

When the Foundations are Destroyed...

King David was on the throne for 40 years, 1010 to 970 BC, according to many historians. His reign was marked by good times and bad, peaceful times and violent time. During part of his reign, he was forced off the throne by his own son, Absalom, and had to hide in the caves of Machpelah for fear of his life.

Sadly, Absalom had undermined the authority of God and His appointed king. Sadder still, the basic rule of law and civil authority was on the chopping block. One wonders just how things had gone so terribly wrong, when there had been peace and prosperity under David's rule earlier. The answer is and has been the same throughout human history: breakdowns occur when enough of the population of any nation decides to ignore the very laws that keep civil liberties viable for the entire nation. (Certainly there can be bad laws that should be changed or even ignored: see Acts 5:27-29.)

In the United States, most of our laws have been tested and proven by both legal rulings and common practice to be viable and healthy in keeping the peace and protecting life and property. When those common-sense laws are disregarded by enough people at the same time, we see violence and destruction on a large scale. It's happened the world over and it's happening now in our nation.

Law, in general, is one of the *foundations* that God has put in place for the peace and well-being of cities and nations. In our nation, our laws are widely based on the laws of God found in His word, the Bible. All of our *major* laws are directly founded upon God's laws in both testaments: murder, theft, destruction of property, rape and violence of all types. The very things that make you safe and at peace at home *and in public* are the laws of God and the laws of our nation founded on His laws.

In very real and practical terms those very foundations are, in many cities, crumbling at our feet. Time will tell if we have the resolve to reclaim these foundations. *IF* we stumble in our ability to keep law and order, we will stumble and perhaps even fall as a nation.

The deciding factor is addressed in Psalm 11. King David, the rightful king, has been de-throned and law itself is hanging by a thread. The proper, legal king has been displaced by unlawful and violent men who seek to kill him (see Ps. 11:1-2). ***Then king David, by God's inspiration, asks a question for the ages, "If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?"*** In other words, if any culture is destroying the foundations which God has ordained for nations, the righteous (God's people) can do little. Why? Because those very foundations are the basic principles of life and civility that must be upheld for any nation, regardless of political ideology, the bedrock, the foundational principles which keep lawlessness and anarchy at bay.

We are not debating which laws are better. We are not facing a debate about the types of laws we have or the how they are enforced. We are living through an attack on law and authority itself. It is a grievous sin to "despise authority," II Peter 2:10. Indeed, ***"If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?" Please pray for America!***

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