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# Dear Friends,



Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself:

I am the LORD.

Leviticus 19:18



I am not comfortable telling supernatural stories in order to add weight to a message. I believe the message should carry enough weight from the truth it shares. But I must tell the following story as it happened, because it did not occur in study or in usual message preparation. It simply came to me in my everyday routine. So I offer it to you for your prayerful consideration.

A few days ago I was working in the garage doing mundane tasks, not focused on anything particular. Totally out of context, in a sudden flash of download, I heard in my spirit the following words: *This country has loved the* 

shedding of innocent blood, and even my people have become casually indifferent to this evil. I am about to require that innocent blood of this country. And even the casual believers will be included in the judgement as if they participated in the evil itself. (Please keep in mind that words such as these do not usually come verbatim. They are heard first, and are then unpacked as the receiver tries to decipher them in prosaic language. This is why prophecy must be judged and discerned by more than just the original prophetic voice.)

As I was making my way to my study still a bit shaken by what I had heard, the scripture reference **Leviticus 19:18** flashed over and over in my mind's eye. I am not highly versed in Leviticus. It is not my favorite area of Scripture, and I do not have it in my head clearly. But I assumed since it was Leviticus, that it

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would refer to the curses and judgements and dire circumstances of a nation that has refused God's laws. I was jolted in a good way when I read what it said: You are not to hold a grudge or seek revenge against anyone of your nation. You are to love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord. Then I received another immediate download: I knew I was not to allow even the slightest sense of superiority or condescension in me towards those who would be affected by this coming judgement. If God Himself takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked (Ezekiel 18:23,32), then who are we to take pleasure in retribution of any kind? Thanks be to God, He is not a destroyer of life, but a REDEEMER of life! Even in times of judgement, we know that His love is drawing all who will respond to repentance. Our part is to reach out in love. Judgement means, after all, to make all things right.

If we stand in the gap in intercession (Ezekiel 22:30), the judgement that is coming will not be fully stopped but will be mitigated (Numbers 16). What if the self-inflicted curse of this demonically invoked plague (which has been clearly manipulated on many levels by various groups of evil people)...what if that very plague comes back upon their own heads? It could then become a tool of mercy that shakes them to a place of humility (Isaiah 26:9 and Revelation 8).

Do you remember a few months back when we did several sessions on how to pray for the wicked? This is that. I don't pretend to have all the answers. I simply offer this to you for your prayerful consideration. I am daily seeking the Lord to search my heart and cleanse me from anything less than love. I am daily seeking the Lord to purify my responses to evil. That is, to hate evil as God hates evil, but to love the evildoer as God loves each and every evildoer. I am daily seeking the Lord to enable me to overcome evil with good. There is never any good that results when trying to overcome evil with evil. I am daily seeking the Lord to be more attuned with His Holy Spirit as these days grow darker: to be narrowed to His will, to be in the right place, at the right time, in the right spirit, doing the right thing.

Come quickly, Lord Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Selah.



### Clay's Corner

A while back we added a feature on our website called Clay's Corner (catchy, huh?). Mary and I felt directed to make this writing only for the purpose of strengthening our intimacy with Jesus, not another place for current events issues or theology, etc. We felt that the writings there should be a resource both timeless and available to revisit and reread when needed. It is about LIFE. Please check out the short articles there. It is difficult for me to include everything I would like to share with you in this once-a-month issue of Nightlight. Clay's Corner articles go up at random all the time, so you need to check it from time to time to see what's new. Let us know if something there is meaningful to you. Thanks.

FROM MY BOOKSHELF...



to aid you in prayer

There are many treasures I could list, but here are a few titles that I have drawn from, time and time again, throughout my life. I hope you will gain strength from them, too.

Prayer is Invading the Impossible by Jack Hayford
In the Day of His Power by Arthur Wallis
Reece Howells: Intercessor by Norman Grubb
Shaping History by Prayer and Fasting by Derek Prince

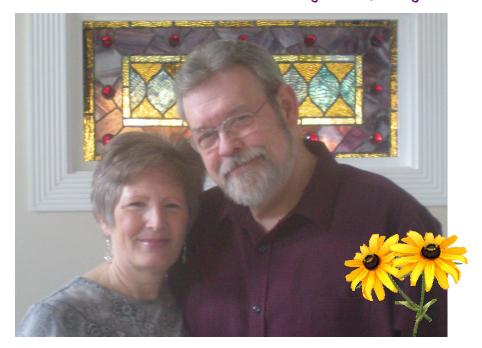
Reading about prayer can be a trap. You can end up just...reading about prayer. But these are a few of many books written to help us not just read about prayer. They are resources to help us DO it. Prayer is so easily hijacked away from us by becoming a boring religious word, one that evokes silly images of piety, far removed from the real issues of life. These books are among the treasuries of people who wrote for us to learn from. These authors were the very opposite of religious or out of touch with the demands of reality. We can grow from their experiences in prayer.

Some of the language in the older volumes may put you off a bit. Archaic terms written in a style that may suggest a sort of religiousness I am speaking against. But if you press past that, you will find treasure. And you will not be able to lay the book aside without entering into prayer on a level you may have not entered before.

## Closing Thoughts...



Tonight, Mary and I ate dinner and soon will head to a safe comfortable sleep. No suffering saint would be grudge us that. It is not helpful to those deprived of those gifts to deny those blessings to others. But I will not ignore their sorrow as I realize how I am spared, at least for now, that suffering. I will turn my awareness of that into prayer for them. A close friend told me that a few nights ago she was suddenly awake at 2:30 a.m. feeling a deep terrible fear. Yet she knew she was not afraid. She was aware of bearing that fear in prayer for someone, somewhere. We don't know how this great mystery works, but somehow this sharing in each other's suffering is forming the One Body that is Christ in the earth. Nothing is wasted. So don't let the enemy either condemn you for your blessings or seduce you away from prayer by them. Having done all you know to do, STAND. And never doubt the power of your voice motivated by love when it is lifted in intercession to break the bonds of wickedness, to undo heavy burdens, and to shatter every yoke. (See Isaiah 58.) Following Jesus, Clay & Mary



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