

not a man is able or qualified? Before a man presents himself as a candidate for public office, let him first prove himself in his private endeavors and undertakings, whether it be as a business man, as a farmer, or in some other field. Today men are taken right out of some university and allowed to become political candidates. They have not proven themselves; they have not shown that they have good sense or that they can be a success in their individual careers.

The requirements add: "*such as fear God,*" and much could be said about that need.

Then we read, "*men of truth.*" It would really be something if we held candidates to what they promise; and if they did not produce, eliminate them.

Here is another requirement from God Almighty: "*hating covetousness*" — in other words, men should be chosen for public office who could not be bought nor bribed, men who could not be controlled by money arrangements or by their realizing greater income.

The counsel continues: "*and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens.*"

Deuteronomy 17:18-19 gives scriptural counsel to the president or the head of the nation: "*And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the*

*throne of his kingdom that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of that which is before the priests the Levites: And it (this book which the clergy should provide, containing Scripture pertaining to human government) shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them.*"

Can you imagine the Supreme Court's decreeing that our children cannot read the Bible in the public school when God's counsel to the president is that he read this Book every day — and that he meditate in its laws, statutes, judgments and commandments constantly?

It will take some real shaking to bring us to the place where we will listen to God's counsel; and we are reminded again of Micah's question: "*Is thy counsellor perished?*" The counsel of God's Word could just as well not have been written so far as this generation is concerned, for the preachers have not preached it. As a result, we have civil administrators (from the office of President down to the county and village officials) who have no standard of what is right or what is wrong. They have no chart or compass to go by as they try to administer the law for the nation. God places the

blame and the responsibility for this on the clergy. (Jeremiah 23: 20-22.)

Scores of civil administrations are recorded in the Old Scripture (in the first 17 books of the Bible) as object lessons and as guidelines for civil administrators today. Fundamentalists say that these have no meaning or significance for us today, yet in I Corinthians 10:11 the apostle Paul wrote, "*Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.*"

Let me call to your attention one civil administration in II Chronicles 34, that of Josiah. Prior to Josiah's administration, there had been a very wicked president, and things went from bad to worse. There was corruption, chaos, confusion, violence, sin and wickedness on every hand. Josiah began immediately to seek the Lord, and that simply meant that he turned to the Word of God for civil administration. In doing this, he charged the clergy to put the church in order.

The preachers went into the temple to clean and straighten things up, and what do you suppose they found? Verse 15 of II Chronicles 34 states, "*... I have found the book of the law in the house of the LORD.*" Today the

Gospel of the Kingdom and the national message of the Bible have been lost in the church. They have been withheld from this generation by the church and the clergy.

In verse 31 of this same chapter we read, "*And the king stood in his place, and made a covenant before the Lord to walk after the Lord and to keep His commandments, and his testimonies, and his statutes, with all his heart, and with all his soul, to perform the words of the covenant which are written in this book.*"

Joshua, one of the greatest civil administrators of all human history, was told that he should meditate in God's Word for civil administration day and night, "*for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.*" As chief executive, he would then be able to solve the national problems.

David, another of the great civil administrators, gave Solomon the same advice when he instructed Solomon to walk in God's ways and keep His statutes, commandments and judgments. This is the counsel which our leaders must have today.

Thank God we will get our fill of the problems that threaten our destruction and will repent and turn to God's Word. Divine deliverance will then be ours.