

Righteousness Exalts A Nation

by David McWilliams

“We decide what moral direction our nation will take by the choices that we make as individual citizens”

Micah 4:1-5 contains a prophecy concerning the church, the kingdom that the God of heaven has set up. In the words of Daniel 2:44, it is a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, a kingdom that shall stand forever.

Micah 4:5 reads, “For all people walk each in the name of his god, but we will walk in the name of the LORD our God forever and ever.” This is a choice that every generation must make. It is a choice that ultimately each individual must make. It is a choice between following your own gods or following Jehovah, the God of heaven.

Joshua had previously issued a similar challenge to the nation of Israel. “Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River, and in Egypt. Serve the LORD! And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD” (Joshua 24:14, 15).

This brings to mind Proverbs 14:34, “Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.” Even though Solomon had yet to record this proverb, Joshua certainly understood its meaning. That is the choice that the nation of Israel had to make, to allow God to exalt their nation by choosing righteousness in following Him or become a disgrace in His sight by serving their own gods. We have to make the same choice today as Americans. We decide what moral direction our nation will take by the choices that we make as individual citizens.

Serving your own gods does not necessarily mean that you have set up some physical idol that you are bowing down to. All it takes to serve your own gods is to allow self to become your god. Your wants and desires are put first, ahead of what God wants and desires. Your god could take the form of your job, your recreation, or your relationships with other people. Just put the God of heaven in second place, and you have given Satan a victory.

Let us determine to walk in the name of the Lord and to persuade our fellow countrymen to join us. God will exalt our nation as a result.

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