

A NATION WITHIN A NATION
Pastor Dennis Rouse
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Survey of What Matters to Christians in America:

- 27% Character
- 20% Supreme Court
- 12% Ability to protect religious freedom
- 12% Position on abortion
- 6% Improve the economy
- 5% Protect National Security
- 2% Position on immigration
- 16% Not sure

1 Peter 2:9-10 NKJ

But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, HIS OWN SPECIAL PEOPLE, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the PEOPLE OF GOD, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

John 17:13-18 NLT

“Now I am coming to you. I told them many things while I was with them in this world so they would be FILLED WITH MY JOY. I have given them your word. And the world hates them because THEY DO NOT BELONG TO THE WORLD, just as I do not belong to the world. I’m not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. THEY DO NOT BELONG TO THIS WORLD any more than I do. Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth. Just as you sent me into the world, I am sending them into the world.”

John 18:33-36 NLT

Then Pilate went back into his headquarters and called for Jesus to be brought to him. “Are you the KING OF THE JEWS?” he asked him. Jesus replied, “Is this your own question, or did others tell you about me?” “Am I a Jew?” Pilate retorted. “Your own people and their

leading priests brought you to me for trial. Why? What have you done?" Jesus answered, "MY KINGDOM IS NOT AN EARTHLY KINGDOM. If it were, my followers would fight to keep me from being handed over to the Jewish leaders. But MY KINGDOM IS NOT OF THIS WORLD."

THE BIG QUESTION: Will the Kingdom of God be established through political efforts by changing today's government to line up with God's Word, or will it be established another way?

Jesus did not come to reform government; He came to REPLACE it!

Principles of a Nation Within a Nation:

1. Our hope is in Christ not political leaders.

Psalm 146:3 NIV

Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save.

2. We are Christ's ambassadors for the government of God.

AMBASSADOR: one who represents one government while living in another

2 Corinthians 5:20 NKJ

Now then, we are AMBASSADORS for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

1 Peter 2:11-17 MSG

Friends, this world is not your home, so don't make yourselves cozy in it. Don't indulge your ego at the expense of your soul. Live an exemplary life among the natives so that your actions will refute their prejudices. Then they'll be won over to God's side and be there to join in the celebration when he arrives. Make the Master proud of you by being good citizens. Respect the authorities, whatever their level; they are God's emissaries for keeping order. It is God's will that by doing good, you might cure the ignorance of the fools who think

you're a danger to society. Exercise your freedom by serving God, not by breaking the rules. Treat everyone you meet with dignity. Love your spiritual family. Revere God. RESPECT THE GOVERNMENT.

3. Live on the platform of righteousness and justice.

Psalm 89:14 NKJ

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne...

Psalm 33:5 NKJ

He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

Isaiah 28:16-17 NLT

... "Look! I am placing a foundation stone in Jerusalem, a firm and tested stone. It is a precious cornerstone that is safe to build on. Whoever believes need never be shaken. I will test you with the measuring line of justice and the plumb line of righteousness..."

RIGHTEOUSNESS: LIVING RIGHT, conforming to a moral code of conduct prescribed by God's Word

JUSTICE: DOING RIGHT, to correct the injustices of society, defending the poor and marginalized

Psalm 9:8 NIV

He rules the world in righteousness and judges the peoples with equity.