

"Issachar's Burden"

"understanding the times...to know what to do"

01/25/12



CHANGE IS COMING TO AMERICA, BUT THE LORD REIGNS IN ALL NATIONS

As we have entered into a new year, one of the dominating discussions we are having as we is in the political arena. There is a prevailing discussion about the purpose of Christians in relation to the political landscape and how we are to be a part of seeing God returned to His proper place in our nation. We must begin with the foundational truth that God is neither Democrat nor Republican. Elections reveal the will of the people. What will be revealed in November 2012? Will the choice of the people of America reflect a populist desire toward righteousness or unrighteousness?

When President Obama was elected a headline read, "Change Has Come to America". The church had been hearing a sound of a new era for some time leading up to that election. There was a need for a shift in our thinking in relation to the kingdom of God, and in our thinking in how we relate to our nation. Sadly, a great portion of the church has not shifted, putting them at risk of becoming irrelevant with much more at stake than how our life is affected by an election of a president. Now, here we find ourselves facing the same dilemma going into the elections in 2012.

When Barack Obama was elected and inaugurated, many were convinced it was a sad day for our nation. But, do we really believe that the state of America reveals the state of the kingdom of God? If we do, we are out of touch with truth. The hope of our nation and all nations does not rest in any elected official. At issue is whom our trust is in for the future. Do we trust that our Father is sovereign in the affairs of men? Do we believe that in His sovereignty, that He is even moving the hearts of all men toward a desired outcome? If we do not believe these things, we are in danger of believing that we are in control of the future and that would be disastrous.

As we move toward electing a president in November 2012, we must be reminded of some very vital points of truth. We are not choosing a spiritual leader for our nation. We are choosing a president who must lead all Americans, which includes those who believe in God as well as those who do not. We must always, as Christians who are Americans, vote for the best possible choice among those running, leaving the ultimate result up to our Father, who, according to the scriptures, is determining who will be raised up and who will be sat down. After they are elected, we have the Biblical admonition to pray for them, no matter whether they are godly or godless in our estimation. Sadly, the church as a whole woefully fails in this responsibility. How different might it be if we were praying for President Obama with the same

zeal and intensity that we complain and criticize him with? Change is coming to America in 2012. Our choice as His sons is whether we will look to heaven for our response or will we continue to respond out of our own desires and fears.

Based on prophetic scriptures of what the future holds for all nations before the return of the Lord, we are not going to see a leader that will bring America to the idealistic place that we have seen created by the religious right. Frankly, a desire to see America as a "Christian nation" is a lesser goal than the one our Father has in mind. He desires to extend the kingdom of God to all the nations in the form of His sons going forth and revealing His nature and character in the earth. The kingdom of God is consuming all the kingdoms of men and will culminate in that reality at the return of the Lord.

I love America, and as an American, I desire, like all other Christians, to see our nation seek the Lord. However, that is not the direction the majority of this nation is going to lean, especially as long as the majority elects our leaders. Even before the votes are cast, it is obvious our nation is on a downward spiral in a desire for the restraints of morality to be removed. No matter who is elected, it will be a slower descent into immorality with one, and with the other, a quicker descent. Our choice as His people is whether or not we will respond as Americans or as His sons. It is best that we do not put our trust in the democratic process to bring any real change to this nation. After all, our Father is much more committed to saving the world, not just America. His heart is for people from every ethnic to come into His family.

What we truly need is for the order of the kingdom of God to come to the house of God. We need a revival of apostolic order and purpose to come to the sons of God in this day. That is the hope of our lives as His people. We will vote in November and a leader will be elected, but our confidence will always be in the fact that our Father is ruling from His throne in the affairs of America and all the nations. Jesus, the King of all the earth is carrying out the dictates of the Father by the work of the Holy Spirit in and through the sons of God as well as those in the earth who are not the sons of God.

In 2012, we must be secure in the knowledge of our future the day before the election as we will be the day after, for we know that the Lord reigns in all the kingdoms of men, including America.

Richard

