

WALKING IN WISDOM (Colossians 4:5) Number #28

John T. Polk II, Editor

All Scripture quotations from the Editor are from the New King James Version
(Bible Resources may be found on: www.johntpolkll.com)

Email responses may be sent to: TychicusTruths@johnpolkll.com

Questions & Replies by John T. Polk II

QUESTION: "What can save America?"

REPLY: **Proverbs 14:34**: "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."

1. "Righteousness" is the state or condition of being "right:" **As defined by God**: "Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous" (**1 John 3:7**); **By His commandments**: "My tongue shall speak of Your word, For all Your commandments are righteousness" (**Psalms 119:172**); **By His example**: "And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (**1 John 2:1**).

2. Governments should exist to protect the "righteous" within their citizenry: "For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake" (**Romans 13:3-5**).

3. Every law; court-ruling; verbally-abusive, bullying, headlined propaganda piece; Harlotwood perversely-slanted movie or TV program will be considered in God's Judgment of this, or any other, nation! Speaking to Christians about the Jewish persecution of them, Paul wrote: "For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God which are in Judea in Christ Jesus. For you also suffered the same things from your own countrymen, just as they *did* from the Judeans, who killed both the Lord Jesus and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they do not please God and are contrary to all men, forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they may be saved, so as always to fill up the *measure* of their sins; but wrath has come upon them to the uttermost" (**1 Thessalonians 2:14-16**).

4. God formerly has condemned nations. God would not destroy the homosexually corrupted cities of **Sodom & Gomorrah** (**Genesis 18:20; 19:1-29**) if there were as few as ten righteous among them (**Genesis 18:23-33**), but there were not. **God had a "burden" of judgment against nations, countries, and cities where sin had prevailed: Babylon** (**Isaiah 13:1**) and **Nineveh** (**Nahum 1:1**); **Moab** (**Isaiah 15:1**); **Damascus in Syria** (**Isaiah 17:1**); **Egypt** (**Isaiah 19:1**); and **Arabia** (**Isaiah 21:13**). **Assyria** (not covenant-keepers of Moses' Law!) was told

by the prophet: "The LORD has given a command concerning you: 'Your name shall be perpetuated no longer. Out of the house of your gods I will cut off the carved image and the molded image. I will dig your grave, For you are vile'" (**Nahum 1:14**).

Since Then, None Of These Have Ever Arisen Again To Their Former Prominence And Power!

5. Since Jesus Christ, no country is God's chosen people except the spiritual kingdom known as the churches of Christ (**Matthew 28:18-20; Romans 16:16**). **All God requires of every nation is to uphold and encourage right thinking and right doing**: "Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not fair.' 'O house of Israel, is it not My ways which are fair, and your ways which are not fair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways,' says the Lord GOD. 'Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin'" (**Ezekiel 18:29-30**).

6. God is "fair," for He accepts anyone who obeys Him:

"Then Peter opened his mouth and said: 'In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him'" (**Acts 10:34-35**). "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned" (**Mark 16:15-16**).
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Salted Speech Colossians 4:6

~**"Readers are plentiful; thinkers are rare."** ~HARRIET MARTINEAU
~**"He that will not sail till all dangers are over must never put to sea."** ~THOMAS FULLER (1654-1734) British Physician
~**"The ballot is stronger than the bullet."** ~ABRAHAM LINCOLN
~**"Inflation is as violent as a mugger, as frightening as an armed robber and as deadly as a hit man."** ~RONALD REAGAN

THE EVANGELIST



"Blowing out the other fellow's candle won't make yours shine any brighter."

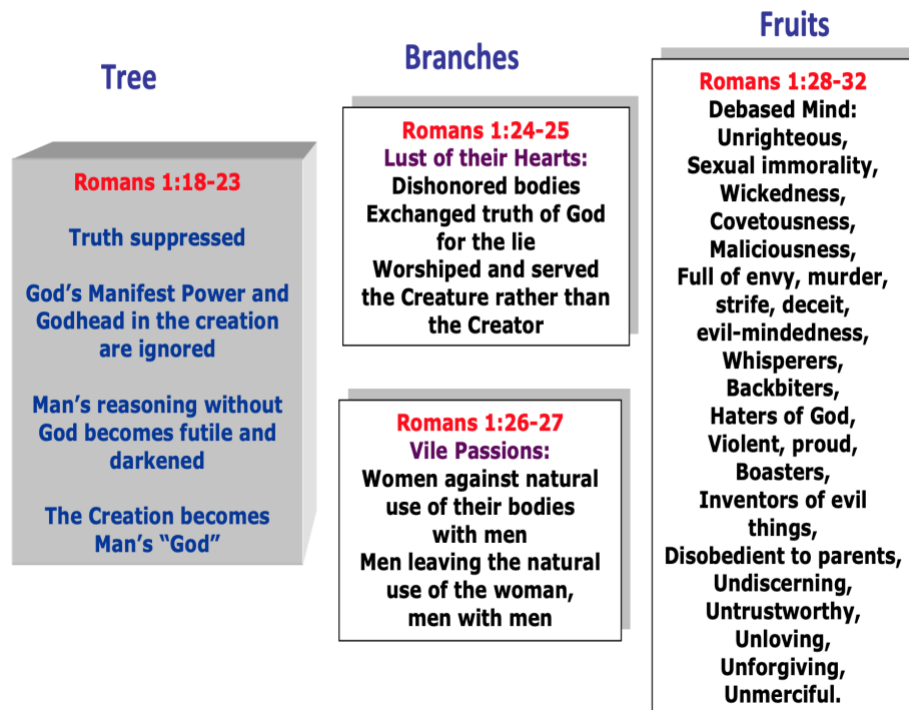


What Happens In A Society That FORGETS GOD

CHART BY JOHN T. POLK II

"Therefore by their fruits you will know them" Matthew 7:20

Recognizing An Idolatrous Society



One of the Greatest Predictors of Health and Happiness

Harvard has been conducting an ongoing study of adult life since 1938. The study has followed the lives of more than 700 original participants and over 1,300 of their descendants. The study's main purpose was to discover the key components contributing to happiness and well-being. Their research and data collection has been extensive. Every aspect of life has been taken into consideration including interviews, medical data, career choices, financial status, living conditions, and personal preferences.

One of the study's most significant findings is that **the quality of relationships** has a major impact on long term health and happiness. And that makes perfect sense if you give it some thought. When we exist in satisfying, positive, loving relationships our health and happiness are greatly impacted. Not money, not social status, not vocation, not even where you live – but the quality time you spend with others is what can make all the difference.

This may have come as a surprise to the researchers, but it should not be so for the Christian – for we know that this is the way God designed us. **We are told in the Scriptures that the way to spiritual health, satisfaction, and success is...**

...having a quality relationship with God (John 14:20-23; 1 John 1:1-4),

...having a quality relationship with our family (Ephesians 5:22-6:4; Colossians 3:18-21),

...having a quality relationship with our brothers and sisters in Christ (Romans 12:10-16; 1 Peter 3:8-9),

...and having a quality relationship with our neighbors and all fellow human beings (Romans 12:17-18; James 2:8-9).

Look at it this way: If we would work hard on making all of our relationships as best as they can be, then we are well on our way to a life of better health and happiness – mentally, physically, and especially spiritually. *"Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers."* (3 John 2).

- Edd Sterchi

