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The Local, National and International Implications of God's Omnipresence

A Commentary by Jason Curry



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It has been widely observed that the people of the today's world are connected to one another more than any other point in history. As a result of the game-changing influence of the internet, the advent of social networking sites like Twitter, Facebook, My Space and Linked-In, and the constant exchange of goods and services within our local, national and international communities, people in general and Christians in particular have an unprecedented opportunity to meet one another, conduct business, and/or continue with the Christian mandate of kingdom building so that our communities may reflect, in some way, the kingdom of heaven. As a result of the fact that there is now a fierce competition for jobs as well as goods and services within our local, national and international communities, it is not uncommon for Christians to think of people as adversaries instead of allies, as parasites instead of partners, and as competitors instead of collaborators. It is not uncommon for some Chris-

tians involved in business to see people and countries as potential markets instead of potential ministries. Indeed, we are indeed interconnected within our local, national and global communities, but that fact does not mean that many Christians have a renewed and genuine interest in embracing our biblical mandate to love our neighbors as we love ourselves (Mathew 22:39). Indeed, we as Christians have a special responsibility to identify and help our neighbors wherever we may find them.

The term omnipresence refers to an attribute or quality of God which maintains that God is present everywhere. (Psalm 139:8, Jeremiah 23:23,24). In short, the omnipresence of God means that God is present and alive with us as well as our neighbors in our local, national and international communities. An omnipresent God is able to hear prayers in America as well as the prayers of other in place like Europe at the same time. I believe that the reality of God presence in human affairs throughout the world

means that Christians should lead the way toward civility in our national discourse (Republican and Democrats) and champion a renewed perspective which concerns our interdependence as a national and global family. The reality of God's omnipresence also means that Christians should continue to support local, national and international opportunities for corporate prayer for the "prayers of the righteous avails much (James 5:16)." Lastly, the reality of God's omnipresence suggests that the insights and resources of the Christian tradition can help to address political, economic, social and cultural challenges of our day. God is a good God (Psalm 100:5), and the extent to which we recognize and embrace God's omnipresence, is the extent to which we will have a renewed perspective of genuine peace and understanding in our respective communities.