

BIBLE QUESTIONS ANSWERED by DR. AYODEJI AWE

Question 73- PASTOR HELP ME TO UNDERSTAND: OUR PRESIDENT AS A PROCLAIMING CHRISTIAN HE IS (AND I LIKE HIM FOR NOT BEING SHY OF CLAIMING WHO HE IS), HOW DOES HIS BAN OF PEOPLE FROM CERTAIN COUNTRIES EXHIBIT LOVE, WHICH IS THE BANE OF CHRISTIANITY. AREN'T WE SUPPOSED TO LOVE THOSE WHO MAY EVEN HATE US AND LET THEM IN?

ANSWER:

Great and insightful question you have asked - concerning an issue which with the implications and practical effects on the nation has catapulted into one of the greatest interests and most attention struck of the issues that are on the table of the newly commissioned Trump administration.

First of all, simply understand that presidential precedence and full legal and constitutional authorities gave Trump the power to ban anyone or group of people from entering this country if he has a plausible reason to him to do so (as they would do any president). Since the buck stops with him, the president, it is rationally hard for anyone to dispute or successfully challenge him. That some judges are making efforts to stop him or dissuade him would be a short spanned wind. It won't ultimately work and where they present a temporary reprieve to the agitators, it sounds very rebellious and anarchy- breeding to the extent that anyone with common sense would be concerned. For we know that in any place with a border, there has to be one person who has the last say at who comes in or not. This is a slot that is exclusively reserved for the number one citizen of any country. You cannot have more than one leader. If something were to go wrong, there has to be one man to call.

There are two very major duties of a president amongst several others. He is avowed to secure (protect) and advance (prosper) the nation. These two duties and the success of them in America are the backbones of why practically anyone on earth would love to emigrate here. A good citizen of the country (whereas the president is foremost) must be interested and active in ensuring that the country is safe and prosperous (be reminded that the top two reasons many voted Trump in were national security and economy). This desire and the actions following must transcend color, religion, or any other personal inclinations. No matter the faith of the president, it would be reasonably expected that he finds a way to get the job done.

As a Christian, it becomes more compelling and even sweeter. Regarding Trump, a president who is openly Christian, no one is more avowed to keep us

safe and prosperous. He has the right, morally driven and legally backed to come up with orders, plans and actions that are aimed at keeping the country secured. The lines of the travel ban executive order simply states that entrants from seven countries are temporarily banned for 90 days from entering the country. The seven countries identified by President Obama (past administration) and congressional committee on issue of national security as terrorism breeding centers are Iran, Yemen, Sudan, Libya, Somalia, Iraq and Syria. They were identified in the antiterrorism law signed by former President Obama. Refugees will also be stopped until the administration would put together a better apparatus for vetting them to avoid admitting those deemed unfit.

According to Greg Jarrett of Fox News, these seven countries (unlike other countries, like Saudi Arabia, that many felt should have been included in the ban) do not assist the US in providing background checks and other vetting measures for their citizens who want to come in. Thus it is not only rational to deny entry, he opines, it is imperative for the safety of the Americans. The US does not have the full resources to properly vet all these individuals on its own.

Collating the background facts, the executive order as is, makes sense. Even though there would be some that the travel ban would hurt in the short run (and it is impossible to avoid this) yet on the long run, the country and the citizens and all who live in it would be safer. One doesn't need to be divinely taught to grasp this.

The opponents of the president and many unlearned - emotionally whipped and easily indoctrinated, amalgamated with the cronies of Islamic fundamentalists, coupled with those who are soaked in unfounded sentiments against this 'new sheriff in town' and his style have found a solace in roping the move with religion. For them it is a quick buy that Trump hid behind the executive order to ban Muslims from entering America. The plot was to, one, misstate the order and not read it correctly. They call it 'ban of Muslims'. That is mischievous. Mathematical calculations depict that the seven countries identified represents only 13% of Muslims worldwide. Not working for them also is that those countries do not provide background checks which would have been helpful in making vetting at the US entrance a little easier.

Two, these antagonists close their mind on sensibility and reality of execution. For a nation or a person, it is unpatriotic to harbor such a mindset. You don't disparage a man's entitlement, you could entreat him for a slice of the pie. In a civilized world stage that is the expectation and norm. Any group will not do

too well in attempting to coerce the President into bringing a particular people in, rather entreating him could be more effective. This is wisdom 101.

Knowing therefore that the religion card is now on the table, let us for the sake of it, apply a litmus test of sensibility and expediency. If the nation's main goals are prosperity and security, for a religion to sell as an admissible variable, it must pass the test of credibility. Christianity promotes education (2 Tim 2:15- "*Study to show yourself approved, a workman that does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth*"), pursues security (Exodus 20:13- "*Thou shall not kill*"), and preaches love (John 13:34- "*a new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another*"). This is why we admit immigrants and welcome some refugees.

In contrast Islam posits Christians, Jews and all other groups like the Western worlds that are predominantly unsubscribing to it are infidels (unbelievers). And these must be violently treated and fought. Striving and violence against unbelievers in the Koran is a given-(2:190-193, 216, 218 and 244; 9:123). "I will cast terror into the hearts of those who disbelieve. Therefore, strike off their heads and strike off every finger tips of them" (8:12-14). "Fight them until there is no more fitna-unbelief" (8:39) etc. Blind supporters and lying advocates blatantly suppress the truth about Islam to sell a pervasive view of 'an innocent religion' to uneducated masses of the nation who are sold into prejudice against the truth. The majority of the press which is liberal has become a stage in this scheme. For instance the editorial opinion of the USA today downplayed the scary real meaning of Islam by comparing its definition by the ISIS General commander to that of Steve Bannon, the current White House advisor, who the left leaning and the liberals fighting against Trump loathe with passion. The opinion writes "Bannon the provocateur who used to run the Breitbart website inveighed on radio in 2010 that *Islam is not the religion of peace ; Islam is a religion of submission*. Bagdadi echoed same sentiments: *Islam was never for a day the religion of peace; Islam is the religion of war*". It seems to me the purpose of the editorial board is to discredit Bannon and indirectly his boss Trump, but it exposes to the blind sighted populace the real meaning of Islam expounded by its true adherent Bagdadi and its open critic Bannon, who went inside the Koran to fish out what it says of itself. The two in agreement confirms the personality of the religion.

It is oddly strange that the two past presidents in the last 16 years have been openly deceptive giving a 'perverted' name to Islam. You don't have to have a PhD in reading to be able to literally see what Koran says about Islam. For Bush

and Obama to have consistently called Islam a religion of peace is a grand deception. To now suddenly have Trump call it what it is by openly challenging the Islamic Jihadists is too big a pill for many liberal and deceptive politicians who love to be politically correct to swallow.

But in the interest of security we must identify everyone by their names based upon what they believe and do. I urge the Muslims and honest liberals to not play dumb and pose blind over the root cause of the gulf between the rest of the world and the Muslims. You don't have to buy Christianity with all of its civility and benefits it has offered, the carrots of which many sensible humans on earth long to have a taste of. But you have an obligation as you attempt to fit into the massive world where security and prosperity are admirable by all to fish out the virus inside Islam. This virus whenever it thrives in any, the effect is deadly and would 'joyfully' wreck havoc on humanity, the aftermath of which continuously makes Islam the most questioned religion on earth today. It is the same that worked in Muhammad (facing a potential death sentence for masterminding 9/11 who wrote a treatise 'The truth about death' - *I speak about death happily. If your court sentence sends me to life in prison, I will be very happy to be alone in my cell to worship Allah the rest of my life and repent to him all of my sins and misdeeds. If sentenced to death, I will be even happier to meet Allah and the prophets and see my best friends whom you killed unjustly around the world and to see Sheikh Osama Bin Laden and the Al Qaeda leader killed in a US raid in 2011 in Pakistan.* (Cf: 4:74; 37:40-48; 55:56-57; 78:31- juicy promises for those who die fighting for the CAUSE of Allah).

Reading a piece like this unveils the basis of the passion behind the Islamic militants' actions and shows you why the peak of their ambition is to die, bringing as many with them as they could. It may be true that many casual Muslims were not torched by the flame of Islamic fundamentality; however the caricature of those who were cooked has not elicited a pretty sight. These are the ones whether few or many who by the impact of their brutal escapades have hijacked the face and voice of Islam.

Well, these are the kinds of people that caring leaders paid good attention to, making concerted efforts to screen entrants ensuring that folks with killer instincts are not allowed into our country. No one is more foolish who allowed an enemy armed with lethal weapons to lodge in his house overnight. It is tantamount to going to the devil's dinner with a short spoon.

In conclusion beloved, yes Trump as a Christian is not pushing to ban good people (of all faith including Muslims) from entering America. He is smart enough to know that we are a country of immigration right from ages past and immigrants have done a lot to make America a great country. I believe He is only trying to make it very hard for anyone who has our blood in view to shed. Unfortunately, Islam by its own attestation in words and somehow by the deeds of many of its adherents fits the profile of that which must be observed and screened (ibid.). Beyond sentiment and cowardice, this, any president ought to do without reservation, with the lofty goal of keeping the country safe, secured and on the path to prosperity.

He believes that in the God of the founding Fathers who developed this nation to the point of greatness we must not only trust, but also employ his great and loving ideals to sustain a nation under Him where we would all be safe, secured and destined to enjoy the abundance that life given of God through Christ could access. Part of the privilege divinely given us is that of freedom of religion. Christ offers himself with no compulsion-“...*Whosoever will, he says, let him take of the water of life freely*” (Rev.22:17b).

All is welcome who meant well, according to the law of the land (Rom.13:1-7), as the Psalmist has ageless expressed: “*Pray (and work) for the peace of Jerusalem (America); those who love to do so will prosper*” (Psa.122:6).

For prayers, counseling, and to have your questions answered or opportunities for fellowship, contact us at:

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