

Elder Statement, January 17, 2021

In light of recent and ongoing events within our nation, we the Elders of Sherman Bible Church believe it is our responsibility to make a public statement to the congregation which we are tasked by the Lord Jesus with shepherding.

Jesus Christ is building His Church which he promised the gates of hell itself could not prevail against. The gospel is the power of God to salvation for all who believe. And God's glory is our ultimate purpose in all we do both as individual disciples, and as a Church body.

We know that God instituted government as a common grace to all men for the restraint of evil, and preservation of human life. Therefore, we submit to the governing authority of our constitution per God's command, with the caveat that we must always obey God rather than men when it is in direct conflict with Word of God. We the Elders of Sherman Bible Church will indeed continue to obey the Word of God no matter what the cost or popularity.

We recognize that our nation appears to be faltering. In fact, it may even come to naught. We pray that this does not happen. We will continue to pray for the men and women who are elected to various offices in our nation that they would both fear the Lord and govern according to God's revealed will in the Holy Scriptures of both the Old and New Testaments.

Sherman Bible Church will maintain the same purpose tomorrow and each day that follows. Sherman Bible Church exists to glory God by making disciples of Jesus Christ through gospel-centered teaching, gospel-centered worship, gospel-centered community, and gospel-centered mission.

This Gospel is not the good news of moral improvement, temporal prosperity or the advancement of a particular political system. The Gospel is an announcement of staggering significance, that God the Son has become flesh and dwelt among us, and in his obedient life, atoning death and glorious resurrection He has accomplished salvation for all who believe. We will continue to respond in repentance and faith to the glorious gospel by which we have been delivered out of darkness, and into His marvelous light.

In today's political chaos, we remind ourselves and one another to look upon and believe in the surest reality of all, "Jesus Christ and Him crucified." No matter what tomorrow brings, we know that God will keep those who were purchased by the blood of His own Son. We also know that Holy Spirit's power working through the gospel will never be diminished.

Thus, as a church ...

- we will not fret,
- we will not be afraid,
- we will not be passive,
- we will not be silent,
- we will not be intimidated,
- we will not be distracted nor deterred from our purpose.

We will love our neighbors. We will courageously live out and boldly proclaim what is objectively true according to God's Word. We will, day in and day out, continue to glorify the one true and Almighty God by making disciples of Jesus Christ – "for from Him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen!"