

"THE WEALTH OF NATIONS"**Introduction**

1. A vital and most relevant text
2. It should be posted on every corner
3. It is a truth we dare not ignore

1. THE ORIGIN OF NATIONS

- 1) In early history the world
- 2) The beginning of nations – after the flood
- 3) The Table of Nations (Gen 10-11): 3 years
- 4) Why God divided human speech
- 5) The special place of Israel
- 6) The significance of Pentecost for nations
- 7) The rise and fall of nations + empires: this in the prophecy of Daniel
- 8) Our own nation's history + composition
APPLICATION: Nations are all the same, yet also different

2. THE PROSPERITY OF NATIONS

- 1) Factors:
 - (i) unity
 - (ii) vigour
 - (iii) economy
 - (iv) influence
 - (v) reputation

- 2) Examples: the British Empire in 19th Century: missionaries / influence, etc.
OR: America in 20th Century
- 3) Explanation: the strength of Christianity in the land: Reformers / revivals / Bible
- 4) How it happens: the character of the people / justice in society / above all, Gods secret blessing
APPLICATION: This TEXT is the clue

3. THE DECLINE OF NATIONS

- 1) The Bible shows that all nations decline: Rome is typical; Also Greece
- 2) The change in Britain: 1914–18
- 3) The root cause of this decline: the change of attitude to the Bible
- 4) "When nations are to perish..."
- 5) Sin provokes God to remove his grace: See Gen. 6:3
- 6) The case of the Amorites: Gen 15:16
- 7) This truth very clear in the Kings
- 8) The strength of nations is based on their morality: TEXT
APPLICATION: We should love our own nation, and seek the spiritual good of all nations

4. THE RELEVANCE TO OUR OWN NATION

- 1) The true wealth of a nation is clear:
 - (i) God's blessing
 - (ii) good religion
- 2) Very vital factors are:

- (i) family life
 - (ii) church attendance
 - (iii) the preaching of the gospel, etc.
- 3) Let us not be blind to these things:
- (i) alterations in religion
 - (ii) changed attitudes to moral issues
 - (iii) vice
- 4) Who can calculate the importance of:
- (i) prayer
 - (ii) the godly remnant?

CONCLUSION

- 1. Promote righteousness
- 2. Plead with God for mercy
- 3. Remember Abraham (Gen. 18).

<p>PSALM</p> <p>2: 1 – 8</p> <p>12: 1 – 8</p> <p>43: 1 – 4</p>
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