

Why Terrorism?

by Peter Salemi

In the wake of the recent Muslim Terror attack that took place in San Bernardino, many are asking why these things are happening particularly in the West. Is there a reason for it?

Why is God letting these things happen to his People Israel? Is it because God is cruel and wants to see these things occur? Or is it more the fact that we have turned away from God, and want to be "like all the other nations" and to do things that seem right in *our* site-and God is *giving* us what *we* want!

Blessings and Cursing

Almighty God made a covenant with his people Israel, and said that, "And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, *to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day*, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:

"And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God." (Deut 28:1-2). If we obey God, he would give us what the world does *not* have, a whole list of blessings-of good health, long life, obedient children, successful business, good crops etc...and Israel would be the top nation on earth. Why? *Because we are doing it God's way*. The world does *not* have these blessings because the world does *not* know the ways of God, and will never come into the blessings that Israel has today.

Then God says, "But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt *not* hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these *curses* shall come upon thee, and overtake thee:" (28:15). Curses are the result of disobedience to the law of God. God's laws are *self-enforcing*, meaning that breaking them brings about punishing consequences: "Your *own* wickedness will correct you, and your backslidings will reprove you" (Jeremiah 2:19). These laws are set in *motion* the same way the law of gravity is set-*automatically*. If you work in harmony with it, the law of gravity will work in your favor, if not, if you try and work against it, the results are *deadly*. The Blessing and cursing that come upon us, are a *result of us* either keeping or disobeying the law of God.

In Leviticus 26 the blessing and cursing are listed. Notice what God says, "But if ye will not hearken unto me, and will not do all these commandments; And if ye shall *despise* my statutes, or if your soul *abhor* my judgments, so that ye will not do all my commandments, *but* that ye break my covenant:" (Lev 26:14, 15). Both chapters are a blend of the laws of God blessing and cursing the nation if we keep or break them. But, God is also in these chapters *intervening* as well.

Notice the *mindset* of the people of Israel at this time when all these curses come upon them. On a national scale, God is *rejected* in the public square altogether. God is out of government, schools, courts, family etc...Why? Israel does not want to listen or read what God wants, they want to do it their *own* way. Israel *hates* the ways of God *and It is at this time* when God

himself intervenes and *takes a hand in the punishments*. Therefore, since Israel wants to be like the world, and want worldly things, and hate the things of God, *God is going to give to Israel what the world offers*.

Notice what it says in Deuteronomy 32, "And he said, I will hide my face from them, ***I will see what their end shall be***: for they *are* a very froward generation, children in whom *is* no faith. ***"They have moved me to jealousy with that which is not God; they have provoked me to anger with their vanities***: and I will move them to jealousy with *those which are* not a people; I will provoke them to anger with a foolish nation.

"For a fire is kindled in mine anger, and shall burn unto the lowest hell, and shall consume the earth with her increase, and set on fire the foundations of the mountains.

"I will heap mischiefs upon them; I will spend mine arrows upon them.

"They shall be burnt with hunger, and devoured with burning heat, and with bitter destruction: I will also send the teeth of beasts upon them, with the poison of serpents of the dust.

"The sword without, and terror within, shall destroy both the young man and the virgin, the suckling *also* with the man of gray hairs." (20:25). God says that he would remove his grace, *because* Israel does not want to keep his laws, and he will *"see what their end shall be."* God is letting them do what they want to do. He is letting them break his law-but we have to deal with the consequences, the results of breaking those laws (curses).

Then God is moved with jealousy because *we* "provoke" him to anger. The end *result* of breaking God's laws is *hatred* towards God. We have gotten so used to sinning that the heart becomes harden, are minds are set in our ways, therefore to tell us anything different is anathema to us, *so hatred of God sets in*. Zechariah says, " *But they refused to hearken, and pulled away the shoulder, and stopped their ears, that they should not hear.*

"Yea, they made their hearts as an adamant stone, lest they should hear the law, and the words which the LORD of hosts hath sent in his spirit by the former prophets: therefore came a great wrath from the LORD of hosts.

"Therefore it is come to pass, that as he cried, and they would not hear; so they cried, and I would not hear, saith the LORD of hosts:" (7:11-13).

Therefore God "spends his arrows" meaning his judgments upon Israel and giving them exactly what they want, what the world offers, death, destruction, disease, sickness terror and war. The only thing *outside* of Good, is evil, *and this is what we want so God is going to give it to us*. Remember God says, "And mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity: I will recompense thee according ***to thy ways and thine abominations*** that are in the midst of thee; and ye shall know that I *am* the LORD that smiteth."

Notice the judgments, "The *sword* without, and *terror* within." We are fighting wars in far off places like Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Libya etc...And *within* our countries we have to deal with terrorism. God says, "I also will do this unto you; I will even appoint over you ***terror***..." (Lev 26:16). Why has God appointed over his people "terror."? We hate his ways and we want the ways of the world, so *he is giving us what we want*, the ways of this sinning sin sick world!

The USA, the British, Canadians, Australians, New Zealanders, the Scandinavians, the Jews, French, Belgians i.e. God's Covenant people Israel, are experiencing terrorism today because, "But if ye will not hearken unto me, and will not do all these commandments; "And if ye shall despise my statutes, or if your soul abhor my judgments, so that ye will not do all my commandments, *but* that ye break my covenant:" This is the mindset of the west, and *therefore God is giving us what we want!*

These things however can stop, if we just turn around and acknowledge that God ways are right, and the world is wrong, the world is evil and God is good, even though today we say the opposite (Isaiah 5:20). If we repent, God says he would take this all away because we want *his* ways and the not the ways of the world, " If that *nation*, against whom I have pronounced, *turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them.*" (Jer 18:8). God willing we as a people do just that!