

FINISH STRONG

A Strong Finish Requires Focused Trust

Q: When is God **RIGHTEOUSLY** justified bringing His **WRATH** upon nations?

A: When a nation fails to fulfil its **DIVINE PURPOSE** for existence

Typical **SLIDE** of a nation into oblivion

1. **TEARING** off connections to God and His Son Psalm 2:1-3
2. Preventing **CITIZENS** from seeking God Acts 17:26-27, 31
3. Falling into **MORAL**, ethical, and **PERVASIVE** decay Gen. 6:5

God has a **BOUNDARY** line for national evil Genesis 15:16

- **DECLARING** bad good & good bad
- **VIOLENCE** against the human race
- **PROHIBITING** the seeking of God

Biblical examples of **DIVINE** wrath upon a nation/people group

- **PRE-FLOOD** nation of people Genesis 6:4-6
- **SODOM** and **GOMORRAH** Genesis 18:20-33
- Nations in the **PROMISE LAND** Genesis 15:16
- **FUTURE** nations of the earth Revelation 6-16
 - Global **WORSHIP** of anti-Christ
 - Global approval of **ABOMINATION**

Our **RESPONSES** to the coming wrath upon the nations

- **CONTRITION** and spiritual renewal 1 John 3:2-3
- **COMPASSION** on those facing wrath Psalm 145:9

Auburn Grace Community Church – October 18th, 2020

Life Group Discussion Questions – October 18, 2020

Acts 17:26-27 “...and He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation, that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;”

DISCOVER (read Psalms 2, Acts 17:24-31 and Genesis 6:5-6)

1. Regarding Psalms 2:3, what are the fetters the Psalmist is referring to? Who are the “us” in this verse?
2. We know that God doesn’t make mistakes; that He is very intentional about His design. Re-read Acts 17:26-27. Since the beginning of time, what has been God’s purpose for creating every nation?

EXPLORE

1. Jesus foretold in Matthew 24:37, that “...the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah.” Can we say with certainty that the times we are living in are comparable to the days just prior to the Great Flood? How so? Compare to Genesis 6:5, 11-12.
2. In Genesis 15:16, God tells Abram that “the iniquity of the Amorite is not yet complete.” What important lesson does this teach us about God’s patience?

EXPERIENCE

1. How have you internalized waiting on God’s timing as He allows persecutors and oppressors to trample on His people for long periods of time?
2. Do you see yourself as a willing party of God; that He would use you to carry-out His sentence or judgment on those (e.g. the Amorites) whose bent for evil had reached its fullness? How do you feel about that? Explain.
3. If God created all the nations, including those that are “unlovable,” what should our response be to that? If time truly is short, what will you do (not can you do) with a sense of urgency to reach the lost?
4. Since God created and loves the nations, He sent His only Son, Jesus, to the nations, who in turn sent His followers to the nations. This is God’s pattern. The question, then, is are we participating in that pattern or merely acting like the rest of the world?

PRAY

Confess for our nation that that we have trusted in our government and in our human efforts; that our hearts have turned away from the Lord. Pray for our upcoming elections; that our leaders would humble themselves before God as they are servants of the people that elect them into office. Pray that they would be filled with wisdom from above; that they would be courageous and not be conformed to the ways of the world, but transformed in the renewal of their minds.