



NightLight

A NEWSLETTER OF McLEAN MINISTRIES

"take heed....as to a light that shines in a dark place." II Peter 1:19

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Dear Friends,



Don Henley sang a song back in the 90's that said, "*We all need a little tenderness. How can love survive in such a graceless age?*" It was a politically focused cry for love and grace, but though it is a good song musically and the lyrics are moving, the song had no answer. In fact it only proclaimed that this is the "*end of the innocence.*" If all we have to draw from is our own well inside our selves, then love will not survive, for the world *is* graceless in itself. That's the whole point. Grace is a Person. Grace comes down to us, for us, and works in and through us. We are now living in a truly loveless and graceless age, far worse than when Don Henley first sang those sad lyrics over two decades ago. So what are we going to do? I can immediately tell the difference when I am under a prophetic anointing to speak truth to evil or when I am just...mad. Sadly, so can those around me. Let us beware (especially men) of the danger of allowing our masculine nature - which is

God ordained but tainted by the fall - to disguise itself as holy anger and cause us to dishonor the Lord all the while thinking we are doing Him a service. Yes, we hate the evil that is all around us. But all our anger has done nothing to stem its rising tide. God loves to let the dark become ever so dark so that one little light dispels it in a twinkling of an eye. Wait before Him and seek His Face to be able to see in the dark and to know what you are to do at the right time. Do not seek to overcome evil with evil, but overcome evil with good. Sometimes that Scripture irritates me because I want to smash evil in the face. That is the proof that I am not yet trustworthy enough to have my way in such matters. Working evil to stop evil only multiplies the evil. Love overcoming hate multiplies love. Which one sounds like the wisdom of God?



Conference Retreat Time is Nearing

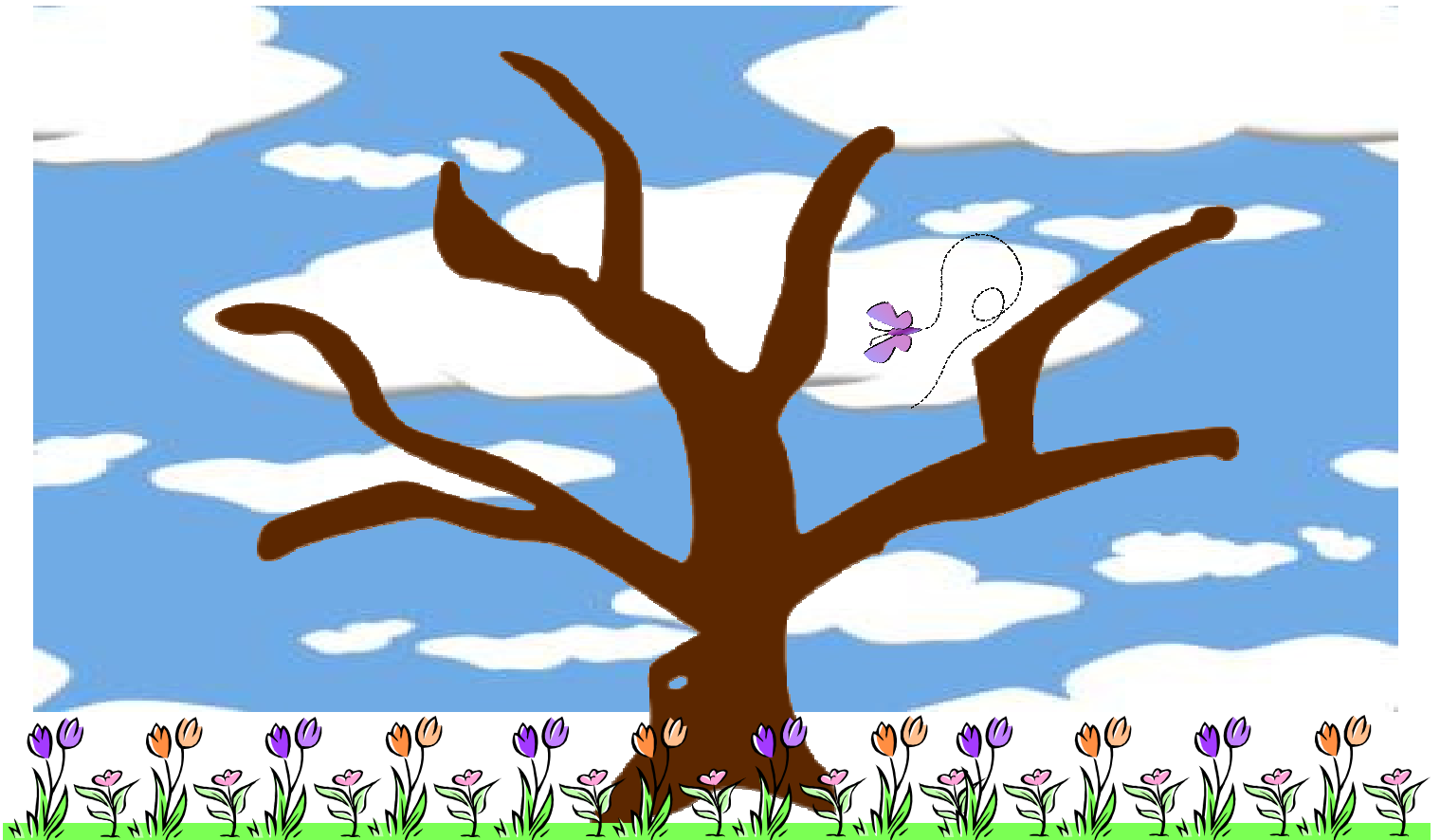
It's not too early to remind you that the August *HIS HEALING PRESENCE* Conference is not far away. For those of you who have never come, let me explain why it is such a vital event. It is not a mere gathering for the purpose of worship, hearing teaching, and being in an alternate atmosphere for a few days, though that is a part of it. For most who make the effort, it is a pilgrimage. (Psalm 84) What does that mean? A pilgrimage is a purposeful journey to a set aside holy place for the single purpose of seeking the Face of the Lord. Of course we can do that anywhere we are. He is with and in us. Try that same logic on your wife or husband and you will see clearly why we should not simply take for granted what we can do anywhere any time with no regard for special times of focus. If marriages or friendships need special effort sometimes, then why not our relationship with God? For our own personal need we make the effort to make the journey. Then there is the corporate need. Psalm 133 says wherever brothers and sisters gather in unity to seek God there the Lord commands the blessing. The anointing, the power and presence of the Holy Spirit—which is of course given to each of us—is manifested in multiple ways upon and through a corporate body of believers who are not distracted, but focused on seeking the Lord together. This cannot be manipulated or manufactured by any human effort. But as the old movie line goes, “If you build it, he will come.” If we make the pilgrimage, He does come. Finally, the times we are in now require an ever increasingly simple, humble, childlike gathering of like-minded believers. In such corporate gatherings the Holy Spirit moves and speaks in ways that go beyond our own private spiritual experience. I say humbly but firmly that I believe what we experience in these days there are an earnest of how the entire body of Christ must and will function in the days ahead. That is why we are told not to forsake such gatherings, both in our local assemblies and in settings like a pilgrimage, especially as you see the day approaching.



Movie Review:

Miracles from Heaven

Miracles from Heaven is just that – a motion picture miracle from Heaven. It is simply telling the heart-wrenching and life-affirming story of a real Christian family who faced a terrible time and came through by the miracle grace of God. What is just as important, is that it also addresses the agony of those who don't get a miracle – at least not on their terms – and how goodness, love, and mercy are still at work there. The film did not compromise any truth. It told what happened, and in that simple telling, Jesus is glorified and the gospel (the good news, after all, is *GOOD NEWS*) is communicated by story. Remember how often Jesus told stories to His listeners? Maybe we are learning to be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. When we have the right-fitting key to open the locked door of the heart, nothing more is needed. The work of the Cross is not ours; we are only the ushers to the One who makes all things new.



Closing Thoughts...



We have chosen as a nation to turn away from the Living God and to seek our own way with little or no regard for His will. The proof of this cancer in and among us is that we now believe we can vote in a man who will fix it all and thus make America great again. How many Christians are following this mindset? Only God Himself knows. I plead with you whose ear and heart I do have access to. **BEWARE OF HUMAN POLITICAL ANGER THAT SEEKS A HUMAN SOLUTION WITHOUT FIRST TURNING TO GOD FOR MERCY AND WISDOM.** For if we disregard our sick condition of heart manifested by the human-centered adoration of any political figure, the end result will be evil beyond our imagining. Cry out to God on your face for His direction, and then vote your conscience, not your emotions. Spring Blessings, Clay & Mary



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