GOD, THE ULTIMATE WINNER - ALL THE TIME

At the time of this writing, it is not yet perfectly clear, who had won the Presidential election in the United States. There will be court procedures and processes that will be brought forth. There will be the posturing of being the winner of the election by both sides.

However, as a born again believer in Jesus, we can rest assured that the only one who truly is the winner is the Almighty God. He never loses but rather is always the One who is "running the show" and His ways are always in the forefront – no matter what anyone thinks, says or does – period!!!

As believers in Jesus and as born again children of God, we are to be a part of the process of electing those in our country who we think or who we believe should be in office to lead our country in the way that it should go in the next four years. Regardless of what each and every one of us thinks and/or believes concerning the electing of those to run our country, the ultimate One who does the final choosing and does the final process of putting into leadership those in which He desires and wants, **for His purposes** – is God.

That may be difficult for many of us to hear or even grasp. However, it is the ultimate truth. No matter whom you may have voted for, God knew, in advance, who the winners were going to be and ultimately the way our country would go for His ultimate "end time" purposes and plans.

Regardless of how one may look at the election within our nation, the ultimate thing that all believers throughout the world need to look at and be aware of and pay attention to are the signs of the times we are living in. There are those who are reading this essay who live, dwell and are a part of other nations. We must all believe in the same thing – God has a plan and it is <u>His plan</u> for the coming end times and it will ultimately be in His time.

It is at these times when we are electing officers within the United States that we all think of God and believe that we are to vote as He would desire us to vote. This is absolutely correct. However, that is also where it is to end. Once we have voted and have done our civic duty as a member of our community and nation, we must pray and then leave it alone. We are to trust in God who is our ultimate and final authority – for He is God.

As believers, we must hold onto the fact which is found within His Word which tells us that each one of us lives in this world. However, each one of us is <u>not a part of this world</u>. (John 17:14-15) The word "world" in the New Testament comes from the Greek word "cosmos." The word "cosmos" most often refers to the people who live on this earth which are apart from God. We know that Satan is the temporary "ruler" of this "cosmos" (John 12:31; 16:11; 1 John 5:19).

Therefore, the definition of the word "world" refers to a world system ruled by Satan – at least for the time being. When we grasp this fact, we can appreciate Jesus' claim that believers are "no longer of the world." What He means by this is that we are no longer ruled by sin, nor are we bound by the principles of this sinful world. Our "leader" is no longer Satan or anyone other than God, Himself. It is this time within each one of our lives that we are to desire to be changed into the image of Christ. As we are changed into His image, our interest in the things of the world should begin to become less and less as we grow in Christ.

As believers in Jesus who now dwell in the world we are physically present in it, but we are not of it. We are not part of its values (John 17:14-15). As believers, we are to be set apart from the world. This is the meaning of being holy and living a holy, righteous life—to be set apart. We, as children of the Most High God, are to no longer engage in the sinful activities that this world promotes, nor are we to retain the corrupt mind that the world creates within the non-believer.

Being "in the world" means that we can enjoy the things of the world, such as the beautiful creation God has given us. However, we are not to immerse ourselves in what the world values, nor are we to chase after worldly pleasures. This includes the political things of this world. This can sometimes be difficult for any believer. We can get "caught up" in the things of this world, especially, in these days.

We must always be reminded that the real enemy is Satan. This is a fact that we always need to be, or should I say that we always must be, mindful and reminded of. It is very easy to get caught up in the things of this world. I am not saying that we are to be silent concerning declaring things that are incorrect as long as they are incorrect when it comes to being opposite of the ways of God.

It is difficult to say what I am about to say, however, it must be said. Any way of governing within this world is not the absolute correct way of governing. Whether you believe in democracy, socialism or communism or any other type of governing system — whatever way you would lean — they are all incorrect. The only absolute and correct way of governing is found in the scriptures and in the "end time" prophecies when Jesus is on the throne here on this earth and He is ruling and reigning.

God has allowed various forms of government throughout the ages. He has allowed different rulers throughout the ages and in different parts of the world. Some have been good and some have been very bad. We must realize that throughout history, Satan has always and he continues to try to thwart God's plans. Many times it seemed that he did. However, as we are all very much aware of is that He never did truly have control over this world nor could he ever for God was and is, always, in total control of all things.

We think of the crucial time in history when Jesus walked this earth only to be crucified. It seemed as though Satan won the ultimate victory. However, we have learned that even though it may have seemed as if Satan was in control and won the ultimate victory, that it was God who was always in control and won the final victory.

Jesus ultimately defeated Satan when He died and went to hell. Jesus then rose from the dead. Not only did He rise from the dead but He walked upon this earth again. Then Jesus ascended into Heaven and is now seated on the right hand of the Father. He is waiting to return a second time to take His place upon the throne in Jerusalem to rule this whole earth for 1000 years.

Yes, God is in control. God is in total control of any and every situation that arises in our lives, our country, as well as in all the countries throughout the earth for God is God. If you are feeling on edge, worried, or anxious you are not alone! Uncertainty quickly leads to fear and fear erodes away at our faith.

Fear can be powerful. In fact, fear is one of Satan's most used tactics to get us to doubt God. We have the power to overcome anxiety and fear with God's promises. Despite what we feel, we need to remind ourselves that God is in control. When everything around us feels out of control we can always rely on the truth of God's Word to strengthen us and continually renew our strength.

The Bible teaches that God's sovereignty is an essential aspect of who he is. He has supreme authority and absolute power over all things. The scripture tells us in Ephesians 1:11, "...all things according to the counsel of his will." The question we must truly answer within each one of our hearts is, "Do I truly believe that fact as written with His Word."

God is a sovereign God. What does that really mean? The definition of the term "sovereign" means to be one who has **supreme** power or authority over **all** things. There is absolutely nothing that happens in the universe or upon this earth that is outside of God's influence and authority. Being sovereign means that God is the ultimate source of all power, authority, and everything that exists. It is only God who can make those claims. It is God's sovereignty that truly makes Him the superior to everything and anyone else.

There will come a time, and it is coming soon, where there will be "one" who will stand up against that supreme and absolute truth. That "one" is called the "antichrist." Soon and very soon we shall see someone arise to that position upon the earth. It will start off with 3½ years of goodness and tranquility. It is meant to lull many or even cause some who declare their belief in Jesus, to "sleep." However, after those 3½ years there will come another 3½ years that will come. This will be a terrible time. It will be during this time when there will be anarchy when that "one, the "antichrist" throws everything aside and declares himself to be god over this whole earth.

It will be at the conclusion of these final 3½ years that Jesus will return and remove the "antichrist." Jesus will then begin His ultimate rule and reign for 1000 years upon this earth. Those of us that remained faithful to Him and Him alone will rule along with Him over this earth for those 1000 years. When those 1000 years are finished then the final judgment will come and a new earth shall come forth.

That in a brief "nutshell" is what those who believe in and trust in God's Word and God's Word alone will see and be a part of. That is what it is all about. So now, doesn't an election that took place this year in one country seem so trivial compared to the things that will ultimately come to pass for the glory of God?

As mentioned previously, God is God. Amen and amen!!!

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