



## Praying as families for families of government leaders and parliamentarians

Day 40

During Jesus' time on earth, the most powerful Romans ruled the world. The Roman Empire, founded by Augustus Caesar, governed the ancient world. The Jews had their own temple rulers, such as the council of the Sanhedrin, comprising teachers of the law headed by the High Priest of the temple. Both the Jewish rulers and the Romans played a role in the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. His crime? He revealed the truth of God and interpreted it rightly so that the world would know the truth of the Messiah. Unfortunately, they could not tolerate the truth of God. They preferred a religion that was convenient for their own survival and detested the truth that was revealed.

When Jesus was handed over to be crucified by Pilate, He said the reason for His birth into the world was to testify to the truth. Pilate was not very keen to know the truth. He asked, "What is truth?" and then walked away. Jesus also added, "Everyone on the side of truth listens to me," implying that the rulers and powers of the temple and governments were not willing to listen to the truth of God. They wanted to get rid of Him. Interestingly, those leaders and governments have disappeared, but the resurrected Lord still rules, and He will rule forever.

Even today, the governments and parliaments of this world have not understood the truth of God's Kingdom. The truth of God's kingdom being established is an everlasting Kingdom. All human kings and rulers have been placed for His purposes to be accomplished in His world towards His Kingdom rule of Righteousness and Peace. Though they may not understand or acknowledge their position as God-ordained, they are instruments to finally usher in His Kingdom. Hence, we need to recognize that each of our rulers and parliamentarians, who are governing us, have been placed by God as His servants for His purposes.

That is why the Bible admonishes us to pray for our rulers in 1 Timothy 2:1-2. It says, "I urge you, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving be made for all people — for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet



lives in all godliness and holiness.” The reason for the gospel of Christ to spread as far as Asia Minor and Europe was the presence of the Roman empire, which was established to facilitate the spread of the gospel. The gospel spreading to many parts of the world has to do with various governments that ruled at different times. Some were favorable for the truth to spread, while others opposed the truth. Rulers and governments blinded by their own thinking and ideologies opposing God’s truth need to understand the truth of His everlasting kingdom. However, the work of God continues until He comes again. The body of Christ, the Church, has to be a great influence and a blessing for the upliftment of their nation and its prosperity.

People in authority and leadership in governments carry the weight of the mandate placed on them, and those who desire to govern righteously also face opposition within their own fraternity. This pressure is shared by their families too, carrying both the glory and the stigma in case of failures. Much prayer is needed for all our leaders to operate with wisdom and grace to govern effectively, fulfilling the purpose of God in every nation. Let us also pray for their families that God would protect them and lead them to live a model lifestyle.

## LET US PRAY

Lord, who said you are the Resurrection and life, we thank you for leading us to pray for our government and rulers. We know through your word that “the government shall be upon your shoulders.” You are the One who gave us our leaders to fulfill your plan for this world. Help us to strengthen their hands to govern the nation with uprightness and truth. Let them know the truth of God, so that they and their families will be a sharpened instrument for your purposes in this world. As we await your coming again, prepare every nation, every tribe to know you as their savior and Lord. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen."

