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The second reason for the great prosperity that has come to America is closely related to the first. The central place of the Bible in early American life and education developed qualities of honesty and self-reliance in the mass of the people. The early constitutions of our states declare their purpose to govern in accordance with fixed principles of righteous moral law, established by God and learned from the Bible. God has blessed people who sought to adhere to His moral law. The character produced by that law has been a potent factor in building a powerful and wealthy nation.

There is another
The third reason is much less realized and yet is extremely important. The Bible teaches the worth of the individual. It stresses the command: "Thou shalt not steal." It contains the principles that will build a Free Enterprise system. It is safe to say that the Free Enterprise System, which has been freer in America during these two centuries than practically anywhere else in the world, is a direct outgrowth of the Word of God. Freedom of enterprise liberates the abilities of people. Individuals build up enterprises, and the entire nation benefits. The prosperity of the average person in Free Enterprise lands is at least three to four times as great as that of average people in Socialist lands. Socialism sounds like a beautiful theory, but it is founded on human theorizing that leaves the facts of life out of account, and in actual practise it usually results in stagnation and decline. Its purpose is to divide up what there is, and soon there is not much left to divide. The Free Enterprise system results in constantly increasing production, and in products being distributed more and more widely among the mass of the people.

Mr. S.-- How wonderful it is, that God has showered these material blessings upon this nation, in response to its founders' loyalty to His Word. Is this why you speak about the nation as a miracle?

Speak