

(Exodus 11)
“National Stability”

NOTE TAKERS...

- I've titled this message: “National Stability”
 - (Exodus 11) NKJV

~ INTRO ~

OK...

- As we continue studying thru the OT...
 - We have come to the final plague – death of the firstborn...
- Which is the most tragic of all the *10-plagues*.

LET ME GIVE YOU ALL THE PLAGUES IN ORDER...

- Because the final one can be confusing.

All 10-Egyptian Plagues:

- 1) *Water turned to blood* (Ex. 7:14-25)
- 2) *Frogs covered the land* (Ex. 8:1-15)
- 3) *Mosquito / lice all over the ground* (Ex. 8:16-19)
- 4) *Swarms of flies* (Ex. 8:20-32)
- 5) *Livestock hit with pestilence* (Ex. 9:1-7)
- 6) *Boils breakout on man & animal* (Ex. 9:8-12)
- 7) *Hail & fire destroys man & animal in the field* (Ex. 9:13-35)
- 8) *Locust 5” deep on the ground* (Ex. 10:1-20)
- 9) *Darkness so thick you can feel it* (Ex. 10:21-29)
- 10) *Death of the firstborn*
 - (Ex. 11:4-8) judgment announced
 - (Ex. 12:29-33) judgment happens

HERE’S A FEW THINGS WE CAN LEARN TONIGHT...

IDEA #1 – A SAFE COUNTRY:

WHEN WE SAY...

- *God’s in control and working everything out in the world.*
 - Many times that comes across as meaningless.
 - We simply don’t understand it!

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GOD WAS PATIENT WITH PHARAOH...

- But the time came for judgment.

SO...

- Here's a few simple truths...
 - To help us recognize how God works in a nation.

1) (Proverbs 29:4) NKJV

*“The king establishes the land by justice,
but he who receives bribes overthrows it.”*

2) (Proverbs 14:34) NKJV

“Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.”

TWO POWERFUL TRUTHS...

- That give us a sense of understanding...
 - When national challenges cause a country to decline.

PEOPLE...

- We're NOT to let justice fail...
 - And we're NOT to fight against our creator.

HERE'S ONE PRACTICAL APPLICATION...

- Christians are to do their civic duty as citizens of their country:
 - Obey the laws
 - Pay your taxes
 - Go to jury duty
 - Register with the military
 - Vote in elections
- We demonstrate a vested interest in our country...
 - By living a godly life!

IDEA #2 – A DECLINING COUNTRY:

(Proverbs 29:16) NLT

*When the wicked are in authority, sin flourishes,
but the godly will live to see their downfall.*

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THE DOWN FALL OF A COUNTRY IS EVIDENT...

- When government pushes...
 - Redefinition of the basic laws of creation:
 - Gender (what is a man / women)
 - Marriage (marry anyone you want)
 - Life (no longer at conception)

THESE BASIC LAWS OF CIVILIZATION...

- Are the fabric of any society.
 - When these immutable truths are devalued...
 - People are set on a collision course with disaster.

(Proverbs 11:11) NET

*A city is exalted by the blessing provided from the upright,
but it is destroyed by the counsel of the wicked.*

IN THE **CORRUPT SYSTEM** OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE...

- Jesus commanded the people to participate (Matt. 22:21) NKJV.
 - (Pay your taxes).

IN OUR TIME...

- Many well-meaning people have left the wisdom of God...
 - And have become too pious to participate!

PEOPLE...

- **Who** withhold their duty to vote against the cancerous lies...
 - Enable evil to spread.

(Matt. 12:30) NLT

- There is no neutral ground.

CHURCH...

- We're not judging our government leaders by how godly they are.

RATHER...

- We're judging those who refuse fundamental standards for civilization.
 - Standards that are God infused into the core of humanity.
 - When we reject this... we fight God as creator.

AND SOMETIMES...

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- Because the person before us... didn't do their job to maintain justice...
 - We're stuck with selecting the lesser of two evils.

BACK IN EGYPT...

- Pharaoh was in a battle of rebellion against God...
 - And it was felt by his staff & his country.

IDEA #3 – WHERE IS MY COUNTRY?

(Habakkuk 1:1-5)

- Frustrated (1:2)
- Advancement of evil was everywhere (1:3-4)
- God's reply (1:5)
- Second complaint (1:12-17)
- Habakkuk waits for a response (2:1)
- God responds (2:2-5)
- Final take away (3:17-19)

CHURCH... JESUS CAME TO PREACH...

- That the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.

HE MODELED HOW WE'RE TO WAIT FOR HIM.

- The Gospels are filled with examples...
 - Of Him coming to people in great darkness (Matt 4:13-17).

(Mark 1)

- a) He gave hope & healing to people in need.
- b) He called people to recognize the Kingdom of Heaven was at hand.
- c) He ministered to everyday ordinary people who had problems.
- d) He had compassion on everyone who put faith in Him.

A FAVORITE VERSE OF MINE...

- (Mark 2:15) NLT

~ IN CLOSING ~

(Ps. 117:2) NLT

*“For He loves us with unfailing love;
the LORD's faithfulness endures forever.”*

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CHURCH...

- Do your part to bring stability to your country...
 - By being a light in a dark world.

AMEN!

IF YOU NEED TO PUT FAITH IN JESUS...

- I invite you to do that know...
 - By asking Jesus to forgive your sins & lead your life.

IF YOU NEED PRAYER...

- Come down front to see the pastors.
 - Ladies we also have a women's ministry leaders down front too.