

They Were Blinded

by Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

"What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded (According as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber; eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear;) unto this day," Romans 11:7-8. "And not as Moses, which put a vail over his face, that the children of Israel could not steadfastly look to the end of that which is abolished: But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ," 2 Cor 3:13-14.

The scriptures speak of people being blinded several different times. It was always the people who lived in sin and had no respect for God and his commandments. In Genesis we see the ungodly men of Sodom were blinded as they tried to assault the angels at Lot's house. They couldn't see spiritually and then they couldn't see to commit their evil desires. Then came destruction as they were judged by the Lord.

The people of Israel were God's chosen people and

had been given the law and the prophets, yet they still refused to walk in the ways of God. They shut their eyes to the truth and closed their ears to God's word. The Lord allowed them to live in their self-made darkness since they would not listen to him. If he would allow the nation of Israel to follow the way of sin and be blinded to the truth, is America, or any nation, to good to do the same?

America has been blessed by the Lord in so many ways. We've enjoyed the freedom that few other nations have known and blessed with resources abundantly. For all of this how have we repaid the Lord? We have turned away from the commandments of God and went the way of the world. God has been declared unconstitutional and has been removed from public life in schools and government. The only time we hear government leaders talk about God is in elections and when some tragedy comes to our country. Then, for awhile, it is alright to ask God to bless America.

We have a lot of people who support sinful things that will help to destroy the country. Abortion, gay rights, gambling, and many other harmful things that God is against. Then they mock and ridicule any who oppose their sinful plans. They seem to want to go back to the times as we read of in the Old Testament when every man did that which was

right in his own eyes. *"Ye shall not do after all the things that we do here this day, every man whatsoever is right in his own eyes," Deuteronomy 12:8,15. "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise," Proverbs 12:15.* There are other scriptures that speak of this as well as these two.

How can rational, seemingly intelligent people support evil and think that good will come of it? I realize that the sinners and unbelievers don't know God and don't know what the danger is, but I don't understand how some of the most vocal supporters of wicked ways are supposed to be Christians. If a man does wickedly and you support him, are you not as guilty as he is? *"And Jehoshaphat the king of Judah returned to his house in peace to Jerusalem. And Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him, and said to king Jehoshaphat, Shouldest thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the LORD? therefore is wrath upon thee from before the LORD," 2 Chronicles 19:1-2.*

The Lord let it be known in Jehoshaphat's day that he didn't approve of his people supporting evil and he hasn't changed his mind. If you support evil know that the Lord will hold you accountable for your actions. Support that which is good and resist the evil.

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THE PEACEFUL ONE!

SOLOMON WAS KING DAVID'S YOUNGEST SON, THE CHILD OF DAVID'S OLD AGE. THE YEARNINGS OF THIS WARLIKE KING FOR FUTURE YEARS OF PEACE WERE EXPRESSED IN THE NAME THAT DAVID BESTOWED UPON THIS NEWBORN INFANT—SOLOMON=THE PEACEFUL ONE! AND NATHAN, THE HIGH PRIEST, WENT DAVID ONE BETTER, CALLING THE INFANT SOLOMON, JEDIDIAH=DARLING OF THE LORD! (I SAM. 12:24,25) SOLOMON, BY THE WAY, WAS PLACED UNDER NATHAN'S CARE FROM HIS EARLIEST INFANCY. AT THIS TIME THERE WAS NO INTENT ON DAVID'S PART TO MAKE SOLOMON HIS HEIR—AFTER ALL, ABSALOM WAS KING DAVID'S FAVORITE SON AND LOOKED ON BY THE PEOPLE AS THE DESTINED SUCCESSOR (I SAM. 15:1-6) BUT ON THE DEATH OF ABSALOM, WHEN SOLOMON WAS 10 YEARS OLD, DAVID PLEDGED HIS WORD, IN SECRET TO BATH-SHEBA, HIS MOTHER, THAT SOLOMON, AND NO OTHER, SHOULD BE THE HEIR TO THE THRONE (I KINGS 1:13) AND TRULY, SOLOMON WAS THE ONLY KING TO REIGN FOR FORTY YEARS IN UTTER, PEACEFUL PROSPERITY!



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