

REStore: The Nations

July 4, 2021 Matthew 25:31-46

OPENING QUESTION

Do you think all people can be redeemed by the blood of Jesus? What about all nations? Are there any nations you would not be willing to visit and share the gospel?

GOD LOVES THE NATIONS, AND SO SHOULD WE -

Daniel 2:21

- God loves and has a plan for every nation, past, present, and future.
- A nation is a group of people who are gathered based on but not exclusively location, language, race, religion, and culture. Nations transcend time and people.
- God has divine blessings for any nation that seeks to follow Him. God has plans for all nations and will continue to use them as they seek Him.

We know that God loves all people, but what does it mean to say that God loves all nations? Are there nations that you love? Are there nations you do not love? Why?

JESUS IS THE LIGHT TO THE NATIONS AND DEMANDS OUR ALLEGIANCE AS LORD -

Psalms 22:27-28; Acts 17:26

- Eventually, all nations will worship God.
- When we share our faith (Matthew 24:14), the Gospel should be preached to all the nations, and we are to disciple all nations (Matt. 28:18-20).
- As Christians, we transcend our specific nation to love all peoples and nations, because Jesus is King of all nations!
- For followers of Jesus it's about His Kingdom! The church sees beyond one nation, values nations, but sees a Kingdom!

What is the difference between the Church and the Kingdom of God? Is that difference important as we engage with all nations? Where does your allegiance lie?

GOD JUDGES THE NATIONS - WE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY -

Matthew 25:31-32; Revelation 22:12-13

- Jesus says He will gather all the nations and judge the people based on how they treated others.
- God blesses those who bless others, even those who appear to be different from us.
- Some people and nations are weaker than us, poorer than us, different from us, but we have a responsibility to serve others in Jesus' name.
- We serve with our hands, love with our hearts, and then share the gospel through our conversations (head).

How are you serving those around you and around the world with your hands and heart? Do you have a group of people you love to serve? Have you had any spiritual conversations with others in this nation and other nations?



CLOSING QUESTIONS

Hear

What are some things that stood out to you in this week's sermon and Scriptures?

Obey

How do you view and value the nations around the world? How does God view them? What responsibility do we have to engage with people of other nations? What truths can be applied to your life from the passages this week?

Pray

Pray that God will show you how important the nations are to Him, and how you can be a part of advancing His Kingdom around the world. Meditate on the words of Jesus in Matthew 25:45-46. How does this passage provide an example for you to follow?