

Prayer Focus

December 7 – 13, 2020

Kings and Priests

It is time for the Bride of the end times to arise and walk in her calling.

We have heard many things over the last few weeks about what the Ekklesia, particularly in America, is going through.

We have been grateful for this time of refining, purifying, and clarifying of vision and purpose.

It has been difficult to see the division, complacency, and compromise.

Yet, it has been encouraging to see many not giving up, pressing in, wielding the Sword, and trusting in our King.

⁴⁴John, to the seven churches which are in Asia: <u>Grace to you and peace from</u> <u>Him who is and who was and who is to come</u>, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, ⁵and <u>from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from</u> <u>the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth</u>. <u>To Him who loved us and</u> <u>washed us from our sins in His own blood</u>, ⁶and has made us kings and priests to <u>His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever</u>. Amen." *Revelation 1:4-6*

Please read John's seven letters to the churches found in Revelation, Chapters 2 - 3, and ask Holy Spirit to give a hearing ear and an understanding heart about the warnings and instructions therein.

There are many, many things that the enemy has tried to steal and twist, beginning in the Garden of Eden to now.

For example, Jesus alone has the glory and dominion forever. Yet a company by the name of Dominion, and many others, have tried to steal the U.S. election of 2020.

The Great Seal of the United States bears two inscriptions:

1) Annuit coeptis, meaning Providence "has favored our undertakings", and

2) Novus Ordo Seclorum, which means "new order of the ages"

Yet, the enemy - through globalists and others - has been trying to pervert and destroy the divinely inspired governmental order of the United States by seeking to establish a New World Order.

The uniqueness of America's government, as envisioned by the Founders of this nation, depends upon the preservation of <u>faith and freedom</u>.

In his book, "On Two Wings – Humble Faith and Common Sense at the American Founding," Michael Novak sets forth the truth about the interconnected and essential mingling of faith and reason as understood by our Founding Fathers.

He cites John Witherspoon of Princeton, who was the "most influential academic in American history," having taught "one vice-president, twelve members of the Continental Congress, five delegates to the Constitutional Convention, forty-nine U.S. representatives, twenty-eight U.S. senators, three Supreme Court justices, eight U.S. district judges, three attorneys general, one secretary of state, two foreign ministers and scores of officers in the Continental Army," saying his "underlying argument is that <u>liberty is God's gift and all of creation has been contrived so that it will sweetly,</u> <u>freely, even out of darkness and despair, come to fruition</u>. He believes that God and civil liberties go together: 'So in times of difficulty and trial, it is in the man of piety and inward principle, that we may expect to find the uncorrupted patriot, the useful citizen, and the invincible soldier. God grant that in America true religion and civil liberty may be inseparable, and that the unjust attempts to destroy the one, may in the issue tend to the support and establishment of both." See Novak, "On Two Wings", pgs. 15-16.

Alexis de Tocqueville wrote about his astonishment at the difference he found in America's form of government.

Religion, being free and powerful within its own sphere and content with the position reserved for it, realized that its sway is all the better established because it relies only on its own powers and rules men's hearts without external support.

Freedom sees religion as the companion of its struggles and triumphs, the cradle of its infancy, and the divine source of its rights. Religion is considered as the

guardian of mores, and mores are regarded as the guarantee of the laws and pledge for the maintenance of freedom itself.

Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*, trans. George Lawrence and ed. J.P. Mayer (New York: Doubleday, 1969) pp, 46-47

The Founders of this nation understood the essential nature of liberty, faith, and freedom and sought to establish a government that reflected those Judeo-Christian values.

They also recognized the need for *personal responsibility* to live a virtuous life so that liberty did not become *license*.

This text, quoted by Novak, "expresses the **essential core of the three-step logic of the founders**":

Liberty is the object of the Republic.

Liberty needs virtue.

Virtue among the people is impossible without religion.

"On Two Wings – Humble Faith and Common Sense at the American Founding," Michael Novak, pg. 34.

It was the revolutionaries' faith that led them to fight for independence.

Liberty is fundamental to the Kingdom of God.

Isaiah 61:1-3, Jesus' mission -

¹The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, **To proclaim liberty to the captives**, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ²To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, ³To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.

How are we, "trees of righteousness," to walk in our calling as Kings and Priests?

Isaiah 61:4–11 instructs us:

⁴And they shall rebuild the old ruins, They shall raise up the former desolations, And they shall repair the ruined cities, The desolations of many generations. ⁵Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, And the sons of the

foreigner Shall be your plowmen and your vinedressers. ⁶But **you shall be named the priests of the Lord, They shall call you the servants of our God**. You shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, And in their glory you shall boast. ⁷Instead of your shame you shall have double honor, And instead of confusion they shall rejoice in their portion. Therefore in their land they shall possess double; Everlasting joy shall be theirs.

⁸For I, the LORD, love justice; I hate robbery for burnt offering; I will direct their work in truth, And will make with them an everlasting covenant. ⁹Their descendants shall be known among the Gentiles, And their offspring among the people. All who see them shall acknowledge them, That they are the posterity whom the LORD has blessed.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, My soul shall be joyful in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, As a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its bud, As the garden causes the things that are sown in it to spring forth, So the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

This is the Priestly calling we have, in the order of Melchizedek. We also have a Kingly calling to pursue and preserve justice, righteousness, and liberty.

<u>Pray</u>

- Offer thanksgiving for the garments of salvation, and robe of righteousness we have been given.
- That we would be bold and effective witnesses of what the Lord has done in our lives. "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death." Revelation 12:10b-11.
- Repent for any areas of compromise, complacency, or confusion that has caused an agreement with the enemy's lies.

- That the Body of Messiah would have our work directed by His truth, and that we would "*rebuild the old ruins, ... raise up the former desolations, And ...repair the ruined cities*" as He leads.
- That we would be willing to get involved in the establishment of just government and fight for it with godly wisdom.
- That the Lord would cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.