



NightLight

A NEWSLETTER OF McLEAN MINISTRIES

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

Volume 330 • November 2020

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Dear Friends,



Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.

Matthew 28:19-20



I am writing this only a few days before Election Day. By the time you read it, we will know what degree of conflict we will face. Regardless of the outcome, it doesn't take a prophet to know there will be a continued exposure of evil: either by arrogant parading of itself or by its just exposure and overthrow. I am not claiming simplistic black hats vs. white hats. We are all guilty and in need of grace. But the level of arrogant evil I refer to, only a fool denies.

A few weeks ago, I was released from concentrated prayer regarding the election, as well as from any assignment to pray for the exposure and overthrow of the evil systems. That certainly doesn't mean others were released from those prayer issues. I don't pretend to have the corner on any inside information. I am only saying what I sensed personally as I prayed for the country. Evil systems will rise and fall and be with us right till the end, alongside the faithfulness of the ecclesia.

But this is my *present* and growing concern in prayer: that the Church will arise in a greater, a wiser, and a more mature form. I pray that we will infiltrate the areas of cultural influence we have so foolishly abandoned for the past hundred years, which passively paved the way for the evils we now are confronting. If for some reason God allows evil to rise and retake its lost territory, it will not change our original assignment: to disciple nations. The rise of evil will not ultimately stop the coming Kingdom of God, but it will make it a lot harder going forward. The overflow of our Constitutional government will certainly demand that the people

of God take an even greater stance in faithfulness, intercession, and outreach. We will have to start being Jesus fleshed-out in new ways through love, godly action, and character. We will have to innovate. We will have to become salt and light in far more public arenas. We may have to say goodbye to the former way of doing church called 'Sunday Morning.' That means we must abandon the sacred/secular false divide that has helped deform the church into a religious weekly club. Such a shake-up will be a good thing. For this demand on us will make us clean up, grow up, speak up, and show up.

If you are reading this under the shadow of a newly elected Democrat government (in which the killing of babies will become a renewed daily offering to their god Baal), it will only mean that God has seen that we will become far more awake and obedient under the increased pressure of open persecution. So... Blessed be His Name. Yet my prayer is that we will be given another four years of freedom with an increased overthrow of long hidden evils. But my concern in winning freedom is this: we simply breathe a sigh of relief as if the battle is won, and let up on the degree of vigilance and prayerfulness we had up to the election. For if we fail to take seriously the call of this hour because we have been given more time to prepare, yet put it off, we will set ourselves up for an even greater collapse of all we hold dear as a free people.

For almost 30 years, I have been warning that our freedom is under siege. The level of debauchery that has become the norm in American culture is reaching the point where it must either take over or be destroyed. One system or the other must die. And the only way to slay our enemy is to convert him. Those who think we are merely experiencing the historical pendulum swing, from left to right to left, are painfully mistaken. We are now in the conflict for either the rise of a free and godly people, or the open persecution of the gospel we have seen in other countries.

So I truly don't know which I am most apprehensive about. If the 'Left' wins, it means the Church, the real Church, will have to rise. If the 'Right' wins, it only MAY mean we arise. Or it may mean we slide back into the slumber of a pseudo spiritual church. Either way, all that can be shaken is being shaken so that which cannot be shaken may remain. We will eventually be recipients of a Kingdom that cannot be shaken. The road to that completion will be as long and hard as we passively allow it to be, or as blessed and fruitful as we long for it to be. I believe the best of us. I believe we ARE awake. I believe we will not ever return to our previous slumber again. We cannot un-know what we now know, or un-see what we now see. So we only have one way to move: forward in His Name, in whatever form of obedient service that means for each of us. If you listen, you will hear your calling clearly. Till the King Returns...





TO DISCIPLE NATIONS



A few years ago I was sitting with a group of guys from various ministries discussing the Great Commission. One of them referred to the great evangelistic thrust in Africa under the powerful message of Rhinehart Bonnke, where well over a million people came to Christ in one huge event. Then another man said, "And, of course, we are all grateful for that. And for the faithfulness of Rhinehart and his team. But do you know who came in right behind them and taught them how to do business, how to raise a family, and how to build their culture? Do you know who is discipling them today? The Moslems." The silence that descended on us was very articulate and loud.

With all due respect to believers who are looking for an any-minute rapture of the church, the Moslems are not. They are looking to take over the earth. Yet the majority of the Western church (How many in the East are influenced by the West?) are thinking only of winning converts so we can fly away. While the new-age folks are seeking to protect oceans and restore ruined rain forests, some Christians (thankfully not all, but far too many) are often thinking the earth doesn't matter. This is NOT what Jesus taught. The Father said to Jesus, **"Ask of Me, and I will give you nations."** (Psalm 2:8) The nations were presented to Jesus by the devil, the god of this world, as a prize if Jesus would only bow to him in worship. But Jesus refused. (See **Luke 4:5-8**) The nations will be given to Jesus by the faithfulness of the church proclaiming the gospel, and by the discipling of nations to follow Jesus. And that happens one person at a time. Who are you discipling?



Closing Thoughts...



I know from my own experience that whenever we hear exhortations about sharing the gospel or discipling the nations, many of us can feel small, impotent, insignificant, and/or confused. All of us have felt these feelings at one time or another. We simply cannot do everything needed, every time that it is needed, in the place that it is needed! But we CAN be Jesus to those around us as we live our every day lives. That is how we learn to love: in the place that we are in, with the people we are with. It is not about being part of a ministry. It IS about Jesus imparting life to you and through you day by day. Do your best with a right heart. God knows and sees. And when all is said and done, love will win you...AND the nations.

Giving Thanks, Clay & Mary

Happy
Thanksgiving



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