

THE REMNANT

The Remnant - June 14 - The State of the Union (Part 2)

Introduction

When you look at all the issues going on in the world and the ones right here in our own country, it is obvious that everyone and everything needs a Divine intervention. One of the great opportunities we have with the Bible is that we can look back on over 5,000 years of God's promises to His people and specifically His chosen people the Jews. Regardless of how bad things seemingly got for the nation of Israel and regardless of how many times Israel turned away from God, there was always a group of believers who remained faithful and committed to God's will and way. They were not always the most popular group and they certainly lived a counter-cultural type life, but while the nation reaped the destruction that came from abandoning God; this faithful group continued to prosper. All through the Bible you will find God referring to these faithful groups as *The Remnant* and He teaches us through their example that regardless of political, judicial, and national decisions to abandon God's will and way; those who abide in Him will remain in His blessings and become a bright light of hope to those reaping the consequences that come from choosing man's ways over God's ways.

Discussion Questions

1. Read [2 Peter chapter 3](#). Make a list of what God says people will be like in the last days. Have you encountered people behaving like this in your own life or recognized our country's leaders, business leaders, or celebrities behaving like this?
2. Study [Leviticus chapters 25 and 26](#). Make a list of the things God says His people can expect to reap when they put Him and His will and way first? Make a list of the things God says His people can expect to reap when they abandon Him and His will and way? According to *Pew Research* (www.pewresearch.org) 3 million people a year are leaving the church in the U.S., with 7 thousand plus churches closing their doors. Based on this, have you noticed some of the blessings God promises in [Leviticus 25](#) being missed today? In the same line of questioning, have you noticed any of the warnings and disciplines He promised as His people abandoned Him?
3. Look up and study the Jewish Shmita (sometimes spelled: Shemitta). Note some interesting historical events that took place during the Shmita year. Do you believe that any of these events are significant to promises from God? Why or why not?
4. Study the national debt of our country. How much debt is each person (you) responsible for? Babies born this year will be born in debt how much? As we look at current examples like Greece, Spain, Russia and other countries that are declaring bankruptcy, how long do you believe America can sustain her indebtedness? What do you believe God could be saying through such warnings?
5. Read [Revelation chapters 2 & 3](#). Write down what God says each church looks like throughout the church age. What church description do you believe best describes the overall American church today? What does God say that kind of church can expect to reap as a result?

Moving Forward

Things in the world are not getting any better and they will continue to get worse... This is the result of sin and until sin is eradicated, the whole earth will continue to groan for deliverance. Everything is subjected to death which explains why things are the way they are in our world today. If our expectations are for things to get better, we are going to remain disillusioned and disappointed. God has called His people to a better life and according to Jesus an abundant life where our hopes are not in this world or the things of it but are in the kingdom of God and His glory. Ask yourself this week: Is there anything that God has tried to warn me of recently in my life by lovingly disciplining me? If so, then ask: Have I listened and learned from His loving discipline?

Changing Your Mind - Commit this to memory

...you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior (Jesus Christ) through your apostles, knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. - [2 Peter 3:2&3 \(ESV\)](#)