

THE PEOPLE REJOICE – THE PEOPLE MORN

PROVERBS 29:2; 14:34

Text: Proverbs 29:2, 14:34

Proverbs 29:2

²When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

Proverbs 14:34

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

Introduction:

We see in this verse the importance of and blessing of the righteous being in authority.

We are facing an election in few days. I hope that you will be praying about your choices that you will make when you vote.

I remind you that first you have a:

- You Have a Right to Vote

Psalms 33:12

¹²Blessed *is* the nation whose God *is* the LORD; *and* the people *whom* he hath chosen for his own inheritance.

Romans 13:1

¹ Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

- You Have a Responsibility to Vote

James 4:17

¹⁷ Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth *it* not, to him it is sin.

- You Have a Reason to Vote

Proverbs 29:2

² When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

As we consider who it is that we are going to vote for let me remind you who are Christians that – We are Christians First and Americans second.

Read Text in Proverbs 28:15-28

Proverbs 28:15-28

¹⁵ As a roaring lion, and a ranging bear; *so is* a wicked ruler over the poor people. ¹⁶ The prince that wanteth understanding *is* also a great oppressor: *but* he that hateth covetousness shall prolong *his* days. ¹⁷ A man that doeth violence to the blood of *any* person shall flee to the pit; let no man stay him. ¹⁸ Whoso walketh uprightly shall be saved: but *he that is* perverse in *his* ways shall fall at once. ¹⁹ He that tilleth his land shall have plenty of bread: but he that followeth after vain *persons* shall have poverty enough. ²⁰ A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent. ²¹ To have respect of persons *is* not good: for for a piece of bread *that* man will transgress. ²² He that hasteth to be rich *hath* an evil eye, and considereth not that poverty shall come upon him. ²³ He that

rebuketh a man afterwards shall find more favour than he that flattereth with the tongue. ²⁴ Whoso robbeth his father or his mother, and saith, *It is* no transgression; the same *is* the companion of a destroyer. ²⁵ He that is of a proud heart stirreth up strife: but he that putteth his trust in the LORD shall be made fat. ²⁶ He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered. ²⁷ He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse. ²⁸ When the wicked rise, men hide themselves: but when they perish, the righteous increase.

1. THE WICKED RULER AND HIS PEOPLE

Proverbs 28:15

¹⁵ As a roaring lion, and a ranging bear; *so is* a wicked ruler over the poor people.

Proverbs 29:2

² When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

2. THE WICKED RULER AND HIS PERCEPTION

Proverbs 28:16-17

¹⁶ The prince that wanteth understanding *is* also a great oppressor: *but* he that hateth covetousness shall prolong *his* days. ¹⁷ A man that doeth violence to the blood of *any* person shall flee to the pit; let no man stay him.

3. THE WICKED RULER AND HIS PERVERSITY

Proverbs 28:18

¹⁸ Whoso walketh uprightly shall be saved: but *he that is* perverse *in his* ways shall fall at once.

4. THE WICKED RULER AND HIS PRIORITIES

Proverbs 28:19-22

¹⁹ He that tilleth his land shall have plenty of bread: but he that followeth after vain *persons* shall have poverty enough. ²⁰ A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent. ²¹ To have respect of *persons is* not good: for for a piece of bread *that* man will transgress. ²² He that hasteth to be rich *hath* an evil eye, and considereth not that poverty shall come upon him.

A. His Goals (19)

B. His Guilt (20)

C. His Guile (21)

5. THE WICKED RULER AND HIS PROBLEMS

Proverbs 28:23-27

²³ He that rebuketh a man afterwards shall find more favour than he that flattereth with the tongue. ²⁴ Whoso robbeth his father or his mother, and saith, *It is* no transgression; the same *is* the companion of a destroyer. ²⁵ He that is of a proud heart stirreth up strife: but he that putteth his trust in the LORD shall be made fat. ²⁶ He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but whoso walketh

wisely, he shall be delivered. ²⁷ He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse.

A. His Critics (23)

B. His Crimes (24)

C. His Conceit (25-26)

D. His Curse (27)

6. THE WICKED RULER AND HIS POWER

Proverbs 28:28

²⁸ When the wicked rise, men hide themselves: but when they perish, the righteous increase.

7. THE WICKED RULER AND HIS PUNISHMENTS

Proverbs 29:1

¹ He, that being often reprov'd hardeneth *his* neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.

Close:

When we vote keep in mind these things. Also let me remind us we are to vote:

- Righteously

Proverbs 14:34

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

- Morally

Proverbs 13:4

⁴ The soul of the sluggard desireth, and *hath* nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.

- Family
- Principally
 - Vote Principle over Party
 - Vote Principle over Pocketbook

For many voters, the things that they think are at stake are issues that deal with the economy...healthcare...taxes

Even for many Christian voter's, when ask, say that economic issues are more important than moral issues

I want you to know that there is no biblical support for that view or stance.

Notice what the Lord said:

Matthew 6:25-33

²⁵ Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? ²⁶ Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? ²⁷ Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? ²⁸ And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: ²⁹ And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰ Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, *shall he* not much more *clothe* you, O ye of little faith? ³¹ Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? ³² (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. ³³ But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Economic prosperity is actually a fruit of righteousness...again the bible gives us clear guidance to seek God first and His righteousness.

- Vote Principle over Political Speech
- Vote Principle over Popularity

Galatians 1:10

¹⁰ For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

The popularity of the candidate or the crowd should not influence our decisions.

Who shall we vote for?

Exodus 18:21

²¹ Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place *such* over them, *to be* rulers of thousands, *and* rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens: