





IN THIS ISSUE A YEAR IN PHOTOS

BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD PSALM 46:10



Michael Reagor Dymond Reagor, PLLC

A WORD FROM THE BOARD:

The Coming Year and the Coming King!

Joy to the world, let the earth receive her King! His Advent follows a unique election season in the history of our country. Constant political and cultural conflict challenge Believers to rediscover what the Bible teaches about how we should regard our political leaders and our true King. The question arises because God has ordained both the church and our governments. Of course, we are to obey the law, and warned that to resist the law is to resist God. Romans 13:1-7; In doing so, we put to silence the ignorance of foolish men. 1 Peter 2:13-15.

Two incomplete views have competed throughout history. The first view, that the church and the state are essentially the same, followed the acceptance of Christianity in the Roman Empire. After the Roman Empire collapsed, the early church thought it should control and dominate the life of the state. A second view taught that the church is subservient to and should be under the control of the state. The Reformation rediscovered, however, that the church and the state are different in their essence. The Puritans came to America to escape tyranny preventing their free worship. The history of America is in one sense a continual experiment in balancing the Church and the state.

In the dark days of the Roman occupation of Palestine, 700 years before Jesus' birth, Isaiah predicted the birth of a baby, who was king and Lord at his birth and whose throne would be established forever. Isaiah 9:6-7; 2 Samuel 7:12-13. Jesus taught both that His Kingdom was not of this world (John 18:36) and that He would come again in power to judge the nations (Matthew 25, Acts 17:31). Men should render to their leaders what is due to them, but to God the things that are of God. Luke 20:25. Though He is King, Jesus' Kingdom will not be identified with any specific nation or state. Genesis 22:18. But He has been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Matthew 28:18.

As we anticipate and pray for a new season of just and wise leaders, let us render to them what they are due. But let us marvel and take comfort in the images of the birth of the King of Kings, in the Judean hills, in a livestock stable, surrounded by humble shepherds and adoring and amazed parents. And let us render to Him the worship He is due.

Christmas blessings from the PHM Board!

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The bookstore will be closed: MLK Jr Day Jan 20th Presidents' Day Feb 17th

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I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. John 14:6