

Personal/Small Group Sermon Study

Week of May 21, 2023 A.D.

The Great Rebellion The Rulers of the Earth Take Their Stand Against God

It started with Nimrod and the tower of Babel. (See Genesis 10:8-12 and Genesis 11:1-9) And, it continues to this day. The peoples of the earth, their nations, and their governments stand in rebellion against God. No nation or people group should ever look to any government to meet their needs. Meeting the needs of mankind is solely the providential role of God. Therefore, God - and God alone - should be the sole provider for meeting the needs of every person who acknowledges Jesus as their Savior and Lord.

(Note: For every question which appears in this study, always give the reasoning and/or the explanation for each of your answers.)

Read Psalm 2

1. Verse 1 uses the words "conspire" and "plot". What is the meaning of each of those words? Are those words generally used to speak of something which is positive or something which is negative?
2. Please state some examples of how a nation or a group of nations currently is conspiring against God. Please state some examples of how an identifiable group of "peoples" is currently plotting (or has historically plotted) against God. Be specific and explain your answer.
3. Do you agree with verse 1 that any conspiracy or plot against God is in vain? If so, why do people plot and conspire against God anyway?
4. Refer to Psalm 2:2. Who are the kings and rulers of (a) the American people? and (b) the American culture? In what ways, if any, have those kings and rulers taken a stand against "the Lord and his Anointed One"?
5. Please identify ways in which the American rulers and the American culture have expressed the attitude found in Psalm 2:3. What have been the consequences? Are the consequences good or bad for (a) the nation and (b) the culture?

6. Please identify ways in which American Christians and/or the American church have expressed the attitude found in Psalm 2:3. What have been the consequences? Are the consequences good or bad for the American (a) Christians, (b) church, and (c) nation?

Read Psalm 2:4-6

7. Has God ever rebuked America? Has God ever displayed His wrath to America?
8. Does the American church respect, and offer obedience to, the "King on Zion"? By the way, who is that King? And, how did he become King?

Read Psalm 2:7-9

9. Of the events described in these verses, which of them (a) have already occurred, (b) are now occurring, and/or (c) will occur in the future?

Read Psalm 2:10-12

10. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: "Even in a secular society, the people will have better lives if their nation is governed by biblical teachings."
11. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: "Except when it is obviously foolish to do so, American Christians should vote for the political candidate who is most likely to propose, support, and enact public policies which are consistent with the clear teaching of the Bible."
12. Read Matthew 5:11-16. Based on these verses, are Christians expected to: (a) avoid a discussion of controversial issues? (b) please the crowd? (c) vote in every election? (d) actively participate in politics when led to do so by the Holy Spirit? (e) have a lifestyle which is decidedly different from the pagan?

Consider: We are living in a post-Christian era in America. The only hope for America to survive as a nation is for Christians to study and submit to the teachings of the Word of God when making every decision in life including decisions within the church, government, education, media, the workplace, morality, and family. If we fail to do this, America is doomed to destruction. Don't be a coward. God has your back. Amen.