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Dear Friends,



"The paradoxical character of the Christian is revealed constantly. For instance he believes that he is saved now, nevertheless he expects to be saved later and looks forward joyfully to future salvation. He fears God but is not afraid of Him. In God's presence he feels overwhelmed and undone, yet there is nowhere he would rather be than in that presence. He knows that he has been cleansed from his sin, yet he is painfully conscious that in his flesh dwells no good thing. He loves supremely One whom he has never seen and though himself poor and lowly he talks familiarly with One who is King of all kings and Lord of all lords, and is aware of no incongruity in so doing. He feels that he is in his own right altogether less than nothing yet he believes without question that he is the apple of God's eye and that for him the Eternal Son became flesh and died on the cross of shame... When he looks at

the cross he is a pessimist, for he knows that the same judgment that fell on the Lord of glory condemns in that one act all nature and all the world of men. He rejects every human hope outside of Christ because he knows that man's noblest effort is only dust building upon dust. Yet he is calmly restfully optimistic. If the cross condemns the world the resurrection of Christ guarantees the ultimate triumph of good throughout the universe. Through Christ all will be well at last and the Christian waits the consummation..." A.W. Tozer



There is soon coming a renewal of these truths among all God's people. I have to say that when I read Tozer's words and then look around me at the Christian culture, I don't sense that many who might read his words would grasp them or understand them. Some might even try to argue against them. Paradox is the necessary element in almost everything that is real in the Christian life. Wherever it is rejected by embracing one aspect over another, there is always error. God is holy. God is love. The cross condemns the world. The cross saves the world. God's sovereign power makes possible our free will. Reject either side of any of these truths, and we no longer have truth at all. With the loss of humble worshipful awe among some Christians has come a shallow presumptuous believe-ism. With some wonderful exceptions, we have lost truth on both sides of each paradoxical mystery. The cost of this loss is confusion, fecklessness, carnality, and ultimately impotent irrelevance. But that can only be true until God decides it is time for a renewing impartation of His Presence. This will shatter the false image that distorts who He is, and shake awake the slumbering church, as His Presence fills His people to overflowing. This is coming. Cry for it. Wait for it. Look for it. And most of all let it be a reality in YOUR life now.





BOOK REVIEW



Shaping History by Prayer and Fasting

by Derek Prince

This was the book that launched the Intercessor's of America and awakened the body of Christ to our longignored responsibility to be salt and light. Now, as we approach the 40th anniversary of its first printing, it is needed now more than ever. It is as applicable today as it was when first written. Every believer should read it, then practice what it teaches.

The Right Perspective

In the face of so many dark and confusing conundrums which increasingly plague the nations, as well as the private struggles we all face within ourselves and our families, it is difficult to know the balance between being prayerfully aware and awake on the one hand, yet protecting ourselves from overload on the other. When the early church was facing the rise of persecution, false doctrine, and schism, the Holy Spirit didn't begin the Revelation to John the Apostle with these dark scenarios. No, it begins first with seven love letters in which Jesus blesses, exhorts, and corrects His church in the most personal terms. He knows them. He knows where they are and what they face. So the first thing on His agenda in times of great pressure is that we know He knows who we are and where we are. But the next thing is still not the terrible scenarios of world insanity. No, the next thing after intimacy with Jesus is to be taken UP. A door was open in Heaven and I heard a voice saying "Come up here" and what John sees is a Throne ... Everything else is shown from that beginning standpoint. And that is where we need to be focused. Before we read of wars and rumors of wars, of demonic onslaughts and insane political/economic/social ordeals, first you need to respond to Love's call. Listen as Jesus talks personally to you about you and Him, then go with Him up to His Throne. Sit in the Father's lap, and from that vantage point you can see everything you need to see from the right perspective.



Thank you

all so much for your ongoing kindness and encouraging support. We can only do what we do because you do what you do. Mary and I are always mindful and always so very thankful.

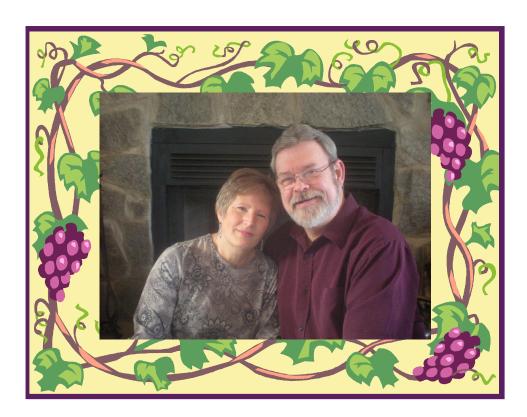
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Closing Thoughts



If you have not done so already, contact your congressman to demand the defunding of Planned Parenthood. The U.S. Capitol switchboard number is 202-224-3121. Ask for the office of your state senator. You will need to make two separate calls to reach each of your senators. Tell them to defund federal funding of Planned Parenthood. Now is the time to speak up in the face of recent proof of their ghoulish Nazi practice of selling the body parts of babies. (Body parts? They said the baby was only a blob of tissue, remember?) Now is the time. Make the call. Use your voice for the ones that never had one.



With Love, Clay & Mary

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