Weekly Study Guide

7/28/24 - A Restless World

Ephesians 3:1-15

12 In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.
13 I ask you, therefore, not to be discouraged because of my sufferings for you, which are your glory. 14 For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name.

Psalm 2:1-12

1 Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? 2 The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the Lord and against his anointed, saying, 3 "Let us break their chains and throw off their shackles."

12 Kiss his son, or he will be angry and your way will lead to your destruction, for his wrath can flare up in a moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

Philippians 2:9-11

9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Romans 14:10-12

10 You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you treat them with contempt? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. 11 It is written: "'As surely as I live,' says the Lord, 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God." 12 So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

Questions:

- 1. What stands out to you in the verses above? What is the main focus? Is there anything that piques your interest? Describe theses verses with a word or phrase?
- 2. What is the significance of families and nations? How are they connected? Why does this matter? How is it relevant today?
- 3. What are the signs and symptoms of a restless world? Why are people restless? Where do people find rest? Does this apply to larger groups of people? Families? Nations? How is this relevant today?

- 4. What does it mean to "kiss the Son?" What does it mean to take refuge in in Him? How do you do this? Relate this to the previous questions.
- 5. Share a few takeaways you learned. How can you apply all of this to your life? Is there anything you need to do in light of this? Did we miss anything?

Support: Psalm 95:6-7; Ephesians 3:14-19; Psalm 2; Philippians 2:9-11; Romans 14:10-12; Isaiah 45:23; Romans 10:9-13; John 3:16-21; John 1:9-14; Romans 1:18-25

For later: Prayerfully consider how this lesson might apply to your life. Are you restless about anything? Do you take time to rest in His presence? Do you regularly give God your burdens? Do you acknowledge Jesus as Lord over your life daily? When was the last time you kneeled in prayer? Is there any area of your life that needs to be surrendered to God? Take a moment to bow before the Lord. Worship Him. Call out to God and make your needs known. Cast your cares on Him (<u>1 Peter 5:7</u>). Acknowledge Jesus as Lord over your life. Trust Him with every area of your life (<u>Proverbs 3:5-6</u>).

Key:

- 1. Christ is King! The name of Jesus is above all names and at His name every knee will bow. All the nations of the world, all rulers, and all people will acknowledge Christ for who He is.
- 2. Nations are made up of tribes and tribes are made up of families. Every family (patria) in heaven and on earth derives its name from the Father in heaven. All peoples have a common origin and father. Adam and Eve are the first parents. God is their father.
- 3. The nations are restless because they refuse to acknowledge God as their Father. In fact, the people plot and conspire against God the Father and His Son, Jesus. The nations conspire [rage, throng tumultuously, commotion] and the peoples plot [moan, murmur] in vain. It is all vanity. All the upheaval, tumult, and commotion will not accomplish anything. God reigns from His throne forever. He will not be dethroned. Nations, families, and people will find rest and when they make peace with God through a relationship with Jesus Christ. Know Jesus, know peace. No Jesus, no peace.
- 4. To kiss the Son is to acknowledge His lordship. It is bending the knee and confessing Christ as Lord of your life. By doing this, we take refuge in Him. As the Psalmist says, "You are my refuge and my shield; I have put my hope in your word" (Psalm 119:114). By confessing Jesus is Lord and believing in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead you will be saved.
- 5. Acknowledge Jesus as Lord now. There is no utility or advantage in waiting or putting it off. Today is the day of salvation. Take refuge in Christ today, every day!