

Sunday Dec 12, 2021 Message,

Two weeks ago just before recording of the Wednesday night English Prayer meeting our guest, Dr. Bill Wellman, from Park Street Church quoted RC Sproul:

“We are not sinners because we sin. We sin because we are sinners.”

If like me, you have been reading through the Bible in One Year, you know by making it through the books of Judges to 2nd Chronicles, we have learned a lot about the nature of mankind. God had to deal with a culture that was called to “Know Him” and “Walk in His Way,” but over and over again, the people fell into sinful ways. There were seasons when they were revived and renewed by the leadership of a righteous King or a prophetic leader, only to fall away again, often for a number of generations. There were repeated cycles of falling away, and then experiencing the strong judgment of God, followed by repentance and restoration and then, sadly (historically) falling back into their old follies.

After King Saul’s reign ended sadly, David became King. David did his best to follow the ways of the Lord; then came Solomon who started well, but in the end became compromised because of the influence of many of his wives and concubines.

The Kingdom of Israel became divided under King Rehoboam, Solomon’s son, and we see the clear pattern towards evil with a few exceptions as laid out in this chart.

Chart of the Kings of Israel and Judah

Kings of Judah (c 925-586 BC)			Kings of Israel (c 925-721 BC)		
King	Relationship to Previous King	God's Judgment	King	Relationship to Previous King	God's Judgment
Rehoboam	son	did evil	Jeroboam	servant	did evil
Abijam (AKA Abijah)	son	did evil			
Asa	son	did right	Nadab	son	did evil
			Baasha	none	did evil
			Elah	son	did evil
			Zimri	captain	did evil
			Omri	captain	did evil
			Ahab	son	did evil
Jehoshaphat	son	did right	Ahaziah	son	did evil
Jehoram (AKA Joram)	son	did evil	Jehoram (AKA Joram)	son of Ahab	did evil
Ahaziah (AKA Azariah or Jehoahaz)	son	did evil			
Athaliah	mother	did evil	Jehu	captain	mixed

Athaliah	mother	did evil	Jehu	captain	mixed
Joash (AKA Jehoash)	son of Ahaziah	did right in youth, evil in old age	Jehoahaz	son	did evil
Amaziah	son	did right in youth, evil in old age	Joash (AKA Jehoash)	son	did evil
Uzziah (AKA Azariah)	son	did right	Jeroboam II	son	did evil
			Zachariah	son	did evil
			Shallum	none	did evil (surmised)
			Menahem	none	did evil
			Pekahiah	son	did evil
			Amon	son	did evil
Josiah	son	did right			
Jehoahaz (AKA Shallum)	son	did evil			
Jehoiakim (AKA Eliakim)	son of Josiah	did evil			
Jehoiachin (AKA Coniah or Jeconiah)	son	did evil			
Zedekiah (AKA Mattaniah)	son of Josiah	did evil			

We just observed the 400th year celebration of America's first Thanksgiving, which reminded us of the pure intent of the Founders of this nation. We heard once more through the factual writings and historical facts, (not through the lens of Revisionist distortions), the noble aspirations of the Pilgrims. We know that they were flawed persons, but they were seeking to fulfill the purposes of God.

We can read the intentions of these men and women, as recorded by William Bradford, who became the first Plymouth Colony Governor and was re-elected many times to this post, due to his depth of character. Bradford and the company of signers set up self- government by agreeing to the tenants of the

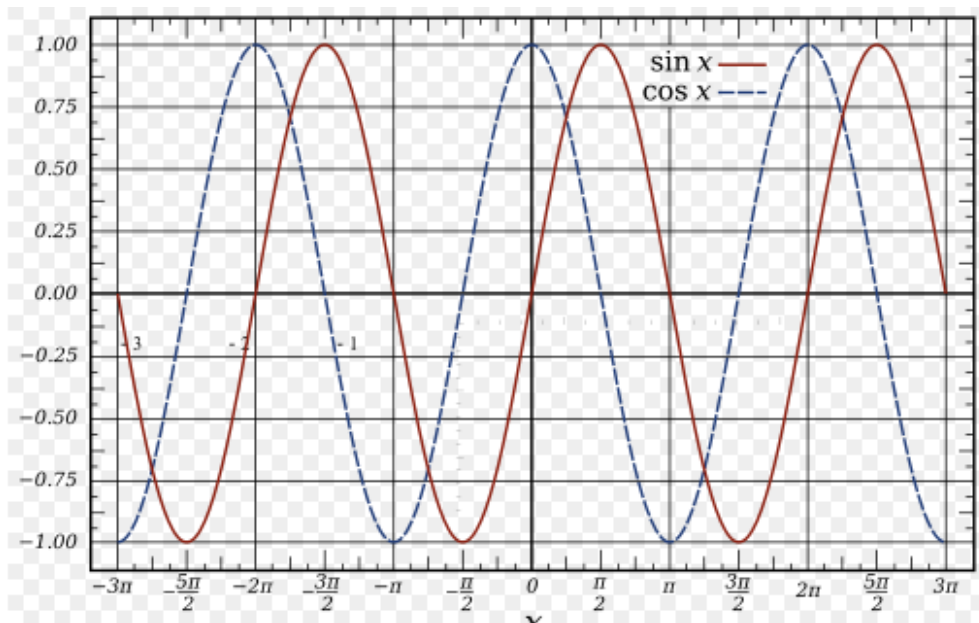
“Mayflower Compact”

***IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN.** We, whose names are underwritten, the Loyal Subjects of our dread Sovereign Lord King James, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith. Having undertaken for the Glory of God, and Advancement of the Christian Faith, and the Honour of our King and Country, a Voyage to plant the first Colony in the northern Parts of Virginia; Do by these Presents, solemnly and mutually, in the Presence of God and one another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil Body Politick, for our better Ordering and Preservation, and Furtherance of the Ends aforesaid: And by Virtue hereof do enact, constitute, and frame, such just and equal Laws, Ordinances, Acts, Constitutions, and Offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meet and convenient for the general Good of the Colony; unto which we promise all due Submission and Obedience. **IN WITNESS** whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names at Cape-Cod the eleventh of November, in the Reign of our Sovereign Lord King James, of England, France, and Ireland, the eighteenth, and of Scotland the fifty-fourth, Anno Domini; 1620*

Any serious study of the history of America reveals the ups and downs, the ebb and flow, the righteous risings of burning revival fires, but over and over again, our base Adamic nature precipitates the “falling away” from God’s righteous standards.

A true understanding of “People” and “People Groups” across the broad span of time can only be described as “Pendular” or in scientific terms some kind of **“Sinewave.”**

A **sine wave** or **sinusoid** is any of certain [mathematical curves](#) that describe a smooth periodic [oscillation](#). A sine wave is a [continuous wave](#). It is named after the function [sine](#), of which it is the [graph](#). It occurs often in both pure and applied [mathematics](#), as well as [physics](#), [engineering](#), [signal processing](#) and many other fields.



This week, I have been reading Isaiah Chapter 1, and it is like reading the New York Times or the Boston Globe.

Isaiah 1:1-16 New International Version

1 The vision concerning Judah and Jerusalem that Isaiah son of Amoz saw during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

A Rebellious Nation

2 Hear me, you heavens! Listen, earth!

For the LORD has spoken:

“I reared children and brought them up,
but they have rebelled against Me.

3 The ox knows its master,
the donkey its owner’s manger,
but Israel does not know,
My people do not understand.”

4 Woe to the sinful nation,
a people whose guilt is great,
a brood of evildoers, children given to corruption!
They have forsaken the LORD;
they have spurned the Holy One of Israel
and turned their backs on Him.

5 Why should you be beaten anymore?
Why do you persist in rebellion?
Your whole head is injured, your whole heart afflicted.

6 From the sole of your foot to the top of your head
there is no soundness— only wounds and welts
and open sores, not cleansed or bandaged
or soothed with olive oil.

7 Your country is desolate, your cities burned with fire;
your fields are being stripped by foreigners right before you,
laid waste as when overthrown by strangers.

8 Daughter Zion is left
like a shelter in a vineyard, like a hut in a cucumber field,

like a city under siege.

⁹ ***Unless the LORD Almighty***

had left us some survivors,

we would have become like Sodom,

we would have been like Gomorrah.

¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD, you rulers of Sodom;

listen to the instruction of our God, you people of Gomorrah!

¹¹ “The multitude of your sacrifices—

what are they to Me?” says the LORD.

“I have more than enough of burnt offerings,

of rams and the fat of fattened animals;

I have no pleasure

in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats.

¹² When you come to appear before Me, who has asked this of you,

„this trampling of my courts?

¹³ Stop bringing meaningless offerings!

Your incense is detestable to Me.

New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations—

I cannot bear your worthless assemblies.

¹⁴ Your New Moon feasts and your appointed festivals

I hate with all My being.

They have become a burden to Me;

I am weary of bearing them.

¹⁵ When you spread out your hands in prayer,

I hide My eyes from you;

even when you offer many prayers, I am not listening.

Your hands are full of blood!

¹⁶ Wash and make yourselves clean.

Take your evil deeds out of My sight; stop doing wrong.

God is longsuffering and patient, but He will not put up with evil forever.

2 Peter 3:9: The Message

“With God, one day is as good as a thousand years, a thousand years as a day. God isn’t late with His promise as some measure lateness. He is restraining Himself on account of you, holding back the End because He doesn’t want anyone lost. He’s giving everyone space and time to change.

There are countless Biblical examples of God’s longsuffering with individuals and nations.

One example were the ancient Amorites, Semitic-speaking inhabitants of [Canaan](#) both before and after the conquest of the land under [Joshua](#). The Amorites lived in southern Mesopotamia from the 21st century B.C. to the end of the 17th century B.C. They established many city states including Babylon. They worshiped the god Ammuru, often described as a storm god and as the son of the sky-god Anu.

The evil committed by the Amorites included child sacrifice, adultery, homosexuality, idol worship, self-mutilation and witchcraft. Their sin had not escaped God’s notice. He was keeping track of the measure of their sins, and, during Abraham’s time, it was not yet “full.” The Amorites were warned that judgment was coming, but they did not take advantage of their time of grace. They wasted four hundred years and stubbornly continued in their sin until God executed His judgement in His time.

In the late 19th Century, Charles Spurgeon, pastor of the Metropolitan Tabernacle in London, England, spoke these words:

“The Amorites had indulged in the most degrading sin. God had observed this, but He did not at once execute vengeance upon them. He had determined that, as a nation, they should be destroyed and rooted out from under heaven, and that their land should be given to the seed of Abraham. But He tells Abraham that his seed must wait for it, for the Amorites had not filled up the measure of their iniquity. It would take four hundred years and more, during which time God’s patience would wait while these Amorites continued to heap sin upon sin, iniquity upon iniquity, until they reached a certain point—and then God would bear with them no longer. When the Lord uttered the words of our text, the Amorites had not come up to that fatal point and therefore He did not at once mete out their punishment to them, for the measure of their iniquity was not yet full. It is a well-known truth that God has great long-suffering, but that there is a point beyond which even His longsuffering will not go. It has been so in the great judgments of God in the world. Before the days of Noah, men had revolted from God, but Noah was sent to them as a preacher of righteousness, and he did preach, and the Spirit of God was with him. Yet, for all that, the antediluvian world turned not from its sin and when the one hundred and twenty years had expired—but not till then—God opened the

windows of heaven and down came the deluge which destroyed the whole race, with the exception of the eight souls who were preserved in the ark.

Today, I do not think that it is a far stretch to say that “the cup of iniquity” in America is close to being filled to overflowing.

In David Wilkerson’s book, “America’s Last Call,” Wilkerson wrote that “God would have to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah if He didn’t judge America.”

But almost unilaterally, when God brings judgment, something else happens simultaneously.

Matthew Chapter 13: verses 24-30: the parable of the “Wheat and the Tares.”

The Parable of the Wheat and the Tares

Another parable He put forth to them, saying: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared. So the servants of the owner came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?’ He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The servants said to him, ‘Do you want us then to go and gather them up?’ But he said, ‘No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, “First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn.”’

Jesus advised letting the wheat and the tares grow together until the time of harvest, when the wheat is harvested and put into barns and the tares are cut down and burned in the fire.

A *tare* (*zizanian*) was a darnel weed prevalent in the Palestine biome. It resembles *wheat* and is largely indistinguishable from *wheat* until it matures and bears fruit. Tares have the opposite taste of *wheat* and are choking, bitter and inedible. Jesus’ use of the word “**tare**” and the picture it brought to mind in an agrarian-based culture provided a powerful metaphor—as it does today!

Matthew Chapter 25 contains the parables of the “Ten Virgins,” the “Bags of Gold,” and the “Sheep and the Goats.” In all of these parables, Jesus illustrated the different ways God warns us but also gives us the opportunity to be made “Right – Righteous” by aligning with God’s provision, His gift of Salvation.

Isaiah 41:8-16 New International Version

⁸ “But you, Israel, my servant,
Jacob, whom I have chosen,
you descendants of “***Abraham my friend,***”

⁹ I took you from the ends of the earth,
from its farthest corners I called you.
I said, ‘You are my servant’;
I have chosen you and have not rejected you.

¹⁰ So do not fear, for I am with you;
do not be dismayed, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you and help you;
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

¹¹ “All who rage against you
will surely be ashamed and disgraced;
those who oppose you
will be as nothing and perish.

¹² Though you search for your enemies,
you will not find them.
Those who wage war against you
will be as nothing at all.

¹³ For I am the LORD your God
who takes hold of your right hand
and says to you, Do not fear;
I will help you.

¹⁴ Do not be afraid, ***you worm Jacob,***
little Israel, do not fear,
for I Myself will help you,” declares the LORD,
your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.

**15 “See, I will make you into a threshing sledge,
new and sharp, with many teeth.**

You will thresh the mountains and crush them,
and reduce the hills to chaff.

16 You will winnow them, the wind will pick them up,
and a gale will blow them away.

But you will rejoice in the LORD
and glory in the Holy One of Israel.

Threshing Sledge Video <https://youtu.be/s6CxzZvkUtA>

You are becoming God’s Threshing Instrument

Congregation Lion of Judah, God is calling us to become His “Sharp Threshing Instrument.” We are to be tools in His hands to “Harvest the Wheat.”

Jeremiah 15:19 New King James Version:

Therefore, thus says the LORD,

“If you return,
Then I will bring you back;
You shall stand before Me;
If you take out the precious from the vile,
You shall be as My mouth.
Let them return to you,
But you must not return to them.

Jeremiah 15:19 New Living Translation

“This is how the Lord responds: “If you return to Me, I will restore you so you can continue to serve Me. If you speak good words rather than worthless ones, you will be My spokesman. **You must influence them; do not let them influence you!**”

2 Corinthians 5:14-21 New International Version

¹⁴ For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. ¹⁵ And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again.

¹⁶ So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ ***We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.*** We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹ God made Him who had no sin to be sin^a for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.