<u>The Influence of Leaders</u>

Text: Proverbs 29:2 Pleasant Hill Baptist Church Elkin, NC Danny Dodds, Pastor September 22, 2024

I. RIGHTEOUS LEADERS

- 1. The word righteous means lawful.
- 2. The righteous leader will seek to do right and seek the best for those whom he serves.
 - (1) The righteous leader will seek to protect his people.
 - (2) The righteous leader will seek to provide for his people (Proverbs 29:7)
 - (3) The righteous leader will promote unity among the people.
 - (4) The righteous leader will seek to perform well for his people.
- 3. In response to the righteous rulers, the people rejoice. This word means to brighten or to cheer up, to make glad.

II. WICKED LEADERS

- 1. Wicked leaders are morally wrong and ungodly.
 - (1) These leaders are hostile to God.
 - (2) They deceive.
 - (3) They lie (Prov. 29:12).
 - (4) They steal.
 - (5) They cheat.
 - (6) They are corrupt.
 - (7) They are selfish (Proverbs 28: 15)
 - (8) They manipulate.
 - (9) They oppress.
 - (10) They summon other wicked people to help them carry out their evil deeds (*Proverbs 29:12; Proverbs 29:16*)
- 2. In response to wicked rulers, the verse says people mourn.
- 3. Never underestimate Satan's influence (Ephesians 6: 10-12)
 - (1) He can tempt one to disobey God (Gen. 3: 4-5; Mt. 4:1).
 - (2) He can inflict disease (Jb. 2:7).
 - (3) He can sow tares among the wheat (Mt. 13:38-39).
 - (4) He can ruin the soul and body (Lk. 9:42).
 - (5) He can instigate men to sin (Jn. 13:2).

III. WHAT WE SEE HAPPENING IN OUR NATION IS A SPIRITUAL BATTLE BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL