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Dear Friends

BLOW THE TRUMPET IN ZION... SOUND THE ALARM ON MY HOLY MOUNTAIN... (JOEL 2)

How many times have we heard someone bring up the subject of the painful absence of righteous action or even passive concern by the West during the rise of Nazi genocide? Now we know. It is no longer a mystery. We know because we are them. There is no voice, not from the Pope, or the *World Council of Churches*, or the *International Evangelical Alliance*, or any denominational public platform over the slaughter of our brothers and sisters in the Middle East. These organizations do have a voice however. Many of them use it to affirm Hamas and rebuke Israel. They use it to affirm sodomy and rebuke righteousness. I awoke this morning with news of the San Francisco earthquake, but no word from anyone except *The Voice of the Martyrs* of the Christians being crucified in Syria.

What will it take? What alarm can we sound? Just how heinous does evil have to be before there is a fitting human outcry? There is a very human and very dangerous tendency to think thoughts like, "I can't handle it. I can't do anything about it. I can't bear it. So I will ignore it." These escapist thoughts can push in to deceive us, and more dangerous still, be followed up immediately by false feelings of security and some vague sense of satisfaction that we are doing all we can with what we have. Maybe we are. More likely we are not. Did we contact our congress member to ask why there is no action against genocide? I know some may think that is a total waste of time. But do it anyway. God told Ezekiel, Isaiah, and Jeremiah they would see no conversion of their nation, but he wanted the witness proclaimed against them that they had been warned. Are we allowing our emotions to have their proper place in response to news of the horrendous evil? I know you don't want to think of

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it or look at it. But we are not being safe to ignore it. We MUST not hide from it. Woe to us if we hide in order to protect our own sense of peace. There is a time to be devastated with the knowledge of the evil of evil, cry out to God about it, and then stand against it!

Here are a few things we CAN do. Financially support those who are advancing the kingdom around the world by overcoming evil with good. (*The Voice of the Martyrs, American Center for Law and Justice,* and *Samaritan's Purse,* to name only a few.) Pray for your suffering family in Iraq, Syria, and the rest of the Middle East. Pray for Israel. Fast and pray as you are able. (Maybe that means one meal a week, or one day a week. Do what you can.) The more you intercede, the more you are enlarged by the Holy Spirit with love and energy and true compassion for your brothers and sisters. Stand in the gap as the royal priesthood and agree with God against evil. (Go back and listen to Nightlight message #238 entitled *A Kingdom of Priests*.)

Isn't it alarming that while our Christian family is being tortured, beheaded, and even buried alive, no word is spoken by most of the American Church? Some supposed Christians who are speechless in the face of ISIS are morally incensed and vocal against Israel. It is the only democracy in the Middle East and the only place in that entire region where Palestinians can find refuge from the Antichrist blood lust of Hamas. This is the one place these American church people seek to cripple with sanctions. The United Presbyterians and United Methodists (along with others) cannot find time to address the genocide of Christians. But they are out there fighting against Israel and for sodomy!? Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness... (Isaiah 5:20)

The earth shook this morning in San Francisco. Iceland is on red alert. If their monster volcano explodes, transatlantic air traffic will be paralyzed, as well as turning the UK and Europe into an ice box this winter. The entire western half of our own country is baking under severe drought. Ebola virus is on our shore for the first time. Christians are being openly harassed by the same government that celebrates sodomy. Professional agitators are set to destroy the core of the country by manipulating the poor uninformed into frenzies of violence. Our southern border is a sieve with every kind of evil pouring in unabated. The World Trade Center tree, planted as a symbol of our rebuilding bigger and better, has died after months of trying to salvage it. The symbol of Americanism without God has died. Does that mean hope has died? No! What if it means the dead fruitless tree of American humanism has died? What if it means the olok to now and forever is the Cross? What if the old is all dying in order to make room for the new? What if everything is being shaken in order for that which cannot be shaken to remain? It is foolish to ignore alarms. They are meant to alarm us. It is also foolish to be alarmist and ignore **the purpose of an alarm is to take redemptive action**. Hear the alarm. Take what action you can. And stand fast in the battle. The King is coming. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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MOVIE NEWS

<u>The Giver</u>

This is not an entertaining movie. It is I believe a very important one and needs to be seen and supported by Christians. It demands patience and thoughtfulness as the story unfolds. But if you can stick with it you find at the end a strong statement for Life, Love, and Godliness. It is hard to review because giving away too much of the story would ruin the overall effect. I recommend it highly to parents and late teens. No need for parental discretion, just discussion.

DRACULA-The Untold Story

From pre release reviews and one trailer I saw, it seems we are to be exposed now to the heroic version of Vlad the Impaler, as the national hero of central Europe who turned to the powers of darkness to gain help in defeating the Turks. The subtitle says "Sometimes we don't need a hero. We need a monster." Really? Evil overcoming evil?



Some Closing Thoughts ...



The more demanding the days become, the more vital it is that we find (make!) time to be in the Presence of the Lord, to wait before Him in worship, and to seek HIM for His sake. Let us never be tricked into thinking we don't have time to pray. Luther said, "I am in such demanding battles I must spend hours every morning in prayer." I understand that statement.

Bernard of Clairveaux said when we are young we love our selves for our own sake. When we meet God we love Him for our own sake. As we grow we come to love God for God's sake. But as we mature, we come to love ourselves for God's sake. It is time to give ourselves more and more to God, to seek His Face, and thereby become far more in Him than we could ever be just trying to 'give up ourselves for God.' To believe that you are loved by Him and to then act in response to that love, is the most loving thing we can do for Him, for ourselves, and for others. Make sure you take time to be with Him. With Love, Clay & Mary



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