



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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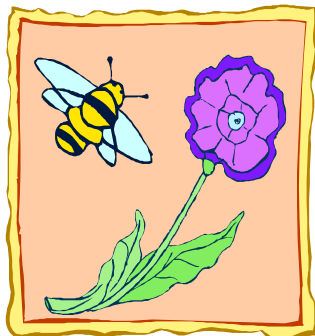
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Dear Friends,



The Lord embraces the days of the blameless and their estate shall be forever.... Psalm 37:18

Lord, my heart is not haughty, nor my eyes lofty: I do not exercise myself in great matters or in things too high for me. I have come to embrace myself in peace as a weaned child.... Psalm 131



I was watching a PBS interview several years ago with a national security expert. The question was posed to him, "What is the greatest current national security danger we face?" His answer was unhesitatingly clear: "Too much information coming in." He went on to explain what should be obvious when we think about it. "We have so many bits and pieces of bits and pieces all pouring in, there is no time or mental acuity to spend on discerning what is valuable from what is not. And that is a dangerous cover for enemy activity."

The Holy Spirit spoke to me at that moment. "You need to give away a third of your books." I did. Since then He commanded me to do it again, and I may be on a third purging of information, because TOO MUCH is not effective. There is such a thing as less being more.

Lot was sorely vexed by the evil of Sodom (II Peter 2:8). This word vexed is translated usually as tormented or variations on that idea. But the word itself refers to being distracted from important tasks by irritating interferences. Was Lot vexed so as to not hear God's warning to get out of Sodom? He was tormented by all the incoming darkness around him till he had to be rescued from it by divine intervention. We can become vexed by the flood of evil around us too. Maybe like Lot we hate it, but we continue to put up with it for various reasons. Have we come to like some aspects

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of Sodom? Have we simply grown weary trying to fight it? Or do we just stick our heads in the sand and pretend it doesn't affect us because we are so overwhelmed by it all? There are so many attacks on our psyches from so many directions at once that we end up totally vexed! Our stand against evil becomes ineffective frustrated fruitless activity, blustering against all the evil but making no meaningful inroads for its overthrow.

Where do we begin? There is the abortion issue, the public school system debacle, and the gunning for your guns issue. What about the healthcare mess? North Korea is poised to attack. There are over 130 Islamic terrorist training centers inside our borders. We are outdoing Weimar Germany in both the printing of bogus money (leading to hyper inflation) and the celebration of every perversion. And that is to name just a few! Vexing, isn't it? I have detailed stacks of much more on my desk.

We can go insane trying to deal with a few of them. No one can deal with all of them. But what does it mean to deal with them? Listening to one more detailed report on just how bad it is, leaves us not better equipped to act, but burdened down into inaction. Human nature's response to such overload is denial, detachment, deception and finally defeat. **Psalm 37** is a call to those facing evil in the land. Like **Psalm 94** and others, there are repetitions of three basic themes: evil is rampant, the righteous suffer in it, evil will eventually be destroyed and righteousness will triumph. Then the wise directive is to **trust in the Lord and do good**. This idea of doing good doesn't mean merely don't do bad. Notice it doesn't say BE good. We are to DO good by taking righteous action and thus producing the opposite of evil in doing so. We overcome evil with good. (See **Romans 12:9-21**)

Now that means three things:

1. **Fret not. (Psalm 37:1,8)** *Stop getting over heated* (literal Hebrew). Do not try to tackle every battle you see! Learn to quiet yourself like a weaned child in his mother's arms. A strange directive for effective battle? No, it is wisdom. You don't even know the objective you were called to without this quiet childlike humility which lays down its ideas of taking vengeance on all evil. Only GOD can do that. **In quiet and confidence shall be your STRENGTH (Isaiah 30:15).**
2. **Do good. (Psalms 37:27)** **They that know their God shall be strong and DO....(Daniel 11:32)** Turn that formerly misused scattered energy into the focused production of a specific good. Jesus commanded us to occupy till He returns. That is the same idea here. Occupy means to carry on fruitful enterprise. **James 1:27** says **true religion that is undefiled is to care for the widow and the orphan and to keep unspotted from the world.** Notice the order? If all we worry about is keeping our sweet pure selves unspotted from the world we will never be in position to rescue widow or orphan. We will just maintain the spotless white picket fence of self centered religion devoid of love. God is love. As we are loved by Him, we love others in whatever form we can give to that action. For some it might mean hands-on work. For others it may be intercession or giving (which you do every time you support this ministry - thank you). Just don't let the devil get you pulled in so many good objectives, that you end up spread so thin that you collapse. Allow God's love to focus you. His yoke is easy and His burden is light.

3. **Wait for the Lord.** (Psalm 37:34) This doesn't mean wait for God like you wait for a taxi. Get quiet. Listen for your orders. It means reverently, watchfully, worshipfully keep your eyes and ears open to Him. Wait for the Lord to inform you, not the other way around. Humble yourself. Do not go out on your own steam. Wait for His equipping. Keep to His way in love. You will find ever increasing peace in the midst of whatever chaos comes. Remember, chaos is short-lived, for it is unsustainable. Yet our shalom in Him is forever!



UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH

14-16 Blackstone Conference Center, Blackstone, VA

"Discerning End Time Deception"

Contact Cornerstone Assemblies of God, Richmond, VA (804) 748-8613

21-23 Maranatha Church, pastor Bruce Harpel, St. Paul, MN

"Honoring God-The Path to Healing"

bruceharpel@me.com

APRIL

11-13 Liberty Church, Birmingham, AL

"Healing Rejection"

www.libertychurch.cc

MAY

2-4 Toledo, OH

"Overcoming Barriers to Wholeness in Christ"

Contact Gerry Soviar (419)-349-0384

9-10 Living Waters Weekend, Richmond, VA

lwtomwright@cox.net

Closing Thoughts...



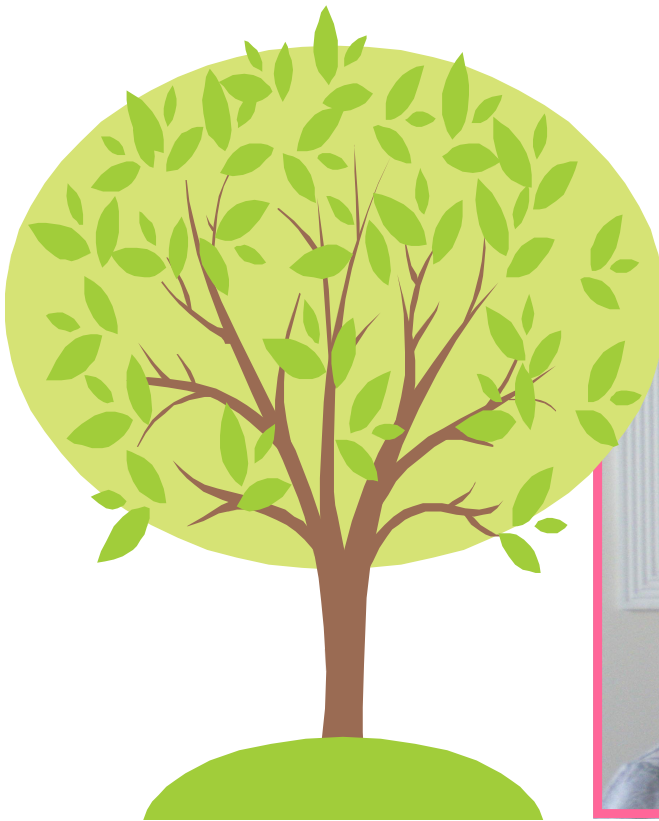
The need is not the call. A soldier who disobeys orders and leaves his post only because he saw a need he thought he could fill, is often on a fool's errand. For the general who commanded him to stay put, sees the whole battlefield and knows where he needs him to be posted. Running off on his own to do great deeds at the expense of the one he was commissioned to do may seem wise, but in the long run produces less fruit, and may even bring disaster. Let us all learn to LISTEN better. And the Hebrew meaning of 'hear' is to 'obey what we hear.'



In His Love, Clay & Mary



Spring



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