

# My Testimony on Living in the United States of America: By Erica Jermanus

Sharing my experiences and benefits of living in  
America

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## Introduction:

In this book, I share my personal experience of living in the United States of America. I talk about the ways in which living in the United States is a blessing and privilege. I share my experiences from religious rights and freedoms to jobs and education. I also share my experiences with the healthcare industry and governmental assistance in America.

In addition, I talk about how speaking English is my first and fluent language. I love how I can go anywhere and understand the English language, whether I am at the store or a restaurant. I talk about how the USA welcomes people of different races and ethnicities, which is beautiful and amazing. Furthermore, I talk about the protection we have here in America and how we have a great law enforcement system. We have excellent and hard-working veterans and troops, police officers, firefighters, and EMS drivers who sacrifice their lives daily.

## Chapter 1: Religious rights and freedoms

First, I would like to share how living in the United States has been a blessing and a privilege. First, I am blessed and thankful to live in the United States because of the religious rights and freedoms. I have had the privilege to be able to read my Bible in public places and even in my own home. I have been able to pray and worship God in my own home. Also, I have been able to attend church services freely without getting arrested or murdered. So that is a big blessing because my relationship with God is important to me and is a matter of life or death spiritually.

Also, I have been given a right to preach the gospel in my local community because of the freedom of speech in America, which is under the first amendment in the constitution. Which means a person can voice their own opinions and ideas without government punishment or retaliation. As long as I am not preaching on private property or in areas where I need a license, then I believe it is okay. If you are preaching through a microphone, you may need a license in some areas.

I have had the right to give out gospel tracts with the gospel on them, and people had a choice to receive

them or not. People could throw them out or keep them; it was ultimately up to them. But I do not get in trouble for giving them out. I may be a threat to the kingdom of darkness, but other than that, I am free to share the gospel wherever I go because it is a religious right and privilege.

In other countries the gospel is banned. A person is not allowed to have a Bible or not allowed to pray or worship Jesus Christ. If they deny Jesus Christ, they will get burned or martyred for their faith in Christ. There are underground churches in other countries such as North Korea, Somalia, Saudi Arabia, the Maldives, etc. If you are found with a Bible in North Korea, you will be imprisoned. Some of these countries, you will be killed if found with a Bible. So they do not have the freedoms we have here in America.

Another freedom that I have here in America is the right to vote. I have a right to vote for who I want to be president of my country. I have the right to vote for who I want to be governor of my state. I have the right to vote no on the abortion acts of the ballet. I am thankful that I have the right and privilege to vote in my country.

That is a blessing even if the person I am voting for does not win or get the most votes. It is still a blessing to be able to have the right to vote.

Another freedom that I have in America is having a right to privacy. If I am out in public and need to use the restroom, I can go in a bathroom alone by myself without there being other men in there with me. The restrooms are set up according to sex. Some restrooms have a unisex option, which means you can use the restroom alone by yourself and not have to have someone else in there with you. I also have privacy in my own home without there being video cameras on display.

## Chapter 2: Jobs and education

Another freedom and privilege of living in the USA is how there is a great economy with many jobs in different locations. Also, I was able to work for a great company named Kroger for about ten to eleven years. Kroger is a grocery store chain here in Michigan. I left the job because of new growth opportunities. While I worked at Kroger, I was under a union while working at the store, which was awesome.

The union protected my job while I was working there. The union also improved the safety and well-being of the workplace and offered benefits and pay raises. The union also offered a disabilities act and a family medical leave act, which allowed me to leave the job for a certain amount of time and return again. So there were many great opportunities working at the Kroger company. God led me to leave that company for various reasons. The one reason was because my health was at risk due to strenuous labor. God had better opportunities in store for me. But I was blessed to work for Kroger for as long as I did.

In addition, when I was attending high school, I was able to work my very first job as a high school summer janitor. I cleaned out the lockers and cleaned the school hallways, lunchroom, classrooms, etc. It was a blessing being able to have this job back when I was in high school. I also learned how to make and sell lavender products, such as soaps and lotions. So that was a blessing to get experience in before starting to work at Kroger.

Another right and privilege of living in the United States is education. I was able to graduate from a top-ranking

high school and college. When I went to college, I had the right to be able to get a Pell Grant which paid for my schooling as well as my books and supplies. I was very fortunate to have that Pell Grant and was able to finish college with a general studies degree. The degree may not go towards anything specific, but having the extra knowledge and experience is a blessing that can open new doors of opportunity.

Also, going to this school I was able to meet a friend and get saved, and that is when I came to know Christ because of the community. Going to school, whether that is high school or college, allows you to meet new friends and have community in your life. In some other countries, there is a poverty rate and low income for many families that does not allow kids to get the education that they need or want. Some kids in third world countries cannot go to school because they cannot afford it. Living in the United States, they offer free schooling for grade students and also free Pell Grants and scholarships for college students.

Chapter 3: Health care, health insurance, and food stamps



It has also been a blessing and privilege living in the USA because of the healthcare system. Whenever I was sick or had an emergency, I was able to go to the doctor or hospital to get treated. I also had great health insurance such as Medicare and Medicaid. That health insurance covered most of my health care visits and medication that was needed through the pharmacy. Also, there were other times that I needed to have procedures done and a surgery for wisdom teeth removal and had the best doctors and nurses and medicine to help with the tests and treatment. So I am so thankful and blessed for those that work in the healthcare industry and for their hard work and dedication.

Furthermore, because I am low income and do not have a job, I was able to get a low-income apartment and food stamps. The low income apartment is reasonably priced and affordable and covers utilities, which is a wonderful blessing and answered prayer from the Lord Jesus Christ. At this apartment, I am able to have at least one pet, and there is a dog walk around the apartment. The apartment building is right near a park with a nice big lake. So it is a beautiful area and city to live in the state of Michigan.

Also, in the apartment building, there are resources such as a food pantry for the residents and a food program that operates weekly. Also, there are also a couple of laundry rooms for residents to do their own laundry. That is a blessing for all the residents and for myself too.

I also receive food stamps, which are governmental food assistance that helps pay for groceries. I have a food card that gets loaded every month with between \$200 and \$300, and that is enough for just me living in this apartment alone by myself. So I am very blessed and fortunate to have these resources. I know that God will still provide for me even if I did not have this food card or the resources at hand. He always makes a way. Other countries do not have governmental benefits, and in fact, many people migrate to the USA to get governmental benefits, jobs, and education.

Other countries like Nigeria do not have the best government. Their government does not provide for them these benefits that the USA does. The country of Nigeria is going through a famine right now and is without food at times. So other countries are less fortunate than we are in America. We are very blessed

and wealthy to live in America. We take so much for granted in the USA.

#### Chapter 4: Culture, language, ethnicity,

It is a blessing to live in the USA because of the dynamic culture. There are people from all races and ethnicities. That is beautiful because God does not look at our race or the color of our skin. He looks at our heart and soul. That is what matters most. Different cultures and ethnicities are welcomed and celebrated here in the USA. It does not matter whether you are Black, Asian, Mexican, or White. We accept people from all walks of life.

I am thankful for the English language in America. The English language is what I am fluent in, and a little bit of Spanish. So I am thankful that I can go anywhere and be able to read and understand the signs because I know the English language. Not everyone that comes to America can speak English, and they have to have an interpreter or go to school to learn English. So being able to go just about anywhere in America and speak English is a blessing. Also, it is a blessing to know a little bit of Spanish too. If you go to the south or near

California, there are people that speak Spanish and are from Mexico. So it is a blessing to be able to speak to them in their language, even if it is just a little.

Chapter 5: Military, police, firemen, emergency transportation, and no wars as of yet

One of the privileges of living in the United States of America is the veterans and troops that fight for our country. Our veterans have fought in wars and have died fighting for our country. We have great military personnel and military weapons too. Also, not only that, but the law enforcement officers that sacrifice their lives every day for us. So many police and firemen risk their lives to save others from tragedy.

From my own experiences, I have been in an ambulance before, and it was a blessing to see them take me from one hospital to another. The EMS drivers were caring, loving, and compassionate and did their jobs well. They took good care of me when I was in the ambulance driving to the hospital. The hospital's distances were kind of far from each other. The EMS personnel made sure I was delivered to the right area of the hospital where I was able to get the help that I

needed at the time. I thank God for them and for them putting their life on the line for others.

Also, there have been no wars in the United States in a long time. I believe it has been since World War Two. The Bible talks about how in the last days we would hear of rumors of wars and wars. There have been wars in other countries but not in the USA in a really long time. So that is a blessing. But according to Bible prophecy, there will be wars coming in the future. It is expected, especially with what is going on in the world today. Things are going to get worse with time. So we can just plan and prepare for future events with God's help and guidance.

Chapter 6: Food, art, music, entertainment, technology, and social media networking.

What I have experienced from living in the United States is the amazing variety of food here. There has been international food as well as American. The American food is hamburgers, hotdogs, spaghetti, chicken, beef, or pork. But America also eats food from other nationalities such as Chinese, Japanese,

Mexican, Italian, Lebanese, and Thai food. I have tasted some great food from different varieties.

I have also visited art museums where there was some really cool artwork to look at, such as the Detroit Institute of Arts. As far as entertainment and social media, you can now go online on the internet and go on social media platforms to serve and to have community. You can meet new people of like-minded faith through social media platforms. You can listen to any kind of music for free through social media platforms and websites. But I would recommend listening to praise and worship or instrumental music. The technology has advanced over the years.

I use social media platforms for sharing the gospel and testimonies and for communicating with other believers. Social media platforms are great for fellowship with other believers of like-minded faith. Also, you can watch sermons on some social media platforms, such as YouTube. You also listen to podcasts on certain platforms and apps. You can even download a wide variety of apps on your device. I have some Bible apps downloaded on my device because I like to read the

Bible on my phone. I enjoy the reminder of scriptures daily or regularly.

Chapter 7: Nature, scenery, weather changes, parks, amusement parks, and movie theaters.

Living in the USA has its perks because of the nature and scenery. I live in an apartment building, and there are a few parks right near the apartment. I really enjoy going to these parks when the weather is nice. The parks are really beautiful and peaceful. The one park I go to is on a lake, and you can walk on the pier to see the water. It is so peaceful, nice, and quiet. The other park by my apartment building has a big pond in the middle of the park, and you walk around the pond and look at the geese. They also plant all these flowers by the pond in the spring and summer, which makes it look really nice and beautiful.

Also, there are other things you can see while living in the USA. You can go to Florida to Walt Disney World, or you can go to Arizona to see the Grand Canyon. Or you can go to California to see the Hollywood sign or just downtown Hollywood, where all the celebrities are.

Here in Detroit is where the Motown music and art museums are located.

What I love about where I live in Michigan is that there are four seasons—spring, summer, fall, and winter. I love being able to experience that. I love how it gets warm in the spring and summer and then in the fall and winter it is cooler. Also, in the state of Michigan you get to experience hot weather as well as cold, snowy weather too. We do get rain and thunderstorms here too. Other states like Florida and California have warmer climates.

There are also amusement parks, sports arenas, and movie theaters throughout the USA that can be fun to go to with your family on vacation. But I would be careful what kind of movies you watch because there are a lot of ungodly and sinful movies in the theaters. Ask God to lead and guide you to where he wants you to go and where he does not want you to go. Ask him to show you the movies he wants you to watch and not watch. He will show you when you ask him.

Chapter 8: Businesses, retail stores, and technology to buy groceries and get them delivered.



What is a blessing about living in the USA is that there are a wide variety of retail stores and restaurants that you can go to if you have the money. If you want to buy groceries, you can either drive to a grocery store and shop, pick up, or you can get your groceries delivered to your home through technology on the internet. Other countries are not able to do that. Some countries are poor and lower class and cannot afford to buy food. The USA is a wealthy nation able to have some of the greatest technology and transportation to get to local stores to buy food.

Conclusion: Thank you!

I just want to thank you for supporting this business and ministry and for reading my books. Also, I want to thank God above all for helping me and giving me the strength and power through the Holy Spirit to write these books and get them posted online on websites according to his will. May these books continue to be a blessing to you and your loved ones in Jesus Christ's mighty name. Amen. Look forward to more books to come in the future!