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We continue our newsletter series with our Scripture focus: "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8).

At this present time, the Spirit of God is brooding over the church, which is the body of Christ. Most churches do not realize it, but we are in the throes of divine judgment within the church, Christ's body.

Presently, there is a plethora of negative revelations about many ministries. Needless to say, it is sad, stunning, and very troubling. From infidelity, to embezzling, drunkenness, pornography, sodomy, pedophilia, and a host of other unbecoming sins, God is revealing the depth of sin that has deluged and is crushing the nominal church.

Many people today have become too casual with a holy God they do not know. They have accepted and succumbed to sin, evil, and wickedness. Many have become desensitized to the convicting power of the Holy Ghost and, thus, they have allowed sin to find a residence within their lives, as well as in the church.

Today, very few people are capable of discerning in the church, the Lord's body, as He metes out judgment, due to all the sin inundating it. Because men no longer preach against sin, sin has overwhelmed most churches.

Tragically, there are very few people today who are truly *sober and vigilant* concerning this very dangerous and tenuous hour. When men fail to pray and remain steadfast in the Holy Scriptures, they easily drift away from the Christ of God.



For the past 50 years, I have witnessed the brazen and arrogant attitudes of many as they have embraced indifference and displayed utter contempt for the Holy Scriptures. The grace of our Lord has been terribly abused and many have a sense of entitlement. Let me be very clear: God owes mankind nothing and mankind is not entitled to anything!

Some weeks ago, while reading 2 Samuel Chapter 7, I stumbled upon a golden, yet troubling, nugget. Jehovah speaks to David through the prophet Nathan and decrees a plethora of blessings. Through the prophet Nathan, He shares that David will have a son named Solomon. Solomon's name means "peaceable"; however, David was a man of war. The prophet tells David that Solomon will build the Temple and Jehovah's covenant with David will be an eternal one.

Jehovah makes a divine promise to David about Solomon and His mercy: "I will be his (Solomon's) father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men: <u>But my mercy shall not depart away</u> from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee" (2 Samuel 7:14-15).

The obscured, cynical, asininity, and arrogance of many today – who do not believe God would ever remove His mercy and grace from their lives – are terribly deceived. If you have ever wondered about Saul's salvation, the previous Scripture verifies Jehovah did utterly

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abandon him. Because of Saul's *disobedience*, he was totally rejected by the Lord.

If the church does not remain sober and vigilant, then we too will backslide and fall away from Christ and, in the end, be wholly rejected: "Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition" (2 Thessalonians 2:3). For this reason, we are pleading with everyone to have a sober and vigilant mind.

For years, I have taught that God will not judge the world before He first judges the church: *"For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?"* (1 Peter 4:17-18). A spirit of abuse along with recklessness has seized modern Christianity. The Old Testament reveals God's judgment begins at the house of God.

In **Ezekiel Chapter 9**, we witness God's judgment. Six angels had charge over the city of Jerusalem and in their hands were weapons of destruction, of slaughter; meant to smite into pieces. These destroying angels went and stood beside the brazen altar in the outer court. **Ezekiel Chapter 9** is irrefutable evidence that judgment begins at the house of God. O, how the heart of Jehovah must have grieved to be forced to do such a thing!

However, before judgment began, an angel dressed in linen had with

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him a writer's inkhorn or an ink cup. This angel went throughout Jerusalem and put a mark upon the foreheads of those who had sighed and wept over the sins and abominations that had been committed in Israel.

The other angels were told to go and smite those who did not have the mark of God. This judgment was thorough and devastating because Jehovah decreed they should not spare nor have pity on anyone. These angels were commanded to slay old and young, maids, little children, and women; but to not go near any man who had the mark or the signature of God.

It saddens me that God would take away the little children, but He did. These destroying angels were told to begin at the sanctuary and start with the ancient men. The "ancient men" speaks of the elders who should have known better than to live lives of sin.

Where are the elders today who cry aloud and spare no one concerning the sins that have inundated the church?

This slaughter became so heinous, Ezekiel cries aloud and says: "Ah Lord GOD! wilt thou destroy all the residue of Israel in thy pouring out of thy fury upon Jerusalem?" (Ezekiel 9:8).

Jehovah was terribly angry with the perversity and gravity of sin that had filled His house. The Lord said to Ezekiel that wickedness and iniquity had utterly consumed and overtaken His commandments and His Temple. Jehovah declared the land was full of murder and the city was filled with injustice.

It is an absolute injustice to witness the many sins that have inundated the church and very few today seek justice on behalf of Jehovah. The mantra, refrain, or chant in this hour is, "Carry on as usual for God will do nothing".

Do not think for one moment Jehovah will not remove His mercy and grace from people's lives just like He did with king Saul. I know all too well some who no longer embrace the doctrine of free will; nevertheless, serving Christ is all about obedience and free will!

Deception has become rampant throughout the church, and many wholly embrace the fallacies and mendacities that are promoted. Deception is Satan's greatest tool, and he is using false apostles, false teachers, and false pastors to accomplish this deceit. Jesus said: *"Take heed that no man deceive* <u>you. For many shall come in my</u> *name, saying, I am Christ; and shall <u>deceive many</u>" (Matthew 24:4-5).*

Allow me to remind you of the grave warning the apostle Paul gave the church at Corinth: *"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light"* (2 Corinthians 11:13-14).

The apostle Peter also gave warning concerning the many false teachers who would stealthy or secretly come in and permeate the church: "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily (in close proximity) shall bring in damnable (destructive) *heresies*, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious (damnable) ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of (truth being spoken of today)" (2 Peter 2:1-2).

Propaganda and lies are frothing from the mouths of both the news media and ministries. If we do not remain *sober and vigilant* many will succumb to the lies and falsehoods permeating this nation. It is alarming, as well as disturbing, when the corruptness of our government is being revealed to *We the People*, and yet our legislators publicly attack the revelation of truth.

Peter said the way of truth will be evil spoken of. That prophetic utterance is being fulfilled even now. It is a shame and a disgrace as we witness both houses of Congress turning into nothing more than carnival barkers. These buffoons stand around and yelp like a pack of dogs treeing a raccoon. The vile, filthy, and vulgar language these carnival barkers use daily on television to castigate those who seek to reveal the truth is an utter shame and disgrace to America. The truth is, our government has become ungovernable.

It is imperative we abide in the Word of God and develop our prayer lives in this hour. If you do not remain close to the Lord in this hour, you will be swept away by the tide of iniquity as Satan seeks to destroy and pervert everything possible in these waning days.

Please continue to pray for our president's protection, because the New World Order seeks his demise. Please pray for divine exposure concerning how corrupt and immoral our government has become. If the light of Christ can shine into the darkness, we can know the truth about most everything.

I sense urgency in the air on behalf of the many souls that are lost. We must pray the Holy Ghost will prevail and that Holy Ghost conviction will touch the hearts of multitudes around the world.

Fear not, despite of all the difficulties we are facing, Jesus will come again!

Serving with you,

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