

Nation in a Crisis

Grace Doctrine Church
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In today's politically charged environment we see everyone taking sides and looking to politics to save our republic. We all have our candidate that we want to be in office for president, congress, senate, governor, dog catcher, etc.

We need our candidate to win, and we believe if they win, they will bring order back to our country and put us back on the right track. Then we can all be happy!!

Our nation is very divided. There is a call for unity, but we won't see unity because no one person or candidate will change the divisiveness in this country.

The people calling for unity cannot save the nation because the only unity in this world is – **“one in Christ.”**

Galatians 3:28: **“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”**

No one seems to understand what a client nation is in our country today. We also have many people who think we're a Christian nation.

In every society, its laws are the written chronicle of the people's moral beliefs based on the teachings of its dominant religion at the time of the nation's founding.

Moral beliefs held by the population, but not a part of national law, contribute to the order and stability of a society and help define its culture.

However, scripture does not directly mandate that any nation beyond Israel adopt any of these principles into its common and criminal law. It is only highly suggested!

Nations subscribing to establishment laws create the environment for national prosperity, stability, and freedom to study God's word and to fulfill His plan for our lives.

But what we're ending up with is a nation of Christian losers, involved in Christian activism and programs, as opposed to studying God's word.

There is little or no understanding of the role of the believer in the client nation to God. This lack of understanding is often predicated on the erroneous theory that we have a so-called "Christian nation."

There never has been a Christian nation and there never will be. This is a misunderstanding of the priest nation or client nation to God.

As believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, we must maintain a relationship with the opposition while maintaining our relationship with the Lord – **"we're in the world but not of the world."** John 15:18-20; Romans 12:2

John 15:19: **"If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world,"**

Romans 12:2: **"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."**

Every day we are in active contact with human viewpoint and the problems of this world. Do we hate the people behind it? No, we are never authorized to hate anyone. Impersonal love is always the order of the day.

In a client nation to God, there exists all the concepts of freedom, including privacy, the sacredness of property and life, free enterprise, and little government.

We are to grow spiritually and remain in service to the Lord in this world in which we live, a world that hates us, but we must never turn away from our mission.

In our next couple of lessons, I hope I will change your mind about what's going on in our nation and cause you to refocus your attention on the **"things above and not the things of this earth."** Colossians 3:2

I believe we are still a client nation to God, although we seem to be losing that status so it's easy to be concerned.

PRINCIPLE: No nation learns from the mistakes of other nations when involved in cosmic arrogance.

When a nation is involved in cosmic arrogance, its people are blind to the fact they are making exactly the same mistakes that destroyed other great nations before them.

The German philosopher Hegel famously said, “The only thing that we learn from history is that we learn nothing from history.”

When arrogant individuals or nations are unteachable and become blind to their own failures, it results in their self-destruction long before they are invaded and overrun.

In today’s world, the church is not growing and since AD 70 we have seen Christianity grow during periods of persecution and stagnate during times of prosperity.

In other words, it is the prosperity of any client nation which brings ruin and destruction to that nation. No nation goes down under adversity. It goes down under prosperity.

Prosperity creates the climate for destruction. People lose track of traditional values. Prosperity also leads to economic, social, and military decline. The cosmic system becomes the detractor and the basis for failure to pass the prosperity test.

Humanism and programs have replaced the accurate teaching of the Word of God in Churches today.

But the only thing that changes anything in this world is the Bible Doctrine in your soul.

The “kosmos” is a highly organized civilization of secular governments, education, culture, and man-centered theories of life, nature, human behavior, and a world of relative humanism. Everything that is opposed to Christianity.

In Thieme’s Bible Doctrine Dictionary “Cosmic System” is defined as:

Satan’s orderly, cohesive, and multifaceted system of power and thinking, which includes a purpose, strategy, and structure of authority designed to subvert the human race and control the world he now rules.

The cosmic system, Satan's alternative to the perfect plan of God, is designed to exploit man's bad decisions and trap him in a web of deception.

When the Bible declares that someone loves the world (2 Tim. 4:10; James 4:4; 1 John 2:15) or lives according to the standards of the world (Rom. 12:2; Eph. 2:2), that individual resides in the cosmic system. He is under the control of the sin nature and in a position of weakness, enslaved to Satan's authority and fulfilling Satan's purpose. Residents include anyone—believer or unbeliever—who uses his volitional freedom to reject divine truth (the laws of divine establishment, the Gospel of salvation, or Bible doctrine). Toward those who have personally believed in Jesus Christ, the devil administers the cosmic system to prevent, impede, and reverse their spiritual growth. ¹

You counter this by what is in your soul. It needs to be your defense system. You need to take in Bible Doctrine daily!

A client nation is a national entity under the patronage of God, assigned the responsibility for the formation, preservation, communication, and fulfillment of the Canon of Scripture.

Thieme's Bible Doctrine Dictionary:

Client Nation to God: A national entity set apart by God as a repository for divine truth—a nation where the Gospel is freely communicated, doctrine widely taught, and missionary activity extended to areas of positive volition throughout the world. Synonym: priest nation, in reference to Israel.

Throughout most periods of history, God ordains a client nation for the purpose of furthering His plan for mankind. The formation of such a nation begins with people who respond to God's grace in salvation.

Under a government that honors divine establishment and protects the freedom of all citizens, the nucleus of believers matures spiritually and becomes sufficient to fulfill the mandates of custodianship and communication of God's Word, inside and outside national borders. The nation also acts as a haven for the Jews.

¹ Thieme Bible Doctrine Dictionary, Page 42, "Cosmic System",

God deals with the client nation according to the spiritual condition of individual believers (Matt. 5:13–16). Blessing by association overflows from mature believers to the nation in the form of stability and prosperity; divine discipline to reversionistic believers finds the entire nation weakened, and unless believers heed God’s warning and recover, the client nation is eventually destroyed through the fifth cycle of discipline (2 Chron. 7:14; Hosea 4:1–6). As goes the spiritual life of the believer, so goes the client nation.

Jewish client nations. In the Old Testament Age of Israel, the client nation to God was made up of His chosen people, the Jews (2 Sam. 7:10–12; Ps. 33:12). Specific responsibilities delegated to Israel as a nation were delineated under the Mosaic Law, doctrine was revealed to and communicated by specially appointed prophets and priests, and the “remnant” of faithful believers was used by God to sustain the nation (Ex. 19:5–6; Lev. 18:1–5; 2 Kings 19:30–31; Rom. 11:2–5).

The theocratic kingdom (1441–1020 B.C.), the first in a series of five Jewish client nations, was founded under Moses’ leadership in the Exodus and was indeed a theocracy, ruled personally by God.

The four kingdoms that followed were monarchies, ruled by human kings. Currently under divine discipline that began in A.D. 70, Israel as a client nation will be restored at the Second Advent and continue throughout the millennial reign of Christ. Gentile client nations. With Israel temporarily set aside, these are the times of Gentile client nations (Luke 21:24). In every generation until the Rapture, there exists among the earth’s nations at least one center of positive volition that stands as God’s protected agent.

Gentile client nations, unlike the theocracy of Israel, are ruled through human government that, under lawful design, functions separately from the church. God’s purpose is fulfilled as the state promotes human freedom and Christianity impacts the nation through a spiritual pivot of invisible heroes. By choosing to utilize the unique spiritual assets of the Church Age, individual believers contribute anonymously to their country and to the uptrends of history.

The spiritual vigor of the nation is manifested by evangelists, pastor-teachers, and missionaries who accurately communicate the Gospel and written Word to those who are positive.

The nation is blessed and sustained also for providing the currently dispersed Jews a refuge from persecution in other parts of the world (Gen. 12:3).

Imperial Rome, A.D. 70–476, was the first Gentile client nation; other examples include fifth-and-sixth-century Scotland and Ireland, sixteenth-century Switzerland, seventeenth-century Sweden, nineteenth-century England, and the United States of America since its founding in 1776.²

Exodus 19:4-6: “You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings, and brought you to Myself.

Vs. 5: Now therefore, if hearing, you will obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all peoples, for all the earth is Mine;

Vs. 6: then you shall be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation to Me. These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel.”

Deuteronomy 7:6: “For you are a holy people to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for His own possession out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.”

Deuteronomy 26:18-19: “And the Lord has today declared you to be His people, a people for His own (a treasured) possession, as He promised you; therefore, you are to keep all His commandments;

Vs. 19: and that He will set you high above all nations which He made, for praise, fame, and honor; and that you shall be a holy people to the Lord your God, as He has spoken.”

Israel was called a “priest nation” because it had a specialized priesthood. Because of the uniqueness of the Church Age, the term “priest nation” and “client nation” are synonymous.

So, the term “client nation” is used for any Gentile nation that performs the same functions during the Church Age.

² Thieme Bible Doctrine Dictionary, Page 40, “Client Nation to God”.

Instead of calling a Gentile nation a “priest nation,” the believers in the Church Age are a holy priesthood and a royal family of God. 1 Peter 2:4-5

1 Peter 2:4-5: “And coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected by men, but elect and precious in the sight of God,

Vs. 5: you also, as living stones, are being built up into a spiritual house (compare Hebrews 3:6) as a result of a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through the agency of Jesus Christ.”

God does not want sacrifices and offerings from us; He wants the sacrifice of the spiritual life: growing to spiritual maturity and becoming someone God can use in the Angelic Conflict. Fulfilling God’s plan for your life.

1 Peter 2:9: “But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;”

We get the idea of an elect race from the Greek phrase in 2 Corinthians 5:17.

2 Corinthians 5:17: “Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.”

We have the “καινή” – “kaine” “κτίσις” – “ktisis,” which means “a new spiritual species.”

2 Corinthians 5:17 - “Therefore, if anyone is in union with Christ, he is a new spiritual species; old things have lost their power, behold, new things have come to pass.”

In the privacy of your priesthood, you have the option to succeed or the option to fail as far as the spiritual life is concerned.

Believers in the Church Age are royal family of God, and this is the key to Gentile client nations in the Church Age.

We can never forget that a client nation to God is a nation under [divine protection](#), because it has a large pivot of mature believers. These mature believers have blessing by association to those around them and historical blessing to their nation.

A client nation is destroyed by the reversionistic believers who “spin-off” from the pivot of mature believers by their rejection of Bible Doctrine.

Three things destroy a nation:

1. Economic depression – It can result from government destruction of industry through legislation, or from destruction by the greed of labor or management.
2. Social degeneration – Individual bad decisions destroy the structure of society. The sacredness of freedom, property, and life are ignored or rejected. Integrity disappears from society and is replaced by every form of crime or immorality.
3. Military defeat – No nation can win a war when the manpower suffers from social degeneration and the industrial complex cannot provide logistical support.

No nation can survive functioning on principle without a pivot of mature believers.

Survival takes evangelism, positive volition toward Bible Doctrine, the function of the protocol plan of God, and cognizance of the portfolio of invisible assets provided for each believer.

As the pivot shrinks, the nation loses its client nation status with God and undergoes the five cycles of discipline.

Only a remnant of positive believers had impact through the spiritual life of Israel in the Old Testament.

A client nation is responsible for the following:

1. It must evangelize its own population.
2. It must communicate Bible Doctrine to the believers in the nation.
3. It is responsible for the custodianship of Bible Doctrine.
4. It provides a haven for the Jews.
5. It is responsible to send out missionaries to evangelize other nations.

For non-client nations, there is neither a pivot of mature believers nor freedom for the perception of truth in three categories:

- a. Establishment
- b. Evangelism
- c. Bible Doctrine

When you have apostasy in a client nation, it is always a cancer. If it grows long enough, that client nation dies under the fifth cycle of discipline.

PRINCIPLE: Good political leadership cannot override the degeneracy of the people.

Dr. Russell Kirk wrote with great clarity on this subject in his book, *The Roots of American Order*:

The good society is marked by a high degree of order, justice, and freedom. Among these, order has primacy: for justice cannot be enforced until a tolerable civil social order is attained, nor can freedom be anything other than violence until order gives us laws.³

When you have this cancer in a client nation, you can always look to three sources: the spiritual leaders in the pulpit, the politicians, and the negative volition of the people.

Jeremiah 6:13-14: **“For from the least of them even to the greatest of them, Everyone is greedy for gain, furthermore from the prophet even to the priest everyone manufactures lies.**

Vs. 14: **In fact they allege to solve problems of My people, saying, ‘Peace, peace, ’But there is no peace.’”**

So what destroys a client nation? Negative volition to Bible Doctrine.

Principle: The disease is the “loss of thought;” the result of the disease is the leadership we vote into office.

When many pastors and Christians see the client nation slipping away, they want to get involved in Christian activism and look to politics.

³ Russell Kirk, *The Roots of American Order* (La Salle: Open Court Publishing Co., 1974), 6.

The abortion issue is a great example. Protesting in the street in front of the Supreme Court, and the law was overturned. And guess what? Abortions have not stopped. Nothing has changed!

While man cannot solve his own problems, he likes to compensate by trying to solve the problems in his nation, state, or local government.

PRINCIPLE: Once apostasy infests the souls of a majority of the people, political solutions are no longer effective in restoring order.

All problems in life demand a solution. You have personal problems and then there are problems in your nation, city, and local governments.

We can't wait for God, who controls history, to take care of business while we take care of our business by growing to spiritual maturity and fulfilling God's plan for our life.

So we become Christian activists by attending group protests and undertaking zealous crusades to impose alleged Christian ideals upon both believers and unbelievers in a nation.

The underlying philosophy of Christian activism is that the end justifies the means, but it does not.

If a certain individual is elected as president, he will not save anyone or anything. God may use him to save the country, but he will not save anyone.

Such attempts to whitewash the devil's world are a distraction to our spiritual life, a substitute for spiritual growth, and, therefore, contrary to the plan and will of God.

Many evangelical Christians today enter into activism. This arrogance manifests the fact that most Christians do not have a clue about the Christian way of life.

Let's look to Thieme's Bible Dictionary for a definition:

Christian activism: (a) The use of illegal or biblically unauthorized methods to impose Christian ideals, either real or alleged, upon the populace; (b) the function of self-righteous arrogance that exchanges the duty of spiritual impact for the goal of correcting societal depravity.

Let it first be clear that Christian activism does not include believers exercising the right to vote or to enter into legitimate activities related to their country's governing process. Nor does activism include service in law enforcement or the military for defense of national freedom. Activism, rather, is a function of moral degeneracy that exalts man's efforts over God's grace. Never condoned by Scripture (1 Pet. 2:13–17), activism is sponsored by Satan to preoccupy believers with temporal, human solutions so that the true, lasting solutions of God's plan are ignored.

The Christian activist is the believer who seeks to influence the world for Christ through publication, often to the point of coercion. Overzealous and ignorant of Bible doctrine, activists typically confuse the roles of church and state and crusade to enforce a Christian standard upon society (Prov. 29:18). Some employ civil disobedience, while others cross the line into vigilantism, organized revolution, and violence. Campaigns to whitewash the devil's world may involve anything from demonstrating against blasphemous movies or offensive behavior, to picketing outside an objectionable workplace, to terrorizing abortion clinics. Tragically, an end-justifies-the-means philosophy often results in destruction of privacy, freedom, prosperity, property, even life. These actions launched against evil actually alienate the unbelieving world by making a mockery of Christianity and its principles (Rom. 1:21–22).

Activists fail to understand that the power of Christianity is not political or visible but spiritual and invisible. The unseen impact of the doctrinally oriented believer is what influences the course of history, not social reform. Only by advancing in God's plan does the Christian bring true solutions to national problems. As a citizen strengthened by Christian virtue, he breaks no laws, sponsors no violence, does not intrude on privacy, but turns the world upside down through the invisible force of Bible doctrine. God honors and blesses a nation in association with such mature believers.

Today's crusaders would benefit from recognizing that despite tyranny, paganism, and wide-spread slavery in the first-century Roman Empire, evangelism and spiritual growth thrived. The most influential figure in Church history, the Apostle Paul, ministered amidst that period' institutionalized evil, yet he did not beat the drums of abolition or incite revolt against the regime.

Paul stayed on course with spreading the Gospel and teaching the spiritual life. He emphasized the doctrine whereby people in all situations, even those "under the yoke as slaves," can remain where they are and glorify God (1 Cor. 7:21–

22; 1 Tim. 6:1–2). When Nero took the throne, Paul refrained from maligning the monstrous anti-Christian dictator and taught his Roman congregation to obey authority (Rom. 13:1–9).

Truth was the issue, so the great Apostle left the evils of the Roman Empire to the Supreme Court of Heaven and remembered that Jesus Christ controls history.⁴

The spiritual life is not a political instrument, but a system which provides blessings by association, invisible heroes, and glorification of God in the fulfillment of the unique spiritual life of the Church Age. It's by-product is blessing and freedom for all.

You cannot superimpose on government the standards that belong to the individual Christian, and you cannot superimpose on unbelievers the principles of Bible Doctrine that relate to the ministry of God the Holy Spirit.

Under freedom, people have the right to believe in Christ, to be evangelized, and to say “yes” or “no” to the Gospel. People's rights must be protected whether we agree with them or not.

In any client nation, there are both believers and unbelievers, as well as many other religions besides Christianity.

Some Christian leaders have the idea we can fit in the secular, humanistic, antisemitic ideas going on today and have a dialog and compromise. Wrong!!!!

The impact of Christianity is found only in evangelism, yet few believers understand salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

The standards for Christianity are found only in the protocol plan of God and in our portfolio of invisible assets.

These principles can only be executed through the filling of the Holy Spirit and Bible Doctrine, which the unbeliever does not have.

Never forget the believer has a responsibility to government. Romans 13:1-8; Matthew 22:21; Mark 12:17

⁴ Thieme Bible Doctrine Dictionary, Page 32 and 33: Christian Activism

Mark 12:17: “And Jesus said to them, “Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”

1. Our Lord Himself anticipated the Church Age when He said, **“Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and unto God the things that are God’s.”** So we, as believers, have a dual responsibility, but it does not include activism.
2. **“Render unto Caesar”** refers to establishment activity.
 - a. It includes the function of the divine institutions.
 - b. It includes freedom, the right of self-determination, the sacredness of property and life.
 - c. It means freedom through military victory and, therefore, the responsibility to serve in the military.
 - d. It means free enterprise, and the inevitable existence of wealth and poverty side-by-side, the healthy sign of the proper working of free enterprise.
 - e. It means the separation of business and state, as well as church and state.
 - f. It includes civil authority to protect us from criminality.
3. **“Render unto God”** includes:
 - a. The execution of the protocol plan of God.
 - b. The manufacture of invisible heroes.
 - c. The establishment of a pivot by which the client nation is blessed by association.
 - d. Manifest destiny demands blessing by association with the mature believer.

Today, we see many Christians and denominations involved in:

- a. Civil disobedience including destroying the property of others.
- b. Socialism, DEI, Gender Identity, etc.
- c. Christians who want to stick their nose into other people’s business and life, invading their privacy.

So, Christian activism accomplishes nothing against the world’s system. In fact, a Christian activist is an ally of the cosmic system.

Some Christian leaders gather a coterie of confused Christians, and they're conned into doing what they're told Jesus would do.

These activists get plenty of hate without the spiritual life benefits. Satan encourages Christian activism because it's part of the cosmic system.

In fact, Satan uses such activism to discredit the Bible and promote syncretistic Christianity.

These believers become Christian losers. They fail to execute God's will, plan, and purpose for the Church Age, even though they have equal opportunity to do so.

A Christian loser is negative towards the study of Bible Doctrine. They opt for emotionalism: the feel-good approach.

The loser is the believer who fails to execute the greatest spiritual life of all human history, the spiritual life of the Church age.

If, as a believer, you fail to learn and metabolize Bible Doctrine, it will result in the failure to deploy the problem-solving devices on the defense line of the soul.

PRINCIPLE: [The loser believer does not fulfill God's plan for his life after salvation.](#)

The loser believer, after accepting Jesus Christ as their Savior, has no spiritual life as an extension of his spiritual birth.

The loser believer has wrong priorities and spends his life in the cosmic system.

The loser believer either never finds his right pastor or, if he does, because he is involved in the cosmic system, never gets serious about studying under them; he just visits occasionally.

If the loser believer does get serious under his right pastor, he is serious only until he gets distracted by the lure of the world or a more emotional experience at some denomination.

This loser does not lose his salvation, but fails to execute the protocol plan of God by which God is glorified in time, and escrow blessings are distributed in time and eternity.

Loser believers, instead of becoming an invisible hero in the angelic conflict, become bored, dissatisfied, preoccupied with self, arrogant, frustrated, distracted, unstable, and unable to utilize the ten problem solving devices.

Further, legalism or self-righteous arrogance produces crusader arrogance.

We find the warning to the Christian loser in 2 John 8-9.

2 John 8-9: “Look out for yourselves that you may not lose your momentum which you have accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward.”

Vs. 9: “No one has fellowship with God who keeps advancing out-of-bounds and does not remain on the playing field through the doctrine of Christ. The believer who perseveres in doctrine, this believer has fellowship with both the Father and the Son.”

The warning is that if you lose your momentum, if you get out of fellowship and stay out of fellowship, if you grieve and quench the Holy Spirit, then you are going to lose those fantastic escrow blessings that are a part of your portfolio of invisible assets.

When we are out of fellowship, we are grieving or quenching the Holy Spirit. However, when we rebound, we get back on the playing field.

What are the characteristics of the Christian loser?

1. He is described in Galatians 5:4: “You have been alienated from Christ; you have drifted off course from grace.”
2. He is described in Hebrews 12:15 as: “Coming short of the grace of God.”
3. He is described as a “The tormented soul” in 2 Peter 2:7-9, “And if He rescued righteous Lot, oppressed by the sexual conduct of unprincipled men (for what he saw and heard as a righteous man living among them, he felt his righteous soul tormented day after day with their lawless deeds {homosexuality}), then the Lord knows how to rescue the spiritual man from testing, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment.”

A. Whenever you are surrounded by degeneracy and you have some system of righteousness in your soul, the degeneracy becomes a torment to the soul of the loser believer.

- B. Lot was in a constant state of being upset. Torment of the soul does not solve the problem. We have the solution by growing in grace as individual believers.
- C. Any loser believer who has any system of righteousness (such as establishment righteousness, capacity righteousness, or spiritual righteousness), and does not have the problem-solving devices in place, is going to be constantly tormented (irritated to the point of torment, self-torture).
4. He is described as “**the lukewarm believer**” in Revelation 3:15-16. The lukewarm believer was once hot but has cooled down.
 5. He is described as “a shipwrecked believer” in 1 Timothy 1:19, “**Having doctrine and a good conscience, which some believers have pushed aside, in fact they have become shipwrecked concerning their faith.**”
 6. He is described as “**the flawed believer**” in James 1:23-24.

What are the descriptions of the loser believer?

1. The carnal believer. Romans 8:7; 1 Corinthians 3:1-3

1 Corinthians 3:1-3: “**And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ.**”

Vs.2: **I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for up to now you were not able to bear it, neither yet now are you able.**

Vs.3: **For you are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are you not carnal, and walk as men?”**

2. Prisoner to the law of sin. Romans 7:23

Romans 7:23: “**But I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members.**”

3. A wretched believer. Romans 7:24

Romans 7:24: **“Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?”**

4. The fulfillment of the lusts of the flesh. Galatians 5:16-21

Galatians 5:16-21: “But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

Vs.17: For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.

Vs.18: But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law.

Vs.19: Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality,

Vs.20: idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,

Vs.21: envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.”

5. Grieving the Holy Spirit. Ephesians 4:30

Ephesians 4:30: “Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.”

6. Quenching the Holy Spirit. 1 Thessalonians 5:19

1 Thessalonians 5:19: “Do not quench the Spirit;”

7. The enemy of the cross. Philippians 3:18

Philippians 3:18: “For many walk, of whom I often told you, and now tell you even weeping, that they are enemies of the cross of Christ,”

8. The enemy of God. James 4:4

James 4:4: **“You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”**

PRINCIPLE: Believers can get so wrapped up in politics that they become a neurotic believer. Deuteronomy 28:28

Colonel R. B. Thieme, Jr. said, “there are two approaches to problem solving on a national scale: pivot and power politics.

If you are involved in “pivot politics,” you know that this is the divine solution to the problems of life. It includes the following:

1. Regeneration.
2. Advancing in the plan of God through perception and application of Bible Doctrine.
3. Growing to spiritual maturity and becoming part of the pivot, which preserves a city, state, nation.
4. It also adheres to principles of freedom and advocates the function of the laws of divine establishment in the national entity.

If you get involved in “power politics,” you are involved in human and Satanic solution to problems.

1. “Power politics” is the concept of “social action” to effect change within a city, state, or nation.
2. It uses peace and love propaganda to achieve its goals, and it stops people from thinking.
3. If this doesn’t work, they resort to violence, tyranny, terror, and revolution to achieve their ends when people resist their propaganda.
4. Many believers become distracted from the plan of God by “power politics.”

Pivot politics prepares the believer for the crisis through perception of Bible Doctrine, so that the faith-rest drill functions in claiming promises and coming to doctrinal conclusions.

God uses prepared people in the crisis who know how to apply doctrine to the situation for divine solutions.

The larger the pivot, the greater the blessing, prosperity, and effectiveness of the client nation.

A client nation flourishes when its citizens function under a system of pivot politics. When, over time, the loss of thought metastasizes into bedlam, then the system declines into power politics.

In general, what human governments have rarely been able to adopt, and, if having done so, to maintain, is pivot politics, confirmed by history's record of the gospel's missionary journey. The term "pivot" has several definitions but its meaning with regard to a client nation is defined as:

That upon which something depends; the central, cardinal, or crucial factor, member, part, or person.⁵

The biblical application refers to the pivot as the accumulation of mature believers living in a client nation under civil government in a specific geographical location.

The biblical pivot includes the categories of mature believers, and also those who are positive to Bible Doctrine and are consistently advancing toward spiritual maturity.

These believers are in contrast with believers associated with the cosmic system, including the systems of arrogance, hatred, and reversionism. Among these are those who spin off into a soul status that overtly cannot be distinguished from unbelievers.

These types make up those who become involved in crusader arrogance, civil disobedience, property damage, etc.

Pivot politics is addressed in scripture, by "salt" as a preservative, and power politics by "leaven" because it corrupts.

PRINCIPLE: The advancing believer must never forget that Jesus Christ controls history, and advancing to spiritual maturity is our number one priority.

⁵ Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, 2d ed. (1953) s.v. "pivot."