

## LEADERS OF NATIONS

### Hosea 8:4

**Introduction:** God requires character in leaders and respects our choice of a leader who doesn't possess character, even though God may not approve of our choice, He still allows us to choose our leaders. In the text, the people did not seek God's will in their choice of leaders so they didn't have God's will to guide them. Poor leaders are God's reward for ungodly people.

A very scary passage of scripture is *1 Samuel 8:18* - "**...Ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye have chosen; and the Lord will not hear you in that day...**" Don't expect God to come to our aid when our chosen leader leads us into disaster! America will and should cry out to God but God will not hear. God have mercy on our country! When one says that character makes no difference, it's a way of saying that God makes no difference.

Our nation is in a crisis! People have said it makes no difference about the honesty or truthfulness of a leader, just as long as he/she does his/her job. But make no mistake, it makes every difference what a leader believes and what he/she does in his/her personal life. Character counts with God and it must count with us if we want to stay the judgment of God on our nation.

The fact is that our country desperately needs the blessings of God! We are ruined without it. *Proverbs 29:2* - "**...When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice, but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn...**" God requires certain characteristics of a nation's leaders before He will bless the nation:

### I. GOD REQUIRES RIGHTEOUSNESS

1. "**...It is an abomination to kings to commit wickedness; for the throne is established by righteousness...**" (*Proverbs 16:12*)
  - The nation's leader is acting for God, and therefore should be godly.
  - An unrighteousness person is unfit for leadership, no matter where. The worst kind of leadership is hypocritical leadership that says one thing but does another. One must "walk the walk, not just talk the talk."
  - One cannot live crooked and think straight, no matter who you are.

### II. GOD REQUIRES WISDOM

1. "**...I, wisdom, dwell with prudence...by me, kings reign and princes decree justice. By me princes rule and nobles, even all the judges of the earth...**" (*Proverbs 8:12; 15-16*)
  - We say we want our leaders to be skilled, but God says that He wants leaders to be wise.
    - It is far better for a leader to be wise than to be intelligent or gifted.
  - Beware of popularity polls. Any person who takes a poll to find out what the people want and then promises those things, whether he/she can deliver them or not is nothing but an opportunistic politician, not a godly leader.
  - Ever wonder how far Moses would have gone had he taken a poll in the wilderness those years?
    - What would Jesus have preached if He had taken a poll to find out what the people really wanted to hear?
  - Wise leadership is far more important than public opinion. Wise leadership that knows right from wrong and follows the right is what God requires.

2. Wisdom is better than a strong economy. *"...In the light of the king's countenance is life; and his favor is as a 'cloud of the latter rain. How much better it is to get wisdom than to get gold! And to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver..." (Proverbs 16:15-16)*
  - God values wisdom and understanding more than gold or silver.
  - When will our nation ever learn that wisdom is far more important than the stock market? This country was founded by people seeking GOD, not gold.

### III. GOD REQUIRES HONESTY

1. *"..Mercy and truth preserve the king..." (Proverbs 20:28)*
  - Liars and leaders are not the same. If a person is a liar, he/she has a character flaw that goes all the way through his/her being. People are not liars because they tell lies. They tell lies because they are liars.
  - A person is never more like the devil than when he/she lies, for Jesus said in **John 8:44** that Satan is a liar and the father of lies. A person is never more like the Lord Jesus than when he/she tells the truth because Jesus, Himself, is the truth. **John 14:6**

### IV. GOD REQUIRES SEXUAL MORALITY

1. A leader must be a person of high sexual morality. If a nation ignores the sins of its leaders, what then of the children? Should there be surprise if the children treat immorality lightly?
2. If a leader is unfaithful to his/her spouse, his/her marriage vows, he/she will lie about other things as well.

### V. GOD REQUIRES PROTECTION OF THE WEAK

1. A leader must speak for those who can't speak for themselves. Defenseless people need to be protected. This nation should stand up for the unborn, the most defenseless of all those who cannot speak for themselves.
  - God commands the one in authority *"...Open thy mouth for the dumb in the cause of all such as are appointed to destruction..."*
2. What we have in our country today is a throne of iniquity for laws have been passed to shed innocent blood, the innocent blood of unborn babies.
  - Nothing is politically right that is morally wrong!
3. The leader of a nation must be a person of righteousness, of wisdom, of absolute honesty, and sexual purity. He/she must protect the weak. These things God requires.

### CONCLUSION:

1. God, who helped our founders establish this nation and who has sustained this nation and brought this nation this far demands that the leader of this nation have character.

2. If America says, "God, we don't need YOU anymore. We don't want YOUR rule anymore. We know what we are doing. We can get along without you now."
  - If America says that, then God will say, "***...if you don't need me now, then don't call on me when you DO need me when judgment falls.***"
3. America needs to ask the same question that the people asked Peter after his sermon on the Day of Pentecost - "***...Men and brethren, what shall we do...?***" (*Acts 2:37*)
4. Our nation needs to:
  - Stop looking to elected officials and pray for revival. The government cannot save America!
  - Prepare for survival for a nation without God is going to have hard and difficult times.
    - Teach children biblical truths that will sustain them and keep them true to God.
  - Get ready for the return of Jesus. Jesus is coming back and on that day He will show the world WHO is King of kings and Lord of lords.
5. You want to be patriotic? The get right with God and help others get right with Him too.