

Topical

A House Divided

Mark 3:24-27

(taking a break from our current study)



If this building was on fire and I continued to preach Revelation today, surely it would do you spiritual good.

But I'd be missing the elephant in the room.

The goal of today's message is not to be political or practical over the spiritual.

The goal is to get our attention on God and see things the way he does.

[2Ki 6:15-17 NKJV] 15 And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" 16 So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who [are] with us [are] more than those who [are] with them." 17 And Elisha prayed, and said, "LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the LORD opened the eyes of

the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain [was] full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

When you look at the world around you, the news, the trends, entertainment, fashion, education, how do you look at it?

Is it somehow separate from the word of God? Do you view the Bible as another silo of interest and information? Do you think of the Bible as relevant?

Or do you come to God's word for what it is: absolute truth. A light and a lamp unto your path? A powerful flashlight in the deep darkness?

Our world and indeed our own country is falling into chaos.

But pastor, your job is to focus on the Bible. The world of politics and current events isn't your concern.

True, it's not my main concern. If it was, I'd be off building a bunker in Alaska somewhere.

But, I can't ignore it. My main charge in life is to love the Lord with all my heart, mind and strength, to love my family, to love the church and spread the Gospel.

I said some things in last week's message that would be deemed hateful by certain people. Although there is no hate in my message or in my words. In fact, the very opposite. There are also things I'm going to say today that part of my also would fear to have out there with cancel culture and everything else going on. That in a few years my free speech to tell the truth won't be as easy to speak. And I'm speaking the truth in love. But if I, a Christian, a father, a husband, a man, a pastor...don't stand up for the truth and speak it, how can I expect anyone else to? Why should anyone?

While I have the freedom to and when I don't may I still!

The Bible also commands

[Rom 13:1-7 NKJV] 1 Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. 2 Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. 4 For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be

afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to [execute] wrath on him who practices evil. 5 Therefore [you] must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. 6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. 7 Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes [are due], customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.

And who is the governing authority of my country? At the root, the Constitution. That is the real governing authority of this nation. All men and women elected and appointed are in service to that law and to the people to uphold that law.

My allegiance is not to a political party or politician or administration, but to uphold the Constitution as a good citizen of the country I live in.

If Christian's are not concerned about their nation, what kind of witness is that? Is my concern to be above the gospel? No. Of course not. But should I be not concerned at all and claim to know the truth yet not stand for it in the public square?

Am I to let tyranny take over? How is that loving my neighbor?

If someone breaks into my house, am I to sit by and pray and let him ravage my family? No. I will pray and I will defend my family at all costs. I will even encourage him to pray. Will I dispatch him outright? No. I will tell him to stop and if he will not comply, force him to stop. Violence being a tool to enforce righteousness. We're seeing that to some degree in Revelation.

What if he's breaking into my neighbor's home and I have every ability to assist. What will my neighbor think of me and the Lord if I just say "I was praying for you!" yeah, well why didn't you pray as you ran over and helped me stop the man or put out the fire???

Now what if it is the government that is invading my neighbor's home unlawfully? Am I to stand by? What if the government is letting a city, state or country burn down? What if the government is no longer following the law of the land and every reasonable method (voting, peaceful protest, petitions, legal action, etc.) is exhausted and the government marches on and does as it wills and tramples on all of my fellow citizen neighbors?

Do we not have a duty to do what is right? To extinguish a fire? To stand up for those who can't speak for themselves? To defend the weak and powerless?

What if I told you our country is on fire right now. That cities, states, laws and more are being perverted, discarded and outright destroyed? That justice has been flipped. The bench is legislating and the populace being used for political gain.

USEFUL IDIOTS - A significant precursor appeared in an article titled "Yugoslavia's Tragic Lesson to the World" by Bogdan Raditsa published in "The Reader's Digest" of October 1946. Raditsa joined the Yugoslav government of communist Josip Broz Tito, and by 1945 he had become the chief of the foreign press section of the Ministry of Information. As the communists consolidated their power in Yugoslavia, Raditsa became disillusioned. He watched as individuals he respected were being arrested, imprisoned, and executed. He believed that his decision to join the government of Tito had been naive and misguided. The communists employed a sardonic label that prompted the shudder of self-recognition. Emphasis added to excerpts by QI: 1

In the Serbo-Croat language the communists have a phrase for true democrats who consent to collaborate with them for "democracy." It is Koristne Budale, or Useful Innocents.

Raditsa rendered this crucial phrase as "Useful Innocents", but a more direct translation of "Koristne Budale" into English yields "Useful Fools".

Raditsa asserted that the recently held elections in the country were not genuinely democratic: 2

Some "Useful Innocents" in the onlooking democratic world were impressed by these elections. They can learn their true nature from General Rankovich of OZNA. Addressing the elected National Assembly of Yugoslavia on March 24 of this year, he said:

"Those who oppose the policy of the present regime cannot possibly put themselves into power through free elections. They cannot participate in the government. And they cannot even exist as a tolerated opposition."

The conclusion of Raditsa's piece included another use of the phrase: 3

Be careful about people whose vocabulary is yours but whose record wherever they hold power is your destruction. Do not be Koristne Budale. Do not be "Useful Innocents."

<https://quoteinvestigator.com/2019/08/22/useful-idiot/>

Prov 28:4-5 (NLT)

To reject the law is to praise the wicked;

to obey the law is to fight them.

Evil people don't understand justice,

but those who follow the LORD understand completely.

Now, what I'm not saying is that there aren't changes that need to happen here, there are and may be in more ways than we know.

BUT...when a mob rules, when due process is ignored and even encouraged, when cities burn, when the supreme court makes decisions that legislate and change governments without a vote...

Tearing down statues...

OK, I'm not going to argue to keep a statue or not. It doesn't really affect me one way or the other. Other than not all statues are bad. Remembering history is good. If they truly were a wicked person, tear it down, save it for antiquity perhaps...but more importantly...

YOU HAVE THE POWER TO VOTE. Go petition the city, put it to a ballot.

We are supposed to live in a representative republic, not a democracy or even worse a mob ruling.

The violent mob should have no right to do anything if they haven't first followed the laws in place to get society's will done.

This is bigger than confederate monuments. This is about overturning all of the west. Just listen to some of our politicians and what they are truly saying. They want to upend all of America.

[Psa 11:3 NKJV] 3 If the foundations are destroyed, What can the righteous do?

Despite any failings of those who founded this country, whether or not they were "true" Christians or not, this country was founded on the Bible and it's principles. It has allowed for greater freedoms, advancements, health and welfare and the spread of the gospel than any other nation in history.

But we started to abandon God. We abandoned him in the church. In science. In the public square. In schools. In healthcare.

And in that vacuum it was quickly filled with other spiritual beliefs. The things atheists believe, despite their best argument, is a spiritual belief.

And now that the spiritual rot has permeated and even been endorsed by "the church" - we want to rebuild our entire society on our new spiritual beliefs. Whether we realize it or not, this is what is happening in our country.

We are not just post-modern, we are violently becoming post-Christian.

The Supreme Court decided that certain discrimination laws now apply to sexual choice, gender choice, etc. All of which are related morally.

Say goodbye to Christian businesses, schools, and churches with employees. All of those who hire people will have to legally hire people who are clearly not following God. Will we have to remain volunteer only? Will it have to be simply grassroots? I think it'll make the gospel prosper.

These times we are living in only further puts my hope and home in heaven. And all the more do I cry "Come Lord Jesus!" But do I want my country to burn? Do I want it destroyed? Do I want my kids growing up under a one-party dictatorship if I can at all stop it? NO. OF COURSE NOT. NO ONE IN THEIR RIGHT MIND WOULD EVER WANT HITLER, OR STALIN, OR CASTRO TO COME TO ABSOLUTE POWER IN THEIR LAND AND SAY "I'M GOING TO HEAVEN SO IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL."

We have every duty as believers to stand up for what is right.

The Supreme Court just turned over half of Oklahoma and it's citizens to another government. Tribal government.

Now I'm not going to argue who's land it was 200 years ago and was it right or wrong and was everything done right or wrong. But what I am arguing is the law of the land is the Constitution. The people living in Oklahoma are citizens of the United States and chose to move to or remain in Oklahoma under their elected officials, under their governing body, in the cities and towns they are in. They did not choose to live on a Reservation. Now all of a sudden, with a snap decision from the highest court in the land, all of their current government gets switched over. And why? Because of something someone did hundreds of years ago.

Where is the vote? Put it up for a vote. Imagine if they were just given to Canada? Or ceded back to Mexico?

When the highest court in the land is about making a potential wrong from centuries ago right by making another wrong...that doesn't fix anything.

The lawless hate the law enforcer. Not all cops are bad. The system of law isn't bad. It is an instrument from above. Government is meant to carry the sword of the law for GOD. It is meant to curb evil.

They want to get rid of law enforcement as it is to put their own law enforcement in place. Who wants a world without law enforcement? Even in CHAZ/CHOP they immediately had their own draconian law enforcement.

But the government is endorsing, paying for evil. Your tax dollars go to pay for murdering babies among other things.

But we didn't care about that.

Say what you will about him, and I don't know his true motives, maybe just for the support, but I think it's more than that ... but our current president was the first president in history to go to the March for Life. Our VP went the year before.

HOW ON EARTH WAS HE THE FIRST PRESIDENT TO GO? Many others have claimed and seemed to be believers but wouldn't step near there for fear of political fallout. Standing up for righteousness sake is now called bigoted. Wanting to build a wall and keep law breakers out is somehow racist. Again, I'm not saying that we shouldn't have immigration reform. But come here legally. Millions of others have and it's a disservice to all to allow the law to be broken.

We can't just ignore it. When there is no rule of law anything goes. The worst part is it's being championed in the streets, in the media and worst of all...in the halls of the government.

The political divide in this country is very deep. Far beyond repair at this point. One side truly says what is wrong is right what is good is evil. The other says the other.

[Mar 3:24-27 NKJV] 24 "If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. 25 "And if a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. 26 "And if Satan has risen up against himself, and is divided, he cannot stand, but has an end. 27 "No one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. And then he will plunder his house.

We saw the enemy divide the home in America: divorce, putting off marriage, kids outside of marriage, kids with same gender "parents" etc. etc.

We see that America is divided. The church was separated from society and after that all hell broke lose.

Satan divided - he seems pretty united now in the world - but as we're in Revelation, other areas of scripture reveal how his one-world kingdom will be divided, kings will rise up against the antichrist, assassinate him then a false resurrection and ultimately a quick defeat by the Lord at the end.

OUR COUNTRY IS FALLING. And much like Rome before it, it will fall not from an enemy without, but the enemy within. Not from terrorism (although I believe 2001 had a strong spiritual significance, so much has changed since that pivotal day - dividing the end of the golden age with now)

Most democracies last 200-300 years at most. We were a representative republic and we just think we're a democracy...but our 250th birthday is in 2026. Will we make it?

There is a fast slide towards accepting and promoting and enforcing evil as the law with every second that passes. There is no political middle ground anymore. We are marching toward a one party system. D.C. a state, now? Of all times? For the electoral college

votes. To change the system before an election. Giving NON-CITIZENS a right to vote! Of course they're going to vote for whoever gives them something they can just opt out of if it doesn't go their way and go to their home land. If their home land was so good, why are they here? Become a citizen then vote. It's all to get power.

The irony is, a lot of people here illegally, from my logical look, are fleeing from governmental, economic and criminal tyranny. Yet they're about to be used

[Isa 5:20-24 NKJV] 20 Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! 21 Woe to [those who are] wise in their own eyes, And prudent in their own sight! 22 Woe to men mighty at drinking wine, Woe to men valiant for mixing intoxicating drink, 23 Who justify the wicked for a bribe, And take away justice from the righteous man! 24 Therefore, as the fire devours the stubble, And the flame consumes the chaff, [So] their root will be as rottenness, And their blossom will ascend like dust; Because they have rejected the law of the LORD of hosts, And despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

Tell me how a mob can threaten and surround some innocent and unrelated people's house. A mob that in its marching before has hurt, killed, destroyed and more. The homeowners simply defend their property out of fear for their lives...and the mob goes free and the law raids the homeowners house. WHEN NO LAW WAS BROKEN BY THEM. It is out of fear of the mob. The city fears what the mob will do so it punishes the good.

When you and I can no longer expect a fair trial (you'll be guilty in the media long before you even get arrested) how can we have any faith in our government that wants and does strip us of our rights?

**My final point
(fitting as we're currently studying Revelation)**

This is what the antichrist will do

"...and [he] shall intend to change times and law" Dan 7:25

He'll probably put it to himself...

But we don't say A.D. B.C. it's now CE and BCE...we've changed the time unit of history to remove God.

We're changing laws and the fundamental principles of the laws of our land and the world.

And the whole world is on board - every society...which only further highlights:

1 John 5:19

We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.

That since we've removed God and don't believe him, trust him, curse him, reject him, there's only one we'll all be under the sway of. Without God we can't resist. Without him, we'll in fact embrace the slavery of the enemy: sin.

And it's clearer by the day. The enemy doesn't have to wear a disguise anymore. He still disguises himself as light, as ENLIGHTENMENT...or in the modern vernacular, "being woke." He's twisting things that matter - choice, freedom, not oppressing someone - TO DO THOSE VERY THINGS WITH THOSE WHO BLINDLY FOLLOW HIM.

Sadly, even the church goes along with this. LAODICEA!

Hosea 4:6a

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.

The church doesn't spend time in the word, doesn't believe the word, but is wrapped up in feeling, in what they think LOVE is and the whole world is standing up for what they believe is right...but it's twisted.

1 John 2:18

Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour.

1 John 4:3

...this is the spirit of the antichrist

When the whole world is going one direction, know it's not the spirit of Christ.

Go where the Spirit of God is leading you, by HIS WORD. Not by a politician's word, or a political movement. Learn from the Bible. Learn from history.

Otherwise we're doomed to repeat it instead of destined to live safe from it.

[Jhn 3:8 NKJV] 8 "The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

[Rom 8:14 NKJV] 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.