



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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Dear Friends,



For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world...they have divine power to demolish strongholds.

2 Corinthians 10:3,4

Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes...put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

Ephesians 6:11,13



I was telling my friend, Dwight Pryor, a story about an encounter I had once with a practitioner of black magic when I noticed the look on his face. This erudite Hebrew scholar - a wise and godly teacher - looked at me over his half-moon glasses and said, "Clay, that's some spooky dooky!" Well, that's true. It was spooky, but it was not dooky in the sense that Dwight thought it was not true. Dwight knew it was also real. His own experience in New Age occultism before his transformation in Christ had taught him first-hand the realities of spiritual warfare.

Just a few hours ago I had just written the first line of this month's recorded message when the phone I had failed to turn off interrupted me. The man on the line didn't waste any time. He said some friends who were not given to wild imaginations had turned to him for help because of spirits in their house causing trouble. He went on to describe several incidents of moving objects, nightly noises and voices, and appearances of people who they knew to be deceased. We closed the conversation with how best to help his friends. Then I returned my attention to **Nightlight**. The opening line of this month's message was still on my computer screen: The world is very strange...

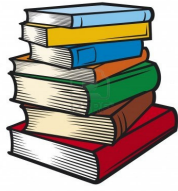
One of the sad facts my caller mentioned was that this couple felt they could not go to the spiritual leaders of their church with this trouble for fear of being laughed at. I know the leaders, and I truly don't think that is how they would respond. But no Christian in any spiritual family should be afraid of that kind of response. Do we, or do we not, believe what we say we do?

This story shows us three things. 1. Naturalistic, materialist unbelief has become so normal among many professed Christians that we seem to be more like religious atheists than real believers. 2. Western Christians are not immune to spiritual warfare on this level. And 3. We are surrounded by a spiritual war that is becoming more pronounced than ever in our lifetime. Though I don't welcome the intrusion of darkness in anyone's life, I do welcome the awakening such intrusions may bring. We are all facing spiritual battles every day.

Years ago I was invited to teach at a YWAM training school in Lausanne, Switzerland. In the afternoons after the sessions, I prayed with foreign missionaries who were returning to the United States. Some of them were mentally ill. I saw first-hand a truth I have never forgotten. In some cases of mental and emotional exhaustion, the missionaries had made light of the dark supernatural of the natives they were trying to serve. Because they did not believe the Scriptures, they were not standing in faith. They thought they were safe from harm because they simply did not believe in such things. They were practical atheists, though they were professing - and I believe, real - Christians. But their worldview was NOT Christian. It was materialistic, humanistic, and foolish. We have a real enemy - satan - whose mission is to steal, kill, and destroy - whether folks believe in him or not!

This month's message (to be carried on next month) will address the Scriptural way we are to deal with the dark supernatural. We will all need to know and practice these truths as the close of this age unfolds. Be encouraged, as we trust in the Blood of Jesus to protect us in this present darkness, **because the One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. (1 John 4:4)**





Book Corner



Fasting

(from the Ancient Practices series, Thomas Nelson Publishers)

by Scot McKnight

There are many wonderful books on fasting. The classics that come to mind are Shaping History through Prayer and Fasting by Derek Prince and God's Chosen Fast by Arthur Wallis. Others include those by Dallas Willard and Richard Foster on the spiritual disciplines. But I have never read anyone on the subject as insightful, refreshing, and helpful as Scot McKnight. If you are a veteran of fasting, or if you are only beginning or somewhere in-between, this book is of great importance to you.



IN THE LAST DAYS

An Overview of the Issues We Face

Recently we have received letters from folks concerned with what they see as increasingly strange mixtures in certain church movements. Twenty years ago, I did this twelve-hour teaching which includes (among other vital messages), three hours examining mixtures of this sort. Time has not diminished the truth in these studies. Check out this – more than ever – relevant study. Available for purchase on our website in both digital and CD format.

Closing Thoughts...



When Secret Service people are being trained to recognize counterfeit bills they do not study the counterfeit. They become so familiar with the real that they immediately know when they are in contact with the false. That's how we know what is false in the spiritual realm. We are so close to Jesus that whatever is not of Him is seen for what it is. We do not focus on the dark. But neither do we ignore it. We worship Him and know if we encounter what is not of Him, He has given us *power over all the power of the enemy. And nothing shall by any means harm you. (Luke 10:19)*

With Love, Clay & Mary



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