



**GROW  
IN  
GRACE**  
NEWSLETTER

Volume 45, No. 44, November 3, 2020 / Southside Baptist Church / P.O. Box 1594 / 1028 South Water Avenue, Gallatin, TN 37066 (615) 452-5951 / **The Grow in Grace Newsletter is a WEEKLY Bible Study**, plus local church news notes—designed first and foremost for members and those attending services at Southside Church; and is sent forth with the desire to aid one and all, (including friends far and wide), in the experience of 2 Peter 3:18. ***"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our LORD JESUS CHRIST!"***

**THE SOVEREIGN GOD OF HISTORY— what SEEMS to be is NOT the REALITY OF WHAT REALLY IS!**

As others have said, history is 'His-Story!'— the unveiling of the grand workings of God **in, among, though, and in spite of** the nations of the world! YES, for America and our world— there is a BIGGER picture **than most have ever seen!** This article's 'bigger picture' impacts every American citizen, but it is uniquely and especially for those who are in Christ. **Please**— JOIN ME in looking up and meditating upon the Scripture references. WE will find great light for our paths in daily living!

### **I. Almighty God is in Sovereign control of all nations!**

**Psalms** 22:28; 75:6, 7; 103:19; 115:3; 135:6; **Proverbs** 16:9; 19:21; 20:24; 21:1; **Isaiah** 43:13; **Lamentations** 3:37; **Daniel** 2:20-21; 4:17; 4:34-35; 5:21. **The point** of all these Scriptures and many more is that Almighty God is in sovereign control of all nations— be they 'named' or unnamed nations.

**LET US ALSO REMEMBER** that a part of God's sovereign control is that He has ordained CONSEQUENCES— "sowing and reaping" (Galatians 6:7-8). Men and nations make choices, chart courses, and reap consequences; **and at the very same time** God rules

and overrules— even as we see in Genesis 50:20 and Acts 4:26-28.

**This is not just true in ancient history— Revelation 17 reveals** that there is coming a day when **TEN KINGS/Ten nations** - (who have previously been supportive of a worldwide apostate religious system) - **shall turn on**, attack, and destroy that same religious system! **Why will they do it? Because God places this task in their hearts!** (Revelation 17: 15-18) YES, Almighty God is in Sovereign control of all nations! He is carefully working out His purposes and His agenda and not ours! Nothing nor no one can stop Him! **Resting in this Biblical truth will energize us with peace, purpose, confidence, humility, and boldness in the work of LORD!**

## **II. God Especially Works Through Chosen Instruments!**

\*\*\* **At times in history**, God has uniquely worked through chosen individuals like Abraham, Moses, Jacob, David, Esther, Ruth, Mary, or one of the Prophets.

\*\*\* **At times in history**, God raised up cruel pagans so as to chasten His own people: **Isaiah 10:5; Habakkuk 1:6-7! (YES, GOD did this!)**

\*\*\* **IN the present, salt-less saints can expect judgment! — Matt 5:13)**

\*\*\* **MOREOVER, God also raised up Israel.** And within the physical nation of Israel was a redeemed remnant, the saved of the Old Testament era: **Deuteronomy 7:6-8. Moreover**, God continues to work with Israel and will in days head!

## **III. GOD WORKS THROUGH ONE HOLY NATION!**

***In the New Testament era in which we live, God is especially working with and through ONE HOLY NATION—His true Church, the redeemed, the Body of Christ!***

**This unique Nation** now spans the globe. She will ultimately be made up of a numberless multitude of members [JEW and GENTILE] out of every nation, kindred, tongue, tribe and people; this NATION will ultimately include all Old and New Testament saints, Jew and Gentile! (Eph. 2:13-22; Rev. 7: 9-17; 21: 9-23)

**CHRISTIANS:** "**YOU ARE** a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, **AN HOLY NATION**, a peculiar people [A people claimed by God for His own]; **that ye should show forth the praises of Him who called you OUT OF DARKNESS into His marvelous light;...**" (1 Peter 2:9-10)

**NOTE: THIS HIGH CALLING and ASSIGNMENT IS NOT DEPENDENT UPON WHO WINS AN ELECTION OR what form of human government is in power!**

**[BEWARE:** There is a massive religious Harlot system, a false bride, with many daughters who passes herself off as the Bride of Christ, but she is not! On the earth, there is the true Bride of Christ. **JESUS plainly tells us these truths:** Matthew 7:21-28; 15:12-14; Revelation 17:1-18!]

**GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE HAVE ALWAYS HAD THE SAME CALLING:**

**1.** *In the Old Testament era, Israel was sovereignly chosen by God to be a holy nation and a kingdom of priests. They were to show to the world what a people would be like whose God was the true and living God! (Deuteronomy 7:6-10; Exodus 19:4-6) Even so, the New Testament Church of Jesus Christ has the same calling! (1 Peter 2:9-10)*

**2. Christian!** The LORD JESUS CHRIST has a specific and important word for all saints in John **15:16**; **Ephesians 1:1-14**; **2:1-10** and **Titus 3:1-7**. As another has so well said:

*"Out of the tragedy of the Cross and the glory of the empty tomb and the wonder of the indwelling Holy Spirit came the New Testament Church— **A New and Holy Nation!** She has often been persecuted. She has often been obscured to the masses by clever and impressive counterfeits. She has been assumed and/or pronounced dead. Nevertheless, Jesus continues to build HIS CHURCH and nothing nor no one will stop Him!"*

**This is all a great wonder!** God has chosen to span the GLOBE with the Good News of Saving Grace, through each and every person whom He has already saved! *PLEASE NOTE: Christian, regardless of what takes place on Election Day, November 3, 2020... and/or on the days, weeks, months, years, following— JESUS WILL CONTINUE TO BUILD HIS CHURCH!*

**Every born again Christian is motivated, empowered, and under orders to BE HIS WITNESSES, to GO TO ALL NATIONS making, marking and maturing Disciples of Jesus.** (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 1:8; Acts 2:42-47)

**This supreme global enterprise will proceed,** (regardless of whatever else is or is not happening on earth), until **the return of Christ!** (Matthew 24:14; 28:19-20)

#### **IV. A History Lesson and the Fulfilling of the Great Commission!**

From the time that Jesus prophesied that the Gospel would go into all the world (Matthew 24:14) and from the time that He gave the

Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20)— **Many centuries passed and the Gospel by no means went worldwide!**

In fact, apostasy came **and then** the Dark Ages followed **and it seemed, at times**, that the true church had been snuffed out. BUT JESUS IS ALWAYS KEEPING and BUILDING HIS BRIDE!

**1.** THUS, IN TIME, Sovereign God began to raise up reformers such as John Wycliffe, William Tyndale, John Hus, Martin Luther, and others.

**2.** Moreover, during the same period of time, God gave the wisdom for the invention of the printing press! **AND the true church began to be lifted up out of the darkness and bondage of Roman Catholicism... BY THE POWER OF THE PRINTED WORD, IN THEIR OWN LANGUAGE!**

**Note:** Here are two excellent resources so as to understand **the radical difference** between Biblical Christianity and Roman Catholicism: <http://www.justforcatholics.org> / <http://www.pro-gospel.org>

**3.** Moreover, in the perfect timing of God, there came another most amazing orchestration— God began to raise up a "group of nations", the British Empire— literally an Empire upon which the sun did not set!

**AND** from that empire sprang forth, (a nation which many say is the greatest nation on earth), the United States of America.

## **V. SOME AMAZING AMERICAN 'HIS-STORY!'**

**1.** In 1492, Pope Alexander VI, gave to Spain and Portugal all of North, Central and South America. However, the British and

the French did not take too kindly to that gift! This matter climaxed in 1588, with Spain's mighty ships of **the invincible Spanish Armada** attacking Britain's puny little navy. Shockingly, the British won! **How? Because of the WIND!**

In fact, the British struck a commemorative metal which had inscribed, "**GOD BLEW AND THEY WERE SCATTERED!**"

**Note:** Had the Spanish won, the United States would have become a nation dominated by Roman Catholicism.

**2. On July 4th,** 1776, thirteen colonies declared their independence from mighty England. Amazingly, the colonies not only won, but by 1783, they owned all of the land east of the Mississippi, except for Florida! Twenty years later, the USA purchased the Louisiana Territory from Napoleon for about .84 cents per acre.

**3. Time marched onward** and the **United States of America** became the richest and mightiest nation on earth. **And as Abraham Lincoln once said,** "*No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things.*"

**4. Moreover, in a fashion like no other,** Almighty God gave to the entire English speaking world (Great Britain and especially the USA) four great gifts, simultaneously:

**Wealth, Power,  
Freedom, and Gospel Opportunity!**

As a result, from the English speaking world (Far more than from anyone else) God began to send forth the Gospel to the ends of

the earth. ***At long last, the Gospel began to go to every continent, nation, tribe, and tongue!***

**Frankly, there is no other foundational explanation for these and many other amazing facts of history (His-Story!) other than the sovereign purposes of Almighty God!**

Yes, in the midst of a dying, decaying world JESUS CHRIST is doing all of His good pleasure. He is working among the nations; and He is building His church, His Holy Nation (1 Peter 2:9-10)

***To be an American Christian is to be doubly blessed! For we have received the glorious gospel of grace in an earthly setting of Wealth, Power, Freedom, and Gospel Opportunity.***

***BUT LET US REMEMBER: To whom much is given, much is required! (Luke 12:48; 1 Corinthians 4:2)***

**CHRISTIAN:** You and I have been CHOSEN  
**to** Show forth His Praises,  
**to** Bear Fruit,  
**to** be Holy and Set Apart for God's Kingdom purposes,  
**to** be Zealous in Good Works so as to glorify God.

**WE have been COMMISSIONED to live out and to TELL the gospel and to disciple converts.**

WE are members of the true Bride, (Christ's Church!), getting ready for the Bridegroom of all bridegrooms, our LORD JESUS CHRIST!

**SO LET IT BE IT!**

**The above truths make the following EXCEEDINGLY TRAGIC:**

**George Barna** compared the lifestyles of Christians and non-Christians, using 131 different measures of attitudes, behaviors, values, and Beliefs— Barna’s **tragic conclusion:** ***“In the aspects of lifestyle where Christians can have their greatest impact on the lives of non-Christians, there are NO VISIBLE DIFFERENCES between the two segments.”*** In the words of another... ALL TOO OFTEN, **“Our gospel is BEING canceled by the way we live!”**

**GOD’S CALL: Romans 12:1-2!** “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

Grace to one and all! James Bell [www.southsidegallatin.org](http://www.southsidegallatin.org)

## **NEWS NOTES:**

**EVERY Saturday, \*\*\* 8:00am — Men’s Bible Study: — THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS! (Doors open by 7:30am... coffee, juice, donuts, and Hardee’s Biscuits are available!)**

**\*\*\* NEXT Ladies Bible Study— Tuesday, November 10, 11:00am: Women of the Bible! [Hannah: 1 Samuel, chapter 1 & 2]**

## **SUNDAYS— NOVEMBER 8, 16, 22, 29—**

**NOVEMBER 8, SUNDAY SERVICES: \*\*\* Sunday School at 9:30am:** Nursery, Children's classes, Youth, and Adult classes.

**\*\*\* WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:45am!**

*Additional Sunday Events: [NOTE NEW TIMES, in GREEN!]*

**1. No Fellowship Meal in November... NEXT scheduled, 12/6**

**2. November 8, 5:00pm-6:30 pm-** Training Faithful Men, 1689 Confession of faith.

**3. November 15, LORD'S SUPPER, at end of Morning Worship!**

**[HOME GROUPS, in the evening. 5:00pm .. *check your group!*]**

**4. November 22, 5:00pm-6:00pm-** Church Wide DISCIPLESHIP... presently an important STUDY on PRAYER, using R.C. Sproul videos...

**5. November 29, 5:00pm-6:00pm -FIFTH SUNDAY Church-wide SINGING/PRAISE to the LORD... AND a message from God's Word, Lukus Haskins.**

***TUESDAYS: WEEKLY Youth Group Meeting, ages 12 and up ... NOW, Tuesdays a 7:15pm... at Jaden and Rhi's home...***

***WEDNESDAY NIGHTS @ SOUTHSIDE:***

***6:30pm— Come in by the back 'double doors' under the Drive Thru awning***

**\*\* Adult Prayer Service**

**\*\* Young FAMILIES Prayer Service**

## **HEALTH REMINDERS as to CHURCH SERVICES**

**1. IF YOU ARE SICK... [OR if** you are presently in a state of high immune deficiency **or if** (at home or work) you are caring for one who is sick; **or if** you have • **Fever**; • Coughing; • • Chills; • Headache; • Sore throat; etc.], **please stay home!]**

**2. IF YOU ARE HEALTHY and well... you may or may not choose to wear a mask... or gloves... WE do not require; we WILL NOT provide such. WE CONTINUE to encourage FREEDOM... as to 'social distancing'—** 6ft apart... give sensitivity and respect one to another.

**ADDED NOTE: In addition to carefulness, and good hydration, good nutrition, and sleep— ALSO: so as to SEEK TO HAVE A STRONG IMMUNE SYSTEM... I PERSONALLY TAKE ELDERBERRY, VITAMIN C, ZINC, GINGER, VITIMIN D, Quercetin, and a good multi-vitamin that includes fiber.**

**3. LET each of us DO OUR PART IN personal hygiene. IF you use the restrooms— please wash your hands with SOAP; and use nearby SANITIZER.**

**IT IS A MATTER OF SAFETY for all, (ESPECIALLY for SENIOR ADULTS), CHILDREN ANY WHERE IN THE CHURCH BUILDING— No unsupervised Children!**

**FOR THOSE AT HOME: TO RECEIVE THE 10:45am LIVE STREAMING of the worship service of November 1... GO TO: [www.southsidegallatin.org](http://www.southsidegallatin.org) [You can also connect to our YouTube page for past messages & Bible Studies!]**

**LOVE OFFERINGS UNTO THE LORD BY MAIL or ONLINE GIVING:**

**SUCH funds, (if checks), make out to Southside Baptist) —**

**MAIL TO: Southside Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1594,  
Gallatin, TN 37066**

**OR, you may choose to GIVE, via ONLINE GIVING**  
<https://southsidebaptist.breezechms.com/give/online>