

1. Will the United States ever come BACK to God?

2. When the Bible says that Satan rules this world...

- Luke 4:5-6 The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant ALL the kingdoms of the world. And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to.
- > <u>I John 5:19</u> We know that we are children of God, and that the WHOLE WORLD is UNDER the CONTROL of the EVIL ONE.

and that the END will be marked by rampant Immorality & increased Hatred of Christians!

- Matt. 24: 3, 9-13 the disciples came to him privately. "Tell us," they said, "when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" ⁹ Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. ¹⁰ At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, ¹¹ and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. ¹² Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, ¹³ but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. ²¹ For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again. ²² "If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened.
- II Tim. 3:1-5 But mark this, there will be **TERRIBLE** times in the **LAST days**. People will be **LOVERS** of **THEMSELVES**, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, **LOVERS** of **PLEASURE** rather than lovers of God. Having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them.
- > Daniel 7:25, 8:23-25, II Thess. 2:1-12

and that Suffering and Persecution are NORMAL for Christians.

- > <u>2 Tim. 3:12</u> In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.
- <u>1 Peter 4:12-16</u> Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice in as much as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. ¹⁵ If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. ¹⁶ However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.
- > <u>I John3:13</u> Do **not** be **surprised**, brothers, that the **world hates you**.
- Mt. 5:10-12,44, 13:21, Jn. 16:1-4, 2 Cor. 4:8-12, 12:10, Rom. 8:17-18, 35-39, 12:14,17-21, Phil. 1:29, II Tim. 1:8, Rev. 6:9-11

Where does that **place us** as **Christians** in **relation** to what we should **DO**?

- > What is our **IDENTITY & PURPOSE?**
- > What is our **RESPONSIBILITY** and what should we **DO**?

1. Eternal or Cosmological Dualism

This is the belief that there are two equal and opposing realities - good and evil. These forces are in an eternal battle with one another. There are several religions such as Taoism that hold to an eternal dualism. It is most clearly seen in the Star Wars movies with the "Force".

The dualistic idea is not biblical. God and Satan are NOT equals. Satan is a created being that came into existence at a time in the past when God created him and the Bible also predicts that he will have an end.

When a Christian is not aware that they operate out of an "Eternal Dualism" mentality, they **feel "RESPONSIBLE**" for the **RESULTS** in **SOCIETY**. They feel **great pressure, frustration** and **anxiety** related to elections and the direction of our country. It is no longer good enough to do all that they know to do. Because they feel that **they** are the **TIPPING POINT** in this equal battle, it is **their** prayers, **their** actions and **their effort** that ultimately is what will determine the victory. This identity produces tremendous anxiety and ultimately tremendous pride.

2. Dominionism or Kingdom Now Theology

Is the world going to get BETTER? or Is the world going to get WORSE morally and spiritually?

This one question separates those who believe in "Dominionism" or "Kingdom Now" Theology from those who believe in a basic Bible Theology. The Bible says that we are the "Salt" of the earth. Salt is meant to SLOW the decay process, but it cannot stop or reverse the decay process. It is wonderful, wise and Godly for Christians to do all they can legally to be a moral influence for righteousness in this country. However, when you hear Christians talking about **TAKING BACK** this country for God – do you **CRINGE**? Do you recognize the danger of going **AGAINST** the **Word** of God?

In this world view, the focus is constantly on "SOCIETY" as a whole. Because they believe that they can somehow overrule Satan and reconquer the earth, they believe that it is the responsibility of Christians to CHANGE or IMPROVE society.

3. Bible Theology

We do **NOT** get **anxious**. (*Phil.* 4:6-7) We are **filled** with **Jesus peace** (*John* 14:26) With our overall society and society's morals, we do all we can to be a moral positive influence (*Eph.* 6:13) but our **DAILY MAIN FOCUS** is on **INDIVIDUALS**. It is the **INDIVIDUALS** around us in our world whom we can **serve** with **love** to show them the life salvation offer of Jesus Christ. Serving and loving these **INDIVIDUALS** is what fills our **emotions**, fills our **minds constantly** and fills our **tongues**. We are not shocked or discouraged when the world gets worse.

Our identity is clear. We are from a **completely different kingdom**. We are an **UNDERGROUND Foreign Army** with a **single focused intense goal**. We want to reach **INDIVIDUALS** in Satan's kingdom of darkness and bring them into the kingdom of Jesus light. We know that this world will always belong to Satan until Jesus returns.

<u>John 15:19</u> If you belonged to the world, it would **love** you as its **own**. As it is, you do **not belong** to the world, but I have chosen **you out** of the world. That is why the **world hates you**.

Luke 17:21 nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you."

<u>John 17:14-16</u> I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are **not** of the **world** any more than I am of the world. My prayer is **not** that you take them out of the world but that you **protect** them from the **evil one**. They are **not** of the **world**, even as I am not of it. <u>Heb. 11:9-10</u> By faith he made his home in the promised land like a **stranger** in a **foreign country**; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

<u>1 John 4:5</u> They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them.

We recognize that our reaching individuals sometimes gives us larger pockets of freedom for short seasons, as it has throughout history.

However, as he always has throughout history, Satan will mount counter offensives and win the overall society because the society and world belong to him. The Bible promises that at the end of time, Satan will win and control society with hatred toward Christians in a greater measure than ever. We will be salt and slow this process as much as the Lord permits. However, it will happen!

We also know that both Biblically & historically the **worse** it is for Christians in the world the **greater** will be our influence on **individuals** for we do **not** get **anxious**, we are **peaceful**, and our **focus** is to love & serve others.

Rev. 12:11 They overcame him by the **blood** of the Lamb,

So, WHAT do we DO as Bible Believing Christians?

ev. 12:11 They overcame him by the **blood** of the Lami & by the **word** of their **testimony**; & they **loved not** their lives unto the **death**

<u>I Thess. 4:11-12</u> make it your **AMBITION** to **LEAD** a **QUIET** life: You should **mind** your **own business** and **work** with your **hands**, just as we told you, so that your **DAILY LIFE** may **WIN** the **RESPECT** of **OUTSIDERS** and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.

There is a separate document titled "Mission Successful – Victory Strategy for Every Christian". In this document we outline the basic strategies that keep us so joyfully busy with successful serving of those around us that we do not have time for fear or distractions.