

Prophecies for November 9, 2008

You know, it just amazes me, Lord, that you always give us so much more than we deserve. When we bring you our burdens and our troubles and our sins, you take them from us; but You don't leave us empty - You don't leave us naked. You give us garments of praise. Of course, we have to put forth some effort there too. But You give us the garments, and, as we praise You, Lord, we're not left down here anymore. You lift us up so that we're right beside You, above all the problems of this earth. Thank You, Lord, once again for being more amazing and more loving and more merciful and more gracious than we can even imagine. We only have to do one thing, and that's give it to You. And You take it from there. Thank you for Your garments of praise.

Our God reigns. And, ultimately, our God is the only one who reigns. Some trust in horses, some trust in chariots, but we will trust in the name of the Lord our God. Some trust in economic leaders, and some trust in political leaders, but we will trust in the name of the Lord our God. We, as the church, are called to and must pray for our leaders; for our economic leaders, for our political leaders, for our church leaders. But we must not trust in them to save us from whatever the trials and tribulations we see going on in this world. Ultimately, they're not going to fix the economy. They're not going to fix the war. They're not going to fix the abortion problem. God reigns, and that's where we put our trust. So Lord, we pray that You'd give us the grace to support our leaders, to pray for them, to encourage them; but not to believe that they're going to be able to save us. But we pray also that we don't get cynical and give up, because we know You reign; that You are in control and that no matter how it looks to us sometimes in our personal lives, in our national life, or any other way You know what You're doing. And so we thank You for that, Lord. We thank You that You are in charge, and we thank You that You give us the grace to know where to put our trust and not to rely on the wrong things.

Forgive us, Lord, for thinking we're off the hook when we come to worship You on Sunday and say all the right things, or even if we read our Bibles everyday, or even go out every two years or so and vote for the right people. Because God says take away noise of your assemblies if you don't care about justice and righteousness. That's what He cares about. Are you putting your money where your mouth is? Forgive us, Lord, for not doing that; for thinking that we have your name and therefore we're off the hook for living Christian lives and for Your justice and Your righteousness and Your mercy and Your forgiveness in this world. And so we pray, Lord, give us a new heart for that. So that we may not just worship You with our mouths, for that worship does not please You at all. But worship that God finds true and right is to take care of widows and orphans in their distress and not to become polluted by the world. So said James, so said Amos, so said any number of other people that are worth listening to. So I pray that You will give us a heart to not just worship You with our mouths but with our lives.

I don't know if this fits in right here, but I really need to say something. I really need to thank God publicly for a couple of things. The week before last both of my girls were hit with a couple of things. Sometimes I drive my husband and my family crazy because I'm never pessimistic; I'm always looking for the positive and always saying, "Well, something good's going to happen, and it'll all work out." This time all I could do was sit before God in awe. But if any of you don't know, Melanie has a blood clot. But now we find out (and I don't understand any of this) she has a chromosome in her blood that would cause a woman to not be able to carry children. That's what's caused the blood clot. Kari was in a car accident where both of the cars were totaled, but look at her. I will not be the one to stand here and say, "Why is this happening to my girls? Why am I having to go through this?" I will not be the one to say that. I'm going to be the one that says, "Thank you God for giving me two children who love

