LBW 503

## Aligning with God's Will

Former 'President Reagan tells of a shoemaker who was making a pair of shoes for him when he was a lad. The cobbler asked if Ronald wanted a round or square toe. Ronald was unsure, so the cobbler told him to return in a day or two and let him know. A few days later the cobbler saw young Reagan on the street and asked what he had decided. Reagan was still undecided. The cobber said the shoes would be ready the next day. When Reagan picked up the shoes, one had a round toe and one had a square toe. Says Reagan, "Looking at those shoes taught me a lesson. If you don't make your own decisions, somebody else makes them for you".'

Deciding on a style of shoes one wants is, in the broad sweep of life, a trifling decision, a choice of little to no consequence. But there are other decisions, other choices, we make that determine the very course of our lives. One decision in particular determines our eternal existence. It's the most consequential decision of each of our lives. And once we make it, "this is my final answer", "lock it in", well, it's locked in for all eternity. We either live, eternally, or we die, eternally. Life, eternally, is, by definition, being in the presence of God in Christ, Who is the very Source of Life. Death, eternally, is, by definition, being outside and separated from the presence of God. Death is a state of being, a state without life, a state in which we remain conscious for all eternity, suffering pain, anguish, regret, hatred and loathing for all things, including ourselves, forever and ever and ever. There is no love in death, no kindness, no comfort, nothing that originates from God Himself. Whoever makes the decision that they do not want God, that they refuse to bend their knees to Him, to determine to never obey His commands and morals, well, God gives them what they want. Up until the time of their passing from this physical, earthly existence, they can still change their minds. Precious few do. For most who hate God, who trust in themselves but not in God, so harden their hearts that they render themselves unable to even envision living any other way. And when they end up in eternal hell, darkness, gnashing of teeth, bone-chilling cold and burning heat, flesh continually falling from their limbs and bodies, in a state of unending horror and hideousness, they will prefer to pretend they like it rather than acknowledge they were ever wrong about anything. They will continually shake their melting fists at God, loathing Him with the same revulsion that their "father" the devil has for all the things of God.

In a way, this is similar to the irrational hatred of former president Donald Trump, and his supporters, the Make America Great Again movement, all conservatives who support it, and Evangelical Christians in general. Indeed, the current, illegitimate occupant of the White House, who was never elected, the current regime, labels all such conservatives as "terrorists". My, I wonder how they define terrorists these days. Seems to me that would make us equivalent to Hamas, Hezbollah, the Houthis, the Iranian ayatollahs. But I'd be wrong. For, ostensibly, Hamas are not terrorists at all. Rather, they're poor, oppressed people living in an apartheid state, afraid for the lives as the wicked, genocidal Israelis try to starve them, torture them, and ultimately exterminate them. Never mind what happened last October 7th. We are the real terrorists! Or so the bulk of the liberal, woke, hysterical, mentally-out-of-control leftists, mostly democrats, believe.

According to them, Trump is a tyrant who will kill, maim, and slaughter his political adversaries once he returns to office. Those who escape such ignominious fates will chalk it up to their cunning and sheer luck. Never will it enter their minds that they were ever wrong about him. And us. Never, until God's Holy Spirit shakes their world, their worldview, to the core. And folks, as I've already said months and months ago, the shaking has begun. And it's only going to intensify. Yesterday evening was just the latest and most shocking to date. Apparently, according to the mainstream, "lame-stream" media, there was an alleged assassination attempt on Donald Trump's life at his rally in rural Butler, Pennsylvania. Because, you see, it's not clear if this was just another mass shooting event, or if Trump was the intended target. You see, we won't know this until we know more clearly the gunman's motives. It's still all very unclear. "Alleged assassination" my big toe! The media-woke establishment has yet to settle on the preferred, "true" narrative of what really happened. They haven't yet determined how to spin yesterday's events to maximize damage to Trump's campaign and his supporters. For you see, they have the entire nation of America to protect. It takes time to figure out these things—how best to help the peons, er, people, to understand what really happened, causing them to return to towing the establishment line, handing over their hardearned dollars to support the anti-Christ, globalist agenda, to cull the defectives in the human race, control the rest, and save the planet from certain catastrophe.

Well, thank God, the assassination attempt failed. By God's grace and supernatural intervention, every bullet missed, except the first one which passed clean through Trump's ear. For though Trump is a gruff, rough man, he is a straight shooter who means what he says and keeps his promises. That much is evident from his first term. And if there's any one person who can take on the swamp sewer, that is Washington D.C., it's him. For God has His hand on this unlikely man to root out the sin, rot and corruption, that threatens to completely consume this country. And God's will and plans never, ever fail. And we know God's will in these times because He's told us through His modern-day prophets.

Speaking of unlikely people, we read from Amos today; one of his most well-known passages. But as he reveals in verse 14, he was not a "professional" prophet. He did not have priestly lineage. He was a mere farmer. A rural man. A simple man. But when he felt the call of God on his life, well, unlike Jonah who tried to flee from God's call, Amos listened and did as Holy Spirit asked. In just this chapter of Amos, we can learn many things. God showed him a vision, actually multiple visions. For the northern kingdom of Israel was literally mired in sin. It had its own swamp, its own sewer. It was very bad. So bad, in fact, that though God sent prophet after prophet, it never repented, never returned to the Lord. It eventually ceased to exist as a nation, its people scattered abroad. Despite this, small remnants survived in various places on the earth. And God never forgot them. And in our own day, thousands of years after those days, many of them are back again, living again in the land of Israel. As prophesied!

But at the time of Amos, God tried many times to get Israel's, the Northern Kingdom's, attention. Judgement after judgement was sent to shake them awake. They would not listen. They would not awaken. God revealed His plans to Amos. And after seeing the vision of the locusts, Amos interceded for Israel, saying that they were too small a nation to survive them. And God relented. Next God planned a judgement by a massive fire. Amos again interceded, and God relented. The third time God showed Amos a plumb line. It would be plain to see whether they were plumb with it in fidelity to God, or not. The judgement fell squarely on the royal house and the aristocracy of Israel, the "establishment" of that day, responsible for the corruption of the land and people. This time, Amos was not led to intercede, for this judgement was God's final plan for them, and it had to proceed.

Indeed, earlier in Amos, 3:7, God specifically, unequivocally states: "Indeed, the Sovereign Lord never does anything until He reveals His plans to His servants the prophets". Since that is God's way, He wants us to know ahead of time what He's going to do. In so doing, we won't be surprised or unprepared when things happen. All of us should be seeking out today's prophets to hear what Holy Spirit is saying. We should know that the earnest shakings began last year, are intensifying this year and next, and conclude in 2026. The news media tells us nothing; as we should have gathered, nearly all they say is carefully curated lies, halftruths and spun, twisted misleading smoke. The assassination attempt on Trump should not have been surprising. Indeed, many of us have been praying for his protection, praying against this very thing. So, I was not surprised at what happened yesterday. Nevertheless, it was shocking and disheartening. And it must serve to all of us God's people, that we have to align ourselves with God's will and plans, both in the grand affairs of nations, and even more importantly, in our own personal lives and families. How to know His will? Listen to today's prophets, and read the Bible. All of it. Pray for Holy Spirit to guide you in your reading and in your understanding. Turn off the TV news and shows and spend quality time with the Lord in His Word. It'll be time well spent, as you choose God and life. Everlasting life!

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