

Templates of Truth with Rick Smith
Audio Script – September 10, 2009

A journalist recently captured a picture of our president holding his place in a book entitled, “The Post-American World.” America can hardly imagine a world without its superpower status, yet that probability is the focus of today’s Templates of Truth.

Can nations fall? Well, of course they can. The pages of history are dotted with multiple examples. Can America fall? The patriotic pride of our people would refute such a suggestion, but the answer is a definite yes, and it doesn’t take military conquest to accomplish it. David reveals, *The nations have sunk down in the pit which they have made; in the net which they hid, their own foot has been caught* (Psalm 9:15). America has a pride which is often arrogant. She has a passion for freedom which is often compulsive and unrestrained. She has a thirst for success that easily becomes an insatiable greed. She tends to hold a value for constitutionality that extends more rights than is morally acceptable. Her claim to liberty has become an accommodation for everything that may or may not include God. In fact, God is blurred into the multiplicity of American inclusion at best, and disappearing completely from the religious fabric of the nation at worst. David maintains that *all nations who forget God...will (die)* (Psalm 9:17). Yes, America CAN fall.

Bible students who focus on the Scriptural references related to end-time events see a world that will one day be controlled by an evil dictator. The confederacy of nations that will house his rule are Biblically identified as coming from the European and Middle Eastern countries. No mention is made of the great superpower from the West. Why would the world’s current strongest nation be missing from the pages of eschatological events? The only answer is that she is no longer the global power and presence she once was by that time in the future. What could possibly serve her such a great demise? Various possibilities are suggested.

Her greed might capitulate her into an economic melt-down. Her pride in the national landscape that protects its beauty from any natural resource exploration keeps her dependent on the foreign oil of countries, some of whom want to see her destruction. Should they someday cut-off her supply, the American economy would completely collapse overnight! Islamic terrorists have resolved that Americans are among the infidels that must be killed. Should they invade our shores once again to carry out their scheme for multiple, simultaneous urban attacks using such devices as their acclaimed “dirty bombs,” the devastating effects through America’s basic infrastructure will be nothing less than horrific and paralyzing! Add to all these possibilities the moral climate of our nation and how it continues to decay into an ever-progressing degradation of promiscuity and uninhibited indulgence, and the conditions are created for the kind of civil unrest and societal evil Jesus described as characterizing the people of the earth in the closing days of world history. These are not mere pessimistic speculations. We have already observed their obvious potential apparent in recent months.

The book our President was observed to have been reading is not so much about the fall of America, as it is about the rise of everyone else, particularly nations like China, Russia, India and Brazil. The author reveals how these nations have now excelled in global leadership in ways that

were once American dominance. His book confirms the shrinking super status that has always characterized the United States. It reveals the rise of the super powers that the Bible prophecies announce as being the major players in specific end-time events. Isn't it interesting how such modern secular sources can so accurately confirm ancient Biblical revelations?

David closes this Psalm with a petition to God concerning the nations: *Arise, O Lord, do not let man prevail; let the nations be judged before Thee. Put them in fear, O Lord; let the nations know that they are but men* (Psalm 9:19-20). America's greed and arrogant pride is an indication of her lack of fear toward God. The very God she fails to acknowledge in so many ways is the God that David declares will *rebuke the nations* (9:5). Nations rise and fall on many factors, but the one sure factor is a diminishing value placed on God and His Word. As the President enhances his knowledge of a post-American world, I pray he will also enrich his understanding of a post-church era, for there is coming a day when God will rapture His people into heaven, and those who dwell on the Earth following that event will be greatly affected by her exit.

That's today's Templates of Truth. This is your Bible teacher, Rick Smith, reminding you to attend church this Sunday for Bible study and worship, pray for one another, and always strive to abide. Until next time, have a blessed and glorious day in Christ Jesus.

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