

Elder Bobby Willis



Proverbs 29:2, **“When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.”**

Conversations are great to have, especially with like minded, God fearing Children of God. I enjoy a good conversation about any number of subjects, but would rather discuss the scriptures than any thing else. It has not always been that way. There are times when some will not get into discussions about Religion and Politics. Politics can be just as heated at times as religion when those in conversation do not agree.

In Proverbs 29:2, Solomon speaks of those who are in rule over the people and the two types we relate to: Righteous leaders and Wicked rulers. Having taught history for a number of years, it did not take long to learn about numerous wicked rulers of countries all over the world. Biblical history bears out the same wickedness and is reliable where that is not always true of modern history books. Righteous men or women who fear God and look to Him for guidance will make much better decisions for the benefit of those they rule over as compared to wicked rulers who are self serving and have private agendas.

Verse 2 of Proverbs 29 states a simple fact. People **“rejoice”** when there are godly authorities. The opposite is true when the wicked rule: **“the people mourn.”** There has been and still is much mourning going on over the world as wicked rulers guide their countries in the wrong direction and do not recognize God as the Supreme, Sovereign Ruler of us all.

There are two things we can do about the wickedness around us. If we believe our rulers to be wicked and perverse, we (living in America) can vote them out. However, this takes enough God-fearing people voting to get it done. We should also equip ourselves with the **“whole armour of God.”** What will this do for us? It will help us to **“be able to stand against the wiles of the devil”** (Ephesians 6:11-13).

To localize the teaching of Solomon somewhat, we need also to apply his wisdom when calling pastors, ordaining deacons, and ordaining ministers as well. These men are to have leadership roles of authority in the church and need to be strong men of faith. You may think none of these men would have any wickedness about them. Not so! The flesh is evident among all of us if we do not keep our bodies under subjection. Paul said, **“I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me”** (Romans 7:21).

Let us pray for our rulers, both in our country and in our churches. God is able to turn even the vilest of sinners (wicked rulers) away from any harm they may intend to do to God’s children. Plus, He is able to bless the leaders of our churches so that our people rejoice rather than mourn. **Think About It!**