

# TRUSTING GOD

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BY

JERRY BRIDGES



# *God's Rule over the Nations*

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*O LORD, God of our Fathers,  
Are you not the God who is in heaven?  
You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations.  
Power and might are in your hand  
and no one can withstand you.*

*II Chronicles 20:6*



# *God's Rule over the Nations*

*"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." Genesis 1:1*



# *God's Rule over the Nations*

*"...the worlds were framed by the word of God..." Hebrews 11:3*





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*"There is one God and Father of us all, who is over all..." Ephesians 4:6*



# *God's Rule over the Nations*

*"For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on the earth..." Colossians 1:16*





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*"He is the God over all...over all nations, over all people." Isaiah 40:17*

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“God makes all events of history; all decisions of rulers, kings, and parliaments; and all the actions of their governments, armies, and navies serve His will.”

Jerry Bridges, *Trusting God*, (NavPress, 1988, Colorado Springs, CO), p. 66





*God's Rule over the Nations*  
*President Joseph Biden*





*God's Rule over the Nations*  
*Former President Donald Trump*



*God's Rule over the Nations*

*Russian President Vladimir Putin*





*God's Rule over the Nations*  
*Vice President Kamala Harris*



*God's Rule over the Nations*  
*Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu*





*God's Rule over the Nations*  
*Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi*





*God's Rule over the Nations*  
*French President Emmanuel Macron*



*God's Rule over the Nations*  
*Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis*





*God's Rule over the Nations*  
*Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa*





*God's Rule over the Nations*  
*British King Charles III*



*God's Rule over the Nations*  
*Chinese President Xi Jinping*





*God's Rule over the Nations*  
*Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba*



*God's Rule over the Nations*  
*Argentine President Javier Milei*





*God's Rule over the Nations*  
*North Korean Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un*





*“...I propose and dispose, too.”*  
*Napolean Bonaparte*





*“How do you think he (Napolean Bonaparte) proposed and disposed? He proposed to go and take Russia; he proposed to make all Europe his....How had he disposed it? He came back solitary and alone, his mighty army perished, and wasted, having well-nigh eaten and devoured one another through hunger. Man proposes and God disposes”*

Charles H. Spurgeon





*The Battle of Waterloo*

*1815*



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*God has established government for the good of all people*

*“Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgement on themselves. For the rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God’s minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil.”*

*Romans 13:1-4*

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## *God determines who rules*

*“This decision is by the decree of the watchers, and the sentence by the word of the holy ones, in order that the living may know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, gives it to whomever He will, and sets over it the lowest of men.”*

*Daniel 4:17*



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*God determines the timing of each leader's rule*

*“He brings the princes to nothing; He makes the judges of the earth useless. Scarcely shall their stock take root in the earth, when He will also blow on them, and they will wither, and the whirlwind will take them away like stubble.”*

*Isaiah 40:23-24*

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*God controls the decisions that rulers make*

*“The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the  
LORD.”*

*Proverbs 16:33*



# *God's Rule over the Nations*

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*God rules in the victories and defeats between  
nations on the battlefield*

*“The horse is prepared for the day of battle, but deliverance is of  
the LORD.”*

*Proverbs 21:31*

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*“No government or dictator is so powerful as to be beyond the sway of His sovereign rule over all the nations of the earth.”* Bridges, p. 73

*“Although we may suspect that some of the more disastrous decisions are evidence of God's judgement, we do not know that.”*

Bridges, p. 261



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*“...He is sovereign over the nations where every attempt is made to stamp out true Christianity.”* Bridges, p. 261

*“We see over one-half of the world's population living in countries whose governments are hostile to the gospel, where missionaries are not allowed, and where national Christians are severely hindered from the proclaiming Christ.”* Bridges, p. 261

50 COUNTRIES

prevented from obtaining Bibles or other Christian literature. Even in countries where governments do not actively oppose Christianity, believers suffer severe persecution from family, friends, neighbours, political and religious groups or rebels because of their witness.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH**

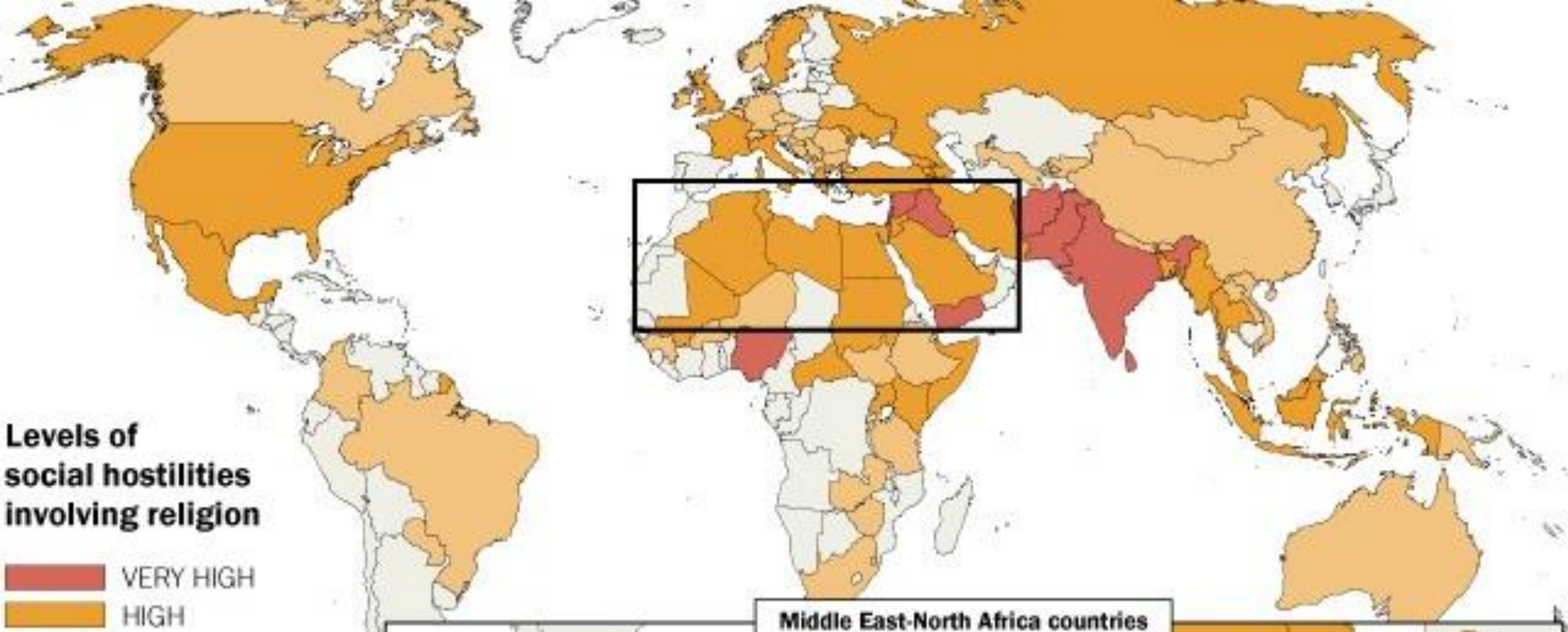


**Voice of the Martyrs**

# *God's Rule over the Nations*

*Persecution of the Church in the World*





# *God's Rule over the Nations*

*Expanding Persecution of the Church in the World*

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**What truths are taught about governments and rulers?**

**Proverbs 16:9, 33** - “A man’s heart plans his way, but the LORD directs his steps....The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD.

**Proverbs 21:31** - “The horse is prepared for the day of battle, but deliverance is of the LORD.”

**Isaiah 40:22-24** - “It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like the grasshoppers, who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in. He brings the princes to nothing; He makes the judges of the earth useless. Scarcely shall they be planted, scarcely shall they be sown, scarcely shall their stock take root in the earth, when He will also blow on them, and they will wither, and the whirlwind will take them away like stubble.”



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## **What responsibility do we have towards our government?**

**Romans 13:1-7** - “Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgement on themselves. For the rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God’s minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience’ sake. For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God’s ministers attending continually to this very thing. Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.”

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## **What responsibility do we have towards our government? (continued)**

**I Timothy 2:1-4** - “Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence, For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”



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Describe a time in your life when a governmental decision had an effect on your life?

Why did God want Absalom to follow Hushai's advice?

What was Daniel's response when he realized Israel's exile in Babylon was almost over?

What is promised in Matthew 28:18-20 and Revelation 7:9-10? How can you respond to these promises?

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What are your general thoughts about the present world situation?

Did the truths highlighted in this chapter change your perspective on current events?

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Is God prompting you to a deeper involvement in the political process?

- Write your government representative concerning an issue important to you.
- Pray for specific world leaders and learn about them through personal research.
- Pray for one or more missionaries, missionary groups or a country that is hostile to the gospel.
- Memorize Psalm 33:16-17 – “No king is saved by the multitude of an army; a mighty man is not delivered by great strength. A horse is a vain hope for safety; neither shall it deliver any by its great strength.”



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**THANK YOU FOR LISTENING!**

**QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?**