



Understanding The Times - A Call to Action By Karen Sue Nyquist



1. What time is it? It's War Time! ... War Time? What do you mean? - There is a war raging now in America. It's happening in the physical realm and in the spiritual realm. Let's look at three of our wars and how they were fought in both realms.

a) The Revolutionary War was fought for us to be free from England, from its oppressive, tyrannical king and its British soldiers, who were viewed as occupiers. It was also a war between Satan's demonic army against the American Christians and settlers, trying to force them to give up and not fulfill America's god-given destiny. **1) America's destiny is to be an independent country and to fulfill the words of Jesus.** "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden ... Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:14-16). **2) We are to evangelize the world.** "... the United States still tops the chart by far in terms of total missionaries, sending 127,000 in 2010" (1) <https://www.christianitytoday.com/news/2013/july/missionaries-countries-sent-received-csgc-gordon-conwell.html>). That is truly shining the light of Jesus. **3) America is to show the world how to live freely and productively as a constitutional republic, built on Christian biblical values.**

b) The Civil War was fought to free America and Americans from the sin of slavery. We had won the war against the oppression of the king of England, next we had to win the war against the oppression of slavery. Satan and his army fought hard, trying to force this horrible sin and oppression to continue. Many people fought on both sides and many died.

c) Cultural Revolutionary/Civil War. This is the war we are in today. It is Satan against America's founding principles of "one nation under God" and "Judeo-Christian values of the Bible." He's using people to discredit the Constitution, Declaration of Independence, Biblical morals, our history and heroes, and Christian heritage, disassembling America's foundation!

2. What did you mean by "Understanding the Times?" - This comes from the Bible. After King Saul died, those faithful warriors who had been with David all those years, were ready to make him king. Those from each tribe are numbered and described. Two tribes stand out, Issachar and Zebulun. "(O)f the sons of Issachar who **1)** had understanding of the times, **2)** to know what Israel ought to do, **3)** their chiefs were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their command" (1 Chronicles 12:32). The tribe of Issachar understood the time of postponing was over. It was time to make David king, even if it meant they had to fight. They were all in agreement, ready to obey the leaders of their tribe.

a) As Christians, we have to understand we are in a time of a real war, just as the tribe of Issachar did. Satan is trying to destroy our nation! We have to realize it is time to seriously be taking action, fight back, making it a high priority in our lives. We have to be in agreement and do what God and our pastors have called us to do.

3. What about the other tribe, Zebulun? - Oh, the Bible says, "(O)f Zebulun there were fifty thousand who **1)** went out to battle, **2)** (*were*) expert in war with all weapons of war, **3)** (*and were*) stouthearted men who could keep ranks" (1 Chronicles 12:33).

a) Like this tribe, we should realize we are already in God's "army," we should "already be actively and strategically fighting in this war," becoming experts in our "weapons." With the Holy Spirit's help, we will become stouthearted, which means we are soldiers who are bravely fighting, determined to win. "Keeping ranks" means we are faithfully in our place in God's army, fighting, we will not be AWOL (Absent Without Leave). Unfortunately, many Christians don't know there's a war, don't have the mind-set of a warrior, and are usually AWOL!

4. I am confused about this war. Who are Christians supposed to be fighting and how do they fight? - Good questions! Satan's army is already fighting against us. We have the choice of just standing by and letting Satan win or we can fight back, using the weapons God gives us. We can choose to be victims or victors. Let's see how God wants His army to win this spiritual war.

a) "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down (*demonic*) strongholds, casting down (*secular*) arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ" (2 Corinthians 10:3-5). Our weapons include, but are not limited to: **WINNING SOULS**, praise, worship, declaring God's Word, prayer, intercession, fasting, etc. (For a complete list of weapons go to our article, "Christians' 12 Offensive Spiritual Weapons and 12 Goals of Spiritual Warfare," on our website: https://www.nationtakers.com/pdf/Christians_12_Offensive_Spiritual.pdf).

b) "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we **1**

do not wrestle against flesh and blood (*people*), but against (*demonic*) principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against (*occultic*) spiritual *hosts (armies)* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand ... praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints” (Ephesians 6:10-13, 18).



5. I don't see any war. What are you talking about? - We have to open our spiritual and natural eyes to understand the times we are living in. In a war, the enemy tries to take control of strategic locations, forcing the other side to be afraid, stop fighting, and surrender. Satan is using people and organizations to attack 7 strategic mountains of our American culture.

6. Which mountains? I haven't heard about it in the news. -

They are "The Seven Mountains of Influence: **1) Religion, 2) Family, 3) Education, 4) Government, 5) Media, 6) Arts & Entertainment, and 7) Business.** Satan knows that to successfully destroy the America God had established, he has to destroy these mountains. This will also stop America from completing her god-given destiny of being a light in the world to others for Jesus Christ. Fortunately, God has some Christians who understood the times, saw Satan's systematic attack, and started a counter-attack in order to bring America back to God.

a) "In 1975, Bill Bright, founder of Campus Crusade and Loren Cunningham, founder of Youth With a Mission (YWAM), developed a God-given, world-changing strategy. Their mandate: Bring Godly change to a nation by reaching its seven spheres, or mountains, of societal influence. They concluded that in order to truly transform any nation with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, these seven facets of society must be reached: Religion, Family, Education, Government, Media, Arts & Entertainment, and Business." (2) <https://www.generals.org/the-seven-mountains>).

7. How have these "mountains" been under attack? What can Christians do? - Oh, they have been attacked in many ways, but here are just a few in each area. - **Also, there are many things Christians can do, which I will mention too. In general, we are to truly love others, then we can pray, win souls, and get involved in each "mountain" in whatever way God leads us.**

a) Religion - Anti-Christian hostility in America is reaching 'unprecedented' levels in our ever increasing secular culture. Christians are often portrayed as being narrow-minded or bigots. Sentiments against Christianity and even against God, make winning souls to Jesus Christ ever more difficult. "There is a fight for religion—truth—in our nation. Many want to silence Christians and elevate other religions or even universalism to the top of this critical mountain. To be a city on a hill and light in the darkness, you have to be in the right position or no one will see you." (3) <https://www.edelman.com/20yearsoftrust/06-chapter-3.html>). - **But we can help others, volunteer to pray for them, witness, invite them to church, disciple them, showing the love and light of Jesus and His gospel. Writing articles on social media will have a godly influence on the readers. Studying other religions will equip us to witness to others. Knowing the dangers of the New Age and other "spiritual" paths, we can "speak the truth in love" (Ephesians 4:15). Have regular scheduled times for evangelism, but also be ready for unexpected opportunities.**

b) Family - "Perhaps the area most under assault is that of the family. The devil seeks to steal, kill and destroy the family unit. Why? Because it is at the core of who we are and what God intends for us to be ... Satan knows if he goes for the jugular—our family unit—he has us right where he wants us—crumbling and falling apart. Premarital sex, cohabitation, divorce, abuse, neglect, abortion and same-sex marriage are all against the Word of God and a direct assault on the family in America." (4) "How to Pray for the 7 Mountains of Influence in America," <https://blog.kcm.org/pray-7-mountains-influence-america/>).

"The families of the United States have been under constant and prolonged attack. Today, the assailants are fatherlessness, divorce (50% rate in secular and Christian marriages), abuse, homosexual marriage, pornography, and other negative influences have brought great dysfunction to American life" (2). God ordained the family as the most basic unit of society. Satan fears when - **we teach our families God's basic morals and values. Teach them the to respect the exceptionalism of America, chosen by God to fulfill her destiny. Know what the Bible says about families and then live accordingly. Maybe become a Christian counselor to help others. Regularly pray for your families, your relatives, your church family, and friends.**

c) Education - "Satan is after our children. And so are those with evil, unbiblical



agendas in this world. The indoctrination of children at a young age is the goal of many who live against the Word of God. More and more, we are seeing children being taught morality according to those who stand against everything the Bible represents, while God has been driven further and further from our schools. From ungodly curricula to the silencing of Christian students, education is under assault” (4). “Now, the children of our nation are inundated with liberal ideologies, atheistic teaching and postmodern principles in our public schools and in most universities (including many Christian institutions). Put simply; they are being indoctrinated with often false, biased and anti-biblical information” (2). “Whoever controls education can choose which truths to give to the next generation.” (5) “What Are the 7 Mountains of Influence and Is It an End Times Prophecy?,”<https://www.christianity.com/wiki/end-times/what-7-mountains-of-influence.html>). Now, some school districts and teachers are trying to come between parents and their children by telling the children that they can keep “secrets” from their parents, including experiencing gender dysphoria, pre-marital sex, even having abortions. - **Talk with your children about their day at school and what they are studying. Read their homework and what they are required to learn. Go to PTA and school board meetings and speak up whenever necessary, standing up for parental rights. Pray and fast!**

d) Government - “Government determines how a group of people may live. They can, in many ways, legislate morality” (5). “Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people” (Proverbs 15:34). Also, when city, state, even the federal government, using the guise of “social justice,” allow individuals and mobs to break the law without consequences, crime increases. Their citizens are not safe and live in fear. Then the people cry out for more governmental control. They will even give up some of their individual god-given rights in exchange for the promise of peace and safety. This opens the door for the atheistic forms of totalitarian governments: socialism, communism, and fascism. Oppression and control are attributes Satan loves. The Bible says, “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” (1 Timothy 2:1-3). Daniel was a godly influence on the governments of Babylon and the Medes and Persians. “Therefore, O king, let my advice be acceptable to you; break off your sins by *being* righteous, and your iniquities by showing mercy to *the* poor. Perhaps there may be a lengthening of your prosperity” (Daniel 4:11). - **Prayerfully study before voting, choosing the individual whose record shows they have God’s wisdom and will lead according to biblical righteousness. Study to know what the Bible has to say on each issue, then vote accordingly. Pray! Fast! Travail in the Spirit! Go to meetings, speak up! Work in the government! Run for office! Win souls!**

e) Media - “The media mountain includes news sources such as radio, TV news stations, newspapers, internet news and opinion (blog) sites and etc. The media has the potential to sway popular opinion on current issues based upon its reporting,” (2) or refusing to report. “Media traditionally ‘mediated’ between those making important decisions or pronouncements at the top of society and those who would be affected by them” (3). A media that’s only a mouth piece for government or other agencies, instead of doing investigative reporting, has become propaganda. - **Teach our children and others to think critically, so they identify fake news and propaganda. Use social media to get truth out, counter false narratives, witness, and win souls! Check to see what websites your children are going to on their cellphones/devices, blocking some, train them how to use them appropriately.**

f) Arts & Entertainment - As the “prince of the power of the air,” Satan loves this mountain (Ephesians 2:2). “In this mountain we find some of the most influential forces shaping our society. Music, filmmaking, television, social media, and the performing arts drive the cultural tastes, values and standards of a nation’s citizens, particularly its youth. With a heavy reliance on the strong appeal of sex, drugs and alcohol, the arts and entertainment industries wield significant influence” (2). These low morals are portrayed as freedoms and personal rights, discrediting God’s biblical standards, appealing to one’s physical desires, and warring against the leading of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:17). “Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter” (Isaiah 5:20). - **Choose only moral entertainment, supporting Christian movies and artists. If something turns out to be immoral, point out your children why they are wrong values. Pray for others, especially our children, that God will give them spiritual discernment. Witness to others and win souls!**

g) Business - God instituted private property and capitalism, but human nature can become greedy. Businesses need to pay good wages, make quality products or services, make profits, and still be good stewards of the environment and considerate of the needs and **3**



rights of others. “The markets and economic systems that emerge whenever people are free to pursue buying and selling become the lifeblood of a nation”(2). “Capitalism is a system in which bad people can do the least harm and good people have the freedom to do good works.” (6) <https://www.gotquestions.org/capitalism-Bible.html>). When big government and big businesses join together, injustices and propaganda can be forced on the citizens. Joseph was a godly influence on the economy of Egypt, saving the nation from starvation. - **Pray against unfair business practices. Start your own business and run it in a godly manner.**

“The free market system is one that is given to us by God, enabling us to grow a healthy economy and build personal wealth. This mountain is important, as without finances, none of the other mountains can grow. ... **Pray against the operation of unlawful and ungodly businesses that perpetuate sin and hurt our society, such as the drug and alcohol, abortion, pornography and sex-trafficking industries. Pray that the strongholds keeping these centers for profit in operation will be pulled down in the mighty Name of Jesus**” (4).

8. Do you want Christians to take over America and install a theocracy, where your religion rules? - That is an excellent question. No, God has called us to be a godly influence toward righteousness, not to take over and control. That would involve force and God has given America freedom of religion, individuals have a free will and can make their own choices. If we show God’s love for the world (John 3:16), many will choose Him and His righteous ways. “Happy are the people whose God is the Lord!” (Psalm 144:15).

a) We want God to heal our land. “If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land” (2 Chronicles 7:14). This is a promise. There are hundreds of thousands of Christians across America who are regularly praying for this nation, confessing its sins, repenting, and crying out for God to have mercy and to forgive America. God is hearing us and will heal our land!

b) Also, God will help us fulfill our destiny. **1) America’s destiny is to fulfill the words of Jesus and be a light to the world** (Matthew 5:14-16). **2) We are to evangelize the world. 3) America is to show the world how to live freely and productively as a constitutional republic, built on Christian biblical values.** People from all over the world escape from totalitarian governments to come to America for its freedoms and its prosperity. As one man who escaped from communist Cuba said, “If America was not here, where could I go?” The world is growing darker, we can’t let Satan put out our light!

9. As Christians, we need to examine ourselves. - Let’s ask ourselves:

a) Am I like the tribe of Issachar? Do I understand we are in a time of a real war. Do I know what I need to do? Am I in a church with other Christians who are like-minded, who have a burden for prayer and for evangelism and for bringing America back to God?

b) Am I like the tribe of Zebulun? Do I regularly go to battle by joining prayer meetings and going out with other evangelists? Have I done these so often that I have become an “expert” with my weapons of war? Do I know how to fast, pray, declare God’s word, praise, and worship, etc., using all 12 of our weapons? Have I put on God’s whole armor to keep me safe during spiritual warfare? Am I “stouthearted” so I don’t get discouraged when times get difficult, or when I see the progress Satan has made in trying to destroy our nation? Am I regularly “on duty,” staying in my position, and not being AWOL, Absent Without Leave? Do I not break rank, not making excuses for why I can’t participate in what needs to be done. (There are times when family needs or health issues arise that need to be addressed, that would be Absent With Leave.) Am I doing what God and our pastors have asked me to do? Am I fasting for our city, state, and nation when our pastor calls for one or when the Holy Spirit leads me? Am I becoming involved in influencing one or more of the mountains? Do I often let the cares of this world or the pursuit of my own desires, crowd out the work of the Lord?

Suggested Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, after examining myself, I see I am doing some things that are pleasing to You. There are other areas in which I am lacking and I need to grow. I repent and confess these sins to You. Help me have the mind-set of a warrior, willing to go to war for America. Give me the vision of America coming back to God and fulfilling her destiny. I am giving Your Holy Spirit permission to lead me, correct me, and encourage me as I go to battle with my brothers and sisters. You have given us the victory! In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen!

NationTakers Ministries

856 Cabrillo St., San Francisco, CA 94118

Mail P.O. Box 27475, San Francisco, CA 94127

1(415) 337-7027 info@nationtakers.com www.nationtakers.com

Join us Sunday in person or Livestream at 11 am PT on Facebook or YouTube

www.facebook.com/nationtakers www.youtube.com/nationtakers

We sign for the Deaf at church. Come visit our church where we understand the times, fast, pray, and evangelize to win souls for Jesus.