

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR THE USA? Jason Patrick Hilburn.

What does God have in store for the USA? I do not know, but I know what He does NOT have in store. Friends, the USA will not last forever. The USA is not the everlasting kingdom foretold in the Old Testament to begin in Jerusalem during the days of the Roman kings (Daniel 2; Isaiah 2; Joel 2; Haggai 2). The USA is not the “holy nation” referred to in 1 Peter 2:9. It’s not the kingdom that will be delivered up to God when Jesus returns (1 Cor. 15:22-24). Those descriptions belong solely to the Lord’s church/nation/kingdom that He died to establish (Matt. 16:18-19, 28; Acts 20:28). The USA needs to remember what Psalm 9:17 says: “The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God” (cf. Prov. 14:34). If the USA chooses the path of rebellion against God, that path leads to destruction.

Also remember that God has often used even wicked leaders to accomplish His will (Exodus 9:16; Daniel 4:17; Habakkuk 1; John 19:11). There are things God does in His providence that are beyond our understanding (Isa. 55:8-9; Rom. 11:33; 13:1-7). Clearly, God’s main goal is for people to be in Heaven with Him forever (Rom. 5:8-10; 1 Tim. 2:3-4; 2 Peter 3:9). This nation and this world need to be seen the way God does, with eternity in mind (1 Cor. 2:16; 2 Cor. 4:16-18).

I love the USA, and I am not saying the USA is about to fall, but one day it will come to its end, just like every other earthly nation (2 Peter 3:10-12). Until then, Christians in America need to pray for its leaders and be godly citizens (Rom. 13; 1 Tim. 2:1-5; 1 Peter 2:13-23). We need to make sure we are faithful members of Christ’s everlasting kingdom and that our citizenship is in Heaven (Matt. 16:18-19,28; Col. 1:13; Phil. 3:20; Heb. 12:22-29; Rev. 1:9). Maybe we need to be reminded that Christians are like those of ancient times who were “strangers and pilgrims on the earth,” desiring “a better country, that is, a heavenly” (Heb. 11:13-16; cf. Matt. 6:19-21; Col. 3:1-2).

When I compare Christ’s kingdom to the USA, I’m so thankful our King does not change every four years! I’m so thankful our King can never be defeated by His enemies! I’m so thankful that our King loves righteousness and hates all sin! That is why God the Father exalted His Son Jesus to be our Righteous King — the King of all kings (Matt. 28:18; Heb. 1:9; Rev. 17:14). Our King does not use profanity. He is the epitome of humility. He hates the shedding of innocent blood. He hates racism,

adultery, homosexuality, pedophilia, and sins of every kind (Prov. 6:16-19; Luke 10:25-37; 1 Cor. 6:9-11; Jude 7). He has never committed even one sin (Heb. 4:15; 1 Peter 2:22).

Our King commands men to love God first and love their neighbors as much as they love themselves (Matt. 22:36-40; Phil. 2:3-5). He commands His followers to pray for their enemies and do good to them (Matt. 5:43-48; Rom. 12:9-21), and if there is one thing our nation is missing, it's LOVE! That is because most people do not understand who the True Ruler is, and that He is love (1 John 4:8-11). One day they will. One day every person who has ever lived will bow down before King Jesus, confessing His glory with their mouths: "For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God" (Rom. 14:11; cf. Phil. 2:9-11). On that day it will be too late to be saved from God's wrath. There is no day that compares with the day the Lord God Almighty returns in judgment against this wicked world — the day the righteous Lamb returns in the clouds as the Lion of Judah (Matt. 24:35-39; 1 Thess. 4:13–5:3; 2 Thess. 1:7-9; Rev. 5:5).

Nothing is more important than getting ready for that day. All men are amenable to King Christ's law, whether they realize it or not. We will all be judged by His Words (Matt. 28:18-20; John 12:48; 1 Cor. 9:21; 2 Cor. 5:10; James 1:22-25). Seek His kingdom now, before it's too late (Matt. 6:33)! A penitent believer in Christ must be born of water and of the Spirit to enter that kingdom, remaining faithful after water baptism (John 3:5; 6:63; Acts 2:36-41; 10:6,35,47,48; 22:16; Eph. 5:26; Heb. 10:22-31; 1 Peter 3:20-21; 2 Peter 2:20-22; 1 John 1:6–2:6).

Regardless of who the president is, if persecutions come, or even if the USA falls, citizens of Christ's eternal kingdom can have a peace that passes understanding, trusting God with nothing to fear (Prov. 3:5-6; Rom. 8:31; Phil. 4:4-13; 2 Tim. 1:7). That said, our main mission is to spread God's Word in this world. It will always be controversial (Matt. 28:18-20; John 8:40; Gal. 4:16; 2 Tim. 3:12).

No matter what happens, serve the King, pledge allegiance to Him, and stand up and proclaim His Word without fear! (JasonsBibleBlog.com)

-From Seek The Old Paths

Braggs church of Christ Bulletin

January 3, 2021

Sick & Shut-in

Bennett, Norma
Brashear, Logan
Bunch, Margaret
Cash, Joe
Cunningham, Jerry
Evans, Carla
Evans, Steve
Hall, Donna
Horn, Bobby
Moore, Jean
Mouse, Tyler
Nunez, Bob
Prichard, Barbara
Prichard, Bobby
Sturgeon, Wayne
Sullins, Ray

The following are suffering from Covid:

Dawn West,
Wayne Casey
Clint Mackey
Wanda McCarty

Evangelism

Cliff Lyons, Ilya Muzychenko and Markov Roman, Russia
Ricky Gootam, India
House to House/Heart to Heart
Website - Braggschurhofchrist.com
Facebook.com@braggscc
In Search of The Lord's Way- Tulsa, OK, on
KQCW TV 19 - Sun 7:30 am

Attendance

December Average - 32
Attendance last Sunday - 29

Scripture Reading – Prov. 1:13-15

News & Notes

Gospel Meeting with Allen Webster - July 25-27, 2021

January 2021 calendars are on the table in the back of the building – also pocket calendars for 2021

Please remember Tex Gilliam and family in your prayers. He has been placed on Hospice.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Heather England who recently passed away.

Please pray for Marilyn's mother, Wanda McCarty, who has tested positive for Covid this past Thursday. Also pray for the other residents of the nursing home.