

It's NOT Political
It's Biblical
Part 3

Proverbs 14:12 AMPC

12 There is a way which seems right to a man and appears straight before him, but at the end of it is the way of death.

In part 3 of our series, we are going to be looking at Economics. My desire during this series is that you, as a follower of Jesus Christ will be able to take the Word and use it for the basis of what you think, act and how you vote because it is the truth. What is taking place in the United States is not political, it is Biblical.

As followers of Jesus Christ we don't need to have an opinion because those change, we need to have God's Word because that has and never will change. From politics, economics, social issues, etc... these are Biblical issues. We need to know the Word and how to apply it in order to be heard by those who call themselves follower's of Jesus Christ.

2 Chronicles 7:14 AMPC

14 If My people, who are called by My name, shall humble themselves, pray, seek, crave, and require of necessity My face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land.

2 Chronicles 7:14 KJV

14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

We need people in authority from the local, state and national levels who do what is right according to God's Word...

Proverbs 29:2 AMPC

2 When the [uncompromisingly] righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; but when the wicked man rules, the people groan and sigh.

Proverbs 29:2 KJV

2 When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

We need someone in authority who is for Israel...not just in Word in order to get votes.

Genesis 12:3 KJV

3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

Genesis 12:3 AMPC

3 And I will bless those who bless you [who confer prosperity or happiness upon you] and curse him who curses or uses insolent language toward you; in you will all the families and kindred of the earth be blessed [and by you they will bless themselves].

From voting, to how we conduct our lives at work, with family, obedience unto God's Word... these things are in our control, we have a choice to make.

Deuteronomy 30:19 KJV

19 I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

Proverbs 14:12 AMPC

12 There is a way which seems right to a man and appears straight before him, but at the end of it is the way of death.

In part one and part two we laid down the foundation for this series, and that is God's ... it's not political it's Biblical. God's Word is the Old and New Testament, the whole thing. In general, people do not like to be warned. God's Word is full of warnings or the information on blessings and curses.

In Deuteronomy Chapter 28 and Leviticus Chapter 19 as an example, God says if you obey me, here's your blessing. If you disobey me and my commands or covenant, here's what is going to happen.

In these passages it says curse, but the Hebrew word for curse means: to stop the flow. To jamb up a river so there is not a flow coming.(when we are disobedient, His blessing is stopped so we have to rely on government to keep the flow going).

When you are under a curse from God it means that He has stopped the favor or flow of blessing towards a nation or towards a people. When that happens bad things occur because the hedge has been lifted.

We have been blessed greatly by God because of our obedience to Him. But as we have become lawless to His Word and created laws that make it unlawful to be true to His Word the blessing flow has been slowed from God and ultimately will dry up.

As a result government has created programs that are doing what the church has done in the past. People don't want to go to church to get help. We have borrowed our future to almost \$36 trillio'n dollars which is \$104,859 per person in debt in order to "feel" blessed. We want the same blessing but it is now man made instead of God ordained.

It won't be easy to tell other people, even Gods people what God said or His warnings. Remember, what they did to Jeremiah, Zachariah etc from last week. Look what Zechariah said as Gods warning to the people and the results of that warning...

2 Chronicles 24:20-21 AMPC

20 Then the Spirit of God came upon Zechariah son of Jehoiada the priest, who stood over the people, and he said to them, Thus says God: Why do you transgress the commandments of the Lord so that you cannot prosper? Because you have forsaken the Lord, He also has forsaken you. 21 They conspired against Zechariah the priest and stoned him at the command of the king in the court of the Lord's house!

The church people stoned him for speaking God's Word. But, the Pastor, preacher and teachers job is to speak the truth, to vote the truth and nothing but the truth. The Bible tells us how live our lives as a country and as individuals. The Bible shows us what has happened before for us to learn from. Choose life or death.

Isaiah 46:9-10 AMPC

*9 [Earnestly] remember the former things, [which I did] of old; for I am God, and there is no one else; I am God, and there is none like Me,
10 Declaring the end and the result from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure and purpose*

Isaiah 46:9-10 KJV

*9 Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me,
10 Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:*

Ecclesiastes 3:15 AMPC

15 That which is now already has been, and that which is to be already has been; and God seeks that which has passed by [so that history repeats itself].

Ecclesiastes 3:15 KJV

15 That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past.

One of those areas that has “already been” is *Economics*. This is all tied together with healthcare, legalizing marijuana, abortion, taxing for feeding programs and eliminating religion because the government supplies all your needs now... Socialism.

It is everyones dream to prosper in life. From relationships, business, health etc.

3 John 2 AMPC

2 Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in every way and [that your body] may keep well, even as [I know] your soul keeps well and prospers.

God has placed you and I in the United States You and we are blessed to live in system of freedom. When you fully understand that, everything starts to change. Your outlook, your way of thinking and doing things and not just for you but for you children and others as well.

In order for us to have this freedom, government has to permit it to happen, and there is only 2 political philosophies. One is, that we trust individuals to do exactly what we said....To be free to invent their standard of living, to engage in enterprise.

The other option, and it is only this, is the government will make those decisions for people because they are inherently unable to make them for themselves. They reason politicians somehow know what is best. Here’s the question: **Should the government be allowed to make decisions for people or do should we allow the people to be in charge?**

One is called free enterprise and the other is called socialism.

First what is an entrepreneur? An entrepreneur is a person who accepts the risk and the responsibility for the operation of a business enterprise. The entrepreneur takes upon themselves the burden to say, “I’m going to start a business.”

From that risk, from that responsibility, from that burden and from that application of their time and talent they are able to create wealth and provide jobs for other people.

Certain politicians, platforms and parties have come along and said that the entrepreneur is really insignificant. It is really the workers who do everything. So, we are going to have a labor day and honor people who labor. That is fine, but that is only a third of the equation.

In order for a business to succeed someone must save and have sufficient money. Then, there must be an entrepreneur to take the money and put it at risk to create a job that hires someone.

The difference between wealth of a nation and another nation where you go across the border of one nation and the standard of living either goes up or down it this...

It's not because the ground has gone up or down because it hasn't. It's not because the climate has changed, because it hasn't. It's not because the sky has changed, because it hasn't.

The reason there is poverty in North Korea and abundance in South Korea is...the reason there is abundance in Honk Kong but poverty right across the border Red China is...the reason that West Germany had a standard of living that was 10 times greater than East Germany is... same culture, same language, same everything was because of the government.

So politics is very simply this, one government respected the individual to create wealth while the other said no, no, the politicians shall decide. I want to walk through the steps of how you and I hold this in our hands. The decisions that we make will determine whether our nation will be wealthy and abundant and that you and I will have a future of hope and opportunity or will we fall into slavery where the government controls us and decides what we can do.

This comes in three categories. First of all, it is economic. Secondly, it is political. Thirdly, it is how we view ourselves - this is the spiritual or Biblical. All three of these freedoms, economics freedom, political freedom and spiritual or religious freedom are all intertwined.

When it comes to politics have you ever felt that you just don't have a handle on it? I just can't quite get it together, I don't know what it is? It is not that complicated, it really is easy and I'm going to show you.



You and I, are entrusted with the future of our nation. Back in the 1980's when Ronald Reagan was running for the highest office there was a billboard about voting. It showed a man who looked like he just got hit by a car and drunk all at the same time. The billboard said, "if this guy votes, shouldn't you."

So, if everyone has the right to vote, it is important that we go through the information that will empower us.

Politics is: Integrity + Economics
or
Politics = Integrity + Economics



First is economics. When you think about the persons who have been elected to office they vary greatly. *Adolf Hitler* improved the economy but was lacking in the integrity department.

Jimmy Carter was a wonderful man, a really nice person but his economics were a disaster for our country and for the world. Politics is two things...Integrity + Economics



Before we continue with economics we need to talk about the type of person we are going to elect to office. First of all, politics is government and it is made up of people and **the kind of people we need and should want to elect are people of integrity.**

Note: _____

I struggled with this for a long time, I didn't understand what was integrity. Because, there were people that I respected, they seemed to be good people but when the time came of a crisis, they didn't do what I thought was right. I couldn't figure out what happened.

I'm convinced that integrity is 2 things. Integrity is first, morality. I define morality as "not doing what is wrong". You don't steal, you don't lie, etc. Basically you're a good person in that, you don't do what is wrong.

But, integrity is more than that. Integrity is also character and I define character as "doing what is right". As an example, your daughter comes home from school and she says "they were all picking on Sarah and calling her names, but I didn't do it."

Ok, that's good, you did not do anything wrong. But, did you have the character to do what was right. Did you stand up for her, did you come to her defense? That takes strength, that takes character.

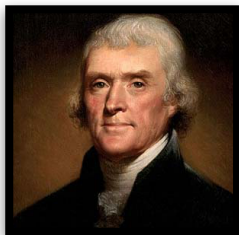
In order for a person to have character, first of all, they must have morality. Don't ever believe if there is a person who has terrible morals, but says, "in times of crisis I will make the wise decisions for our nation." You and I are being deceived, often willingly. If he/she doesn't have the morality first, they will never have the character.

Politics = Science Of Government
Integrity = Morality + Character
Character = Doing What Is Right
Morality = Not Doing What Is Wrong

Why are some nations rich and why are some nations poor? This is how it works... As an example, let's just say you make \$100 a week or 100%. Now, let's say you work all day and you get nothing. A person who works all day and has nothing to show for it that person is called a slave.



Let's say you live on a south Seas island and you produce anything you want and keep it all for yourself, you are completely free. On this scale, the degree in which we take things away from you is the degree in which you have less freedom. So, you have \$100 and you walk into a store, you have a series of options. If I take \$20 away from you, you have less options. If I take \$50 away from you, you have even less options. The more money I take away from you the less options you have.



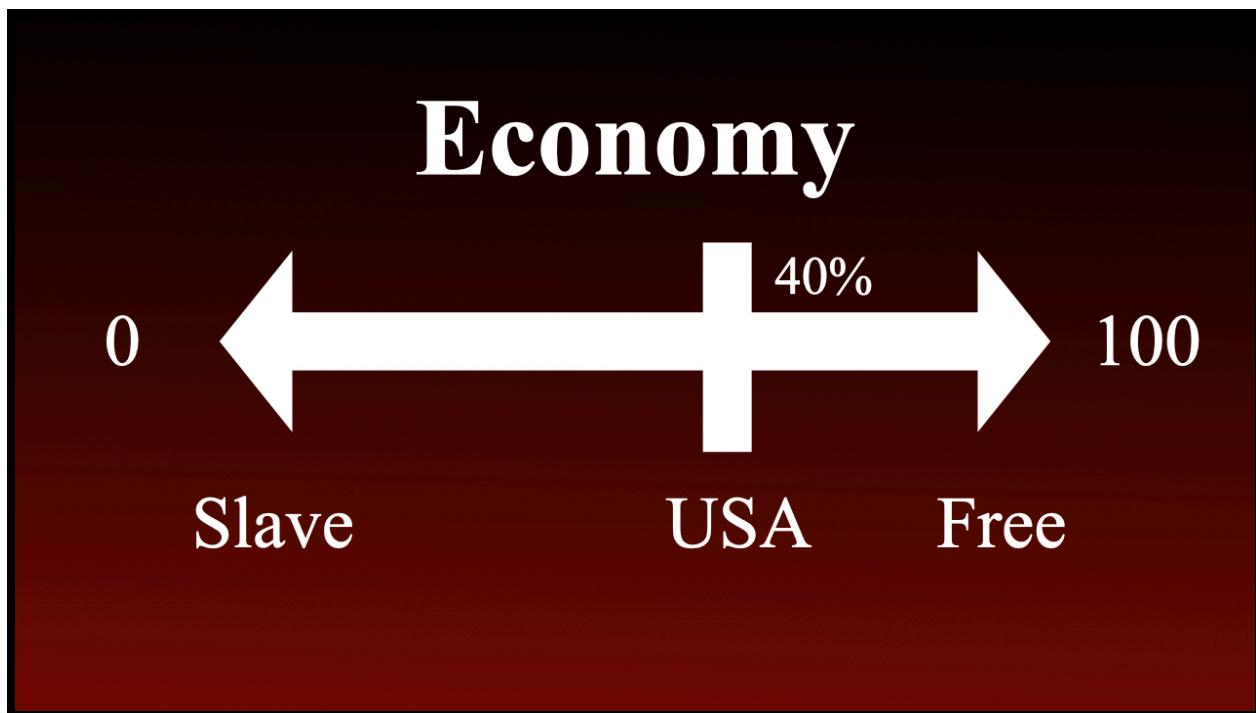
Thomas Jefferson said: "Freedom is having choices."
So, when I take away your choices you have less freedom.
That is number 1.

Number 2 is, if I take more money away from you, you will have a lower standard of living. So, the more money I take away from you, the less choices you have (less freedom) and a lower standard of living.

Now, it's the end of the day and you get your paycheck. There are only 2 people who can take money away from you. One is a criminal who can come up to you with a gun and takes money away from you. The more money he takes from you is the less choices you have, the less freedom you have and it creates a lower standard of living.

The only other option is the government. They can take your money and the more money they take from you is the less choices you have, the less freedom you have and it creates a lower standard of living for you.

In the United States, roughly 35%-40% of what people make goes to the government. This combines Federal and state and does vary depending on your income. (This does not include all other taxes/fees). All the way up to the 1920's in our country, it was 20%. In the 30's, 40's and up till 1980 it grew to 40%.

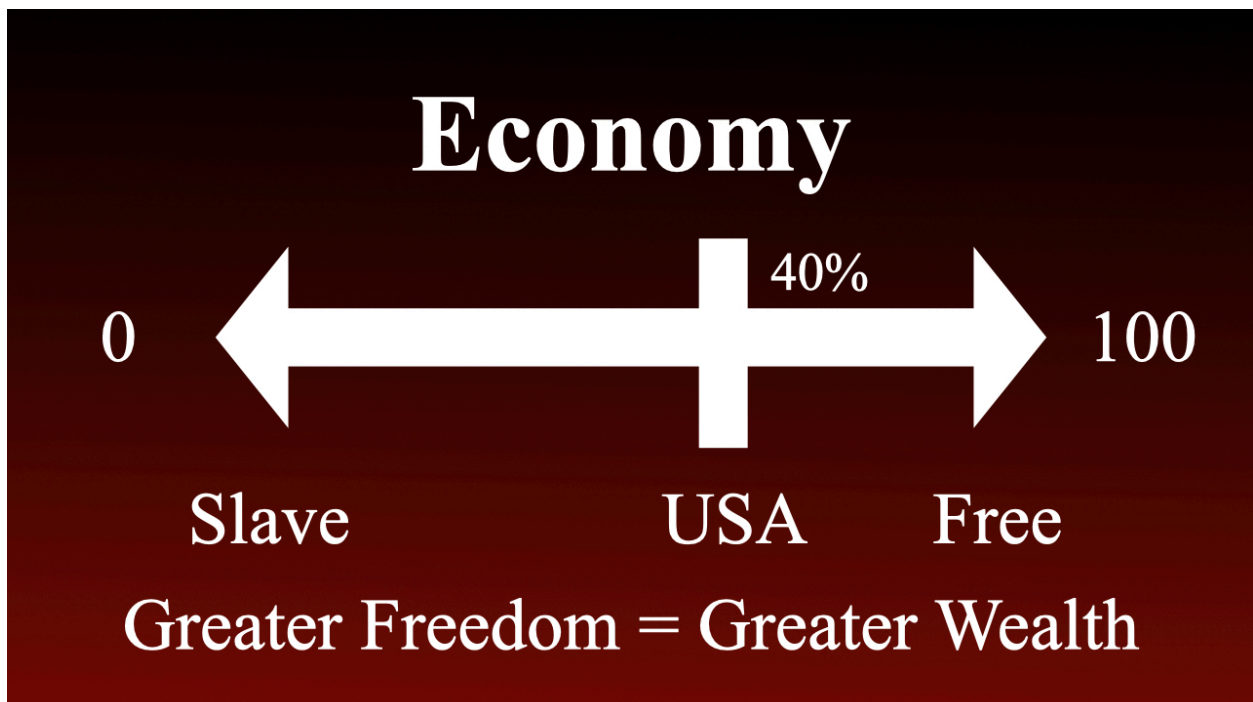


Many households work 2 jobs or have 2 people working. It's very rare that both jobs will make the same amount of income with statistics showing one will make 60% percent and the other 40%.

So, one person works all year long away from the family and activities working for the government. Why? Because politicians convinced them that it was in their best interest to not have their choices made by themselves. They have convinced people that it is better to have the money extracted from their paychecks at the end of the week and let the politicians make the decisions for them. When did they do that? they do it in November every four years.

In America, roughly 40% of everything goes to the government yet we are the richest and most powerful nation in the world. How can that be? because less money goes to government than any other nation. Every other nation takes more money on that scale for government.

You can take the names of the nations away because it doesn't matter... just put how much of the production goes to the government and its officials and you will discover that they have a lower standard of living.



Keep going and until you get way down to the end which virtually all of it goes to the government, you will then find the poorest nations on earth. North Korea, Vietnam and Cuba etc. The more government takes away from you, the lower the standard of living. Politics is simply this, do we take more from people or do we allow them to keep it for themselves. Here is the principle...

The greater the freedom, the greater the wealth....

Let me explain this by using 3 illustrations.

1. If you go to buy yourself something this afternoon you care about 2 things. You care about price and you care about quality. So, when you go out to eat you look at the menu and you say is that bacon double cheeseburger with swiss and jalapeños worth \$12 with steak cut fries?

You do it when you look at clothes, car shopping, jewelry etc. You look at the price of the product and the quality of the product. When those to meet satisfactory (price and quality) you purchase it.

2. Let's say you are not buying for yourself where you care about price and quality but you are buying for someone else. You are still paying for it, so you still care very much about the price. But, you are a little more flexible on the quality. "I don't like it, but it's cheap - I think she will like it..."

We have all purchased things that we would not have purchased for ourselves. We have all received things we would of not purchased for ourselves. That happens when you care about the price but are flexible on the quality.

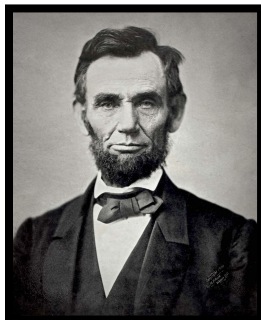
3. Anyone who comes to work late has to throw \$5 into the kitty. All month long it collects and at the end of the month there is \$150. The boss selects someone (Bob) and says while you're at lunch today take the money from the kitty and buy something with it and we will raffle it off this afternoon.

On his way to lunch Bob has to pick up some deodorant from Walgreens and while he's there he sees a stuffed 6 foot tall teddy bear that was left over from Valentines day. Bob buys it for \$150, bring it back to work, they raffle it off and someone gets the 6 ft. Teddy Bear and they all have a great laugh.

What happened was: you spent money that's not yours to purchase something that you're not going to consume. You don't care about price or quality. That is called a third party purchase.

**A third party purchase is:
purchasing something that you
will not consume with money that
is not yours.**

Here's the point. By definition, all government purchases are third party purchases. These are purchases with money that is not theirs for something that they will not personally consume. So, will there be waste - yes! Anything they do, there will be waste.



That is why *Abraham Lincoln* said, “*We want government to do only those things what we can not do for ourselves.*”

We can not defend ourselves, so will there be waste in the defense department - of course, there will be waste in anything that they do. So, as a result we want to limit what they do.

The reason America is so wealthy is because we can control what they do (supposed to). Politicians will always say (and think), I want to do a little bit more and a little bit more. To the degree in which we allow them to do that, the entrepreneur who make the decision in free enterprise for himself, he cares about quality and he cares about price.

Every dollar you take out of that system and put into the government system it will begin to waste and dissipate. The more that is done the poorer the nation is.

Why do they do that? They make poor decisions because they do not accept price signals. When you go to sell something the marketplace tells you if it's a quality price.

For example, there's a big art show downtown and people are everywhere but its very hot outside. Now, you know that Costco is selling Cokes for \$0.25 a can and you think people will buy these. So you buy 100 cans and try selling them for \$4 per can.

After trying to sell them for \$4 and no one buys you decide to lower it to \$3 a can and still now one buys. Finally you drop the price down to \$2 a can and someone says "I'll buy it for \$2". They decided that it is worth it for \$2. They don't have to walk down to a gas station...the purchasing mechanism tells you the appropriate price to charge.

Government is not susceptible to that. Under socialism it will do things that you have no control over. When you want to get your license plate, it decides what it will charge and you will pay what it is. Especially now with new healthcare mandates, it is not susceptible to those price signals. Subsequently they will waste money and the nation becomes poorer.

Finally, government operates the opposite of free enterprise in this way. In a free market, a person is rewarded for good behavior. If you give people a good cup of coffee at a good price they will reward you.



If you give a bad cup of coffee and at high price, you will come back next week and they will have a “out of business sign” located on the door.

Free enterprise and a free market rewards good behavior and punishes bad behavior. By definition, all government, not just democrat, republican, socialist, labor...all government operates on the opposite scale.

Governments rewards bad behavior and punishes good behavior.

If you choose to get married, have a child and have a job the government will come along and take money away from you.

If you choose to not get married, not have a job and have a child, the government will reward you for doing that.

That is contrary to what the Bible says....

If you fix up your house and you mow the lawn, put in landscaping and fix the windows the government will come along and increase the burden on your home.

However, if you let your home go, let it fall apart, they will lower the burden on you and thus reward you for doing that.

Let me end tonight with this observation. The reason that America is the richest nation on earth is because it does less of that than any other nation.



Ludwig von Mises said, *“In America they have the highest standard of living. Why? Because the government of that nation embarked later than the government of any other nation. Upon a program of interfering with free enterprise.”*

Ludwig Heinrich Edler von Mises (Austrian 29 September 1881-10 October 1973) was a theoretical Austrian School economist.

Ludwig von Mises was the acknowledged leader of the Austrian School of economic thought, a prodigious originator in economic theory, and a prolific author. Mises's writings and lectures encompassed economic theory, history, epistemology, government, and political philosophy. His contributions to economic theory include important clarifications on the quantity theory of money, the theory of the trade cycle, the integration of monetary theory with economic theory in general, and a demonstration that socialism must fail because it cannot solve the problem of economic calculation. Mises was the first scholar to recognize that economics is part of a larger science in human action, a science that he called “praxeology.”

Praxeology, a study of human choice and action. Mises emigrated from Austria to the United States in 1940. Mises's writings have exerted significant influence on the libertarian movement in the United States since the mid-20th century.

You and I will make that choice, whether or not government will do those things or if you and I will do it for ourselves. Economically it makes sense because the greater the government, the greater the poverty.

You and I along with every other person in this country gets the privilege to vote. As a born again believer or follower of Jesus Christ we get to decide every election cycle who has the morality, character, and righteous qualities that most line up with God’s Word. We can not deceive ourselves into thinking there’s more to it than that.

Throughout this series we will be getting information which leads to revelation which leads to transformation. The history of our nation and those around the world gives us the proven outcomes. This is not political it is Biblical...who is our God?

This information on the economy and the results of our thinking and voting as you will see over the next few weeks are based upon how we view God's Word. The Bible says choose life or death... I've laid these things out before you and now you decide...What has happened before will happen again...

The thoughts we have, are they rooted in the Word or in the world? Are they fear based or faith based. Do we have the mindset that government needs to take care of me or God will provide as I am commanded to work and be obedient to His Word.

Hosea 8:1-4 AMPC

*1 Set the trumpet to your lips! **[The enemy] comes as a [great] vulture against the house of the Lord, because they have broken My covenant and transgressed against My law.***

2 Then they will cry to Me, My God, we [of Israel] know You!

*3 **Israel has rejected the good [with loathing]; the enemy shall pursue him.***

*4 **They set up kings, but not from Me [therefore without My blessing]; they have made princes or removed them [without consulting Me; therefore], I knew and recognized [them] not. With their silver and their gold they made idols for themselves, that they [the silver and the gold] may be destroyed.***

Hosea 4:6 AMPC

6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because you [the priestly nation] have rejected knowledge, I will also reject you that you shall be no priest to Me; seeing you have forgotten the law of your God, I will also forget your children.

Ecclesiastes 3:15 AMPC

15 That which is now already has been, and that which is to be already has been; and God seeks that which has passed by [so that history repeats itself].

Ecclesiastes 3:15 KJV

15 That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past.



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