

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: Leadership Crisis in America

SERMON REFERENCE: Proverbs 29:2

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #1939

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) America is in a crisis.
 - i) This crisis is a moral crisis and a crisis of leadership.
- b) Leadership is crucial.
 - i) If those at the top and at the helm are not right, then what will happen to the rest of us?
- c) The Bible addresses national leadership.
 - i) Proverbs 29:2
- d) It is vitally important that we vote in our elections.
 - i) We are disobedient to the Lord when we do not vote.
 - (1) Matthew 22:21
 - (a) Our Caesar is a government of the people, by the people and for the people.
 - (i) The genius of our government is that the people participate.
 - (b) It was none other than Jesus, therefore, who taught us to participate in government.
 - (c) It is unthinkable that Almighty God would have ordained government and then told His people to stay out of it.
 - (i) Whom, then, would that leave to influence and to lead?
- e) In the Scriptures we'll study today, we see four basic things about leadership.

2) THE CHARACTER GOD REQUIRES

- a) Some say that character makes no difference in leadership; that it's ability that counts.
 - i) It is foolish to say, however, that character makes no difference in national leadership.
 - ii) When we say that character is not important, we are saying that God is not important.
 - (1) It is God who blesses good character.
 - (2) It is God who blesses a leader who has more than ability, but who also has character.
 - (3) When we say that character is not important, we are saying that righteousness is not important and that we can handle things by ourselves; that skill is all we need.
- b) A national leader who does not have character will contaminate everything he touches.
- c) There are certain leadership characteristics and qualities that God requires of leaders:
 - i) Godliness
 - (1) Psalm 148:11-13
 - (a) Leaders over all the Earth, whether they be kings or princes or judges, are to praise God.
 - (i) The framers of our Constitution understood this.

1. While we believe in the separation of church and state rightly understood, we never have believed in the separation of God from government.
 - (2) Leadership is actually stewardship because the leader acts for God.
 - (a) Romans 13:4
 - (3) An ungodly man or woman is unfit for leadership.
 - (a) Even if he carries a Bible and attends church, he is unfit for leadership if he is ungodly or unrighteous.
 - (4) Proverbs 16:12
 - (5) To claim that character makes no difference is to say that God's Word is not true.
- ii) Wisdom
- (1) Proverbs 8:12-16
 - (2) It is far better for a leader to be wise than to be intelligent, smart or gifted.
 - (3) 2 Chronicles 1:7-11
 - (a) Because King Solomon asked for wisdom, God granted him wisdom; and God also established his kingdom and gave King Solomon riches, honor and prosperity.
 - (4) When we vote, we should look for a godly candidate who has real wisdom.
 - (a) Leadership comes from godliness, righteousness and wisdom.
- iii) Honesty
- (1) Proverbs 17:7
 - (2) Proverbs 20:28
 - (3) Leaders and liars are not the same.
 - (a) A man who is a liar has a basic character flaw.
 - (b) If you cannot trust a man to tell the truth, then you cannot trust him for anything.
 - (4) If a man is not a truth teller, then he cannot lead with God's approval.
 - (5) John 8:44
 - (a) Every liar is acting like the devil.
 - (b) Every truth speaker is acting like the Lord Jesus Christ.
- iv) Discrimination
- (1) Discrimination is a bad thing if it is discrimination against a person because of characteristics over which they have no control, such as race, national origin, etc.
 - (2) Discrimination is good, however, when choosing between good and bad and between wise and unwise.
 - (a) If this type of discrimination is not present, then that person cannot lead.
 - (3) Proverbs 25:4-5
 - (a) A national leader does not need to be surrounded by wicked people.

- (4) A wise leader will purge wicked advisors and associates from his administration wicked.
- (5) Proverbs 29:12
 - (a) If you want to know what a ruler is like, then look at the kind of people he surrounds himself with.
 - (b) If a man is not a truth teller, then he will surround himself with wicked people.
- v) Sexual morality
 - (1) If a person is sexually immoral, then he is unfit to lead.
 - (2) Proverbs 31:1-3
 - (a) Immorality destroys a leader.
 - (3) If someone will not keep his word concerning the most sacred vow, which is the marriage vow, then he will not keep his word concerning any other vow.
 - (4) If a man has no moral standard of his own, then how can he set a moral standard for the nation?
 - (5) Someone who is sexually immoral according to the Word of God cannot be the kind of leader that God desires him to be.
- vi) Sober
 - (1) Proverbs 31:1-5
 - (a) God's Word says that the leader is not to drink beverage alcohol.
 - (b) While drugs are not mentioned in this Scripture, they are certainly implied.
 - (i) Anything that takes away a person's right or ability of discrimination is implied in this passage.
 - (2) Many leaders in our nation are addicted to drugs and/or alcohol.
 - (3) We should look for leaders who are not only sober-minded but who are sober.
- vii) Protective
 - (1) A leader is not necessarily protective of himself, but he should have a spirit of protecting the weak.
 - (2) God gives us leaders primarily to protect the weak and to defend those who cannot defend themselves.
 - (a) A national leader is to watch out for the afflicted.
 - (i) Proverbs 31:5
 - (3) Proverbs 31:8-9
 - (a) The king is to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves.
 - (b) He is to be a defender and protector.
 - (4) The king and leader must speak for the unborn babies who cannot speak for themselves.
 - (a) Proverbs 31:8
 - (b) Psalm 94:20-21
 - (i) In this passage, the psalmist is speaking to God, and he speaks about the throne as a throne of iniquity.

- (ii) Just because something is legal does not make it right.
 - (iii) When leaders declare that pre-born babies are no longer individuals, they frame mischief by a law and gather themselves together against the soul of the righteous and condemn the innocent blood.
 - 1. This is an abomination to God.
 - (c) Jeremiah 22:2-5
 - (d) Proverbs 29:2
 - (i) Wicked people make wicked laws.
 - (e) Nothing is politically right that is morally wrong.
 - (f) Habakkuk 2:12
 - (g) Any political candidate who will not stand up for the unborn should not have our vote.
- 3) THE CHOICE GOD RESPECTS (HOSEA 8:4)
- a) God will allow us to choose against His will.
 - i) Hosea 8:4
 - ii) This is why we get the kind of leadership we deserve.
 - (1) Wicked rulers are God's reward for wicked people.
 - b) There was a time when the people of Israel wanted a king.
 - i) The prophet Samuel told the people that they did not need a king, but the people demanded a king.
 - ii) 1 Samuel 8:18-21
 - (1) The people did not want God's will, and God allowed them to choose.
 - c) God allows people to choose the kind of leaders they wish.
- 4) THE CONSEQUENCES GOD REVEALS (PROVERBS 29:2)
- a) When people choose wicked leaders, the people weep.
 - i) Proverbs 29:2
 - ii) The choice is ours to either rejoice or to weep.
 - b) There are consequences a nation will pay for choosing wrong leadership.
 - c) America needs a spiritual awakening so that we might repent.
 - d) We need to choose righteously and abide by the standard of leadership set forth in God's Word.
- 5) THE CONTROL GOD RESERVES
- a) Even when wicked people make wicked choices and wicked rulers lead, God has not forsaken control.
 - b) Isaiah 40:23-24
 - i) God is still the King of kings.
 - c) Psalm 47:7-8
 - i) Not only is God King of all the Earth, He is also King forever.
 - d) Psalm 29:10
 - i) We do not vote God in, and we will not vote Him out.

- e) Where God does not rule (if we do not allow Him to rule in America), God will still overrule.
 - i) Psalm 33:10-12
 - ii) As Corrie Ten Boom once said, "There is no panic in Heaven, only plans."
 - iii) The Lord Jesus Christ is King over all and is King forever.
- f) Isaiah 14:26-27
 - i) Even the ungodly people of this world, including ungodly presidents and kings and Supreme Court justices, cannot stop the hand of Almighty God any more than Pharaoh could stand against Moses in the Exodus.
- g) God uses even ungodly kings.
 - i) The Bible teaches that He is also over those who do not know Him.
 - (1) Proverbs 21:1

6) CONCLUSION

- a) The Holy Trinity never meets in emergency session; God is still in control.
- b) Jesus Christ is still King, regardless of who is elected in November.
 - i) We have a hope and a future that is steadfast and sure in the Lord Jesus Christ.
- c) There are certain things we as Christians need to do:
 - i) We need to pray for revival.
 - ii) We need to prepare for suffering.
 - iii) We need to teach our children and build character into them.
 - iv) We need to look.
 - (1) Not only should we prepare for revival and prepare for survival, but we also need to prepare for Jesus' arrival.
 - (2) Jesus is coming again.
 - (a) Our King is coming.
- d) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- e) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16