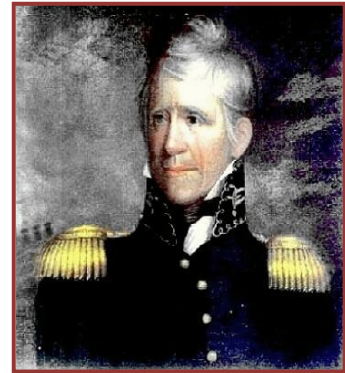


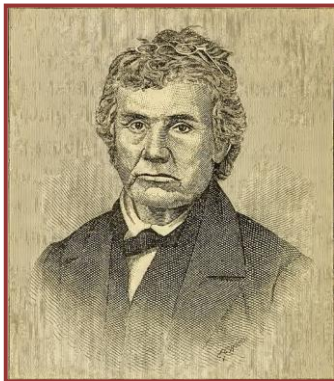
President Told: **Repent**

Andrew Jackson (1767 – 1845) was the seventh President of the United States (1829 – 1837). Based in frontier Tennessee, Jackson was a politician and army general who defeated the British at the Battle of New Orleans (1815) and the Creek Indians at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend (1814). Jackson was nicknamed Old Hickory because of his toughness and aggressive personality that produced numerous duels, some fatal.



*Maj. Gen. Andrew
Jackson*

An interesting story is told about Jackson and a frontier preacher named Peter Cartwright, an American Methodist revivalist and politician in Illinois. Cartwright was a missionary who helped start the Second Great Awakening and personally baptized 12,000 converts. Cartwright was preparing his sermon one Sunday when he was warned that President Jackson would be in the congregation. He was told to keep his remarks benign, so as not to offend the president.



Rev. Peter Cartwright

During his message, Cartwright acknowledged his famous guest. “I have been told that Andrew Jackson is in the congregation,” he said. “And I have been asked to guard my remarks. What I must say is that Andrew Jackson will go to hell if he doesn’t repent of his sin.”

Some people in the audience cringed. Others gasped. What would become of this outspoken pastor? What penalty might he face?

After the service, Jackson strode up to Cartwright. The noble preacher stood his ground.

“Sir,” the president said, “if I had a regiment of men like you, I could whip the world.”

It’s not always easy to speak the truth, especially if you are intimidated by the size or import of your audience. It’s much easier to say what we believe people – especially our superiors – will want to hear.

When you don’t say what you truly believe, not only are you speaking untruthfully to others, but you are betraying your own ideas and convictions. Speak what you believe. The results of such honesty might surprise you.

The Lord detests lying lips, but He delights in men who are truthful (Proverbs 12:22).

– Beecher Hunter