

2-10-19
A WARNING TO A WICKED NATION

Isaiah 3:11 Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him.

Isaiah 3:12 As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.

We are living in strange times. Just this past week I was reading my Bible and I came across the account of Athaliah. She was the one and only woman who ever usurped the throne of Judah.

Jehoshaphat was one of the good kings of Judah. His only fault was that he made an alliance with King Ahab. King Ahab was married to Jezebel. Jezebel had a daughter named Athaliah and when Jehoshaphat made an alliance with Ahab he took a wife for his son from one of Ahab's daughters.

II Chronicles 18:1 Now Jehoshaphat ... joined affinity with Ahab.

That word affinity means to join families together through marriage.

Jehoshaphat intermarried his son Jehoram with a daughter of Ahab and Jezebel. Her name was Athaliah. Jehoram had a son by the name of Ahaziah. So for a short time the Kings of Judah and the Kings of Israel were all near kinsmen and relatives.

Jehoram died, then Ahaziah became king and went with then King of Israel to war. The king of Israel was wounded in a battle and Ahaziah goes down to visit him when Jehu comes by the command of God to execute justice and vengeance on the house of Ahab.

Jehu comes and kills Ahaziah and Jehoram, and all the sons of Ahab, and he even kills Jezebel.

When word get back to Athaliah that her son was dead we read a horrible thing!

II Kings 11:1 And when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the seed royal.

II Kings 11:2 But Jehosheba, the daughter of king Joram, sister of Ahaziah, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the king's sons which were slain; and they hid him, even him and his nurse, in the bedchamber from Athaliah, so that he was not slain.

II Kings 11:3 And he was with her hid in the house of the LORD six years. And Athaliah did reign over the land.

He we see how wicked a woman can be in order to gain power in this world. Athaliah, against all natural affection, kills all her grandchildren to remove any competition to the throne. Then she usurps the throne.

Now I want to talk to you about a great error that is taking place in our nation today in regards to trends and a movement to destroy our nation and families in general.

It is the same old attack that Satan made in the garden. He went to the woman first and Adam just went right along with it.

Did not Satan instill in Eve a dissatisfaction with her estate in general and entice her to venture into the area of rebellion against God himself and eat of the forbidden fruit?

God is the one that sets the bounds. He alone sets our parameters. He alone decides how we should live.

The Bible defines the role of a man, the role of women, and the role of children. When we go against the Word of God we enter into confusion and then the disintegration of our very society.

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GOD'S WARNING TO A WICKED NATION

According to Isaiah 3:12 we see the end result of a people given to wickedness. We see children who will oppress their parents, Women who will be placed in position of rulership, and leaders who do not tell people the truth but will lead them into error.

Let me suggest, that it doesn't start with the children but it starts with the leaders. Someone once said everything rises and falls on leadership.

A wicked nation becomes wicked because of leaders who lead people astray.

I. GOD WARNS AGAINST FALSE LEADERS.

I believe that the greatest reason our nation is in the shape that it is in today is because of bad leadership. Now in a nutshell here is the order of leadership that God has ordained in a society.

There are leaders religious.

There are leaders political.

There are leaders in the family.

1. CONSIDER THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS

I am not sure that one is more important than the other, but I personally believe that God's leaders have the most important job of all. They are to be the conscience of our society.

How will fathers know how to lead without the Word of God?

How will judges know what is right and equitable without the knowledge of God's word?

How will political leaders know what is right and equitable without God's word?

The Bible is the conscience of society.

Who did God ordain to rebuke David when he got out of line?

Malachi rebuked the men of the nation for not being the fathers they needed to be.

Elijah rebuked Ahab.

John the Baptist rebuked Herod.

The problem we have today in our nation is that all the leaders want to speak only nice things. They want to be liked. They want to be loved.

Throughout history people have rebelled against those who tell them the truth!

The pulpits of our nation have lost their thunder and we are suffering for it.

2. CONSIDER THE CORUPT POLITICAL LEADERS.

When America had great preachers, it also had great political leaders who were inspired by those preachers.

We are studying the Kings of Israel in Sunday School and Wednesday night and some Sunday nights. Without exception when there was a good King he had a close relationship with God's prophets and priests!

Jehosophat: was so used to enquiring of the Lord through God's prophets that even when he went to Ahab he sought direction through the prophets of the Lord concerning going up to Ramoth Gilead to battle. What was sad was that when that one lone prophet came and warned him that things would not go well with him he ignored the warning.

Hezekiah: He had Isaiah as his counselor. When he prayed to the Lord God used Isaiah to tell him that his prayers were answered!

Jehoash: He had Jehoiada to lean on. When Jehoiada died Jehoash strayed from the Lord.

II Kings 12:2 And Jehoash did that which was right in the sight of the LORD all his days wherein Jehoiada the priest instructed him.

The most foolish thing we have done in our nation today is to think that we need to isolate our political institutions from religious.

So wicked is this that people think preachers should never get political. Where do you find that in the Bible?

Did not Samuel become political when he rebuked Saul?

Nathan rebuked David.

Isaiah rebuked Manasseh.

Jeremiah corrected Zedekiah.

John the Baptist told Herod where he was wrong.

3. THE LEADER OF THE HOME SHOULD BE THE FATHERS.

Deuteronomy 6:7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Deuteronomy 6:8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

Deuteronomy 6:9 And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

Deuteronomy 6:10 And it shall be, when the LORD thy God shall have brought thee into the land which he sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give thee great and goodly cities, which thou buildedst not,

Deuteronomy 6:11 And houses full of all good things, which thou filledst not, and wells digged, which thou diggedst not, vineyards and olive trees, which thou plantedst not; when thou shalt have eaten and be full;

Deuteronomy 6:12 Then beware lest thou forget the LORD, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

Fathers need to lead.. to teach to guide their families..

Today we have Fathers who are leading their children astray. Teaching them that fun and foolishness is more important than God.

Teaching that they can skip church and be ok.

Teaching all kind of stupid things to their children!

II. WOMEN RULING OVER THEM WAS GOD'S JUDGMENT AGAINST THEM.

Isaiah 3:12 As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.

How do women get in a place of leadership and rulership?

The Bible says this:

I Timothy 2:12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.

I Timothy 2:13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve.

I Timothy 2:14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

I Timothy 2:15 Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

Notice what Paul said.

He would not allow a woman to teach or usurp authority over the man!

Adam had to allow Eve to give him the forbidden fruit.

The Bible is clear that the woman's authority and role is in the area of being a home maker and child bearer, a keeper of the home.

The perfect role model in the Bible of the liberated woman is ATHALIAH.

She was the daughter of Jezebel.

Athaliah USURPED the throne. She took it, by crookery and her ungodly aggression. Let me suggest to you that that is exactly what happens with every woman who seeks to lead men. They have to usurp that position. It is not natural.

Athaliah sized the opportunity. It was not a divine opportunity.

Athaliah was willing to sacrifice the most sacred heritage that she had! Even a brute beast has a natural affection for her offspring. NOT ATHALIAH! What does she do so she can become queen? She kills her own children.

Let me suggest to you, that for the most part, this is the motivation behind abortion. Women who want to get ahead. Women who have inordinate ambitions. Why will they abort a baby that may have a defect? They are worried about being inconvenienced. They fear being set back in their careers.

Athaliah had an ambition to be the ruling queen! She was willing to sacrifice her own family to get ahead.

I see this happening all the time. I know of men who sacrificed to help their wives get through college and then after they graduate from college and get a good job they dump their husbands.

We have a proliferation of Jezebels and Athaliahs in our nation today.

THE SUPREME PLACE OF A WOMAN IS TO SACRIFICE TO RAISE GODLY CHILDREN.

Children need a stay home mom who is there for them. A mom and even a grandmother that will love them, sacrifice for them and guide them.

The greatest influencer of children is the mother! Children have a better chance of turning out right with a godly mother and no father than a good father and an ungodly mother. the woman is the influencer of the home.

READ ABOUT THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN IN PROVERBS 31. Being a godly mother is a full time full time job!

Proverbs 31:10 Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.

Proverbs 31:28 Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.

I. It starts with leadership.

LEADERSHIP FROM THE PULPIT.
LEADERSHIP FROM SOCIETY.

LEADERSHIP FROM FATHERS.

II. WE NEED GODLY WOMEN WHO WILL BE CONTENT IN THE HOME.

What is more important, a woman who reigns as queen, or a mother who rears up multiple Kings? One selfish woman who aborts the lives of many children to get ahead, DOES THAT MAKE SENSE?

We have a proliferation fo Athaliahs and Jezebels.

I would not doubt that soon people will be naming their daughters Jezebel!

III. THE FINAL LEG OF DESTRUCTION IS WHEN CHILDREN BECOME OPPRESSORS!

Isaiah 3:12 As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.

The incubator for children is the home. When the home is broken up the children will be broken up as well.

With the rise of women leaders in our political realm so too there is a rise of oppressive children.

Children who will not be inconvenienced for their parents.

I was talking to a man who was complaining about his elderly father. He felt his dad had some quirks. I said to him what if your dad had Alzheimer's would you abandon him? Children are oppressive to their parents. Cannot be bothered to help them!

Parents sacrificed, raised their children, took care of them, and then when the parents get older the children abandon their parents. Sad.

This is what it means honor your father and mother. Truth is, when people get older they are not so honorable anymore. But the meaning of honor your father and mother is to help them out when they get older. I was just in the nursing home and I noticed there were not a lot of children visiting their parents.

Conclusion:

When we abandon the design that God ordained for our society we reap the wind of destruction and confusion.

Our Lord puts it this way:

Isaiah 3:11 Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him.

The reward of our hands because of failed leadership is:

Children have become oppressive.
Women have usurped rulership.
We have been given over to poor leadership.

We actually have leaders talking about banning all fossil fuels in 10 years, meaning no cars, no planes, even possibly doing away with beef because cow flatulence!! To them global warming is as much a threat to the world as Hitler was, and we must mobilize the whole nation against it. Even tax fossil fuels to support it.

WHAT INSANITY!

This is not science. This is a radical pantheism and a reverence for nature that will be imposed upon all non believers!

Do we really think we can stop global warming or so called climate change by our sacrifices to mother earth?

These are the kind of people we have leading our nation!

I think every member of congress should be required to read John Knox's booklet, The First Blast of the Trumpet Against the Monstrous Regiment of Women, John Knox 1558.

In that treatise John Knox shares how having women leaders is against the Bible, against nature, against reason, common sense. Mary queen of Scots had him arrested but he was never convicted or jailed.

He named his writing the first blast of the trumpet because he felt that his message was to be like Ezekiel's trumpet of warning against the treacherous deed of establishing woman to rule in his day.

CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING QUOTES AND EXCERPTS FROM JOHN KNOX.

ADDITIONAL NOTE OF INTEREST:

Let us read excerpt from John Knox's Booklet. We will not read all 44 pages. But it may do us good to read a few excerpts and paragraphs from this treatise.

**Excerpted From The First Blast of the Trumpet
Against the Monstrous Regiment of Women by John Knox 1558**

1. FIRST HE SETS FORTH THE NEED FOR HIS WRITING:

And further, it is our duty to open the truth revealed unto us, unto the ignorant and blind world; unless that, to our own condemnation, we list to wrap up and hide the talent committed to our

charge. I am assured that God has revealed to some in this our age, that it is more than a monster in nature that a woman shall reign and have empire above man. And yet, with us all there is such silence, as if God therewith were nothing offended. I know the natural man, enemy to God, shall find many causes why no such doctrine ought to be published in these our dangerous days: first, for that it may seem to tend to sedition; secondarily, it shall be dangerous, not only to the writer or publisher, but also to all such as shall read the writings, or favour this truth spoken; and last, it shall not amend the chief offenders, partly because it shall never come to their ears, and partly because they will not be admonished in such cases.

Why are our politicians silent on this matter? Is it not for the same reason. They fear the woman's vote. When it was mentioned to a minister of large denomination about whether God ordained the subjection of women to their husbands he admitted it was in the Bible but feared to say or preach about it because of the backlash he may receive from the women in his congregation..

2. John Knox said he was going to follow the Bible, not the fear of men.

I answer, if any of these be a sufficient reason, that a known truth shall be concealed, then were the ancient prophets of God very fools, who did not better provide for their own quietness, than to hazard their lives for rebuking of vices, and for the opening of such crimes as were not known to the world. And Christ Jesus did injury to his apostles, commanding them to preach repentance and remission of sins in his name to every realm and nation. And Paul did not understand his own liberty, when he cried, "Woe be to me, if I preach not the evangel!" (1 Cor. 9:16). If fear, I say, of persecution, of slander, or of any inconvenience before named, might have excused and discharged the servants of God from plainly rebuking the sins of the world, just cause had every one of them to have ceased from their office. For suddenly their doctrine was accused by terms of sedition, of new learning, and of treason. Persecution and vehement trouble did shortly come upon the professors with the preachers. Kings, princes, and worldly rulers did conspire against God, and against his anointed Christ Jesus (Matt. 26:57-68; Acts 18:12-16; 21:28-39; Ps. 2; Acts 4:1-33). But what? Did any of these move the prophets and apostles to faint in their vocation calling? No. But by the resistance (which the devil made to them by his supporters) were they the more inflamed to publish the truth revealed unto them, and to witness with their blood, that grievous condemnation and God's heavy vengeance should follow the proud contempt of graces offered. The fidelity, bold courage, and constancy of those that are passed before us, ought to provoke us to follow in their footsteps, unless we look for another kingdom than Christ has promised to such as persevere in profession of his name to the end. If any think that the empire of women is not of such importance, that for the suppressing of the same any man is bound to hazard his life: I answer, that to suppress it is in the hand of God alone.

But to utter the impiety and abomination of the same, I say, it is the duty of every true messenger of God to whom the truth is revealed in that behalf. For the especial duty of God's messengers is to preach repentance, to admonish the offenders of their offenses, and to say to the wicked, "Thou shalt die the death, except thou repent." This, I trust, no man will deny to be the proper office of all God's messengers, to preach (as I have said) repentance and remission of sins. But neither of both can be done, except the conscience of the offenders be accused and convicted of transgression. But how shall any man repent, not knowing wherein he has offended? And where no repentance is found, there can be no entry to grace. And therefore, I say, that of necessity it is that this monstiferous empire of women (which amongst all enormities that this day do abound upon the face of the whole earth, is most detestable and damnable) be

openly revealed and plainly declared to the world, to the end that some may repent and be saved. And thus far to the first sort.

Are we to fear men or God? Why would a minister of God hold back? So we see in the Bible the truth we read this morning.

ISA 3:12 ¶ As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.

John Knox goes on to say, in spite of everyone accepting this abominable doctrine of women ruling. STILL HE WAS GOING TO BLOW THE TRUMPET OF WARNING.

THE FIRST BLAST TO AWAKEN WOMEN DEGENERATE

To promote a woman to bear rule, superiority, dominion, or empire above any realm, nation, or city, is repugnant to nature; contumely an insult to God, a thing most contrary to his revealed will and approved ordinance; and finally, it is the subversion of good order, of all equity and justice.

And Aristotle, as before is touched, does plainly affirm, that wheresoever women bear dominion, there the people must needs be disordered, living and abounding in all intemperance, given to pride, excess, and vanity; and finally, in the end, they must needs come to confusion and ruin.

The Empire of Women is Contrary to the Revealed Will of God.

John Know does not mince any words. He does not tip toe through the tulips in this matter.

John Knox goes on to say that the revealed will and perfect ordinance of God; is against this abomination.. I Cor. 11:8-10

3. the woman being the head of a man is against the very nature of things. How wicked it is!

The Empire of Women is Subversive of Good Order, Equity and Justice.

Man is to be the head of the woman:

In the natural body of man, God has appointed an order that the head shall occupy the uppermost place; and the head he has joined with the body, that from it life and motion do flow to the rest of the members. In it he has placed the eye to see, the ear to hear, and the tongue to speak, which offices are appointed to none other member of the body. The rest of the members have every one their own place and office appointed, but none may have neither the place nor office of the head. For who would not judge that body to be a monster, where there was no head eminent above the rest, but that the eyes were in the hands, the tongue and the mouth beneath in the belly, and the ears in the feet? Men, I say, should not only pronounce this body to be a

monster, but assuredly they might conclude that such a body could not long endure. And no less monstrous is the body of that commonwealth where a woman bears empire; for either it does lack a lawful head (as in very deed it does), or else there is an idol exalted in the place of the true head. In the natural body of man, God has appointed an order that the head shall occupy the uppermost place; and the head he has joined with the body, that from it life and motion do flow to the rest of the members. In it he has placed the eye to see, the ear to hear, and the tongue to speak, which offices are appointed to none other member of the body. The rest of the members have every one their own place and office appointed, but none may have neither the place nor office of the head. For who would not judge that body to be a monster, where there was no head eminent above the rest, but that the eyes were in the hands, the tongue and the mouth beneath in the belly, and the ears in the feet? Men, I say, should not only pronounce this body to be a monster, but assuredly they might conclude that such a body could not long endure. And no less monstrous is the body of that commonwealth where a woman bears empire; for either it does lack a lawful head (as in very deed it does), or else there is an idol exalted in the place of the true head. In the natural body of man, God has appointed an order that the head shall occupy the uppermost place; and the head he has joined with the body, that from it life and motion do flow to the rest of the members. In it he has placed the eye to see, the ear to hear, and the tongue to speak, which offices are appointed to none other member of the body. The rest of the members have every one their own place and office appointed, but none may have neither the place nor office of the head. For who would not judge that body to be a monster, where there was no head eminent above the rest, but that the eyes were in the hands, the tongue and the mouth beneath in the belly, and the ears in the feet? Men, I say, should not only pronounce this body to be a monster, but assuredly they might conclude that such a body could not long endure. And no less monstrous is the body of that commonwealth where a woman bears empire; for either it does lack a lawful head (as in very deed it does), or else there is an idol exalted in the place of the true head.

4. John Knox goes as far as to say that women who usurp this authority ought to be ousted by force!

And who doubts but Jezebel and Athaliah, before their miserable end, were convicted in their cankered consciences to acknowledge that the murder which they had committed, and the empire which the one had usurped six years, were repugnant to justice? Even so they shall, I doubt not, which this day do possess and maintain that monstiferous authority of women, shortly be compelled to acknowledge that their studies and devices have been bent against God, and that all such authority as women have usurped repugns to justice; because, as I have said, it repugns to the will of God expressed in his sacred word.

For that woman who reigns above man, she has obtained it by treason and conspiracy committed against God. How can it be then, that she, being criminal and guilty of treason committed against God, can appoint any officer pleasing in his sight? It is a thing impossible. Wherefore, let men that receive of women authority, honour, or office, be most assuredly persuaded, that in so maintaining that usurped power, they declare themselves enemies to God. If any think, that because the realms and estates thereof have given their consents to a woman, and have established her and her authority, that therefore it is lawful and acceptable before God, let the same men remember what I have said before: to wit, that God cannot approve the doing nor consent of any multitude, concluding anything against his word and ordinance; and therefore they must have a more assured defense against the wrath of God than the approbation and consent of a blinded multitude, or else they shall not be able to stand in the presence of a consuming fire. That is, they must acknowledge that the regiment of a woman is a

thing most odious in the presence of God. They must refuse to be her officers, because she is a traitress and rebel against God. And finally, they must study to repress her inordinate pride and tyranny to the uttermost of their power.

The same is the duty of the nobility and estates, by whose blindness a woman is promoted. First, insofar as they have most heinously offended against God, placing in authority such as God by his word has removed from the same, unfeignedly they ought to call for mercy. And, being admonished of their error and damnable fact, in sign and token of true repentance, with common consent, they ought to retreat retract that which unadvisedly and by ignorance they have pronounced; and ought, without further delay, to remove from authority all such persons as by usurpation, violence, or tyranny, do possess the same. For so did Israel and Judah after they had revolted from David, and Judah alone in the days of Athaliah (1 Kings 11). For after that she, by murdering of her son's children, had obtained empire over the land, and had most unhappily reigned in Judah six years, Jehoiada the high priest called together the captains and chief rulers of the people; and showing to them the king's son Joash, did bind them by an oath to depose that wicked woman, and to promote the king to his royal seat; which they faithfully did, killing at his commandment not only that cruel and mischievous woman, but also the people did destroy the temples of Baal, break his altars and images, and kill Mattan, Baal's high priest, before his altars. The same is the duty as well of the estates as of the people that have been blinded.

ADDITIONAL NOTE OF INTEREST

In an earlier interview, Knox had told Mary that he was "as well content to live under your Grace as St Paul was to live under Nero". The reason women were not fit to rule, according to him, was that they were "idolatresses" who set reason aside and ruled by their emotions. This view of female psychology made Knox not only offensive to Mary but dangerous. It fed his political theory, set out in "The First Blast of the Trumpet Against the Monstrous Regiment of Women", that it was legitimate for the people to overthrow and even execute female rulers because of precedents in the Bible, for example the cases of Jezebel and Athalia, in which female rulers were overthrown to the obvious benefit of the state.

Mary moved against Knox by having him arrested and put on trial after he summoned a "convocation of the brethren", in terms that could be interpreted as incitement to violence, to free two Calvinists who had threatened one of the royal priests. He was charged with conspiracy "to raise a tumult" against the queen, but he led his own defence and was acquitted.