



“Righteousness is Power with God”

Bishop Frank and JoeNell Summerfield

Texts: Jeremiah 9:23-24, Proverbs 14:34, Proverbs 10:2, Proverbs 11:4-6,8,9,10,11, 18-19, Proverbs 12:28, Proverbs 13:5-6, Romans 6:13-20

As we look at the earth today and especially our own country the United States of America, we can clearly see the day of the return of the Lord Jesus to judge the unrighteousness and wickedness of mankind is drawing closer and closer. No wonder Jesus said what He said in **Matthew 24:37 But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.** In those days mankind had corrupted the earth with sin and unrighteousness so much, God destroyed the entire human race except 8 souls; Noah and his family.

Thank God there's a place or realm of divine protection and preservation for those who live and produce God's Righteousness in the earth while the unrighteous are destroyed. Please look at the next two verses very carefully to see this clearly.

Isaiah 26:20 Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast.

Please bear in mind that the word indignation comes from the original Hebrew word ***zah-am***

and means: anger, fury, rage, God's displeasure with sin.

21: For, behold, the Lord cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.

God's going to destroy and punish those who have passed laws that promote unrighteousness, ungodliness, and anything that violates God's written word that He has always intended humanity to live by. The leaders of our country in recent times have created and passed some of the most ungodly and unrighteous laws, that have ever existed in this country. Our nation is under serious God judgement right now.

Proverbs 14:34 Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.

Our country has laws now to allow and legally permit sin and perverted anti-God lifestyles. America is in serious trouble as a nation.

The word Righteousness as it appears in the Old Testament has several versions and expressions that all come from the Hebrew root word: ***tsad-deck*** which by definition means: just, moral, purity, conformity, blameless in conduct, integrity, honesty, right actions, right attitude, the attitude and actions

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of God that He expects His people to maintain. Many times when the word Righteousness appears in the New Testament it comes from the original Greek word: **dikah-yo-soo** which by definition means: Christian justification, just, what is right or proper in regards to God and His divine biblical law, heart that's pure and right with God, piety toward God, holiness, devotion to God, saintliness, reverence for God.

The next two verses describe what God says is really a priority and important to Him for mankind to adhere to and practice above all else. All of our so called political leaders need to realize what these verses are saying.

Jeremiah 9:23 Thus saith the Lord, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches:

24: But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the Lord which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the Lord.

Many political leaders are focused on the wrong things rather than on what's important to God who created us all to serve Him.

Righteousness that comes from God and a right relationship with Him and a life that honors and obeys Him has tremendous power. In fact, God empowers those who are His righteousness through the blood of Jesus Christ with His very own power and ability to demonstrate and live His Godly righteous life in the earth. No one is righteous of their own doing, but only through faith in the sacrificial blood Jesus shed on the cross to save His people. In fact, through Jesus and His death on the cross we became God's righteousness, and new creatures in Christ.

II Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

20: Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

21: For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Many people never become, experience, or produce God's righteousness because they don't have a sincere hunger, thirst, and desire to do so.

Matthew 5:6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for

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they shall be filled.

In Romans Chapter 6, the Apostle Paul teaches clearly about the unlimited power God’s righteousness that we receive through Jesus’ sacrificial death gives us over sin, and unrighteousness. God’s righteousness that we become and live, frees us from the previous enslaved to sin life we used to be imprisoned to before Jesus’ blood washed us pure.

Romans 6:8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:

9: Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.

Please bear in mind that it actually has no more dominion over us either because we are one with Him and as He is so are we in this world as stated in I John 4:17.

10: For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.

11: Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

12: Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

As God’s righteousness through Jesus Christ we no longer allow our lives to yield to the power of sin, because God’s Righteousness gives us power over it.

13: Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

14: For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

The Righteousness of God that we’ve obtained and become through Jesus’ shed blood has empowered us to no longer be servants to sin, but only servants to God, and His divine will for our lives.

18: Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

19: I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.

The Apostle Paul did a lot of teaching about God’s righteousness and the power it gives us

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to live the Godly life we're called to live to be the light of the world and salt of the earth as Matthew 5:13-14 says we are as blood washed Jesus Christ sons of God.

Philippians 1:10 That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ.

11: Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

Because of God's Righteousness in our lives, we are empowered to produce and live the fruit of God's purity, morals, and holiness, no matter how much unrighteousness takes place around us. We are in the world but not members and participants in its ungodly lifestyles and practices. See also I John 2:15-17.

I Timothy 6:11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

Notice how all these next verses indicate the Power of Righteousness to preserve and maintain life and deliver from death.

Righteousness is Power with God and allows that Power to work in behalf of those who consistently practice and demonstrate it.

Proverbs 10:2 Treasures of wickedness profit nothing: but righteousness delivereth from death.

Proverbs 11:4 Riches profit not in the day of wrath: but righteousness delivereth from death.

6: The righteousness of the upright shall deliver them: but transgressors shall be taken in their own naughtiness.

8: The righteous is delivered out of trouble, and the wicked cometh in his stead.

18: The wicked worketh a deceitful work: but to him that soweth righteousness shall be a sure reward.

19: As righteousness tendeth to life: so he that pursueth evil pursueth it to his own death.

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