

International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted
Church
And
Veterans Day Weekend

Lessons from Intersecting Special Days

_____ years ago today, World War I ended with the signing of the Armistice by the Allies and Germany.

Today is the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church. Over 100,000 churches in the United States and thousands of churches in over 130 other nations will be in prayer today for the Persecuted Church.

“Since the death of Jesus Christ 2000 years ago, _____ Christians have become martyrs. Over ____% of these were in the last century alone. More than 200 million Christians face persecution each _____...60% are children. Every day over _____ are killed for their faith in Jesus Christ.” www.christiansincrisis.net

“As a human rights issue, the persecution of Christians _____ all other forms of religious injustice.”
<http://www.persecutedchurch.org/about/index.cfm>

I see war and persecution as two very different realities and my line of thinking is as follows...

- The governing of the Universe is _____ right and responsibility.
- God entrusts _____ placed governing systems to govern nations on _____ behalf.
- The _____ and _____ of a nation's people is a top priority of those properly placed national government leaders.
- God expects properly placed governments to properly use the force of _____ to protect the security and safety of its citizens.
- Much is written regarding “Just War Theory.”

Ecclesiastes ____:1-8

The persecution of Christian people can only occur when the properly placed governing systems _____ to govern properly on God's behalf.

Christians are to respond _____ to persecution and war.

Matthew ____:3-12; 38-48

- Notice the power of being people of Christ-like character in seasons of persecution.
- War is about exercising _____ against power. Persecution is about trusting God when we _____ aside power or we are in fact _____.

To _____ the enemy, as a properly placed warrior, in a properly placed military, by a properly placed government, in a properly determined war, is a _____ action, because there is a time for war.

To _____ rise up and kill my persecutor is an ungodly action because I am to turn the other cheek, love my enemy, and pray for those who spitefully use me.

My suggestions for this special intersection between Veterans Day Weekend and the International Day of Prayer:

1. Pray for the governments of the world to fully _____ their God given rights and responsibilities to provide safety and security for all their citizens, including those humans who are _____.
2. Pray that governments who refuse to do so will be _____ and _____ by governments that will provide safety and security for all citizens.
3. Pray for _____ in wars that are properly determined by properly placed governments.
4. Pray that _____ will move to end the persecution of Christians within their nations.
5. Pray for those who are mistreated as _____ you _____ were suffering. Hebrews 13:3