

7. SUNDAY:

THEME FOR THE 2016 ELECTIONS

Praying for the Body of Christ's Participation

The Importance of Voting and Involvement in Community Life

Time has come that Christians must vote for honest men and take consistent ground in politics or the Lord will curse them.... Christians have been exceedingly guilty in this matter. But the time has come when they must act differently.... Christians seem to act as if they thought God did not see what they do in politics. But I tell you He does see it - and He will bless or curse this nation according to the course they [Christians] take [in politics].

Charles G. Finney.

Governments, like clocks, go from the motion men give them; and as governments are made and moved by men, so by them they are ruined too. Wherefore governments rather depend upon men than men upon governments. Let men be good and the government cannot be bad. . . . But if men be bad, let the government be never so good, they will endeavor to warp and spoil it to their turn. Though good laws do well, good men do better; for good laws may want [lack] good men and be abolished or invaded by ill men; but good men will never want good laws nor suffer [allow] ill ones.

William Penn.

There is a widespread attitude of apathy among Christians in matters to do with politics. Not only have we failed to pray for those in authority, we also have failed in presenting righteous people for leadership. We have not been effectively involved in the process of choosing those that lead us. It has not been unusual to see Christians flocking to Churches in droves to pray for the nation when most of them have not bothered to register as voters. There is an urgent need for Christians to awaken from slumber. We need to understand that not only is the Church the conscience of the nation, it is also the salt and light of the world. To serve their purposes, salt must permeate food and light must go out into darkness. Similarly Christians must permeate and influence every sector of society including politics if we are to fulfill our God given mandate.

“Seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers you too will prosper.”

Jeremiah 29:7

The Jewish exiles carried off to captivity to Babylon in Jeremiah’s day were very eager to return to Jerusalem quickly. However God had other plans; they were to stay in exile for seventy years. So He told them to settle down and participate in the life of the foreign cities they had been carried off to. We too are often tempted to have the same mentality the Jewish exiles had: one of not participating in the life of the community or promoting its welfare. We become too heavenly-minded for any earthly good.

Pray that for the 2016 elections and the years ahead there will be a strong awaking among Christians with regard to their civic responsibility to the nation in being fully engaged in politics

Pray that for members of the Body of Christ that they will:

- Commit to pray for the Electoral Process;
- Prepare and go out and vote;
- Stand for elected office according to the guidance of the Lord;
- Vote for righteous men and women.

SECTOR THEME: THE BODY OF CHRIST, WORLD VIEW, RELIGION

We desire to see God's Kingdom fully manifested in the Body of Christ, World Views and Belief Systems of Uganda by 2062

Despite a recorded Christian population of 88% in Uganda, syncretism is widespread. This is the involvement in idolatrous satanic practices, usually in the name of culture, while at the same time worshipping Jehovah God. In the days of Ahab, Elijah challenged the Israelites, "How long will you waver between two opinions? If Jehovah is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." The same challenge goes out to Christians in Uganda today.

The restoration of the kingdoms brought about a revival in the worship of the ancient gods that our tribes and clans subscribed to before the advent of Christianity. Related to this has been the upsurge in abominable practices like witchcraft and child sacrifice. Any nation that sets itself on this path is headed on a collusion course with Jehovah God with all the detrimental resultant consequences that go with His judgments on idolatry.

The spirit of compromise makes believers fear to take a strong stand when confronted with the question of idolatry especially in cultural matters. The years leading up to 2062

must witness a full return to the Lord among all who profess Christianity and the salvation of those who currently don't.

Pray that in the years ahead there will be:

- Demise of witchcraft and its abominable acts like child sacrifice and other types of ritualistic murders;
- Failure of false religions in the land (Acts 4:12)
- Removal of the spirit of impurity from the land (Zechariah 13:1-3)
- Increase in the spirit of boldness in the Body of Christ that refuses to compromise with anything that flows from the kingdom of Satan.

Pray for the recovery of the full Gospel for Uganda and Africa that came through Philip of Samaria by the hand of the Ethiopian Eunuch in Acts of the Apostles 8.

Pray that God will raise leaders in the Church like Philip who are:

- Full of the Holy Ghost and of faith; well spoken of and have a servant heart;
- Obedient to go to minister in remote places where there is need
- Focused on Christ and his Kingdom - preaching the things concerning the Kingdom of God and the Name of Christ (Act 8:5,12);
- Able like Philip to hear and obey when the Lord tells them to leave the big meeting and go to the desert to speak to one man; leaders who are not stuck up with the big meeting or numbers mentality;
- Not sheep grabbers, who will not try to hold on to people even when they are the treasurers of a whole kingdom (Philip did not try to make him a member of his congregation).

Pray for the restoration of the gospel of the Kingdom of God, which involves:

- Baptizing the people as Jesus Christ commanded (v. 12);
- Laying hands on people to receive the Holy Spirit (v. 15,17);
- Multitudes with one accord heeding the things concerning the kingdom of God;
- Miracles and the power to break the hold of sorcerers over people and cities;
- The casting out of demons and the healing of the sick;
- The power to bring joy in cities and territories.

Psalm 102:

Verse 13: *"You will arise and have compassion on Zion, for it is time to show favor to her; the appointed time has come."*

- Earnestly call on the Lord to arise on behalf of the Body of Christ in Uganda and have compassion on her at this appointed time.

Verse 14: *"For her stones are dear to your servants; her very dust moves them to pity."*

- Just as zeal for His Father's house consumed Jesus, pray that a new zeal for the House of the Lord and the Kingdom of God will grip believers in the new season we have entered.

Verse 15: *"The nations will fear the name of the Lord and the kings of the earth will revere your glory."*

- Ask the Lord to do such a deep work in His Body that the various ethnic groups will come to fear his name and the traditional leaders and political leaders will revere the glory of Jehovah God. In this new season the work of God in our cultures must reach the point of full cultural transformation. A major part of the Great Commission is cultural change, when a nation (ethnic groups that constitute the nation) adopts the teachings and ways of

Christ.

Verse 16: *"The Lord will rebuild Zion and appear in His glory"*

- Earnestly pray that in this new season the Lord will build up the Church in the Uganda after the manner of Matthew 16: 16-20, a Church that will be advancing against the gates of hell.
- Pray that the Lord will appear in His glory in the Church. Ask for a visitation much greater and deeper than the East African revival (the impact of that revival can still be felt today –close to 100 years later). Pray that in the new season God's glory will be revealed and all flesh shall see it together.

Verse 17: *"He will respond to the prayer of the destitute; he will not despise their plea."*

There are people in Uganda made destitute by poverty, war and disease.

- Pray that the prayer of the destitute in will reach full measure in the censers of heaven (Revelation 5:8) and God will respond in awesome ways.

Verse 18: *"Let this be written for a future generation that a people not yet created may praise the Lord."*

- Ask the Lord to judge the foundations of idolatry in Uganda and to grant us grace in our time to lay down new strong foundations for our families, cities, communities and nations so that the coming generations will be brought up in the fear of the Lord.

Verse 19, 20: *"The Lord looked down from his sanctuary on high, from heaven he viewed the earth to hear the groans of the prisoners and release those condemned to death."*

- Pray that in this time the Lord will look down upon Uganda from the height of His sanctuary and view all the spiritual, economic and geopolitical situations that our region is

batTLing with and that are oppressing and resisting us.

We are in many ways prisoners under various belief systems, prisoners of corruption, prisoners of poverty and hunger.

Pray that:

- The Lord will hear our groans;
- Those appointed for death will be released. Millions live under the shadow of death from AIDS, famine, war, disease, ignorance and poverty;
- The covenants with death and the agreements with the grave in our nation will be annulled (Isaiah 28:14-18) and that our nation will enter into a covenant of life and peace with the Lord (Isaiah 54:10-14) and into its full Jubilee.

Verse 21: *“So the name of the Lord will be declared in Zion and his praise in Jerusalem”*

Pray that:

- The Body of Christ will come to the place where Christ is known as Lord and not just Saviour. Only when this happens will the nation and eventually also know Him as Lord (Isaiah 19:21);
- God will declare His name in the Church in Uganda and His praise will be declared in our nation;
- The Body of Christ will play its role in the healing of our nation (Isaiah 19:20, 22);
- The Body of Christ will quickly come to the full realization that the healing of our nation will not come from outside; we must take full responsibility for our nation;
- Uganda will enter a season of being a blessing in the midst of the earth: blessings flowing out of the nation to the rest of the world (Is 19:23);
- Pray that Africa will rediscover its redemptive calling as a place of provision and refuge in time of international crisis; as a place that will send out ambassadors for the

Kingdom of God; as a place where heaven will receive a lot of prayer and praise in these days as we approach the end of the Church age.

John 17:

Read through the high priestly prayer of Jesus as recorded in John 17.

Join Jesus in praying that it will be fulfilled in our generation especially for Uganda.

PRAY THAT GOD WILL BE GREATLY GLORIFIED IN THE BODY OF CHRIST, BELIEF SYSTEMS, AND WORLD VIEWS IN UGANDA IN THE YEARS LEADING UP TO 2062.

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY