



# NightLight

A NEWSLETTER OF McLEAN MINISTRIES

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

Volume 249 • February 2014

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Guard Your Heart 1, 2

Books About Imagination 3

Closing Thoughts 4

## Dear Friends,



We never imagined (pun intended) the response we would get from the *Nightlight* messages on the imagination! Mary had been telling me for months it needed to be addressed. I thought we could do it in about three sessions. We have now recorded nearly ten hours on it and have others ready to record. The notes coming from many of you reveal that Mary's discernment was right: it was long overdue!

The assault on our imagination is an assault on our entire inner being, as it is the doorway to the whole house. Our emotions produce feelings based on what goes on in our image-making mechanism. It is no wonder so many suffer in their minds, when we consider the attack constantly levied against our imaginations. I always think of Peter's reference to how the culture of Sodom vexed the righteous soul of Lot. The demonic atmosphere was a constant irritant to Lot's sensibilities. Yet he chose to remain in it. Why? The same reason we tend to just keep exposing ourselves to the things that we claim injures us. Is it convenience, habit, what everyone else is doing, lethargy, and/or mixed affections in us we are not honest about? Probably some or all of the above.



Proactive protection of the mind (and therefore our emotions and physical energy, which are all united, and both suffer together and are strengthened together) is a daily, moment by moment, warfare. We must WILL (choose) to stay activated in the battle. Defensive guards must become part of our norm. Scott Peck began his famous book The Road Less Traveled with the opening words, "*Life is difficult. The moment we realize that fact, life becomes less difficult.*" That same truth holds regarding the healing and continued protection of our inner life (which is the fountainhead of our entire existence - Proverbs 4:23) Our walk with Jesus demands constant vigilance to be against the world that is against us. We are against the world, not in a polarized posture of negativity, but in a positive

---

posture of life over death. So we are against the world for the world's good. And once we embrace that reality, it no longer daunts or vexes us. It becomes a negative that empowers our positive. I am motivated towards the good when I see the fruit of insanity all around me. Here's an example...

Natalie Grant is reported to have tweeted as she walked out of the Grammy awards (and I paraphrase), *"I have never been more thankful to sing for Jesus... And never more certain of the path I have chosen to follow Him."* Comments from many (some supposed Christians) referred to her as homophobic, unloving, the usual. There was the mockery of 37 same-sex couples having a 'marriage ceremony' in the middle of the Grammys. Then two satanic rituals were performed, one by Beyonce (whom Obama claims as his children's best role model). The other was Katy Perry's offering to Baphomet, the horned god of the Knights Templar. The evil is consistent that a same-sex marriage ceremony be performed alongside satanic rituals. The sentimentalist thinks love means whatever the lover chooses it to mean. Remember Satan's motto? "You shall be your own god, deciding for yourselves what is good and what is evil." The critics of Miss Grant were too busy defending homosexual marriage to notice or comment on the satanic rituals. It must be that they are in full agreement with both since they come from the same source.

The Grammy fiasco is the signal that the dark underbelly of the music world is now surfacing as acceptable. This subculture has emerged full force to openly declare Satan as their god and marriage to be whatever they choose, all in the name of freedom and equality. Natalie Grant's response was unavoidable for any true disciple of Jesus. Good and evil can NEVER mix. Guard your hearts. Overcome evil with good. As you keep your eyes on Jesus, you will be strengthened by Love Himself to not only overcome the darkness pressing against you, but to also penetrate that darkness with light. God is in the business of redemption: not only for you and me, but for all caught in the dark.

*Pay attention to what I say; listen closely to my words. Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within you heart, for they are life to those who find them and health to a man's whole body. Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the well-spring of life. (Proverbs 4:20-23)*

*Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye. Bind them on your fingers; write them on the tablet of your heart. (Proverbs 7:2-3)*

*Turn my eyes away from worthless things; renew my life according to your word. (Psalm 119:37)*



We stand against evil because we love those bound by it, not because we are 'holier than thou' or hateful of people. We hate EVIL, because we LOVE God. Keeping our minds and hearts clear on that fact will keep our armor in place, our purpose clear, and our actions fruitful for righteousness, and our hearts loving to all.

*Speaking of love...*



## Books About Imagination

If you are interested in deepening your study of the imagination here are a couple of helpful books for you.

### *C.S. Lewis Eccentric Genius Reluctant Prophet by Aleister McGrath*

Though some dislike its honesty, I found this book to be a refreshingly realistic telling of Lewis' life story. Though I do agree with some critics that McGrath was maybe a bit outside the box regarding Lewis' relationship with Joy. The added attraction of this book is the excellent treatment of the development of Lewis' imagination, and the treatment of imagination and reason.

### *The Marketing of Evil and How Evil Works by David Kupelian*

Kupelian is an excellent and daunting investigative journalist and reporter. These two books are vital for anyone wanting to understand the infiltration of evil via media, advertising, and pop culture.

## Some Closing Thoughts...

When facing increasing works of evil, it is never helpful to focus on the dark. One of my all time favorite images of the way to move forward against the enemy is found in Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King. As Sam and Frodo suffered in the dread atmosphere of Mordor, a break in the high clouds revealed a shining beautiful star above them. "The Shadow can only mock...it cannot make...the beauty of it smote his heart as he looked up out of the forsaken land, and hope returned to him, for like a shaft clear and cold the thought pierced him that in the end the Shadow was only a small and passing thing: there was light and beauty forever beyond the Shadow's reach..."

*In His Joy, Clay & Mary*



### **McLean Ministries**

P.O. Box 2088 • Hickory, North Carolina 28603 • 828.322.5402

Visit our website: [www.mcleanministries.org](http://www.mcleanministries.org) or email us at [claymcleanministries@pobox.com](mailto:claymcleanministries@pobox.com)