



February 10, 2023

We Yearn for and Pray "Thy Kingdom Come!"

Warm hellos friends, brethren, co-workers, spiritual family, and scattered children of God from here on the Gulf Coast. My wife and I pray and hope this finds you doing well, and that again your week has been blessed.

Here in the United States we have witnessed a lot of political combat during these past several years and in this current year leading to another presidential election in 2024. It will be the 60th quadrennial presidential election.

During the heat of the race, it seems that debate moderators throw out questions or statements intended to provoke one candidate to attack or take to task another candidate. Someone described political campaigning and vying for votes as a "blood sport!" I don't think any physical blows have been landed, but a lot of verbal ones have been unleashed. It is a strange situation where even candidates of the same political party attack and malign each other in spite of them all hoping to defeat the candidate in the other party. Then once a single front runner emerges and is selected to be the final single candidate, the other candidates are expected to support that one person and say all sorts of good things about him or her!

Human nature without the indwelling of God's Spirit, true repentance, and change of heart, creates a very ugly place for all.

I suppose one should not be too critical. But, this is the way things take place in a multi-party "democratic republic" approach as many call it nowadays.

While often categorized as a democracy, the United States is more accurately defined as a *constitutional federal republic*. What does this mean?

"Constitutional" refers to the fact that government in the United States is based on a Constitution which is the supreme law of the United States. In a democratic

republic, the people as a whole exercise important controls over their elected leaders through elections, lobbying, and other processes. This is far better system in this present age than having one man ruling as a dictator. However, dictatorships by an individual or select group usually leads to abuses of power and loss of freedoms for the people. It would be nice to have more time spent on discovering what the candidates will try to do to address the problems of the nation instead of playing “gotcha” over some faux pas or personal imperfection of a rival. Again, it’s a vivid portrayal of man’s human nature. If you and I are not careful we can become caught up in it all, and quickly take sides with one candidate or another.

If you and I contrast the governments of today and their structures and mechanisms with what God will set up in the future, it’s incredibly different!

I remember an older childhood friend talking about the Plain Truth magazine and its message after he had become part of the then Radio Church of God. He liked a number of things that were presented, but he was very troubled by the concept of a “one world government”. I certainly don't blame him for that concern when it comes to humans working to implement *their ideas* of a one world government. Over the decades there have been a number of organizations who have been plotting and planning to bring about their utopian ideas and establish a one world governing structure. It’s rather scary to contemplate.

But, the government that God will set up, will be one that Christ directs and organizes for the wellness of *all mankind*. God already owns all and has all power. He does not need some ego trip that is provided by His rule. His rule will truly be one of serving those whom He rules.

There will not be a Babylon of conflicting ideologies, religions, and confusing regulations. I used to think doing my yearly taxes was confusing, now many things are even more confusing as man attempts to “fix” all the wrongs in this world.

There will be one clearly revealed way for all. There are so many prophecies that describe the just and equitable rule of the King of Kings! Yes. He will be a king! He

will be the top ruler on the earth and He will not tolerate defiance of His rule. But as the co-creator of humankind and the one who gave His life to pay the penalty of the sins and lawlessness deeds of mankind, He has demonstrated His desire to bring only good things to His human children, this world.

Let's notice a few of these encouraging prophecies. "*For He is coming to judge the earth. With righteousness He shall judge the world, and the peoples with equity.*" (Psalm 98:9) "*But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth. . .*" (Isaiah 11:4) "*Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the LORD'S house Shall be established on the top of the mountains . . . He shall judge between the nations, And rebuke many people; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war anymore.*" (Isaiah 2:2, 4)

The great King will not allow oppressors to kill and maim the weak in their wake. The Lord of lords will minister to all peoples, especially the weak and poor. The LORD will send healing and restore beauty and fertility to the land. "*Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing; for in the wilderness waters shall break out, and streams in the desert.*" (Isaiah 35:5-6)

Even the Lord's nation, the people of the tribes of Israel, will be called back and return to their homeland after a period of trouble. "*Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it; And it is the time of Jacob's trouble, But he shall be saved out of it.*" (Jeremiah 30:7) "*And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy on their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.*" (Isaiah 35:10)

All nations will benefit and be blessed with the rule of this righteous King and His administration. "*And in this mountain The Lord of hosts will make for all people A feast of choice pieces, A feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of well-refined wines on the lees. He will swallow up death forever, and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces; The rebuke of His people He will take away*

from all the earth; For the Lord has spoken. And it will be said in that day: "Behold, this is our God; We have waited for Him, and He will save us. This is the Lord; We have waited for Him; We will be glad and rejoice in His salvation." (Isaiah 25:6, 8-9)

Oh, what a wonderful picture. We yearn for that day and pray for it, "Thy kingdom come!" Some thoughts to meditate on and consider as we near the end of another week, and look forward to God's Sabbath.

Arms up friends! Our sincere prayers and thoughts are with you daily. Thanks in advance for your heartfelt prayers for us.



Scott Hoefker
Pastor, CGM

Church of God Ministries (CGM)
(Ministerios de la Iglesia de Dios)

tshoefker@cogministries.org

www.cogministries.org

P.O. Box 983

Daphne, AL, 36526-0983

251-930-1797 Office