

Might Makes Right – Isaiah 54:14-17

We are living in a day when everyone seems to be jockeying for power!

With winning comes power, with power comes influence, with influence comes change, & with change comes hope for some and despair for others!

How do we as a people (Christians), under God, living in the United States respond when our “one nation, under God” seems to be in jeopardy?

Israel literally found themselves faced with this question! They were an enslaved people, a concurred nation, in exile. And yet they were never without hope because of their heritage as the people of God’s promise.

They had lost their land, their temple, many lost their lives, their dreams, but they never lost God’s promise because it wasn’t theirs to lose!

Promises are only as reliable as their source! God made a promise/a covenant with His people, and that promise cannot & will not be broken!

Genesis 12:2-3 - “And I (God) will make you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, & in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

But a promise like this must be clearly understood! When God said that Israel would be a “great nation”, that doesn’t mean necessarily as a “nation-state!”

The Hebrew word here for “nation,” simply means a people with a common heritage & ethnicity – The Jewish people (descendants of Abraham & Sarah).

Israel’s “greatness” is not tied to their nationalism. It is their relationship to God & His promise that makes them great, along with their obedience to Him!

God’s people had to learn this while in Egypt, again in Babylon, and again under Roman rule. We too need to be reminded of this today, as those who are included in God’s promise, & grafted into God people by faith in Jesus.

Our Christian faith ought not to be tied to our nationalism as Americans either! They can overlap and coexist together, but they are not co-dependents!

God’s promise in our lives works the same way! It does not ensure earthly dominance, but it does reveal our earthly prominence.

We don’t have to be the majority, or the ones in power, to be who God calls us to be in this world & to accomplish that which He wants to do thru us!

“In righteousness you shall be established...” It’s not in our own power or position that we are established, but in who God is and what He has done!

When we live into that reality, then the rest of that verse will also ring true! **“you shall be far from oppression, for you shall not fear; and from terror, for it shall not come near you.” – Vs. 14**

It’s not that outside forces won’t come & attack us, or that tragic experiences won’t come our way, they will! But with God’s promises securely in place in our lives, the fear & terror that often accompany those things won’t consume us!

It’s like watching the battle from afar! Like a general being able to respond well to an attack because he can see the bigger picture!

When we can see from the viewpoint of God’s promise, then we will not be moved by those who would seek to draw us into their extremist views! **“If anyone stirs up strife, it is not from me...”** declares the Lord!

It is equally true that when we stand upon the truth of God’s promise, the platform of those who stir up strife in our midst begins to crumble around us. **“Whoever stirs up strife with you shall fall because of you.” – Vs 15**

When we stand upon God’s Word and claim His promises, there is no weapon or attack forged against us that can succeed! Why? Because even the very weapons, as well as those who are wielding them, are under God’s sovereign rule. **God’s might will make things right!**

If they come at us with their own version of what is “true,” or with shouts of “this is the way things ought to be”, or claims that our freedoms & our very lives are on the line, remember that Jesus said – I am the Truth/Way/Life.

Beloved in the Lord, our future is not in the hands of an elected official, it is in the hands of almighty God who both raises up & removes those in power according to His purpose!

Beloved in the Lord, our future is not dependent upon the course of America, but upon the sovereign will of the One who has made promises to us! **“This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, & their vindication from me, declares the Lord.” – Vs 17** **Psalm 119:111**

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