

America: Blessings or Curses

Citizenship in Two Realms: Current World Order & Spiritual World

I. Job

A. The Glory of the Lord

Job 39:1-27 (NIV®)

- ¹ "Do you know when **the mountain goats** give birth?
Do you watch when **the doe** bears her fawn?
² Do you count the months till they bear? Do you know the time they give birth?
⁵ "Who let **the wild donkey** go free? Who untied his ropes?
⁹ "Will **the wild ox** consent to serve you? Will he stay by your manger at night?
¹³ "The wings of **the ostrich** flap joyfully, but they cannot compare with the pinions and feathers of **the stork**.
¹⁹ "Do you give **the horse** his strength or clothe his neck with a flowing mane?
²⁶ "Does **the hawk** take flight by your wisdom and spread his wings toward the south?
²⁷ Does **the eagle** soar at your command and build his nest on high?"

B. Job's Response

Job 40:1-5 (NIV®)

- ¹ **The LORD said to Job:** ² "Will the one who contends with the Almighty correct him? Let him who accuses God answer him!" ³ **Then Job answered the LORD:** ⁴ "I am unworthy--how can I reply to you? I put my hand over my mouth. ⁵ I spoke once, but I have no answer-- twice, but I will say no more."

C. God Deals with Wickedness

Job 40:6-14 (NIV®)

- ⁶ Then the LORD spoke to Job out of the storm:
⁷ "Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me.
⁸ "Would you discredit my justice? Would you condemn me to justify yourself?
⁹ Do you have an arm like God's, and can your voice thunder like his?
¹⁰ Then adorn yourself with glory and splendor, and clothe yourself in honor and majesty.
¹¹ Unleash the fury of your wrath, look at every proud man and bring him low,
¹² look at every proud man and humble him, crush the wicked where they stand.
¹³ Bury them all in the dust together; shroud their faces in the grave.
¹⁴ Then I myself will admit to you that your own right hand can save you."

D. Satan Involved in the Earth

Job 41:33-34 (NIV®)

- ³³ Nothing on earth is his equal-- a creature without fear.
³⁴ He looks down on all that are haughty; he is king over all that are proud."

Ephesians 2:1-2 (NIV®)

- ¹ As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you



followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

Matthew 10:29 (NASB®)

"Are not two sparrows sold for a cent? And *yet* not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father.

Luke 12:6 (NIV®)

Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God.

II. Our Present Circumstance

A. Wickedness, Destruction Unleashed — As if a barrier has been removed by God.

B. What Can We Do?

1. Take God seriously . . . Bible, pray

1 Corinthians 9:24-25 (NIV)

²⁴ Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? **Run in such a way as to get the prize.** ²⁵ Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.

2. Groan/grieve the wickedness . . . Do not pursue pleasure as means of escape

Ezekiel 9:3-6 (NIV)

³ Now the glory of the God of Israel went up from above the cherubim, where it had been, and moved to the threshold of the temple. Then the LORD called to the man clothed in linen who had the writing kit at his side ⁴ and said to him, "Go throughout the city of Jerusalem and **put a mark on the foreheads of those who grieve and lament over all the detestable things that are done in it.**" ⁵ As I listened, he said to the others, "Follow him through the city and kill, without showing pity or compassion." ⁶

Slaughter old men, young men and maidens, women and children, but do not touch anyone who has the mark. Begin at my sanctuary." So they began with the elders who were in front of the temple.

Psalms 119:136 (NIV®)

Streams of tears flow from my eyes, for your law is not obeyed.

2 Peter 2:7-10 (NIV®)

⁷ and if he rescued Lot, **a righteous man, who was distressed by the filthy lives of lawless men**

⁸ (for that righteous man, living among them day after day, was tormented in his righteous soul by the lawless deeds he saw and heard)-- ⁹ if this is so, then the Lord knows how to rescue godly men from trials and to hold the unrighteous for the day of judgment, while continuing their punishment. ¹⁰ This is especially true of those who follow the corrupt desire of the sinful nature and despise authority. Bold and arrogant, these men are not afraid to slander celestial beings; ...

2 Timothy 3:1-5 (NIV®)

¹ But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. ² **People will be lovers of themselves,**



lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³ without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, ⁴ treacherous, rash, conceited, **lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God--** ⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them.

3. Recognize your limits, cannot do what only God can do

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 (NIV®)

⁹ But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. ¹⁰ That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For **when I am weak, then I am strong.**

4. Empowered to be witnesses, advocates — Personal experience with God

Acts 1:8-9 (NIV®)

⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

5. Hate evil. Do not befriend evil. (Do not hate people)

Psalms 97:10 (NIV®)

Let those who love the LORD hate evil, for he guards the lives of his faithful ones and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

Romans 12:9 (NIV®)

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.

Ephesians 5:8-11 (NIV®)

Live as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) ¹⁰ and find out what pleases the Lord. ¹¹ Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.

LIVE AS CHILDREN OF LIGHT; FIND OUT WHAT PLEASURES THE LORD; HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH FRUITLESS DEEDS OF DARKNESS