



“And now I am no more in the world,
but these are in the world...” (John 17:11).

Use this recent news story to help your students see the relevance
of this week’s lesson from the Standard Lesson Commentary®
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THE GLORY OF AMERICA?

Americans go to the polls in a few days. Many potential voters are angry, many are pessimistic, many believe that America’s glory days are gone. According to one poll, the job approval rating for the U.S. Congress stands at only 17 percent among registered voters—a 20-year low. Strident voices promote competing visions for America’s future. “The American dream,” however it is defined, doesn’t seem to shine as brightly as in times past.

THE GLORY OF GOD!

Ezekiel saw glory everywhere he turned. It wasn’t the glory of a nation, because his people were still rejecting God as they sinned shamelessly. Rather, Ezekiel beheld God’s glory. The message the prophet heard was that God would be glorified ultimately, and that was to be the people’s hope for the future.

1. Do you use spiritual concerns as the main criteria for voting certain ways? If not, why not?
2. How can we encourage one another to focus on God and his glory as we conduct ourselves as citizens of both an earthly nation and a heavenly kingdom?
3. Considering 1 Corinthians 3:17-19; 2 Corinthians 6:16; and Ephesians 2:19-22, how does the temple in which Ezekiel saw God’s glory compare and contrast with the temple(s) in which God’s glory is to be seen today?
4. In what ways has the glory of God become dim in your life? Why?
5. How will you correct the problem in question 4?

—Charles R. Boatman

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