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Breaking Unholy Alliances

The Governmental Posture of Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego

I have written before about these three men spoken of in the Book of Daniel but I would like to approach this very important subject again. The Holy Spirit will not let me stop referring to them and contemplating their example in Scripture. ***These men will be a model for us to understand in the days that are ahead of us for this reason: These men show us the “Big Things” God can do when we are positioned properly before God and man.*** Certainly there are many examples in the Bible but these men operated where we pray –in government. We have experienced these “Big Things” to a measure in our government and for this measure we are so grateful to the Lord. We are certainly not where we were in Louisiana from a governmental perspective and for this we are thankful to God for His Love and Mercy. I know that there is more!

The Pattern Established

In Chapter 1 of Daniel we see that they have been chosen for instruction in the language and literature of the Chaldeans after Judah has been taken captive. They have also been appointed a ration of food from the king’s choice food and drink. They take a position concerning food that has set them apart. To take this position they had to reject the orders of the King of Babylon-Nebuchadnezzar concerning their ration of food. ***The pattern for God’s glory being demonstrated through these men starts here in the seemingly mundane issue of eating the way God said to or the way an earthly king instructs.*** After the results came in none was found like Daniel and these three men. It becomes obvious that because of their subjection to the ways of God they were given miraculous gifting. *“And as for these four youths, God gave them knowledge and intelligence in every branch of literature and wisdom: Daniel even understood all kinds of visions and dreams.”* (Daniel 1:17)

In Chapter 2 we read of Daniel interpreting dreams that the king had and this leads to Daniel’s promotion to ruler over all the province of Babylon! Daniel then appoints Shadrach, Meshach and Abid-nego over the administration of the province of Babylon! These men are leaders in a pagan government and you can be assured they had all the perks that came along with these positions.

The Pattern Continues

Chapter 3 tells of an image of gold built by this pagan king and the orders to have everyone bow down to it at the sound of music. Shadrach, Meshach and Abid-nego do not bow and they are called before the king who is outraged. Remember they are administrators of this king’s government! They are given the opportunity to compromise and as you know they do not and then the “Big Things” start happening because God has some guys He can show Himself strong through. They get thrown into a fire that is so hot it kills the one’s who threw them in but they are not affected. A Fourth Man shows up and walks in the fire with them. The king calls them out and their bodies are not affected, they have no hair burnt and no smell of fire. Then the really Big Thing happens-the king blesses the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abid-nego!

The Pattern for Today

In a very simple statement it is this – ***We must break every unholy alliance that hinders God from showing himself strong in Louisiana’s government. We have reached a point in our progression toward becoming a “Light and Voice” to the nation that goes well beyond the abilities of men and women in government. We need God to do the “Big Things” in our midst.***

We are different from Shadrach, Meshach and Abid-nego in the regard that they had very early in their lives set themselves in agreement with God and His ways. We in Louisiana on the other hand have had a history dominated by unrighteousness and corruption in our government, so we are trying to “undo” generations of bad behavior. One fact that cannot be ignored is that we the citizens of Louisiana elected the people who represented us in times past and the same is true today. We are responsible for our government being the way it was and we will be responsible for how it will be in the future.

I will in this newsletter and those following show you some areas where breaking unholy alliances becomes the foremost issue if we are to progress to a place that speaks before the throne of Almighty God. In these things that I suggest you must ask yourself only one question- *Am I in an Unholy Alignment in God's Eyes?*

Party Affiliation

Many will say this is not a place to go much less to start but I think it really boils down to this. Are we serious about God moving in our midst? Do we really want our government to be a vessel for God's Glory in Louisiana? Obviously I am asking this question of Christians in Louisiana. Those that do not know the Lord cannot be expected to think this way much less ask these sorts of questions. Think about Shadrach, Meshach and Abid-nego - in government and yet aligned with God to an extent that when it came to their personal posture and position before God nothing would move them from their devotion to the Lord. No king - no decree - no fiery furnace!

When we approach this issue we must go to the foundations of what party's believe and the only way to do that is to go to their party platforms – the statements in writing that each party makes that says what they stand for and what they will try to implement if put in positions of authority. I will deal with this issue on very foundational principles. They will be basic and Biblical. I will only deal with three parties for lack of space.

The Sanctity of Life

Democrat Party Platform 2008 - Choice

The Democratic Party strongly and unequivocally supports *Roe v. Wade* and *a woman's right to choose a safe and legal abortion, regardless of ability to pay, and we oppose any and all efforts to weaken or undermine that right.*

The Democratic Party also strongly supports access to comprehensive affordable family planning services and age-appropriate sex education which empower people to make informed choices and live healthy lives. We also recognize that such health care and education help reduce the number of unintended pregnancies and thereby also reduce the need for abortions.

Republican Party Platform 2008 - Maintaining the Sanctity and Dignity of Human Life

Faithful to the first guarantee of the Declaration of Independence, *we assert the inherent dignity and sanctity of all human life and affirm that the unborn child has a fundamental individual right to life which cannot be infringed.* We support a human life amendment to the Constitution, and we endorse legislation to make clear that the Fourteenth Amendment's protections apply to unborn children. We oppose using public revenues to promote or perform abortion and will not fund organizations which advocate it. We support the appointment of judges who respect traditional family values and the sanctity and dignity of innocent human life.

Libertarian Party Platform 2008 - Abortion

Recognizing that abortion is a sensitive issue and that people can hold good-faith views on all sides, we believe that government should be kept out of the matter, *leaving the question to each person for their conscientious consideration.*

The Institution of Marriage

Democrat Party Platform 2008 - Marriage

It is not enough to look back in wonder at how far we have come; those who came before us did not strike a blow against injustice only so that we would allow injustice to fester in our time. That means removing the barriers of prejudice and misunderstanding that still exist in America. *We support the full inclusion of all families, including same-sex couples, in the life of our nation, and support equal responsibility, benefits, and protections. We will enact a comprehensive bipartisan employment non-discrimination act. We oppose the Defense of Marriage Act and all attempts to use this issue to divide us.*

Republican Party Platform 2008 - Preserving Traditional Marriage

Because our children's future is best preserved within *the traditional understanding of marriage*, we call for a constitutional amendment that fully protects marriage as a union of a man and a woman, so that judges cannot make other arrangements equivalent to it. In the absence of a national amendment, we support the right of the people of the various states to affirm traditional marriage through state initiatives.

Libertarian Party Platform 2008 - Personal Relationships

Sexual orientation, preference, gender, or gender identity should have no impact on the government's treatment of individuals, such as in current marriage, child custody, adoption, immigration or military service laws. Government does not have the authority to define, license or restrict personal relationships. *Consenting adults should be free to choose their own sexual practices and personal relationships.*

How Does God View This Issue?

Genesis 4: 1 – Now the man had relations with his wife Eve and she conceived and gave birth to Cain...

Genesis 2: 24 – For this cause a man will leave his father and his mother and shall cleave to his wife and they shall become one flesh.

Leviticus 18:22 – You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It is an abomination.

Conclusions

Democratic Party - In the two most basic issues of life and marriage this party is in direct opposition to God's Word and His Ways.

Republican Party – This party's platform is in agreement with a Biblical perspective on these two issues.

Libertarian Party – This party has a definition of freedom that refuses to acknowledge responsibility. Its stand is pretty much "do whatever" when it comes to social issues.

What Do You Do

Break every unholy alliance so that God can do "Big Things" in Louisiana.

Till HE Comes,

Todd Trahan

Intercessors for Louisiana