

Revelation 1:5-6 (The Church: Kings & Priests unto God)

And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. (Revelation 1:5-6)

How are the churches described in Revelation 1:5-6?

First, God loves His church.

Each individual member of the body of Christ (Colossians 1:18) is dear to Jesus Christ and is very much the unique object of His love.

The word loved is *agapao*. It is a present tense verbal adjective expressing the deep and constant love and interest of a Holy God toward unworthy individual believers.

Colossians 1:12-14 tell us that the Father "... hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins. "

Secondly, His love released us from our sins by His blood. Our whole person has been cleansed by his blood, releasing us from the guilt and penalty of sin hanging over our heads.

And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; (Colossians 2:13-14)

As Jesus died on the cross, his last words were, "It is finished!" (*tetelestai*) meaning that his work in dying to pay the debt of each individual person's sin was completed once and for all time. (John 19:30; Hebrews 9:11-28, 10:1-18)

Third, he made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father. He didn't say that we were to be priests to the unbelieving world. He said we are to be priests to God.

As our high priest, Jesus was holy, innocent, undefiled, separate from sinners. (Hebrews 8:27)

As temples of the living God and priests to God, we are to remain separated in spirit from the idols and idolatrous practices of unbelievers and cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. (2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1; 1 Corinthians 7:31)

In order to be priests to God, we must be not be of the world, but instead we are commanded to even expose the unfruitful deeds of darkness as we obey the truth of scripture. (*Matthew 16:24; 1 John 2:15-17; Romans 12:9-10; Matthew 5:14; Matthew 6:19-24*)

In Matthew 6:24, wealth (mammonas) is defined as money, wealth, possessions, earthly goods, or property. We must choose to die to the philosophy of financial capitalism if we are to truly serve God. When we choose to serve God rather than capital in America, we risk being hated by the capitalists of the American New World Order system. This hatred is promised to us by Jesus in John 17:14-18.

The workaday language, philosophy and lifestyle of the capitalist is focused on a win at all costs pursuit of more money. The environment, personal health and relationships, the poor, and Christ-like virtues such as honesty, modesty, self-control, humility, unselfishness, patience, kindness and gentleness are sacrificed to mammon on the altar of capitalism. While America was rightfully despising and fearing antichristian communism, antichristian capitalism, disguised as an angel of light, was simultaneously devouring her church and state from within. The professing church in America has difficulty understanding that God expects His people to be truthful, honest, and faithful to his commands, principles and values even if it deeply cuts into their net profit or costs them their job or business. The Christian is lying to God and himself if he thinks he can serve both God and money.

Capitalism has corrupted the professional world of government, politics, sports, media, business, medicine, law, education and religion. This corruption has occurred because capitalism's end, more capital, is justified by just about any means to achieve that end. When a corrupt banking elite controlled by demonic forces controls government, and government controls mass media and education, even immoral means to achieve capitalism's end can be spun in order to justify immoral actions.

The capitalist justifies whatever it takes to serve the customer's needs and defeat enemy competition as long as it's legal or they feel the wrong doing can be safely hidden or justified. The capitalist fails to recognize that he is ultimately accountable to the all seeing eye of a Holy God for the competitors, customers, enemies and others made in God's image that he hasn't treated with God's truth, love, patience, kindness and gentleness. The professing christian whose real world involves practicing the selfish, greedy philosophy of capitalism has chosen to become an enemy of God. (*Ephesians 5:3-11; James 4:3-4,6*)

There is nothing uniquely Christian about the United States of America or any other nation. Satan's conspiracy to make the whole world worship him rather than God affects every nation, including America, according to scripture. (*Psalm*

2:1-3; 1 John 5:19)

Conclusion

Are you deceived into believing that the American pastimes of loving pride, self, pleasure, money and material things is acceptable to God because we claim to be a good nation?

American media, advertising, arts and entertainment industries terrorize global minds with Satanic values which exclude Jesus Christ and His Word while we set off proudly to rid the world of terrorism and slowly lose our own Constitutional rights.

Corporate America has almost no room in it's antichristian, new world order business, political and educational agendas for the authoritative teachings of Jesus Christ. The only character qualities of Christ that corporate America wants to emulate are those that can be used by it's lords to motivate their teams to greedily crush their neighbor in pursuit of their vision.

In order to be the priests to God that He has made his children to be, we must line up our values, interests and actions with the truth of scripture and not with current world or church culture. The church needs to listen to the voice of the Lord through his word today and expose, rather than tolerate those that would lead us to believe that Jesus Christ approves of the earthly wisdom of capitalism.

...to **him** (not man) be **glory** and **dominion** for ever and ever. Amen. (Revelation 1:6)