

Photo Credit: ©Canva Pro

10 DAY BIBLE STUDY



BY JENNIFER WADDLE



I recently read an election guide, trying to process the different policies and each party's stance. Needless to say, I was troubled by much of what I read, which confirmed in my heart how desperately this nation needs the Lord.

If you're feeling bombarded by all things political, open the Bible and let the Scriptures settle your heart on God's promises. Here are ten verses to remember as the election draws near.





Isaiah 45:5-6

"I am the Lord, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God. I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me, so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting people may know there is none besides me."



The comfort God gives through Isaiah is the assurance of His absolute sovereignty over all of heaven and earth. There is no other Savior; we can entirely depend on Him to strengthen us in these dark times.

As the election draws near, trust God from the "rising of the sun to the place of its setting," knowing every moment is governed by His <u>righteous</u> right hand. He's got this, my friend, so be comforted by His authority and strength!





Isaiah 45:5-6

"I am the Lord, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God. I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me, so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting people may know there is none besides me."



Psalm 27:1

"The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?"





Worries, doubts, and fears are the murmurs of many these days, and understandably so. As the world continues in a constant state of upheaval, some predict we are near the end. But no matter how things play out, we can recall David's words from Psalm 27:1, saying, "The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?"

Fear doesn't stand a chance when pierced by <u>Jesus'</u> light! Remember what Jesus said in <u>John 8:12</u>. "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

Keep following Him, my friend. Be in the light as He is in the light, and let His glory and goodness chase away doubt and fear. The Lord is the stronghold of your life, surrounding you with walls of love, protection, and peace.





Psalm 27:1

"The Lord is my light and my salvation-whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life-of whom shall I be afraid?"











Proverbs 19:21

"Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails."





Plans, policies, and promises—these are the endless things we've been hearing these days, and it's difficult to know who or what to believe. The thing to remember is that we all make plans we intend to keep, but there's no guarantee we'll follow through.

As the election draws near, I've found it helpful to picture both political parties standing before God's throne. It releases me from angry thoughts, contentions, and <u>anxieties</u> by reminding me that we all are accountable to the Lord. He is the Judge; I am not. This imagery calms my heart as I'm brought to a humble place of <u>prayer</u> and petition.

By laying down every plan and policy and seeking God's truth, we are assured that His purpose will prevail. No matter who the next president is, the Lord is still on His throne. He is the only One who can judge the heart of man, as He says in Jeremiah 17:10 (ESV), "I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds."





Proverbs 19:21

"Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails."









Matthew 6:34

"Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."





The pressing question most people have is, "What does the future hold?" We're hopeful for:

- -A better economy
- -Moral integrity
- -Safety and security
- -Unity and peace

But in Matthew 6:33, Jesus says, "Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." God knows what we need, and He is faithful to provide. Things might not turn out as we hope, but in all things, we can follow Colossians 3:2, which says, "Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things."

Resist worry and instead focus on all that is lovely, noble, and true. Seek heavenly things, glorious things yet to come. This is not all there is; a bright, beautiful future awaits us!





Matthew 6:34

"Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."





Notes:			





Psalm 115:1-3

"Not to us, Lord, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness. Why do the nations say, 'Where is their God?' Our God is in heaven; he does whatever pleases him."





It's human nature to think of ourselves and how this election will affect our lives. But I challenge each of us to develop an "I'm third" mentality, looking to God first, others second, and ourselves third.

Imagine being so preoccupied with serving God and others we barely had time to worry about the political climate. Please know I'm speaking to myself as well, desiring a change in perspective—one that views people in light of their need for Christ.

As the election draws near, let's turn our attention to the great commission Jesus shared in Matthew 28:18-20, when He said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."





Psalm 115:1-3

"Not to us, Lord, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness. Why do the nations say, 'Where is their God?' Our God is in heaven; he does whatever pleases him."





Notes:			





Daniel 4:35

"All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: 'What have you done?'"





Without sounding fatalistic, it's important to remember that God will do as He pleases despite the decisions of man. Please know I'm not advocating a defeatist attitude that says, "My vote doesn't matter." Rather, we vote for the candidate who will best uphold His name and His word while realizing God maintains full control.

This election is a prominent event today, but in the big scheme of things, it's a small dot on the timeline of eternity. As this election nears, let's remember Solomon's words from Ecclesiastes 3:11, which says, "He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart, yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end."





Daniel 4:35

"All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: 'What have you done?'"





Notes:





Isaiah 14:24

"The Lord Almighty has sworn,
'Surely, as I have planned, so it
will be, and as I have purposed, so
it will happen.'"





In the cloud of uncertainty hovering over this election, here is what you can be sure of:

- -God knows the beginning from the end.
- -His plans cannot be thwarted.
- -He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.
- -As He has purposed, so it will happen.

I don't know about you, but these statements bring me back to a place of peaceful assurance that God sees the bigger picture. The story is already written, and the conclusion is the happiest ending we could ever think or imagine.

This election might not turn out like we expected, but that's where our <u>faith</u> comes in. For "faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see" (<u>Hebrews 11:1</u>). It's going to be ok, my friend, it really is. Put your trust in God's plans, purposes, and provision today!





Isaiah 14:24

"The Lord Almighty has sworn,
'Surely, as I have planned, so it
will be, and as I have purposed, so
it will happen.'"











Psalm 22:27-28

"All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you. For kingship belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations."





Although many have turned against God and have rejected His ways, in the end, every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess that <u>Jesus</u> Christ is Lord. This is our consolation as the election draws near. We are assured that "all the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord."

Jesus Christ is King. He rules the nations. And of His kingdom, there will be no end. Let these promises calm your anxious heart as you imagine the day when you will see Jesus face to face. What a glorious day that will be!





Psalm 22:27-28

"All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you. For kingship belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations."









John 14:27

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."





As I mentioned in the introduction, I recently thumbed through an election guide that put things in perspective. Sadly, the picture it painted reminded me of just how bad things are. The enemy is doing his best to steal, kill, and destroy, and it's unfolding before our eyes.

HOWEVER! The peace <u>Jesus</u> gives is unlike anything this world has to offer. It surpasses all understanding. When we refuse to be drawn into the chaos around us, we choose to rest in God's peace. Will you choose His rest today?





John 14:27

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."









John 14:27

"In the Lord's hand the king's heart is a stream of water that he channels toward all who please him. A person may think their own ways are right, but the Lord weighs the heart. To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice."



We all, to a certain degree, think our ways are best. But remember, the Lord weighs the heart. Political candidates can promise the world to those who vote for them, but only God knows their true intentions.

Let the righteousness of Christ guide you as the election draws near. Don't let fear overtake you. Stay the course of loving God and others, knowing the great commission is still ours to keep. People need the Lord, and we are the light of <u>Jesus</u> in this election and in the days to come.





John 14:27

"In the Lord's hand the king's heart is a stream of water that he channels toward all who please him. A person may think their own ways are right, but the Lord weighs the heart. To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice."



notes:			





ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jennifer Waddle

Jennifer Waddle is the author of several books, including <u>Prayer WORRIER: Turning</u> <u>Every Worry into Powerful Prayer</u>, and is a regular contributor for LifeWay, Crosswalk, Abide, and Christians Care International.

Jennifer's online ministry is <u>EncouragementMama.com</u>, where you can find her books and sign up for her weekly post, Discouragement Doesn't Win.

She resides with her family near the foothills of the Rocky Mountains—her favorite place on earth.



