



NightLight

A NEWSLETTER OF McLEAN MINISTRIES

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

Volume 337 • June 2021

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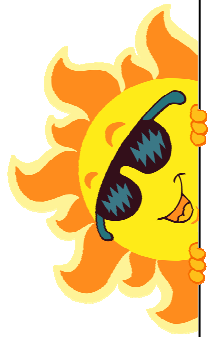
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Dear Friends,

The harvest of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, fidelity, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law dealing with such things as these...If the Spirit is the source of our life, let the Spirit also direct our course.

Galatians 5:22-23,25 (New English Bible)



Because of an unusually demanding schedule for me in May, Mary was praying about a possible recording from the past to use this month for your June *Nightlight* message. We never do that as a mere fill-in. If we do bring back an older message, it must be one the Holy Spirit points out that is current and meaningful. The one she settled on was a message given by me in Texas in 1984. (You will notice my accent is clearly Texan!) The message is on the necessity of finding our place in God's divine order. I know that sounds really dry and boring, but believe me, it isn't! There is a definite prophetic telescoping out from the past into our present in this message. And the fact that it is so relevant for us now (though first given 37 years ago) is a clarion call for us to pay special attention.

Divine order is not ever mere structure without meaning. It is active and alive with the purposes of our loving Father. Think of the order of a night sky or the mathematical genius of a Bach concerto. This order is the opposite of chaos; it is the necessary foundation for goodness and beauty. Art that refuses to honor divine order in its forms is anti-life. For example, the music of a satanic rock band, or the misogyny of a Picasso painting, or the blood-and-guts of a horror film. This anti-life can only mirror the darkness of no beauty, no goodness, and ultimately, no God.

The ancient scholars pointed to the great triune of goodness, beauty, and truth. Of those three, truth has to

do with the Reality behind the order. Goodness has to do with the purpose of order. And beauty has to do with the peaceful joy that celebrates the attractiveness that divine order creates.

We are all aware of the ongoing attack by the powers of darkness against the orderly way that God set up creation. These satanic forces spew a false freedom to entice us to abandon God's order, which in fact only defaces true freedom by destroying all truth. This sets off a chain reaction that will domino into the final collapse of all goodness and beauty. The spirit of antichrist is more than the outright evil we can all identify as such. It is much more subtle than that. The devil likes to disguise himself as an angel of light. He seeks – in the name of HAVE IT YOUR OWN WAY (whatever 'it' is) – to undo the image of God in the earth, to smear the goodness of God, and to demand that the only evil is to stand against his idea of 'free love' for all. He is intent on destroying the family by muddling God's design of male and female. Once succeeding there, he then spreads his lies of confusion to pollute all loving relationships, making an idol of physical pleasure that devolves into selfish lust cut off from all true love and meaning. Once that is accomplished, he moves (as he is now doing) to destroy the very innate inner sense of who and what a person is, claiming that male and female are mere social constructs that can be accepted or rejected by each person as they wish. When parents believe they must do the 'loving thing' and let their small child decide what gender they want to be, we are nearing the destruction of civilization. At that point, the society that embraces such disintegration of our very humanity as male and female, falls apart from within, boiling away in the deception that evil brings, yet thinking all along it is 'free.'

It is the body of Christ - you and me - who have the power to exhibit goodness, beauty, and truth together. And it takes all three. Notice, what pulls the world back from chaos is not merely speaking the truth, but the living out of that truth - with full expression of the goodness of God's love - as manifested in the kingdom of God. Alexandre Solzineitsyn wrote that when goodness and truth have been seemingly crushed out, perhaps the force of beauty can wrap around goodness and truth and do the work of all three. And there is nothing more beautiful than the real gospel being lived out like a light shining in the dark.

So, divine order is not about dead legalistic marching orders. It is the symphony of agape love singing and dancing and serving and loving and forgiving and acting in Christlike humility in the face of its opposite. Jesus said to have a party, and invite the poor and the broken who cannot pay you back. That's a good place to start manifesting divine order! God will give us many creative new ideas for how to bring order out of this chaos. Be listening for them.



Lord of the Rings TV Series?

I realize that some of my readers are not much interested in *LOTR* or related subjects. I respect our differences. But for increasing numbers, spiritual realities made pale and unreachable by dead religion, have been vividly brought to life by true myth. And nothing has done this as powerfully as the *Rings* trilogy. So it is not surprising that the enemy would seek to infiltrate and adulterate it. Excitement rose a couple of years ago when Amazon announced its plan to create a made for TV series based on the early histories of Tolkien's world before the rings of power were forged. At present they project a two billion dollar plus budget. They are counting on a ready audience. I would like to be wrong, but I am convinced they will seek to adulterate the spirit of the stories (such as in *Game of Thrones*). They will most likely sexualize it, because nothing they do is ever done apart from worshipping Baal. They may not even understand, much less portray correctly, the heart and mind of Tolkien's vision. I hope I am wrong. But if I am not, and the fans they are depending on for revenue turn from them in disgust, they could be badly damaged financially. And I would not be sad for that, since they are dangerously empowered to monopolize too many aspects of our lives as it is. So let us be prayerfully aware. Time will reveal where it goes.



Closing Thoughts...



We know in part...we prophesy in part...we see through a glass darkly. After doing what I do for over 50 years, I have come to be very dissatisfied with the sort of harsh absolutism of so many of us. Don't get me wrong. I hold to some absolutes that are not shakable in me: the Person and Deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, His Cross, His Resurrection, and His victory over all evil and the eventual restoration of all of creation. Most all of the rest of what we tend to demand certainty about, I have come to hold rather loosely. It is making my own inner world a lot more restful. I say with King David, *I have learned not to take on things too big for me, I have quieted myself like a weaned child. (Psalm 131:1,2)* And I say with Paul, *I have come to KNOW whom I first believed in, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed to Him against that day. (II Timothy 1:12)* Trust Him. He is good. He is love. He is beauty. He is truth. He is the Lord and Savior of the whole world, and He will finish what He has begun, both in you and me, and in the world. Rest. Love. Forgive. Be happy. Worship. Play. The best is yet to be!



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