

THE NATION
and kingdom
that will not serve thee (God)
shall
PERISH

A Pulpit Commentary on Isaiah 60:12

Isaiah 60:12 *For the nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish; yea, those nations shall be utterly wasted.*

The word "nation" has its roots in the Hebrew word, gowy go'-ee, which is sometimes translated, Gentiles.

Isaiah 60:12-pulpit commentary-MP3 The corresponding message as preached by Dr.Bliss

As a Gentile nation we have judicially, legislatively, morally, politically and in every way imaginable rejected God and His word. We have kicked prayer, Bible reading, the Ten Commandments, and any mention of the God of the Holy Bible out of our schools. Therefore, our schools have become hotbeds of paganism. Or as Dr. Thomas Sowell recently wrote, "... *hotbeds of propaganda.*" We have falsely taught our students for decades that they are nothing more than animals, products of evolutionary, chance, random processes of protoplasm with no eternal soul. Is it any wonder after teaching our young people this nonsense that some of them act like animals?

This verse that has impacted me greatly recently; in doing research on the verse I found the following comments in the **Pulpit Commentary**:

Isaiah 60:12

The nation... that will not serve thee (God) shall perish. God's curse shall be upon them; they shall wither and decay for lack of the Divine favour and of the graces which God dispenses to mankind through his Church.

The condition of national prosperity

"Every nation shall fall unless it serves the Lord, the righteous God, the God of Israel, through whom alone is salvation. The figure of serving Israel means serving the God of Israel" (Matthew Arnold). Foerster remarks that "the Roman pontiffs

abuse this oracle of the prophet to establish their tyranny over monarchs. In particular, it is recorded of Pius IV, that at the time of his election he caused a coin to be struck, on one side of which was his own image, adorned with a triple crown, and on the other these words of the prophet were inscribed." Barnes gives suggestions for the historical illustration of the passage: "The idea of the verse is that no nation can flourish and long continue that does not obey the Law of God, or where the true religion does not prevail, and the worship of the true God is not maintained. History is full of affecting illustrations of this. The ancient republics and kingdoms fell because they had not the true religion. The kingdoms of Babylon, Assyria, Macedonia, and Egypt; the Roman Empire, and all the ancient monarchies and republics, soon fell to ruin because they had not the salutary restraints of the true religion, and because they lacked the protection of the true God. France cast off the government of God in the first Revolution, and was drenched in blood. It is a maxim of universal truth that the nation which does not admit the influence of the laws and the government of God must be destroyed. No empire is strong enough to wage successful war with the great Jehovah; and, sooner or later, notwithstanding all that human policy can do, corruption, sensuality, luxury, pride, and far-spreading vice will expose a nation to the displeasure of God, and bring down the heavy arm of his vengeance." The precise form in which this subject is dealt with must depend on the standpoint of the preacher. It is better, therefore, only to give the lines in which thoughts, arguments, and persuasions may run. The conditions of national prosperity are—

- I. BELIEF IN GOD. *Atheism never has built up, and never can build up, a stable nation. An atheistic nation is like a wall of loose stones. There is nothing to bind it into a unity of strength.*
- II. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GOD. *From different points of view the absolute necessity for some public and authorized testimony of the national faith may be urged.*
- III. OBEDIENCE TO GOD. *By the recognition of his Law as the absolute standard of national righteousness, the final court of appeal.*
- IV. REFERENCE TO GOD. *In all times of national perplexity or peril. "Righteousness exalteth a nation," but righteousness is this-trying to know God's will, and trying to do it.-R.T.*

End of edited article.

The gist of the comments and verses referenced above could not be clearer.

In my research I was struck by the idea that not only do these verses apply to the nation of Israel but also to the Gentile nations. I believe that there is a universal application to the teaching that Mr. Barnes states in the Pulpit Commentary article, *The idea of the verse is that **no nation** can flourish and long continue that does not obey the Law of God, or where the true religion does not prevail, and the worship of the true God is not maintained.* (Emphasis mine.) **No nation**, not just the Jews but the Gentiles.

Even the churches of America have rejected God's word. Church after church has embraced paganism as they have rejected the revealed will and word of God by installing women and sodomites in their pulpits. This in the name of progress and modernism. God is not pleased with this, and any nation, even America, will perish if they do not repent and turn back to the word of God.

The Pulpit Commentary editor of the above article then goes on to reference,

Zechariah 14:17-19 *And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain. And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that have no rain; there shall be the plague, wherewith the LORD will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles.*

The nation of Israel rejected God and His word, and the prophets, including Jeremiah warned them that if they continued on that path they would be destroyed. However, God also warned the neighboring Gentile nations that they would not escape His wrath either.

Jeremiah 12:17 *But if they will not obey, I will utterly pluck up and destroy that nation, saith the LORD.*

Jeremiah 25:13 *And I will bring upon that land all my words which I have pronounced against it, even all that is written in this book, which Jeremiah hath prophesied against all the nations.*

The word of God is replete with warnings to people and nations that if they will not heed His word, they will be destroyed. Yet, people and nations continue on down their path to destruction, just as Israel did so many thousands of years ago. In spite of their many warnings, Israel went into captivity and desolation. The nation has never been the same since. And the United States will not escape the wrath of God either. **NO** nation can ignore God and prosper. Raising taxes, the debt limit, and all of the other

plans that our irresponsible, Godless so-called leaders concoct will not help one iota unless we get back to the Triune God of the Holy Bible and His word.

Proverbs 3:5-6 *Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.* Nothing can change the truth of these verses and to ignore them is to invite sure destruction. Mankind will serve God or "**perish.**" If our leaders refuse to let God and His word lead the way, America will perish, it "**shall be utterly wasted.**"

Note in our original text the last phrase, "...**yea, those nations shall be utterly wasted.**" The word wasted is the Hebrew word, 'charab khaw-rab' which is doubled there. Mr. Strong defines the word as, ...chareb {khaw-rabe'}; a primitive root; to parch (through drought) i.e. (by analogy,) to desolate, destroy, kill:- decay, (be) desolate, destroy(-er), (be) dry (up), slay, X surely, (lay, lie, make) waste. Isn't it interesting that the words parch and drought are used in connection with desolate, destroy, kill etc. As was stated above, the history of the world is replete with examples of nations that have rejected God and His word and have been wasted. Will the USA be next?

The only way to escape the judgment of God is to flee to the Refuge, the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the Saviour and every person must trust Him or perish.

John 5:24 *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.*

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