

Peoples Church: Small Group Questions

DATE: October 16, 2016

SPEAKER: Pastor Dale Oquist

TITLE: #45 WHO WILL IT BE AND DOES IT MATTER?

Why is this most important election of our lifetime?

LOOKING BACK: Daniel 2: 31-45

King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream and wanted an interpretation of his dream. King Nebuchadnezzar wanted Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego to let him know what the dream was and the interpretation of the dream or they would be killed. In Daniel 2:20-23, Daniel prayed to God for wisdom of the dream of the king. Starting in verse 37, Daniel interprets the dream letting King Nebuchadnezzar that there will be three other kingdoms that follows his kingdom with the one being inferior, the second will rule over the whole earth. The last kingdom will never be destroyed and will reign forever.

1. What was King Nebuchadnezzar's reaction to Daniel's response?

This was more of a prophecy for the Jewish people than King Nebuchadnezzar. Daniel knew the prophecy wasn't going to happen overnight, it required patience. The prophesying is something that would come from the kingdom of heaven.

DIGGING DEEPER: We are part of a kingdom that is transcendent. In Daniel's interpretation of the dream, there was an image of the rock cut out of a mountain, but not by human hands- a rock that broke the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold to pieces. The rock seems so small, but it is more powerful than anything. It doesn't have a human element to it, but it has an eternal element. The rock can never be dissolved or eliminated because it is the kingdom of God. No matter how imposing this election will appear, it cannot stand up to the rock.

2. Can this upcoming election solve America's issues?

The objective of the Kingdom of God is the hope of our hearts. The rock reduces the clay to dust. The rock then becomes a huge mountain that covers the planet. Our rejection of God's kingdom's rule is the problem of all problems. The very things we do with our lives are the opposition of what we have. To think that all problems can be solved with politics is wrong. There is no such thing as political hope, there is only damage control. The only hope is in Jesus Christ.

3. Why can't good leaders and good laws produce good people?

Good can't happen until Jesus comes and produce good people. There is no such thing as political hope, there is only damage control. The only hope is in Jesus Christ.

TAKING IT HOME:

During 580 BC, the Jews probably felt hopeless, helpless and powerless in which a lot of Americans are feeling going into this Presidential election in November. We shouldn't feel hopeless, helpless and powerless because our help has to come to us through the rock which symbolizes the kingdom of God. No law or politician can change our lives, but there is one person that can and he can't be elected or re-elected and that person is Jesus Christ.

4. After listening to the first part of this three part series, has this changed your perspective on the election?