



NightLight

A NEWSLETTER OF McLEAN MINISTRIES

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

Volume 348 • May 2022

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Bread &
Circuses 1-3

Closing
Thoughts 4

Dear Friends,



All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before Him. For dominion belongs to the Lord, and He rules over the nations.

Psalm 22:27,28

...at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:10,11

For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

Habakkuk 2:14



The Cross has completely cancelled the power of sin and death, releasing saving grace to all the earth. Jesus IS the Savior of the whole world. Does that eternal truth mean that there are now no destructive circumstances still in motion for those who refuse to embrace that Cross? Look around. Redeeming Love is manifested in the lives of millions who have embraced the Cross. For those who have not, and who even work against the purposes of a good and loving Father, the *law of sin and death* is what they live under. (See **Romans 8**.) Death is a *law*. It still operates after Resurrection. Only **the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus will set us free from the law of sin and death**. Death will eventually be destroyed completely out of the universe. (See **I Corinthians 15:24-26**.) Until then, there is this strange mixture all around us. One is of confusion, violence, injustice, and the like. The other is the Grace which abounds in the midst of all this evil. It will be so until the King comes. Until He does, He has commissioned us to rule in His Name in the midst of our enemies, standing in love to overcome the power of evil that binds those under its dominion.

The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed, which is tiny, unassuming, seemingly weak, mostly hidden. Yet it grows and eventually provides shelter for all who take refuge in its branches. (See **Matthew 13:31,32.**) There are two vital elements we as intercessors must keep in mind. First, *God will bring evil down, eventually.* And second, *God wants evildoers to repent, NOT to be destroyed.* God loves people and hates the evil that destroys them. We pray for evildoers to repent - this is loving our enemies. And at the same time, we hate the evil that binds them and decree in prayer its annihilation. This is how we are to continue to pray, even if praying feels like only mustard seed planting - tiny, weak, and invisible.

We have been praying for decades for the exposure of Disney, Hollywood, and the entire entertainment enterprise in its Baal-worshipping modes. Evil is not self-sustaining. It must eventually fall beneath the weight of its own corruption. But the destruction of evil is only part of the aim. The greater aim is for the release of those bound by the evil. God is not satisfied that Disney is finally being shown up for what it has been for decades. He is far more concerned for the people. There are people who seek to make an honest living working for Disney who are not directly responsible for the company's more malignant aims. There are artists who meant for their creativity to bless people. Then too, there are others caught in deep secret sinful bondages working in and for these media systems. Jesus died for all these people. They all need God's mercy, just like you and me. So prayers for the destruction of the evil system must always be tempered with the ultimate aim of redemption, not destruction. And that does certainly seem to be how God is bringing about answered prayer for the overthrow of evil. It seems slow. But **the Lord is not slow about His promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. (II Peter 3:9)** Disney is imploding. Netflix is floundering. CNN is on life support. The sleeping numbers who have been happy to passively go along with the evils of the past are being shaken awake, and are taking action legally and politically. Thank God! But it is only the beginning. We need the continued shaking that will ultimately result in the heart cry for God's mercy and intervention. What will it be like?

The prophet Ezekiel lists the shaking scenarios that God allows in dealing with idolatrous nations. (Some teach that this is all Old Testament law and has been set aside by the Cross. That is true, but only where the Cross is embraced. Otherwise, these troubles are the ongoing result of sowing and reaping, on both a personal and national scale.) Ezekiel speaks of nations that are shaken economically, ecologically, politically, and medically. God is not directly doing any of these. He is allowing men's stupidity and evil to do it to themselves.

Prayerfully consider this. I don't know how many people are aware of where we really are now in the West. Hopefully, there are far more folks who have not bowed their knee to Baal than we know of. But even

if it is a larger minority than we might guess, it is still a minority. Most people are in blissful ignorance as long as there is 'bread and circuses', that is, food and entertainment. Only a direct impact of personal pain will awaken the masses. The first such impacting corrective judgement in Ezekiel's list is the '*breaking of the staff of bread.*' They can ignore the obvious dangers around them as long as they have the immediate comforts easily at hand. God will allow the evil systems to do what they do, and allow the shaking of those systems for as long as is needed to bring people to the point of response. We have been speaking of this shaking for many months now. It is obvious that high gas prices and rising food costs are troubling, but not yet shaking. These are mere tremors that portend the shaking. Even as the Roman government used 'bread and circuses' to stupefy and control the masses, so we see that same principle at work now. God, in His mercy, is giving us time to get off the 'bread and circuses' treadmill. He is empowering us to break the power of both food and entertainment addictions in our own lives in order to become more fully awake to Him. We are being given time to prayerfully prepare for what is coming. For many, the growing unavailability of their 'bread and circuses' may be the severe mercy that is needed.



Closing Thoughts...



Have you prayerfully considered going on a voluntary fast before the Lord? Or fasting on a regular basis? I don't mean going on a hunger strike. Fasting is about choosing to keep out those things that control you. It teaches your body to stop dictating to you. You can then regain control over your body, choosing what you put in it. Fasting also strengthens our ability to cut out mindless 'circuses' and entertainments that distract and dumb down our thinking. Train your emotions not to respond to physical triggers. Don't fear shortages. Fasting is a great opportunity to sharpen our minds and bodies for the glory of God, as we grow in self control and in the service of better loving our neighbors.

In His Joy, Clay & Mary



McLean Ministries

P.O. Box 2088 • Hickory, North Carolina 28603 • 828.322.5402
website: www.mcleanministries.org • email: claymcleanministries@pobox.com