

Law and Order

Matthew 24:12-14 (ESV)

¹²And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. ¹³But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ¹⁴And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

Jesus points out how important the teachings of God are to a society. You will remember that when Israel was faithful to the teachings they conquered and were prosperous. When they deviated from those words, they failed and were conquered.

We translate the word, “Law” (as in the ‘Law’ of Moses) from the word, “Torah.” Torah includes the commands and rules of God, but it is more. It should be better translated as “teachings” or “instructions.” That gives it a whole different connotation. Certainly, God gives commands that we are to obey. But He also gives teachings that have nothing to do with salvation, which will enhance our lives.

Consider that when Jesus speaks about “lawlessness,” He isn’t merely referring to violating the civil codes of a community or nation, He is talking about people who are “Torah-less.” That is, they live without the teachings or instructions of God.

When we ignore the teachings of God or rebel against them as the current Marxist groups are doing, we open the door to decadence within our society. God is ignored and His words are rejected. If we create such a vacuum, what will fill it? Only wickedness of every kind! God will not hold us guiltless for unrepented wickedness but will reveal His wrath upon it as we see in **Romans 1**.

We are in a spiritual war right now in America. Many Christians are finally waking up to the realities of Good vs. Evil. They are finally seeing the corruption on all levels of our nation. They are finally praying as never before! We are aware now, more than ever, of the distress in **Isaiah 5:20** (ESV):

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!

Jesus points out in **verse 12** of our text that when God’s words are ignored love grows cold. Have you noticed it? Love for God is on the decline. More and more attempts to undermine the scriptures are happening. Once both major political parties acknowledged God and wanted His direction. Today, one of those parties has officially excluded Him from their platform. The other gives lip service to Him and in the political back rooms renounce Him by their behavior.

Have you noticed the growing anger and hatred among Americans? Racial tensions are mounting. Critical Race Theory has been introduced and taught by the Marxists on several levels for the purpose of dividing in order to conquer. Division is on every hand so that there’s not much, “**Love thy neighbor as thyself**” any more. By the way, that is the answer to overcoming all of this tension and anger. If we break the cycle of hate with love we will push back the evil. It is a challenge to love enemies and those who hate you, but it is biblical. It is what a disciple of Jesus does.

Love HAS grown cold because people do not want to acknowledge the presence of God. If we acknowledge His presence we are compelled to hear to Him. If we reject or ignore Him we feel safe in our cabal, our “**den of thieves**” (**Jeremiah 7:11**). But. There is a day of reckoning coming. Hiding in our presumably safe

places outside the will of God won't benefit us. God sees what we do. God knows the hearts of men. We will be held accountable.

Our national ancestors understood their place before God. They knew that He was aware of their actions. They tried to live knowing they were accountable to Him. So, when we pledge, "**One nation UNDER God,**" there is a reason. National independence from tyranny begins with personal dependence on God and accountability to Him.

That kind of conscience is absent today among many Americans. We have forgotten the word of God and failed in our knowledge of Him. Just observe all of the elements attached to the election fraud of November, 2020. The evidence points at national and international conspiracies to cheat. There are attempted cover-ups. There is no indications of conscience among the guilty. To them the "ends justify the means."

Jesus reminds us in **Matthew 24:35** that heaven and earth will pass away but His words will remain – forever. Nations rise and fall by His will. To succeed as a nation we **MUST** build and maintain it on the word of God. Our Founders attempted this. The following quote has been attributed to James Madison:

"We have staked the whole future of American civilization, not upon the power of government, far from it. We have staked the future of all of our political institutions upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves, to control ourselves, to sustain ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God."

Until next time I want to encourage you to Keep the Light of God's Word Burning!