

Very difficult economic times were falling upon Egypt as described in the 47th chapter of Genesis. So the desperate people turned to government, Pharaoh, to deal with their challenge. Pharaoh nationalized the grain harvest and placed the collected grain in great storehouses he had built for just such a time. So, like a great tax increase, the hungry people willingly brought money to Pharaoh in return for a redistribution of the grain. This went on until their money ran out and once again they were desperately hungry.

So again they appealed to Pharaoh; they brought their livestock - their cattle, horses, sheep and donkeys - to barter for grain, and as verse 17 tells us, that only took them through the end of the year.

So the next year, the people came before Pharaoh and admitted they had nothing left except their land and their lives: "There is nothing left in the sight of my lord but our bodies and our land. Why should we die before your eyes, both we and our land? Buy us and our land for food, and we with our land will be servants to Pharaoh." So they surrendered their homes, their land to Pharaoh's government, and then sold themselves into slavery in return for grain. This happened to everyone except the priest who kept their land and received a special allotment from the Pharaoh. Could this be like the executive, legislative, the judicial branches and the lobbyist of Pharaoh???

What must we learn from this???

First, trusting in government rather than God as our provider will always lead to slavery. The only reason government wants to be our provider is to become our master by creating an entitlement driven voting base.

Now, let's examine how the passage ends, verse 27! "Thus Israel settled in the land of Egypt, in the land of Goshen. And they gained possessions in it, and were fruitful and multiplied greatly." God provided for His people, just as He always has! They didn't end up giving all their possessions to the government. No, they gained possessions!

Do we see this ominous historical truth being repeated? Our government wants to "share the wealth" once again, taking and redistributing at their discretion, taking control of healthcare, just as it has taken control of education, rationing back to us. When government rations, government decides who gets it, how much and what kind.

If we willingly go along, we will be just like the Egyptians four thousand years ago - slaves to government, slaves to our leaders.

What our government is doing now is no different from Pharaoh's government, and it will end the same.

There were those who called President Obama a "Messiah," did you notice? Was he a Messiah, a savior? Didn't the Egyptians say, after Pharaoh made them his slaves, "You have saved our lives; may it please my lord, we will be servants to Pharaoh"?

Well, we know the genuine Messiah; the Messiah is our friend; and our last president was no Messiah! No, if he's a character from the Bible, he is Pharaoh. He's still around folks!!!

As we examine the eighth chapter of 1 Samuel, we see where Samuel warned the people of what a ruler would do, it says "And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves, but the LORD will not answer you in that day." Well, it now appears "that day" has come for us! We must continue to cry out in prayer because of rulers we have chosen for ourselves as a nation...

Pray for this nation. Pray revival. Pray for deliverance from those who would be our masters. Pray for more hearts to seek the wisdom and counsel of our Lord's Holy Spirit and for many hands to deliver all of us from those atrocities of Pharaoh's government.

In God we must Trust ~~~~~

Skip Elmore, up-dated April 14- 2017

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