

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,



Therefore we do not lose heart... we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

2 Corinthians 4:16,18

The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus... I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances... I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation... I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.

Philippians 4:5-7,11-13

Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends... go and bear fruit - fruit that will last.

John 15:13,16



[written by Clay in 2008]

I am sensing a great cloud of oppression over many of God's people. There is a pessimism that is being fed by looking at the world, at the political scene, and at the low level of moral stupidity in the West. Stop looking at that! It will make anyone depressed! There is another place to focus on. There is another Center of activity from which is pouring great light and power, energy and purity, joy and triumph. It is certainly a **matter of perspective** whether one is depressed by the current malaise or encouraged by the Unseen One.

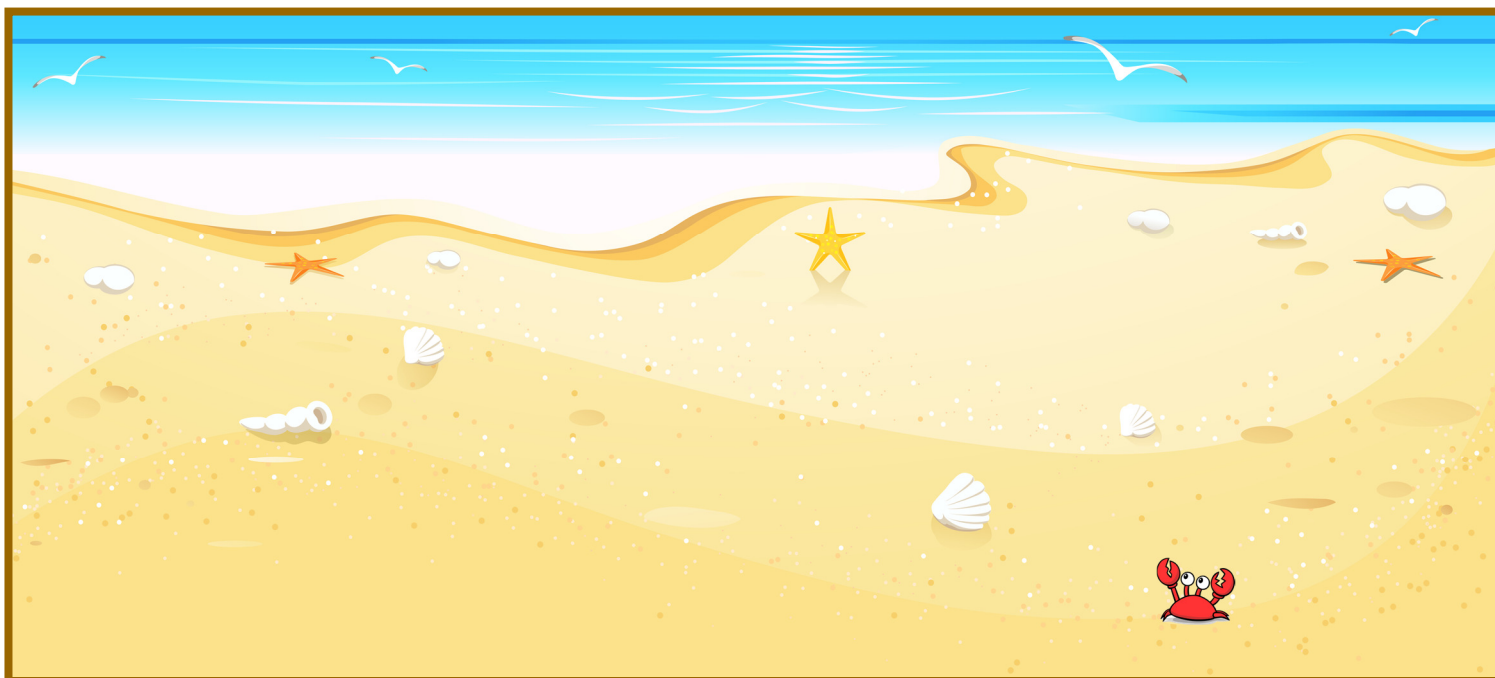
Unless we are receiving our sense of history from the Holy Spirit - listening to Him and reading His Word - it is easy to err in either the direction of false peace or false doom. The enemy does not care which ditch we fall into. False peace provides a leisurely indifference to the danger of the hour. False doom paralyzes any creativity, saps joy, and increases an unhealthy focus on end time scenarios which usually do not include any meaningful plan of action to bring healing to the world.

Will Iran attack the United States? Could be. There is enough fanatical religious craziness there to bring it about. Is America ripe for judgment? I would think so. Is there great danger for us if we attempt to divide not only the land of Israel, but even the city of Jerusalem? Undoubtedly. The list of worldwide issues like these is always with us. And they are all important in a certain context. They may even serve to awaken the sleeping or motivate the complacent. But it is far more motivating to keep such issues in the back of our minds as we maintain in the forefront **the vision we have been given for where we live, who we love, and what we are to do with the time we have been entrusted.** Living in such a way as to bring glory to Jesus by our everyday lives among those in front of us is a much more fruitful way to spend energy.

There is coming a great shaking of the church. I believe that every part of the church - both the real church and systems which hijack that title - will experience such a time of God's dealings like we have never seen before. Manmade kingdoms will be brought down. Secret sin will be exposed. False ministries will be manifested for what they are. Dead denominational systems will be either moved towards awakening, or allowed to sink into apostasy.

When it is over, the spiritual terrain will look very different. Much of the twinkling bling will be replaced with the shining glory of the beauty of Holiness. Many who have fallen away will return home. Many who are only looking for fish and bread will follow Him no more. Many who thought that they were put out to pasture will find a new anointing upon them to care for God's people and evangelize the lost. Many who have climbed the high profile ministry ladder will fall. Many will experience Love himself pouring out amazing grace into their lives. Relationships will deepen as integrity and respect for one another increases.

Please keep your heart focused on the right things. **It is so easy for the treasures of people to become the background in our daily living due to the loudness and glare of lesser things.** It takes a quiet still heart to be able to hear the still small Voice and see the Invisible Real. After all, we live and we die, then we LIVE. So let us live with LIVING in view.





Acts of Love

One of the heart-rending stories from Mother Teresa of Calcutta is about an un-touchable who had lived beyond human care, upon the streets or wherever he could find a place simply to be. Dying, he was brought by Mother Teresa into her shelter and cleaned and care for. His words were, "I have had to live my life like an animal, but now I can die like a human being." Simply because he had been "taken in" by others who gave to him! To merely welcome another, to provide for him or her, to make a place, is one of the most life-giving and life-receiving things a human being can do. They are the basic, universal acts of love. Our lives were meant to be full of such acts, drawing on the abundance of God, and they achieve their greatest fulfillment precisely when, like Jesus, we "lay down our lives for the brethren."

Dallas Willard - Renovation of the Heart



Closing Thoughts...



Clay sends his love to you with a whisper, full of peace. He is in no pain, and taking no pain meds. His mind is clear while his body grows ever weaker. We are living in one of those rare thin places between heaven and earth, full of His Abiding Presence. Please continue to hold us in your prayers. We are His beloved, awaiting His good pleasure day by day. To God be the glory.

Summertime Blessings!



McLean Ministries

P.O. Box 2088 • Hickory, North Carolina 28603 • 828.322.5402

website: www.mcleanministries.org • email: claymcleanministries@pobox.com