

ONE NATION UNDER GOD

July 3, 2016

God has a plan for nations as He does for individuals.

Job 12:23 "He makes the nations great, then destroys them; He enlarges the nations, then leads them away.

Nations have a corporate life, so they are, as it were, individuals, with a distinct individual character and action. Just as God uses the individual man for his purposes, so he uses the individual nation. (from; R A Torrey; the Pulpit Commentary)

The word nation(s) is used 643 times in the (NASU) Bible.

God divided the earth into nations, after the flood (Gen 10:1-32)

Dt 32:8 "When the Most High gave the nations their inheritance, When He separated the sons of man, He set the boundaries of the peoples According to the number of the sons of Israel.

The 3 sons of Noah - Shem, Ham, and Japheth (Gen 10:1)

Gen 10:1 Now these are the records of the generations of Shem, Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah; and sons were born to them after the flood.

Gen 10:32 These are the families of the sons of Noah, according to their genealogies, by their nations; and out of these the nations were separated on the earth after the flood.

Japheth (Gen 10:2-5)

Gen 10:5 From these the coastlands of the nations were separated into their lands, every one according to his language, according to their families, into their nations,

Ham (Gen 10:6-20)

Gen 10:20 These are the sons of Ham, according to their families, according to their languages, by their lands, by their nations.

Shem (Gen 10:21-32)

Gen 10:31 These are the sons of Shem, according to their families, according to their languages, by their lands, according to their nations .

He established their boundaries.

Rom 13:1 very person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.

Established = to arrange in an orderly manner, to assign or dispose to a certain position or lot; (Strong). It is used 8X in NT; (Mt 28:16; Lk 7:8; Ac 13:48; 15:2; 22:10; 28:23; Rom 13:1; 1Cor 16:15)

Boundaries = to mark out or bound; to appoint, decree, specify: (from Strong's Concordance). It is used 8X in NT; (Lk 22:22; Ac 2:23; 10:42; 11:29; 17:26, 31; Rom 1:4; Heb 4:7)

Ac 17:26 and He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation,

The nations belong to God:

He rules over the nations. (Ps 22:27-28); See also 1Chr 29:11; Ps 47:8; 66:7; Isa 40:22; Dan 4:17, 25, 32; Ob 21; Rev 15:3

The Lord is Judge over all the nations

Zep 3:8 "Therefore wait for Me," declares the LORD, "For the day when I rise up as a witness. Indeed, My decision is to gather nations, To assemble kingdoms, To pour out on them My indignation, All My burning anger; For all the earth will be devoured By the fire of My zeal." (Ps 9:8, 19-20; 58:11; 82:1, 8; 94:2; 96:13; 98:9; 110:6; Is 40:23; Ob 15; Zep 3:8)

God establishes political leaders, they are servants of God (Rom 13:1-7)

1 Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God. ... 4 for it is a minister of God to you for good. ... for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil. ... 6 ... for rulers are servants of God, ...

Nations that uphold righteousness are blessed

Pr 14:34 Righteousness exalts a nation, ...
Pr 16:12 ...For a throne is established on righteousness.
Pr 20:28 ... And he upholds his (king's) throne by righteousness.
Pr 25:5 ... his throne will be established in righteousness.

No nation pleases the Lord,

Isa 34:2 for the LORD'S indignation is against all the nations, And His wrath against all their armies; He has utterly destroyed them, He has given them over to slaughter.

The nations dig a pit and fall in.

Ps 9:15 The nations have sunk down in the pit which they have made; In the net which they hid, their own foot has been caught. (Isa 10:1-2)

The cup of God's wrath against nations

God requires repentance of a nation to avoid His judgment

Jer 18:7-10 "At one moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to uproot, to pull down, or to destroy it; 8 if that nation against which I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent concerning the calamity I planned to bring on it. 9 "Or at another moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to build up or to plant it; 10 if it does evil in My sight by not obeying My voice, then I will think better of the good with which I had promised to bless it.

The cup of wrath will be drunk by the nations

Jer 25:15-17 For thus the LORD, the God of Israel, says to me, "Take this cup of the wine of wrath from My hand and cause all the nations to whom I send you to drink it. 16 "They will drink and stagger and go mad because of the sword that I will send among them." 17 Then I took the cup from the LORD'S hand and made all the nations to whom the LORD sent me drink it: (Jer 25:12-29; Am 1:1- 2:6)

Ps 75:6-8 For not from the east, nor from the west, Nor from the desert comes exaltation; 7 But God is the Judge; He puts down one and exalts another. 8 For a cup is in the hand of the LORD, and the wine foams; It is well mixed, and He pours out of this; Surely all the wicked of the earth must drain and drink down its dregs. (Ps 75:1-10)

Examples:

God's wrath against Israel (Isa 51:17, 22;Ezk 23:32-34; Zec 12:2-3)

God's wrath against Edom (Jer 49:12; La 4:21)

God's wrath against Babylon (Jer 51:7; Hab 2:16; Rev 14:10; 16:19; 18:6)

Jesus drank the cup of God's wrath

Lk 22:42 "Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours be done." (Mt 20:22-23; 26:39-42; Mk 10:38-39; 14:36; Jn 18:11)

God also has a cup of blessing (Ps 16:5; 23:5; 36:8; 116:12-13)

Eschatology is God's claim on the nations.

Lk 21:25 There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth dismay among nations , in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves,

Isa 30:27-28 Behold, the name of the LORD comes from a remote place; burning is His anger and dense is His smoke; His lips are filled with indignation and His tongue is like a consuming fire; His breath is like an overflowing torrent, which reaches to the neck, to shake the nations back and forth in a sieve, and to put in the jaws of the peoples the bridle which leads to ruin.

Isa 14:26-27 This is the plan devised against the whole earth; and this is the hand that is stretched out against all the nations. For the Lord of hosts has planned, and who can frustrate it? And as for His stretched-out hand, who can turn it back?

Isa 16:8 The Lord of the nations have trampled down its choice clusters

Jesus will rule all nations (Ps 2:1-12)

2 The kings of the earth take their stand And the rulers take counsel together Against the LORD and against His Anointed, ... 7 "I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. 8 'Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, And the very ends of the earth as Your possession. 9 'You shall break them with a rod of iron, You shall shatter them like earthenware.' ... 12 Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish in the way, For His wrath may soon be kindled. ...(Ps 9:7-8)

Our Response**We are to submit to those in authority.**

Tit 3:1 Remind them to be subject to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good deed (Rom 13:1-7; Heb 13:17; 1Pt 2:13-17)

We are to pray - motivation to pray:**Peaceful and tranquil life.**

1 Tim 2:1-4 First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Success and prosperity

Jer 29:4-7 Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon, Build houses and live in them; and plant gardens and eat their produce. Take wives and become the fathers of sons and daughters, and take wives for your sons and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; and multiply there and do not decrease. Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf; for in its welfare you will have welfare.'

We are to build our family and seek the welfare of our city (Nation).

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We are to share the gospel

Mt 28:19-20 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

Mk 11:17 And He began to teach and say to them, "Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'? but you have made it a robbers' den."

Mk 13:10 "The gospel must first be preached to all the nations.