Be Careful What You Ask For!

"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come." 2 Timothy 3:1

Well, the elections came and went, and the Country, and especially the media, rejoiced over the defeat of President Donald Trump. And unless something supernatural happens to change the outcome, Joe Biden and the confirmed socialist-communist Kamala Harris will be the next President and Vice President of our Country. And God help us if they are! America, as we know it, with all of its freedoms, and especially its freedom to worship the Lord openly, will gradually cease to exist.

Perilous times are coming to this Country, and especially for Bible believing Christians. Just recently, a brother in the Lord told me, "every time you go to the Dollar Store, pick up 4 or 5 Bibles and store them in a safe place because he feels the time is coming when Bibles will be outlawed and forbidden in this country." I thought that was a little extreme but just a few days ago, I heard the exact same thing mentioned by Graham Thompson, who is the lead-in for Pastor Perry F. Rockwood on "The Peoples Gospel Hour" radio program. He said, "Canada is passing more and more laws against preaching from the Bible, and eventually he felt the Bible in Canada would be banned because they are already led by socialist, Justin Trudeau. And now, America is following in the same footsteps. It is no coincidence that a brother in the Lord, that I haven't talked to in about 10 months, and Graham Thompson on the radio program, would say the exact same thing within a couple of days of each other.

The following three stories in the Bible are examples of people asking for something that eventually turned out to be ruinous for them. America has just asked for a socialist government, and they've gotten what they asked for, but unfortunately, which like in the following three stories, could also be to their ruin.

In 1Samuel 8:5b, the Jews made a request to Samuel. They said, "now make us a king to judge us like all the nations." This request displeased Samuel and he prayed unto the Lord (vs. 6). "And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them." (vs.7). The Lord told him to hearken to their voice but to tell them what manner of king he would be (vs.9). "And Samuel told all the words of the LORD unto the people that asked of him a king" (vs.10). "And he said, This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: He will take your sons, and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen; and some shall run before his chariots. And he will appoint him captains over thousands, and captains over fifties; and will set them to ear his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots. And he will appoint him captains over his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots. And he will take your daughters to be confectionaries, and to be cooks, and to be bakers. And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your olive yards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants. And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants. And he will take your menservants, and your maidservants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put them to his work. He will take the tenth of your sheep: and ye shall be his servants" (vs 11-17). They were told in verse 18 that they would eventually cry out in that day because of their king, but the people refused to obey (vs. 19). Except for five or six kings over a period of hundreds of years, Israel and Judah were ruled by unrighteous men who led the people into idolatry and wickedness culminating in their destruction. They asked, and got what they asked for, and paid dearly for it.

In the book of Esther, there was a man named Haman who hated the Jewish people (3:6), and especially Mordecai, Esther's uncle, because he would not bow or give him reverence (3:2). Mordecai had told Queen Esther not to reveal her kindred or her people to anyone (2:20). Then, Haman approached the king and asked him, "If it please the king, let it be written that they may be destroyed" (3:9a). It was then that Mordecai instructed Queen Esther to reveal her kindred or nationality to the king so as to save her people from Haman's wicked plot (7:6). Haman's hatred of Mordecai was so great that he even had a gallows built so that he could hang Mordecai (5:14). Once the plot against the Jewish people and the queen was revealed, the king had Haman hanged on the same gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai (7:10). And not only him, but his 10 sons also were slain of the Jews (9:10). Haman asked, and asked amiss, and got according to his deeds.

In Matthew chapter 27, Jesus, after being arrested, spit upon, and buffeted (Matt. 26:67), was taken to Pontius Pilate by the chief priests and elders for trial (vs. 12). Pilate knew that out of envy they had delivered him up (vs. 18)

to be crucified (vs.22). He knew that Jesus was innocent and "When Pilate saw he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it." (vs.24). That's when all the people asked for something that has cost them dearly for almost 2,000 years. They said, "His blood be on us, and on our children." (vs. 25). And it has! Starting with the Jewish rebellion against Rome in 66 A.D., and culminating with the destruction of Jerusalem, the Temple, and the slaughter of hundreds of thousands of Jews in 70 A.D., they have been suffering because of what they asked for. The expulsions, the pogroms, the holocaust, the terror attacks, and all of the wars they have had to fight since their rebirth as a nation in 1948, have all come about because of what they asked, "His blood be upon us and our children." Again, be careful what you ask for, because you just might get it!

Recently, on a show on TCT (Total Christian Television) called "Christ in Prophecy," Dr. David Reagan, who hosts the show, said something startling. He said that, "he believes America's wound is incurable and that the United States is already past the point." David Wilkerson said the exact same thing way back in 1990 in a book written by Nicky Cruz called, "David Wilkerson: A final warning to America." And, look how America has deteriorated since then. He said in his show, that because Donald Trump favored Israel, God's judgment on our Country was slowed down. Then, he also said that Joe Biden's election as President will speed it up.

Genesis 12:3 says – "And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." God's final judgment on a country will not occur when its President, or leader, favors Israel. So maybe the Lord has to remove Donald Trump as president to finally punish America for all of the wickedness it has done against Him. Jeremiah 12:17 says: "But if they will not obey, I will utterly pluck up and destroy that nation, saith the LORD." Only time will tell. All we can do as Christians is pray and keep our eyes on Jesus, the "author and finisher of our faith" (Hebrews 12:2).

And, thank the Father that He sent His only begotten Son to die for all of us sinners (John 3:16). Jesus came, born of a virgin (Matt. 1:23), and of the Jewish race concerning the flesh (Romans 9:5), to offer Himself up as a sinless sacrifice (1Peter 1:19), to atone for all of our sins. He preached for 3 years, starting at the age of 30 (Luke 3:23), the message of repentance toward God. He preached, He healed, He rebuked, and finally exposed the Pharisees and elders for what they were – hypocrites (Matt. 23). They then plotted His death and He was arrested, mocked, spit upon, scourged, illegally tried, and finally crucified (Mark 10:33-34). But, three days later, He rose from the dead (1Cor. 15:3-4) making Him the author and finisher of anyone's faith who comes to God for salvation through Him (John 14:6, 1 Timothy 2:5). And that free gift of salvation is still being offered today in these trying times. So, take that gift today (2 Cor. 6:2) while the true church is still here and there is some sense of normalcy still left in this Country.

Yes, perilous times are headed our way. But we can take comfort in what Jesus said in John 14:27, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." And in Isaiah 26:3, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in Thee." And also in Proverbs 3:5, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart: and lean not unto thine own understanding." The rapture of the church (1Thess. 4:16-18) could come at any time. There is nothing that is holding back the Lord from coming for us. It can even occur today! That is why it is called the "Blessed Hope" (Titus 2:13). Think About it! "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye", we'll be gone (1 Cor. 15:51-53), taken up to heaven to be with our Lord, our Saviour, and our King (John 14:1-3). So in closing, we know that the true Church has that assurance, "and the peace of God which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4:7).

Amen