The Church's Calling in a Political World

"...the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth" (1Timothy 3:15)

In a world of political controversy we hear the terms liberal and conservative. Some might have more things in common with one side than the other. But before labeling ourselves or hoping in either, it's good to be reminded that believers are the church – that special company called out from the world for the Name of the Lord, Acts 15:14.

It is the church, which as a pillar upholds the truth revealed in the Lord Jesus. He came to earth in the flesh but is now in glory until He returns. Yet on earth there are 3 main pillars of truth that are to be uniquely held and practiced by His body (the church). And these 3 are mostly foreign to political platforms today (both liberal or conservative).

Pillar #1 "The glorious gospel of the blessed God" (1Tim. 1:11). **The gospel of grace**

Hope's true message is that "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners". Jesus is God but in His flesh He died for our offences against God. He was raised again to show He is God's true Christ and Lord. He saves by grace alone, not by law. In order to deceive, demonic spirits attack the true gospel with legal and pious religious rules to seduce people from the true salvation of grace. (1Tim. 1:15/3:16/4:1-3/1:2, 7-11). But the church is to contend for the faith and uphold this truth pillar until He comes again.

Pillar #2 "I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence" (1Tim. 2:12). **Different roles for men and women based on God's order**

In God's creative order men and women have different roles. The married woman is more connected with the home and children. The married man more with providing. In the church the man has vocal responsibility as head. The woman displays her role to the angels in quiet subjection with a covering. Satan attacked this order in the fall and it brought chaos to society. (1Tim. 2 / Titus 2 / 1Cor. 11:1-16 / Gen. 3:1-7). The church is to uphold this truth pillar of God's headship order until Christ comes. (2Thess. 2:14-15).

Pillar #3 "Godliness with contentment is great gain" (1Tim. 6:6). God's holy morality

The pursuit of godliness, not money, is life's true goal and great in God's eyes. Greed, dishonesty, fornication (sexual unions outside a man and woman's lifelong marriage, Heb.

13:4, 1Cor. 7), pride, crude speech, and excess in wine, are not to characterize those whom Christ saved and follow Him. (1Tim. 1/3/6). Lifestyle is another pillar of Christ's testimony.

While we are to pray for our government we must see our calling as higher, 1Tim. 2:1-7.