

Doctrine of Divine Guidance In A Chaotic World

Introduction:

To say that the world and particularly the United States is in trouble, is without question to the objective analyst. Let's set the stage by looking at several quotations. First, from *The Patriot Post*, an editorial written by Mark Alexander.

“Recommendation 16 of the Iraq Study Group calls upon Syria to agree to a peace deal with Israel in return for the Golan Heights. It further suggests that Syria be persuaded to end its interference in Lebanon, cease aiding Hezbollah, convince Hamas to recognize Israel's right to exist, and intervene to obtain the release of two captured Israeli soldiers ... Iran should stem the flow of arms and training to Iraq, respect Iraq's sovereignty and use its influence over Iraqi Shia to encourage national reconciliation. The authors of *the study group* are supposed to be the foreign policy realists? ... No wonder it is being so rapturously received by the media ... It is chasing a shadow to imagine that settling an Arab/Israeli dispute will pacify the region.”

Much of the study group's report seems to ignore the history of the Muslim and his propensity to fight, maim and kill; not only is his violence directed at Jews and Christians, as demonstrated during the “heyday” of the Ottoman Empire but clearly such has been seen as early as c. A.D. 650 when Mohammed forced his brand of religion upon his fellow Arabs. Such a proclivity toward violence against one another, i.e., Arab against Arab, can be seen in modernity: the eight year war between Iraq and Iran; the genocide in Iraq when Saddam used poison gas against his fellow Arabs, the Kurds; the attack on Kuwait; and today we continue to see Shiites killing Sunnis and Sunnis killing Shiites in Iraq. And with our announcement to exit Iraq, the violence accelerates. What stupidity on the part of our experts to get involved in solving another nation's problems.

Perhaps, as Senator John Kerry has said, “If you're one of those dummies who goofs off in school you wind up a soldier in Iraq.” To me it would seem more likely, “If you're really stupid and really goof off you wind up on a commission about Iraq.” No wonder God says he elected those who are humble and full of common sense and not the glitterati and intelligentsia who are preoccupied with their own self-importance. Just maybe God was right when he told Moses to write a prophecy about the first Arab and the Muslims' promised child - old Ishmael himself.

Gen 16:11 And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Behold, thou art with child and shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name Ishmael; because the LORD hath heard thy affliction.

Gen 16:12 And he will be a wild man; his hand will be against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren.

Cal Thomas, a Bible-believing Christian, has discovered the answer, an answer rejected out of hand by our last two presidents and most Americans: “Has everyone forgotten what the world looked like when America (and Israel) was feared? Have the foreign policy castrati taken over? Does no one sing baritone anymore? The terrorists in Iraq

... use fear as a primary tactic. We, on the other hand, form study groups and issue statements saying we must “act wisely.” Iran’s dictator ... vows to obliterate Israel and U. S. diplomats recommend we talk to him. Whatever happened to “if you touch us, it will be the last thing you touch? Ah but that was before political correctness and sensitivity training ...”

Michael Reagan, another Bible-believing Christian, also has discovered the answer: “Robert Gates comes from a group of people I know well. They think that they are the be-all and end-all, and the media fawn over them and feed their insatiable egos. Their new way of dealing with Iraq is to figure out ways to leave. My way is more straightforward and simple: forget about pandering to the Left’s pacifist instincts and just go ahead and kill the enemy, every single one of them.”

This biblical concept of killing the enemy to win war has clearly been rejected by religious and irreligious people. No doubt this is also the reason we have not won a war since 1945, when we destroyed, Italy, Germany and Japan. Kofi Annan, during his tenure as headman of the United Nations, was quoted as saying, “What the U. S. needs is a statesman like Harry S. Truman.” Recall this statesman, when faced with saving U. S. lives versus Japanese lives, elected to conventionally bomb Tokyo with napalm until it was completely burned down, drop an atomic bomb on Hiroshima and then a second on Nagasaki. Now there is the kind of statesman we need today!

Syndicated columnist Ben Shapiro writes of the reason why the most powerful and well trained military has not been successful at winning any wars since 1945:

“America has not “won” a major “hot” war since World War II. The Gulf war cannot be considered a full fledged victory; it returned the situation in the middle East to the status quo ... The Viet Nam war was surely a devastating loss. The Korean War ended in a stalemate; North Korea ... remains militant and dangerous 50 years later. It has been six decades since we emerged fully victorious from a major “hot” war. This is because the very definition of war has changed. Each modern war is more of a battle than a war. Tearing out the enemy’s motivating ideology by the roots is no longer a nation-centric task.”

My question is, “could God’s hand be in all of this?” The answer, “of course it is!”

Pro 21:1 The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.

The most devout Christian, if filled with Bible doctrine might say “but, King Jesus these Muslims want to kill your people.” There is no doubt this is true, but it is not just Jews the Muslims want to kill. Let me quote in part what Caroline Glick has written in an editorial entitled “*Jews Wake Up!*”

“When the history of our times is written, this week will be remembered as the week (the week being that of December 10, 2006) that Washington decided to let the Islamic

Republic of Iran go nuclear ... With the publication of the ... Iraq Study Group ... the debate about the war in Iraq has changed. Baker and his associates claim that the U. S. cannot win the war in Iraq and so the U. S. must negotiate with its primary enemies ... Iran and Syria - in hopes they will hold their fire long enough to facilitate an “honorable” American retreat from the country ...” Gates, Baker and Lee Hamilton go on to write ... “Iran and Syria share America’s “interest in avoiding chaos in Iraq.” The main incentive Baker advocates offering is Israel ... Worse than that ... Gates admitted Tuesday that he cannot guarantee that Iran will not attack Israel with nuclear weapons, he ignored the fact that Iran - whose President ... daily calls for the destruction of the U. S. - may also attack the U. S. with nuclear weapons.

“Gates admitted ... that Iran is producing many bombs - not just one ... Since it is possible to destroy Israel with just one bomb; Americans should be asking themselves what Iran needs all those other bombs for? ... What must Israel do? ... it must plan an attack against Iran’s nuclear facilities and their command and control centers ... they must neutralize second order threats like the Palestinian rocket squads and the Syrian ballistic missile arsenals in order to limit the public’s exposure to attack during the course of or in the aftermath of an Israeli attack on Iran ... and they must topple the Iranian regime.”

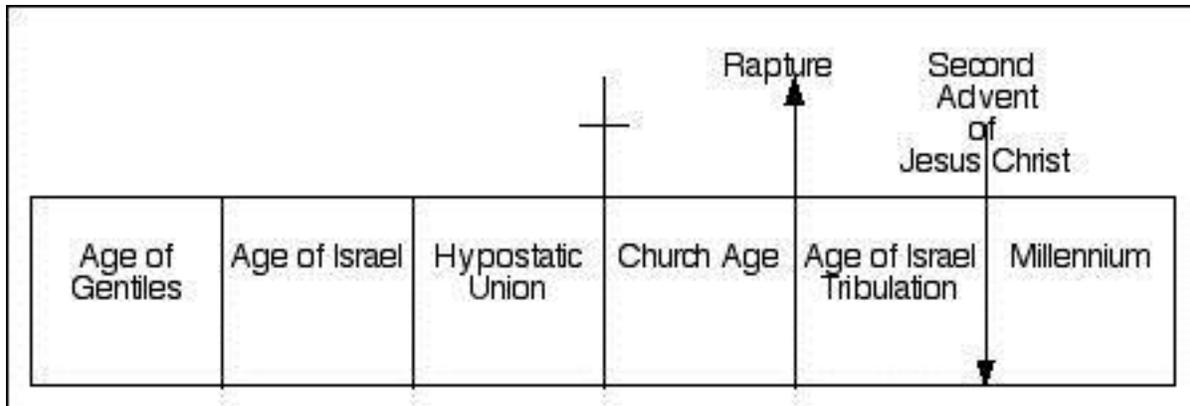
Ms. Glick goes on to write: “Tragically, in these perilous times, we are being led by the worst, most incompetent government we have ever had ... In a few months, Iran may well be in possession of nuclear weapons which it will use to destroy the Jewish state. With the U. S. withdrawing from the war and Israel in the hands of incompetents, the time has come for the Jewish people to rise up.”

Well Caroline, that's a tall order. If by now your blood is not boiling, then one of us is not thinking! Can things get any worse you might ask and the answer is “they sure can,” just as the Jews found out in Babylon in c. 586 B.C. and in Rome in c. A.D. 70.

If God destroyed His priest nation because of negative volition to His word, He certainly might just destroy client nation U. S. A. because of our negative volition.

Hos 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest *nation* to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

Before we look at what the Bible teaches about divine guidance, we need to establish a baseline and that baseline is the dispensation chart. There is absolutely nothing that can change God’s outline of human and angelic history and I use this word “history” to include that which God has predicted in His Word; the predictions are just as certain as history.



Keep in mind our job is not to conform to the thoughts and ideas of the world but to be transformed and think like the Lord Jesus Christ. We as the pivot support our nation and by association we support Israel.

1Co 2:16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

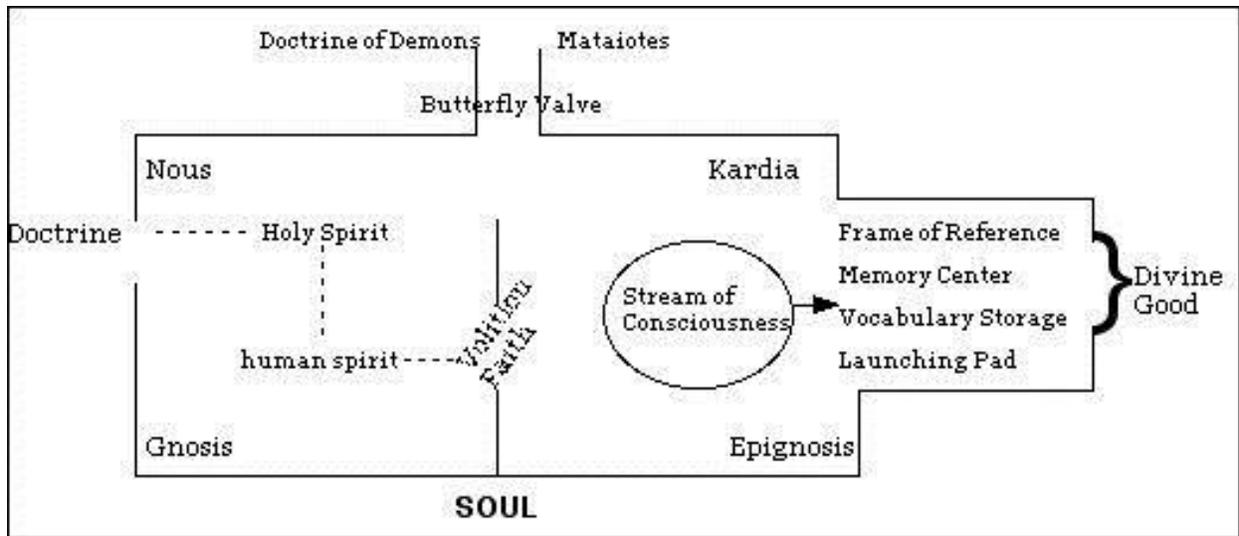
1Pe 4:1 Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind ...

Phi 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

Let's get to transforming before national Israel is destroyed and the Muslim is storming the walls of the good old U.S. of A.

And now for the Doctrine of Divine Guidance

A cardinal principle of divine guidance is stated in Rom 12:1 and 2. These two verses reduce the will of God to utmost simplicity. The two verses describe a process for the believer: to grow in His grace by the intake of the Word under the filling of the Spirit. God's will for the unbeliever is to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. Without faith alone in Christ alone there is no hope, either in time or eternity, thus the unbeliever is simply a pawn in the hands of the great deceiver--old Satan himself. The process for the believer can be summarized in a simple chart.



There are ten things declared to be the general will of God.

1. **Salvation** - It is the will of God that every member of the human race be born again. We know from 2Pe 3:9 that God is “not willing for any to perish.”

2Pe 3:9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

1.1 Doing the will of God in this case is believing in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Joh 6:40 For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day."

Joh 6:47 I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life.

1.2 God made this possible by sending His only begotten Son to accomplish the work of salvation.

Joh 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Rom 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

1.3 It is impossible to do the will of God until one begins at the cross. Jesus said to a very religious man, “you must be born again” and to others He carefully outlined His grace plan.

Joh 3:7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

Joh 11:25 Jesus said unto Martha the sister of Lazarus, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

Joh 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

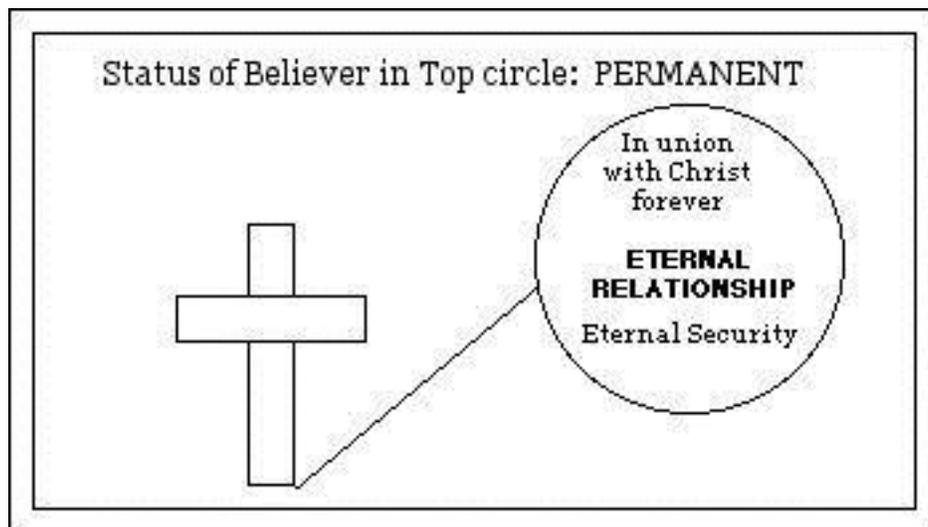
1.4 After salvation, God provides several other general directives which define the spiritual life of every believer and permit divine guidance.

2. **Sanctification** - It is the will of God that all believers be sanctified.

2.1 There are three types of sanctification in the Bible: positional sanctification, temporal sanctification and ultimate sanctification.

2.1.1 Positional Sanctification - a product of faith alone in Christ alone.

1Co 1:2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:

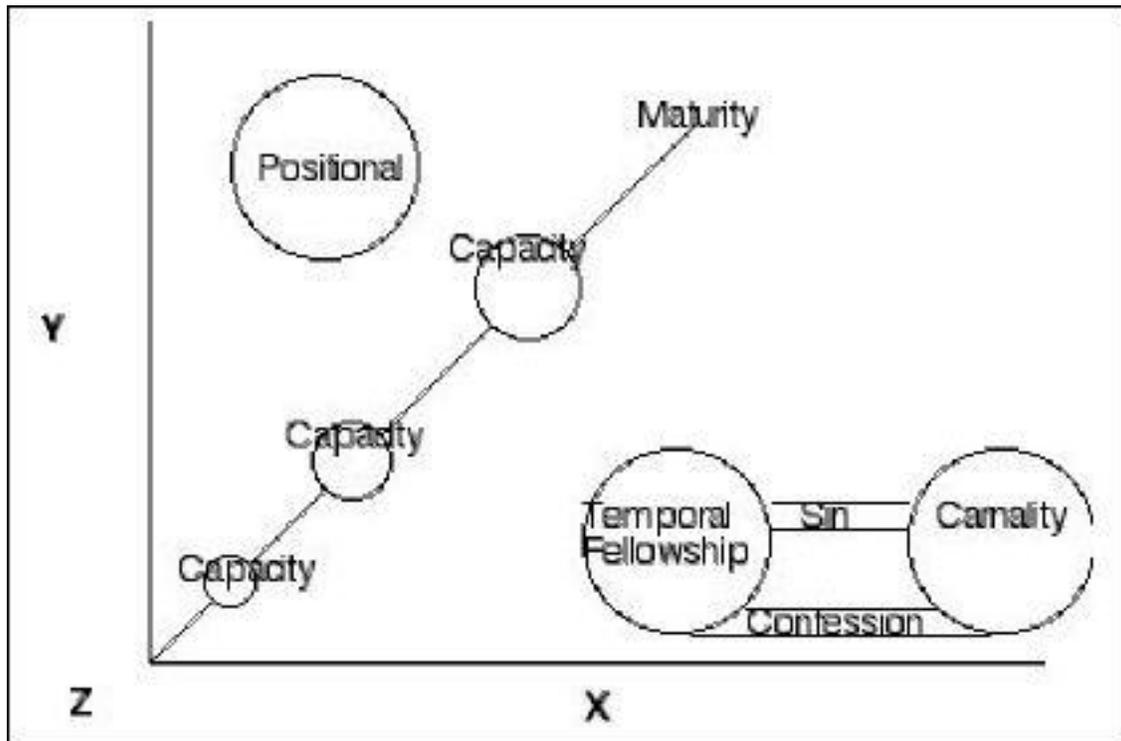


2.1.2 Temporal Sanctification - Sanctification here means to be set apart unto God by the consistent use of the two power options: naming your sins to God as the Holy Spirit shows and consistently taking in the Word of God.

2Ti 2:21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.

1Th 4:3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:

1Th 4:4 That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honor;



2.1.3 Ultimate Sanctification - occurs when we transfer from time to eternity.

Phi 3:21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

1Jo 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

3. **Spirituality** - It is the will of God that we are to be filled with the Spirit.

Eph 5:18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit.

3.1 We are filled with the Spirit when we use 1Jo 1:9; God the Holy Spirit is responsible for showing us sin and we are responsible for naming it to God.

1Jo 1:9 If we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

3.2 The filling excludes human good and provides the basis for producing divine good.

3.2.1 No matter what Christian activity we may engage in, praying, giving, attending church, witnessing etc., if we are out of fellowship, all production is human good. It is not the will of God that we operate in carnality; all human good is repugnant to the Lord.

Jer 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked, who can know it.

Isa 64:6 But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

Rom 8:8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

3.3 Divine good will be rewarded at the Bema, the judgment seat of Christ, and human good will be burned.

1Co 3:12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

1Co 3:13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

1Co 3:14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

1Co 3:15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

4. **Thanksgiving** - It is the will of God that we give thanks in everything. Thanksgiving is an expression of worship toward God. We are to be thankful, no matter what.

1Th 5:18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you

4.1 Thanksgiving is a mental attitude arising from doctrine in the right lobe of the soul, though it should also be expressed in prayer.

Psa 138:1 I will praise thee with my whole heart: before the gods will I sing praise unto thee.

Psa 138:2 I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy loving kindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.

Eph 5:20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

Phi 4:6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Col 4:2 Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;

5. **Suffering** - It is the will of God that we suffer.

1Pe 3:17 For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing.

1Pe 4:12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

1Pe 4:13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

1Pe 4:14 If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

5.1 This is a difficult concept, but when you understand that the purpose of suffering is blessing, then you begin to realize that God has a reason for it all. Since it is God's will for you to suffer, then ultimately you will be blessed even while suffering.

1Pe 4:19 Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

5.2 God is always faithful to us even through suffering. Undeserved suffering is one way of directing our attention to the things that are important in life - fellowship with God, learning the Word, growing in grace, etc.

5.3 Suffering honors Christ by proving the reality of our faith and will redound to His praise and honor at the appearing of Jesus Christ.

1Pe 1:7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor

5.3.1 Suffering honors Christ by developing obedience to His will.

Heb 5:8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;

Heb 5:9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

5.3.2 Suffering honors Christ by developing within us perseverance and confidence in our spiritual life.

Rom 5:3 And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;

Rom 5:4 And patience, experience; and experience, hope:

5.3.3 Suffering honors Christ by restraining arrogance.

2Co 12:6 For though I would desire to glory, I shall not be a fool; for I will say the truth: but now I forbear, lest any man should think of me above that which he seeth me to be, or that he heareth of me.

2Co 12:7 And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.

2Co 12:8 For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me.

2Co 12:9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2Co 12:10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

6. **Trusting** - It is the will of God for every believer to trust the Lord.

Pro 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

Pro 3:6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Heb 3:7 Therefore as the Holy Spirit saith, To day if ye will hear his voice,

6.1 We are not to depend on a human viewpoint but rather on the divine or biblical viewpoint; trusting the Lord in every situation should be our modus operandi.

6.2 If we think divine viewpoint, God will direct our paths and guide us even in times of great stress. The question is “Do you want Him to direct your path, to lead you along the way?”

7. **Good works** - It is the will of God for every believer to produce divine good.

7.1 In 1Pe 2:15 we see that “doing right,” or producing divine good, is the will of God. Believers are left on this earth to represent and glorify the Lord Jesus Christ. Part of representing Him is to be effective in the realm of production, which is the natural by-product of spiritual maturity.

1Pe 2:15 For it is the will of God, that with well doing you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:

7.2 God has already provided the divine good which He wants manifested in time, and it is our job to take in the Word and produce or walk in them as Eph 2:10 directs.

Eph 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

8. **Nations** - It is God’s will that nations exist and prosper. Internationalism is evil and never will be an effective tool. Nations are designed to protect the freedom of its

constituents. God has ordained the existence of nations and Satan is their declared adversary.

Isa 14:12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, you who did weaken the nations!

Isa 14:13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

Isa 14:14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

Gen 10:5 (From these the maritime peoples spread out into their territories by their clans within their nations, each with its own language.)

Deu 32:8 When the Most High gave the nations their inheritance, when he divided all mankind, he set up boundaries for the peoples according to the number of the sons of Israel.

Acts 17:26 From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live.

Acts 17:27 God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us.

8.1 God judged mankind's first attempt at internationalism. It was at the Tower of Babel (an idolatrous platform) that internationalism was outlawed and nations were established.

Gen 11:1 Now the whole world had one language and a common speech...

Gen 11:6 The LORD said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them.

Gen 11:7 Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other."

Gen 11:8 So the LORD scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city.

Gen 11:9 That is why it was called Babel--because there the LORD confused the language of the whole world. From there the LORD scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

8.2 Nations should have a common culture that reflects a common heritage, language, spiritual essence, patriotism, music, etc. Nations should have an absolute minimal government; it should be based on the Mosaic law.

8.3 All nations should protect and sponsor the four divine institutions: volition, marriage, family and nationalism.

9. **Avoidance of War** - It is God's will that nations maintain strong militaries with the strength of national character to use such military power when national sovereignty is threatened.

9.1 The military must protect a nation's borders and declared special interests. War will always be with us, i.e., at least until the Lord returns at His Second Advent.

9.2 There will never be world peace prior to the Second Advent. Individual nations can, however, stay out of war if they elect to maintain a dominant military with a population and leadership willing to use its overwhelming military force.

9.3. When a nation has to go to war, it is because the nation failed to follow the protocol plan of God by maintaining such a military or displayed a reluctance to use its dominant force.

10. **We Are To Populate The Earth** - It is God's will that people replenish the earth as part of the angelic conflict.

Gen 1:28 And God blessed them, and God said ... Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it ... have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Gen 9:1 And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.

I want to close our lesson by reading in part an editorial by Diana West.

"Funny thing about a recent op-ed piece ... in the Washington Post outlining likely Saudi actions if the United States withdraws from Iraq: namely that Saudis would both support Sunnis in Iraq (versus Shiites supported by Iran) and manipulate the oil market to "strangle the Iranian economy. I think it sounds peachy, this let-them-devour-each-other strategy -- which I'm guessing many Americans mutter to one another in frankness, if not also in confidence ... after all it just isn't politically correct to speak about such ...

"Saudi money is already supporting Sunni forces in Iraq according to the Associated Press ... this private funding could easily become official Saudi policy. While Saudi leaders say they have so far withheld support from Al Qaeda-led Sunni groups in Iraq, the newspaper explains, "if Iraq's sectarian violence worsened, the Saudis would line up with Sunni tribal leaders" -- Al Qaeda or no Al Qaeda. Meanwhile, we already know Iran is backing, if not guiding, Iraqi Shiites. So what should we do?

"I propose two options ... The first is military, but it carries a seemingly insurmountable cultural override. The fact is, the United States has an arsenal that could obliterate any jihad threat in the region once and for all ... In other words, it's a disgrace for military brass to talk about the 21st century struggle with Islam as necessarily being a 50 to 100

year war. Ridiculous. It could be over in two weeks if we cared enough to blast our way off the list of endangered civilizations. As culture, however, the West is paralyzed by the specter of civilian casualties ... The second and best of the two options ... is simply to get out of the way and let the Sunnis and Shiites kill each other. With the two main sects of Islam preoccupied with an internecine battle of epic proportions, the non-Muslim world gets some breathing room ... And we sure could use it -- to plan for the next round.”

Chaos abounds, but so also does divine guidance. The question is! “Are we willing as citizens of this great country to accept His Word and make application of His protocol?”
Let us pray.