



CITIZENS

OF

TWO KINGDOMS

— OUR LOYALTY IS TO CHRIST. OUR CALLING IS IN THE WORLD. —

ALL HUMAN GOVERNMENT
FINDS ITS FINAL END IN THE
ETERNAL REIGN OF KING JESUS.

**THEREFORE GOD HAS HIGHLY EXALTED HIM AND BESTOWED
ON HIM THE NAME THAT IS ABOVE EVERY NAME, ¹⁰ SO THAT
AT THE NAME OF JESUS EVERY KNEE SHOULD BOW, IN
HEAVEN AND ON EARTH AND UNDER THE EARTH, ¹¹ AND
EVERY TONGUE CONFESS THAT JESUS CHRIST IS LORD, TO
THE GLORY OF GOD THE FATHER.**

PHILIPPIANS 2:9-11

**THE KINGDOM OF THE WORLD HAS BECOME THE KINGDOM OF OUR LORD
AND OF HIS CHRIST, AND HE SHALL REIGN FOREVER AND EVER.**

// REVELATION 11:15

**THEY WILL MAKE WAR ON THE LAMB, AND THE LAMB WILL CONQUER THEM,
FOR HE IS LORD OF LORDS AND KING OF KINGS, AND THOSE WITH HIM ARE
CALLED AND CHOSEN AND FAITHFUL.”** // REVELATION 17:14

**ON HIS ROBE AND ON HIS THIGH HE HAS A NAME WRITTEN, KING OF KINGS
AND LORD OF LORDS.** // REVELATION 19:16

REVELATION PASSAGES

THE PHRASE

“KINGDOM
OF GOD”

— APPEARS —

69

TIMES IN THE GOSPELS.

THE PHRASE

“KINGDOM
OF HEAVEN”

— APPEARS —

32

TIMES IN THE GOSPELS.

BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES CONCERNING GOVERNMENT:

- God is sovereign over all nations.
- Governments should punish evil and encourage good.
- Governments should seek the good of the people, not the rulers.
- Citizens should obey the government (except in certain circumstances).
- Governments should protect human liberty.
- The rule of law must apply to the rulers of a nation.



GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER
ALL NATIONS.

THROUGH MOSES,
GOD SAID TO PHARAOH,

“ FOR THIS PURPOSE
I HAVE RAISED YOU UP,
TO SHOW YOU
MY POWER,
SO THAT MY NAME MAY BE
PROCLAIMED IN ALL THE EARTH. ”

EXODUS 9:16

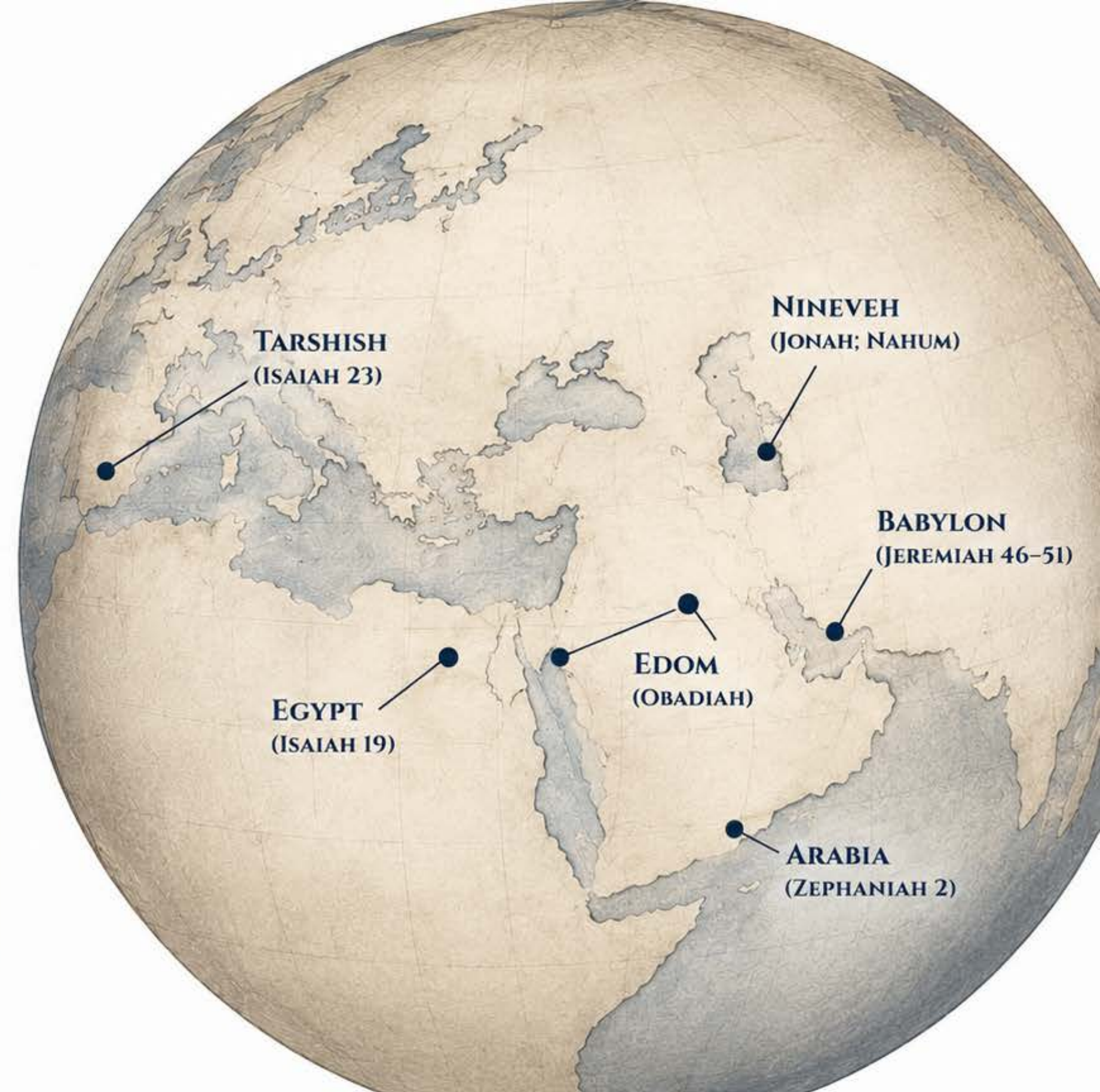


— THE OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS —

GOD'S WORD TO THE NATIONS

....
PROPHECY BEYOND ISRAEL

**GOD HOLDS ALL NATIONS
ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR ACTIONS.**



**FOR NOT FROM THE EAST OR FROM THE WEST
AND NOT FROM THE WILDERNESS COMES LIFTING UP,
BUT IT IS GOD WHO EXECUTES JUDGMENT,
PUTTING DOWN ONE AND LIFTING UP ANOTHER.**

PSALM 75:6-7



GOVERNMENTS SHOULD
PUNISH EVIL AND
ENCOURAGE GOOD.

5 AND FOR YOUR LIFEBLOOD I WILL REQUIRE A RECKONING: FROM EVERY BEAST I WILL REQUIRE IT AND FROM MAN. FROM HIS FELLOW MAN I WILL REQUIRE A RECKONING FOR THE LIFE OF MAN.

**6 “WHOEVER SHEDS THE BLOOD OF MAN,
BY MAN SHALL HIS BLOOD BE SHED,
FOR GOD MADE MAN IN HIS OWN IMAGE.”**

GENESIS 9:5-6

“

ONCE THIS PRINCIPLE IS ESTABLISHED, THEN THE IMPOSITION OF
LESSER PENALTIES FOR LESSER CRIMES IS ALSO VALIDATED, SINCE IF A
GOVERNMENT HAS THE RIGHT TO CARRY OUT THE MOST SEVERE KIND
OF PUNISHMENT, THEN IT CERTAINLY HAS THE RIGHT TO CARRY OUT
LESSER PUNISHMENTS FOR LESSER CRIMES AS WELL.

WAYNE GRUDEM

“ IN THOSE DAYS
THERE WAS NO KING
IN ISRAEL. EVERYONE
DID WHAT WAS RIGHT
IN HIS OWN EYES. ”



JUDGES 17:6



**GOD HAS TAKEN HIS PLACE IN THE DIVINE COUNCIL;
IN THE MIDST OF THE GODS HE HOLDS JUDGMENT:**

**2 “HOW LONG WILL YOU JUDGE UNJUSTLY
AND SHOW PARTIALITY TO THE WICKED? SELAH
3 GIVE JUSTICE TO THE WEAK AND THE FATHERLESS;
MAINTAIN THE RIGHT OF THE AFFLICTED AND THE DESTITUTE.
4 RESCUE THE WEAK AND THE NEEDY;
DELIVER THEM FROM THE HAND OF THE WICKED.”**

PSALM 82:1-4

“

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good.

”

ROMANS 13:1-4

“

But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

”

ROMANS 13:4-7



Civil rulers are a **terror to bad conduct.** (v.3)



Civil rulers give **approval** to those who do good. (v.3)



Civil rulers are **servants** for your good. (v.4)



Civil rulers **punish evil on God's behalf**
(do not bear the sword in vain). (v.4)



GOVERNMENTS SHOULD
SEEK THE GOOD OF THE
PEOPLE, NOT THE RULERS.

11 HE SAID, “THESE WILL BE THE WAYS OF THE KING WHO WILL REIGN OVER YOU: HE WILL TAKE YOUR SONS AND APPOINT THEM TO HIS CHARIOTS AND TO BE HIS HORSEMEN AND TO RUN BEFORE HIS CHARIOTS. 12 AND HE WILL APPOINT FOR HIMSELF COMMANDERS OF THOUSANDS AND COMMANDERS OF FIFTIES, AND SOME TO PLOW HIS GROUND AND TO REAP HIS HARVEST, AND TO MAKE HIS IMPLEMENTS OF WAR AND THE EQUIPMENT OF HIS CHARIOTS. 13 HE WILL TAKE YOUR DAUGHTERS TO BE PERFUMERS AND COOKS AND BAKERS.

1 SAMUEL 8:11-13

14 HE WILL TAKE THE BEST OF YOUR FIELDS AND VINEYARDS AND OLIVE ORCHARDS AND GIVE THEM TO HIS SERVANTS. 15 HE WILL TAKE THE TENTH OF YOUR GRAIN AND OF YOUR VINEYARDS AND GIVE IT TO HIS OFFICERS AND TO HIS SERVANTS. 16 HE WILL TAKE YOUR MALE SERVANTS AND FEMALE SERVANTS AND THE BEST OF YOUR YOUNG MEN AND YOUR DONKEYS, AND PUT THEM TO HIS WORK. 17 HE WILL TAKE THE TENTH OF YOUR FLOCKS, AND YOU SHALL BE HIS SLAVES. 18 AND IN THAT DAY YOU WILL CRY OUT BECAUSE OF YOUR KING, WHOM YOU HAVE CHOSEN FOR YOURSELVES, BUT THE LORD WILL NOT ANSWER YOU IN THAT DAY.”

1 SAMUEL 8:14-18

HERE I AM; TESTIFY AGAINST ME BEFORE THE LORD AND BEFORE HIS ANOINTED. WHOSE OX HAVE I TAKEN? OR WHOSE DONKEY HAVE I TAKEN? OR WHOM HAVE I DEFRAUDED? WHOM HAVE I OPPRESSED? OR FROM WHOSE HAND HAVE I TAKEN A BRIBE TO BLIND MY EYES WITH IT? TESTIFY AGAINST ME AND I WILL RESTORE IT TO YOU.”

⁴ THEY SAID, “YOU HAVE NOT DEFRAUDED US OR OPPRESSED US OR TAKEN ANYTHING FROM ANY MAN’S HAND.”

1 SAMUEL 12:3-4

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LIVE THE TEXT

1. God is sovereign over all nations.

- **Refuse** fear or despair when governments fail us. Christ still reigns!

2. Governments should punish evil and encourage good.

- As Christians, **commend what is good** wherever it is found and **oppose what is evil** regardless of who commits it.

3. Governments should seek the good of the people, not the rulers.

- **Pray** that God would raise up public servants instead of political celebrities.
- Look for opportunities to **serve** your own community. **Refrain** from criticism before engaging in service yourself.

LIVE THE TEXT