

Study Guide

Series: The Battle for Christianity in America

Messenger: Pastor Keith

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Objective: to critique how some churches have *distorted* the gospel message and our *call for a return* to the *biblical* gospel that *saves* and *reconciles* all *nations* to God.

Messages: Our History: Humanity, Nations, Israel, and the Church

Scripture: I Peter 2.9-10

Objective: to reflect on the creation of humanity, nations, Israel, and the church, so we can understand God's plan for humanity.

Points to the message:

1. God created _____: Genesis 1.27

Government of God – Eden (Genesis 1-3)

- Personal: to *know* God and *walk* with Him
- Relational: Marriage and family were central to society
- Moral: boundaries – permitted, prohibited, and penalty
- Missional: Be fruitful, multiply, replenish the earth

Plan: When humanity fell into sin, God promised a *seed of a woman*, to *redeem* and *restore* humanity and our relationship with God (Genesis 3.15).

2. God created _____: Acts 17.26-27

Plan: God made *one human* family from *one blood*, *divided* them into nations, so that they may *seek* Him and *find* Him.

3. God created _____: Genesis 12.1-3

Plan: God called Abram to establish a nation. This nation will be great, set apart to preserve God's Word, receive His blessing, and have a global mission to be a blessing to the nations, proclaiming His name in all the earth.

4. God created the _____: Matthew 16.18

‘on this *rock*’: confession of Christ

‘I will build *My church*’: called out gathering

‘gates of Hades shall not prevail against’: promise of victory over Sin and death and authority over Satan

Plan: Through Jesus Christ, God called out a new people, from all nations through the gospel. These chosen people become His nation with their own kingdom identity, spiritual culture, divine mission, and heavenly authority. They walk in victory over sin, death, and Satan, and stand as a living witness to the world of God’s redeeming power and glory.

Reflection: I Peter 2.9-10

1. What is the identity of the new nation in Christ?
2. What is the purpose of the new nation in Christ?
3. What is the witness of the new nation in Christ?
4. Where do you see divisions (race, politics, etc.) in the Church that conflict with this identity?
5. How does being part of a holy nation change the way you relate to others, especially across racial, cultural, or political lines in church?
6. What does it mean personally to be chosen by God?
7. How can you help NOW WORD live more fully into its identity as a ‘holy nation’ and ‘royal priesthood’?