



## **American Ingenuity through God's Guidance**

### **A Devotional by Kendall Barrow**

My parents were wonderful teachers. They never missed a moment to share their struggles and accomplishments during their lives of growing up. Rarely missing a moment to share life lessons to help in my maturing both physically and spiritually. One lesson I remember well (had to look some of this information up) was how GOD has blessed America through negative circumstances. After the great war (WWI) America was in a great depression. Talking to my parents and my aunts, there were extreme hardships. People were out of jobs and financially broke. Along with the depression was the environmental hardship of the "dust bowl" and drought through America's heartland. Certain commodities were rationed and very hard to obtain. World War II was beginning in Europe. People were fearful of another war. When Japan bombed Pearl Harbor and America entered the war, America's faith was strongly tested. The resolve of the American people was a beacon to the rest of the world. Japan had thought it crippled the US Navy (and it did). But they underestimated the resolve and faith of the American people. In the wake of Pearl Harbor, the president set staggering goals for the nation's factories: 60,000 aircraft in 1942, and 125,000 in 1943; 120,000 tanks in the same time period and 55,000 anti-aircraft guns. Companies were asked to expand their production as well as some were asked to transform their production completely. In 1941, more than three million cars were manufactured in the US. Only 139 more were made during the entire war. Instead, Chrysler made fuselages. GM made airplane engines, guns, trucks, and tanks. Packard made Rolls-Royce engines for the British air force. Ford made parts for the B-24 Liberator long-range bomber. To share some perspective on that, a typical Ford car had some 15,000 parts. The B-24 had 1,550,000 parts. One of those parts came off the assembly line every 63 minutes (remember this was 1941).

America launched more vessels in 1941 than Japan did in the entire war. Shipyards turned out tonnage so fast that by the autumn of 1943 all Allied shipping sunk since 1939 had been replaced.

My point in all of this was through a tragedy, Americans came together to accomplish the impossible. Americans' faith in GOD was strengthened, not diminished. Americans worked with the rest of the world to overcome the enemy. This is demonstrated now as Ford has offered to make respirators. Facemasks are being made by companies that normally make other items. People are demonstrating GOD's love. GOD will intervene and help win the war on COVID-19.

**I share these verses for all:**

Matthew 7:11 "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him".

Isaiah 2:4 "HE will judge between the nations and will decide concerning many peoples. They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.