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**THE NEED TO BE SOBER
AND VIGILANT!**

OCTOBER 2024

Today's newsletter Scripture text says, ***"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour (drown or swallow up)" (1 Peter 5:8).***

With all the grave uncertainty filling our world, we need to be more sober and vigilant than ever before. This past summer we witnessed two assassination attempts on our former president, Donald J. Trump. Sadly, I anticipate one more attempt before the election and I feel it will be more organized and expeditious. U.S. Congressional house member Matt Gaetz (R-FL) has said there are presently five assassination teams in America: three foreign and two domestic. Please pray that God will bind and confuse the enemy concerning any attack.

If you are a person of prayer then I don't need to tell you how intense the warfare is over our nation. I am certain the warfare has not been this great since the Civil War. America is terribly deceived and the modern church has waxed ever so cold.

I have been warning for quite some time about judgment beginning in the house of God and that judgment has only accelerated. Every day we are witnessing as more ministers are being overcome with sin and falling from grace.

Sadly, many ministries are being sued for more worldly reasons than you can imagine. Improper and immoral relationships, child molestation, embezzlement, fraud, and a host of other sins have suffered the church to be miserably impaired.

My heart is terribly grieved and broken by all of the sordidness I am

witnessing. In our text, Peter said our adversary, the devil, is like a roaring lion on the prowl seeking whom he may devour!

Sadly, these ministerial calamities will only grow worse in the coming days. Jesus said, ***"because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold"*** (Matthew 24:12).

This onslaught from Hell will only intensify as we near the Second Advent of Christ. Scripture is clear, once Satan is permanently kicked out of Heaven, all Hell will break loose upon this planet: ***"Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe (great will be the grief) to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath (an outburst of anger), because he knoweth that he hath but a short time (42 months, see Revelation 13:5)"*** (Revelation 12:12).

Satan, with his sadistic, evil power, is presently marching across the globe trying to ignite a World War and in the end the only thing that can stop him is Jesus, the Lord's Christ!

I have continued to call for prayer and fasting so Jehovah will move across our nation and grant us a wartime president. All bible prophecy must be fulfilled and the church is to know without any doubt the way, the truth, and the life of the Lamb.

In our text, to be sober means to be free from drugs, alcohol, or any other substance that may affect one's mind, making them unable to discern the hour in which we are living. When I look at today's church I am horrified as I discern and witness the profuse indifference, tepidness, and

many sins it now possesses.

Elohim is a holy God and, sadly, many trifle, scorn, and ridicule His holiness and hallowedness.

Please embrace my clarion call because a presage of somber events is awaiting America because of her debauchery and flagrant sins. Never underestimate Satan's innovation concerning his plots, ploys, and gins. Sleeper cells are presently in America and they are waiting to be told when to sabotage our infrastructure.

I am sick and tired as I witness all the wickedness and calloused acceptance many have embraced; and some even dare say they are Christians! To be a Christian means to be Christ-like. How can anyone be a godly Christian and accept sodomy, same sex marriage, abortion, and a host of other debasements? The truth is they can't. They are fulfilling Bible prophecy: ***"This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me (false worship), teaching for doctrines the commandments of men"*** (Matthew 15:8-9).

False doctrine and the commandments of men are from Hell and can't save anyone. Far too long a spirit of cowardice and complacency has gripped the modern pulpit and these pulpiteers are afraid to cry out against sin and are ashamed of our Lord's most holy Word.

Placebo and cotton candy sermons will never get to the heart of Americas spiritual problems. Placebo sermons only appeal to the psyche and these watered down, worthless, abstract sermons never

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get to the heart of the problem, which is sin.

It's high time to stand and cry aloud against the sins of this ungodly and wicked nation. God's Word says: *"Cry aloud, spare not (don't hold back), lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins"* (Isaiah 58:1).

I humbly plead and implore the Lamb of God to please suffer those who have been ordained by Him to speak forth His hallowed truths without fear, favor, or compromise.

Blindness has over taken the church and that's why so many are going astray and falling into the ditch. Many in leadership today are only authenticating their apostasy when they suggest we need to study same sex marriage! Jesus said in a parable, *"Can the blind lead the blind? shall they not both fall into the ditch?"* (Luke 6:39).

I must question who you follow and listen to at this present time? It is my prayer you have a godly hunger and thirst for His glorious truth. So many today have lost their first love for Christ and have become overly casual with a holy God they no longer know, love, or embrace!

To know Christ means to live a godly and holy life. I know holiness is *old school* and no longer preached and embraced, but without it no man shall see the Lord: *"Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord"* (Hebrews 12:14).

Again, without holiness no man shall see the Lord! Peter quotes the Book of Leviticus when he says it is written: *"Be ye holy; for I am holy"* (1 Peter 1:16, see Leviticus 11:44-45).

Years ago we sometimes heard this phrase: *it's holiness or Hell!* When was the last time you heard that old Pentecostal expression? Yes, that expression is old and out dated by today's pathetic standards but God himself will in no way ever

become out dated! God's Word will never demand something we cannot honor and certainly obey!

It will take righteous choices and living to make it to the Lord's holy hill: *"Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully (speaking lies)"* (Psalm 24:3-4).

Hell will be full of sipping saints and all who resisted His Holy Ghost power as He diligently sought to correct and reprove them for their sins and error in their lives.

The church today needs an old fashioned Holy Ghost house cleansing. Jesus cleansed the Temple twice while here on Earth and He will do it again before He returns. Jesus cleansed the Temple at the beginning of His ministry (John 12:13-17) and He did it a second time right before He went to the cross (Matthew 21:17-23). I have no doubt Christ is going to cleanse the church just before He returns: *"That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy (blameless) and without blemish"* (Ephesians 5:27).

Let me be very pointed: no one is going to be attached to His sinless body with a sullied, soiled, or stained spirit! We must be very sober and vigilant in this hour because evil is being manifested in very mysterious and indiscernible ways.

If not prayerful and careful, many will walk right into a snare devised by Satan and his minions. It can happen to us if we do not walk in fellowship with the Holy Ghost. Through the ministry of Saul (later called Paul), we see the churches had rest and were *"walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost"* (Acts 9:31).

Peter, who was unctored by the Holy Ghost to pen our Scripture text,

was once snared by the enemy. Peter did not believe he was capable of denying Christ and neither did the other apostles but they all did: *"Peter said unto him, Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples"* (Matthew 26:35).

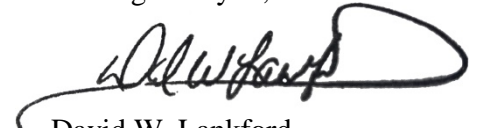
If you're not anchored in God's Word, then your adversary, the devil, as a roaring lion will seek to devour and take you down. Self-examination and introspection will keep you on the very straight and narrow path. The apostle Paul admonished: *"Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves"* (2 Corinthians 13:5). If we abide in Christ and He abides in us, then we never have to fear whether or not we are bearing any fruit.

We were exceedingly blessed in our Revival Meeting! If you were there, then you too felt His holy presence. Hopefully we will have a DVD set of the meeting available in a few weeks. Thank you so very much for your love and support for the ministry.

We will be in Paris, Tennessee, Oct. 25-27, 2024, for a *"Harvest Crusade"* at the Church of God of Prophecy, located at 4088 Paris Bypass (Hwy 218), Paris, TN, 38242. If you're in the vicinity please come be with us. My wife will sing in each service and I will proclaim the Word of God without compromise.

In closing, I humbly ask you to pray for our upcoming election because the enemy wills to consume and devour our home land.

Serving with you,



David W. Lankford
Pastor / Evangelist