

# *Resurrection Life of Jesus Church*

## PRAYING FOR AMERICA

RLJ-1562

JOHN S. TORELL

AUGUST 28, 2016

### **NATURAL DISASTERS**

Earlier this year the east coast of the United States was pummeled by storms that brought record snow levels and flooding in the south, particularly Texas. With the onset of summer came a brutal heat wave that gripped the eastern sea board, the midwest and the southeast. Then in August 24 inches of rain fell over Louisiana within a couple of days causing massive flooding and there are 26 wild fires burning in the western states. Thousands of homes and businesses have been destroyed by these natural disasters.

### **JUDGMENTS FROM GOD**

Does God play any part in natural disasters and catastrophic events?

1. The Great Flood. **Genesis 6:6-13; 7:10-12, 21-24**
2. The plagues on Egypt:
  - a. Water turned to blood. **Exodus 7:14-21**
  - b. Thunder and hail. **Exodus 9:22-26**
3. A great drought. **1 Kings 17:1; 18:17-18, 41-46**
4. Removing the wind. **Revelation 7:1**
5. Forest fires. **Revelation 8:7**
6. One third of the oceans are turned to blood. **verse 8-9**
7. Making water bitter. **verses 10-11**

God has stated that He creates deadly catastrophic events to judge mankind. **Isaiah 45:5-7**

### **GOD'S JUDGMENT**

The prophet Daniel knew that the people of Judah had sinned. As a result, they were judged and Daniel was included. Judah lost its freedom and most of the people were taken captive and brought to Babylon. **Jeremiah 39:4-10**

### **NO BITTERNESS IN DANIEL**

Even though Daniel had been forcefully taken from Jerusalem, castrated and made a servant to the king that had destroyed his homeland, he was aware that sin was the problem and wasn't bitter towards the Babylonians. As a result, he prayed for his people. **Daniel 9:1-3**

Daniel had not personally sinned since he had only worshiped the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob from his youth. Just like Jesus was sinless, and yet took the sin of



mankind upon himself, Daniel identified with his people and began to confess the sins of the nation. **verses 4-15**

Once Daniel was finished, he appealed to God for mercy and forgiveness. **verses 16-19**

### **THE RESPONSE BY GOD**

God dispatched Gabriel, an angel who always resides in the throne room to inform Daniel that his prayer had been heard, accepted and that God would respond accordingly. **verses 20-23**

Daniel was given a revelation that the Babylonian captivity would last 70 years and told about the future Messiah. **verses 24-27**

### **HOW SHOULD YOU PRAY?**

It doesn't matter where you live in the world; your nation has sinned against the Lord. As Christians it is our duty to intercede for the nation in which you live and ask the Lord for mercy and that he would bestow the gift of repentance on the people. **2 Chronicles 7:11-15**

It is your duty to intercede for the unsaved and warn them of God's judgments. This is not something that should be taken lightly as it is a command and you will be held responsible. **Ezekiel 3:16-21**

What will you do? Will you obey the Lord or reject Him?

***Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!***

***Do you have an ear to hear with?***