



# NightLight

A NEWSLETTER OF McLEAN MINISTRIES

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

Volume 228 • May 2012

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Spiritual Blindness 1,2

Book Review 3

Closing Thoughts 4

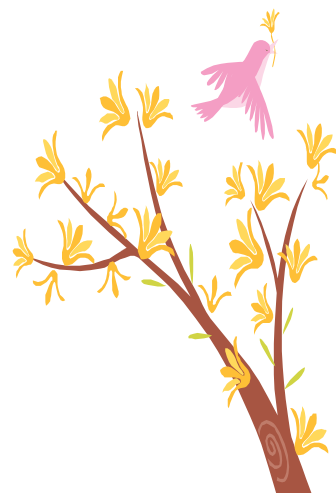
*Dear Friends,*



*If it is possible, wherever it depends on you, strive to live at peace with all men....Romans 12:18*

When I was growing up in Mississippi, I remember the comments of the adults as they stood around the church yard between Sunday School and Worship time. It was the early 60's and the topic was often how things were degenerating into chaos. Then right behind some statement that would be understood today as amazingly racist, there would come the obligatory reference to the Scriptures, and how God never intended the decent white folks to mix with the cullards; the Bible says so. Does it? Where? No one ever asked that question or checked the Scriptures! It was just repeated until it was the mantra of the day. Hiding behind Scripture to excuse evil is a common tool of the devil to not only maintain an evil system, but to dishonor God in the process. Spiritual blindness is a real and dangerous force.

Sadly, there were evil influences waiting to use the racial struggle as a tool for more evil, such as the Black Panther Party and other Marxist groups. Yet the overthrow of Jim Crow and the spiritual awakening of Christian people to a long overdue need for repentance brought great good. Who could have believed a Christian culture could be so blind as we were? We scratch our heads in wonder at the thought of Nazi death camp guards torturing Jews and then walking over to their living quarters to pray over their food while listening to Silent Night by their Christmas tree. But I remember well sitting in Sunday School class listening to a discussion of the murder of civil rights workers in Neshoba County. The only expression of concern was that the murderers **not** be caught, and certainly **not** brought to justice. We were defending our 'way of life.'



Continued on page 2

---

Allow me to shake us up with a question. What other evils are we blinded to at present? What abysmal wrongs are we ignoring, or worse, not even discerning as evil? What kind of shake up will it take to awaken us to God's point of view, the only view that counts? I do not intend to offer a list here of what I think qualifies as such current cultural evil. I *have* my list but God has not delegated the work of the Holy Spirit to me. But is it not worth asking the Holy Spirit to please show us? We are on the verge of an explosion of racial hatred. More and more signs of carte blanche condemnation of an entire race by members of the other races is making its self righteous voice heard. Acts of violence are on the increase. Who will stand in the gap and command the demonic forces which manipulate both sides of such antagonistic conflicts to be muzzled? Who will have the mind of God instead of the left or right wing agenda?

There are demons behind this rising cloud of hate, and it is the responsibility of the Church to be salt and light. Beware when you find yourself speaking like a mere political man or woman on issues where you should be speaking from the Throne of God. We can assuage the rising tide of racist hatred if we will be who we truly are.

The past evils of the whites are being used by the enemy to stir up the present evils of the blacks. There is no political force on earth that can overcome this kind of tit for tat hatred once it starts. Only the Holy Spirit rising up in all the people of God united In Christ will have real power. Along with prayer, seek opportunities to act in redemptive ways, not in some pseudo religious self congratulatory way that will come across as patronizing, but in real acts of redemptive kindness. We will need to learn more and more how to do this sort of peace making as the close of the age approaches. OCCUPY, not Wall Street, but the whole world, with Kingdom living, which is living loved by our Heavenly Father as we love our fellow man: all of them. Speaking and living the truth in love.

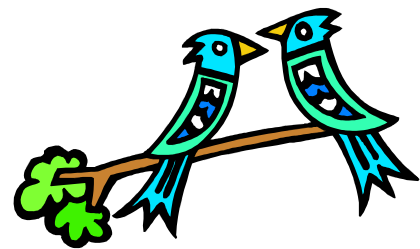




## **Book Review**

### **Naked Surrender: Coming Home to Our True Sexuality**

*by Andrew Comiskey (Intervarsity Press)*



All of Andy's books are important and well written. They should be on the book shelf of every pastor and leader. But this one in my opinion is a masterpiece. If you have ever wished you could pick up a book that is gut level honest about sexual struggles with no condescension and no legalistic shallowness, this is it. If you have ever needed practical clear guidance through the hard to understand ups and downs of marital communication, here it is. The deep issues behind same sex attractions are clearly explained without making those with such struggles feel that they are a separate specie. Andy does all this while weaving a human story that makes you feel you are not alone. Get this book and take time to really digest it. It addresses the heart of the matter for this generation.

# Closing Thoughts...



I write this the night before the National Day of Prayer. I hope rather than merely going through the motions to honor the day, it is seen as an opportunity to simply publicly acknowledge what we are carrying on privately and in small groups all the time. I can think of nothing more insulting to the Lord than to pray by rote to satisfy a date on a calendar.

It is the time for crying out, for passion in prayer, for weeping, for confessing our sins, the church's sins, and the sins of the nation. Prayer meetings are usually honestly very boring. That is because a religious spirit has trained us to be silent. But it is not possible to pray passionately and stay silent for long. Effectual FERVENT prayer becomes expressed outloud. Bill Gothard says in his excellent little book, The Power of Crying Out: "In times of fear and anxiety and trouble, the right step toward experiencing God's powerful deliverance and protection is to simply cry out- to use our voice in fervent appeal for His help." That is the wise words, not of a wild eyed Pentecostal, but an evangelical statesman.

An old man praying loudly in church was told, "God is not deaf." He replied, "Yep, and He ain't nervous either." Lift up your voice like you believe it matters, and CRY OUT!



*With Love,  
Clay & Mary*



## McLean Ministries

P.O. Box 2088 • Hickory, North Carolina 28603 • 828.322.5402  
website: [www.mcleanministries.org](http://www.mcleanministries.org) • email: [claymcleanministries@pobox.com](mailto:claymcleanministries@pobox.com)