What’s Going On And What Can We Do About It?

I. With so much happening in our nation socially, politically, economically, and medically, it’s important to consider two questions: what’s going on, and what can we as believers do about it? I want to share a few prophetic impressions regarding what I see is happening.

A. I believe the division and hatred in our nation today is at such a high level that many of the basic freedoms which our nation was founded upon are in real danger of being taken away. Consider the words or our Declaration of Independence:

***We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.***

B. The Constitution of the United States endeavored to give power to the people and not to the government in order **to provide equal opportunity** for its citizens, **not impose equal outcomes** for its citizens through coercive force. Many in this country today are trying to make this shift happen from equal opportunity to imposing equal outcomes.

***We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility,(peace) provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.***

C. Biblical values continue to be attacked by radical political groups. Three values in particular that are under attack are: the nuclear family (Exodus 20:12), law and order (Mt. 24:12), and the life of the unborn (Jer. 1:4-5).

II. What can believers do about our current state of affairs? I believe there are at least five things the church can do to see America continue to experience the blessings of God. We should be voting, praying, witnessing, preaching (speaking up when it’s appropriate), and doing good. I urge every believer to go online and download Christian voter guides. ***christianvoterguide.com***

III. God wants believers to pray for good government.

***1Tim 2:1-5 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, 2for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence (DIGNITY). 3For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.***

A. Did you realize good government involves giving people dignity. Dignity is defined as “the state or quality of honor or respect”. When a government provides people with equal opportunity, options, and choices, it is honoring that person’s human dignity.

B. 1Tim. 2:1-4 tells us good government is God’s will because:

a. God desires all to be saved. v.4

b. Therefore, all must hear the gospel.

c. Good government makes it easier to spread the gospel.

IV. Keys to effective praying:

A. Three things about prayer that help us pray more effectively

a. God has made us a Kingdom of Priests. (Rev 1:6) We can rule by prayer.

b. To be effective, our prayers must be directed and empowered by the Spirit. c. The Spirit of God and the Word of God always work together.

***James 5:17-18 17Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. 18And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.***

B. Elijah’s prayer to stop the rain was powerful because He knew God’s Word and he applied God’s Word as he prayed. Let’s look at the truths from God’s Word on which his prayer was based.

***Deut 11:16-17 16Take heed to yourselves, lest your heart be deceived, and you turn aside and serve other gods and worship them, 17lest the Lord’s anger be aroused against you, and He shut up the heavens so that there be no rain, and the land yield no produce, and you perish quickly from the good land which the Lord is giving you.***

***1 Kings 8:35-36 -- 35“When the heavens are shut up and there is no rain because they have sinned against You, when they pray toward this place and confess Your name, and turn from their sin because You afflict them, 36then hear in heaven, and forgive the sin of Your servants, Your people Israel, that You may teach them the good way in which they should walk; and send rain on Your land which You have given to Your people as an inheritance.***

***Ps 33:6 By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, And all the host of them by the breath (Spirit) of His mouth.***

C. The entire created universe was brought into being by two things working together: the Word of the Lord and the Spirit of His mouth. When God’s Word and God’s Spirit work together in our prayers, the same power that brought the universe into being is flowing through us!

D. A prayer for our government leaders to be good leaders:

***Micah 6: 8 He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.***