

The Answering Service

FROM AMERICA'S PROMISE

Answers to questions from Radio and Tape Listeners

No. 5 - August 1, 1980

Question No.1:

You say you go to Washington every year to talk to our Congressmen and Representatives, but, if the Bible says these things are going to happen, what can we actually do about it?

Answer:

It is true that God has foreordained all things, according to the counsel of His own will (**Eph. 1:11**). However, we must be careful not to be fatalists, who will sit back and do nothing. God has revealed to us His plans, in order that we will have a part in the outworking of those plans.

God has revealed to us in His Word that our nation would fall into sin, both personally and nationally. But, we are not working against the plan of God by witnessing to the Congressmen. We are called to be witnesses, so that they will be without excuse if they refuse to obey God, having seen the truth (**John 9:41**).

The Old Testament prophets preached repentance, even though they knew about and had prophesied the destruction and captivity of Israel. Can you imagine them saying, "Well, these things are going to happen, so what can we do about it?" No, they preached repentance because God said to do so.

However, we have a greater hope than did the Old Testament prophets. Whereas they knew that Israel was to be cast out of

the old land, our message is that of deliverance. We tell people that we are already in captivity, but that a day is coming in which the God of Israel will deliver us. This deliverance will come immediately after we repent and turn to His Law in obedience and humility.

There is actually nothing that we can do to make people repent, but we are called to witness, until God turns the hearts of His people. We attempt to witness to the American people on radio, and we attempt to witness to our Congressmen once a year.

Question No. 2:

How does one become an Identity minister? Does one have to go to the run of the mill schools and then adopt the Identity teaching?

Answer:

Keep in mind that there is no such denomination as "Identity." There is only an Identity movement. Thus, there are no large Identity Bible Colleges or seminaries that we know of, in existence.

As Christians, we are all ordained of God to teach our people the Word of God, and preach repentance and the Kingdom of God. However, each Christian has been given a different "measure of the gift" (**Eph. 4:7**). God has given apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers to pedect (make mature) the saints for the work of the ministry (**Eph. 4:11,12**).

In other words, these special gifts, callings or offices are God's gift to the Christians, so that they would teach the Christians how to perform the work of the ministry.

These special offices should be filled very carefully, however. We are to "lay hands suddenly on no man" (**1 Tim. 5:21**). He should not be a novice (**1 Tim. 3:6**), and he should have a good reputation. "And let these, also, first be proved (tested); then let them use (serve) the office of a deacon (minister, servant), being found blameless" (**1 Tim. 3:10**).

Before we ordain anyone to such an office, we must see evidence of God's calling (ordination), and we must know the man or have someone we trust (preferably another Identity minister) vouch for his character.

Question No. 3:

Why have the Indians of North America been so persecuted, robbed, and killed off; and why has the U. S. government — George Washington to the present day, kept breaking promises and treaties?

Answer:

I imagine the old Canaanites, from Joshua to David, asked the same questions. Our nation has indeed broken treaties, and God is judging us for that sin. However, the Indians were, also, known to break treaties as fast as they made them.

We must first recognize that God gave us this land, just as God gave Canaan to our ancestors. Secondly, the killing of Indians did not really begin until the Indians had killed many thousands of white settlers. Most Indian casualties were the result of the white man defending himself and his family from massacre and often torture.

Thirdly, under Indian common law it was understood that land claims were only valid, while the immediate territory was occupied. It was understood that when a village or individual moved on, they had just one year to come back. After one year, the land was free for anyone to claim and settle. Thus, the white settlers had legal claim to almost all of the land they settled, EVEN BY INDIAN COMMON LAW. North America was so sparsely populated by Indians that hardly 1% of it was ever legally claimed by Indians at any one time.

For the first 200 years or so, the Indians did not, generally, fight the white man over the ownership of land. They fought for plunder and for glory in battle, that would distinguish them as being "great warriors" among their people. They certainly got that for which they fought, so "verily, they have their reward."

It was not until the late 1700's, that the white man finally began to learn how to fight "Indian style" (ie., ambush villages and massacre everyone — men, women, and children. Today we call it "genocide.") Whereas the whites did this only occasionally, genocide was standard policy for many Indian tribes. And mind you, the motivation was, almost always, purely for plunder and personal glory.

So it was the white settlers who were persecuted, robbed and killed off by the Indians, not the other way around. If it had not been for their greater population, the white settlers soon would have disappeared.

Question No. 4:

What does Christ or the Bible say about personally protecting ourselves in self-defence?

Answer:

The entire spirit of the Law of God promotes the idea of self-defence. In fact, that is the primary purpose in government. The judgments of the Law were given for our defence against criminals.

Jesus' disciples needed no weapons while Jesus was with them. But at the close of His ministry, Jesus instructed them: "When I sent you without purse, and scrip, and shoes, lacked ye any thing? And they said, No, nothing. Then said He unto them, But now, he that hath a purse, let him take it, and likewise his scrip; and he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one. For I say unto you, that this that is written must yet be accomplished in Me, And He was reckoned among the transgressors; for the things concerning Me have an end. And they said, Lord, behold, here are two swords. And He said unto them, It is enough."

(Luke 22:35-38)

In other words, because the people (gov't) had rejected Christ's Kingdom, they numbered Christ among the transgressors (accused Him of being a criminal, and later the disciples were accused as well). The principle is clear. As long as you are safe, you don't need a weapon; but when you see danger approaching, sell you clothing if need be, and buy a weapon. But don't go overboard. Remember, two swords were enough for 12 disciples, for God was with them.

Question No. 5:

1 John 3:15 says, "no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him." Is murder a forgivable sin? Does this include abortions? Accessories to murder or abortion? Those causing death from pollution of air, earth, water, foods, and pharmaceuticals?

Answer:

If earthly courts were enforcing God's Law, then, in that sense, premeditated murder is not forgivable. We are to "take no satisfaction (substitution) for the life of a murderer," (**Num. 35:31**), including those who commit abortion and who are accessories.

The sixth commandment, "Thou Shalt Not Kill," certainly includes all of the above, including pollution, although in that case its practical application in earthly courts would have to be limited, or else we would all be executed. Keep in mind that violation of the commandments is never unforgivable in the ultimate sense (ie., at the Great Judgment). King David committed murder and adultery (**2 Sam. 11**), for which he repented, and yet he shall rule in God's Kingdom. (**Ez. 37:24,25**)

1 John 3:15 was not speaking of our future reward so much as our present, inward condition. We are to have this life abiding in us right now (by imputation, not by actual fact of being immortal now). Those who hate their brothers show by their actions and attitudes that they do not have this life abiding in them. This verse is actually a solemn warning, which we would all do well to heed.
