murder, and much more - have spread over the land and settled in schools and other public institutions. Heroes around us fight the good fight against it, not the least of which is our own little school district and the Superintendent Peter Livingston. And we have the Trump administration trying to turn things around, against

great odds. Despite all of this effort, we are losing the battle (on this earth).

Our only solution is to do what we can personally and support those who are fighting the battle, but we must know that ultimately our only real hope is in God Himself and surrendering our lives to Him. There will be more 9/11s, and maybe very soon, so those of us who see with God's eyes and know His truth had better stick with Him like super glue, to be with Him





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