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Welcome to the October newsletter. Our Scripture text reads: "And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit (unclean demon), and a cage of every unclean and hateful (detested) bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies (luxuries)" (Revelation 18:2-3).

The closer we get to the Second Advent of Christ, the greater the adversity. It is needful that professing saints of God awaken from their slumber, lest Satan consume them as a roaring lion. The apostle Peter gave this solemn warning: "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour (swallow up)" (1 Peter 5:8).

It is imperative that the body of Christ examine itself and see where it stands spiritually, knowing we are in the time of the end. Jesus, when speaking to His disciples, admonished them: "... take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged (overly burdened) with surfeiting, and drunkenness (intoxication), and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares" (Luke 21:34).

Needless to say, many are "overcharged" with the burdens and cares of this fleeting life. Tragically, many today are overly distracted. Perhaps like you, I too face great difficulties in this hour; no one is exempt. I am

## DEMONIC WARFARE AND DEMONS – PART 5

aware, sometimes it is difficult to find time to pray and read God's Word. Nevertheless, it is imperative that we spend quality time with Christ in prayer and the Holy Writ.

I do not mean to discourage you, but the ferocity of Satan's attacks will only intensify in this hour. Satan is a master of manipulation, seeking to control others through his evil devices. We read: "And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it" (Job 1:7).

Do we realize that Satan goes to and fro in the earth, seeking to disrupt everyone's life through chaos, strife, envy, and other encroachments? Satan wills to blind everyone to the Spirit of truth. Thus, we are cautioned: "In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them" (2 Corinthians 4:4).

There is no greater deficit in life than when one's mind has been blinded to the truth. We read: "Having the understanding (thoughts) darkened, being alienated (departed) from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness (hardness) of their heart: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness (foul demonic spirits), to work all uncleanness with greediness (avarice)" (Ephesians 4:18-19). When anyone is "past feeling", they have no sense of shame because they are bound by the spirits of greed and

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lustful pleasures.

Sadly, there are so many today who are embracing all kinds of filth and degradation. The world is becoming more sullied, soiled, stained, and violent with each passing day. When adolescent boys as young as 13 can murder without any remorse or conviction, something is terribly wrong with our society! The entirety of our nation is presently being overrun by demonic entities.

I know of a congresswoman in Washington who practices fornication regularly. She openly revealed her lifestyle at a prayer breakfast, yet she speaks of God having a divine plan for her life – what profound deception and duplicity!

God's divine plan for her life is redemption, cleansing, and forgiveness of sins, but she and others like her cannot understand because they are blinded to the truth, and their lifestyle is abhorrent to a holy God. When anyone believes they can live a life of sin and maintain God's blessings, they are "past feeling".

The modern church has become so compromised that it defies description. It's been said, "What one generation tolerates the next generation will accept". Today's church accepts abortion, homosexuality, same-sex marriage, gay pastors, and a host of other defilements.

When anyone believes God condones a life of sin, they are grossly deluded. Because Satan has blinded their minds, the Gospel has no effect on their lifestyle. Because sin is easily tolerated and accepted, the church has become pathetically weak and anemic.

The Holy Ghost must once again

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have preeminence in our churches if we are to witness sinners coming to the saving grace and knowledge of Christ. The Holy Ghost convicts everyone of their sins and reveals to them that they are lost; however, the Holy Ghost also provides a way to forgiveness through repentance. We read: "not knowing that the goodness (kindness) of God leadeth thee to repentance?" (Romans 2:4). I am profoundly humbled by this verse.

Once again, we see the goodness, grace, kindness, and mercy of Almighty God, who is "... longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9). He wills that none should perish, yet Satan seeks to devour us.

The spirit of Antichrist will seek to wear us out: "And he (the Antichrist) shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out (mentally) the saints of the most High" (Daniel 7:25).

I am well aware that Satan is hindering you in a very powerful way, but we must endure to the end! Whether it be sickness, family difficulties, or workplace distress, Satan is badgering and taunting every saint of God. Satan has the world in his clutches. That allows him to attack the body of Christ as never before.

I received a troubling letter some weeks ago from a brother whose son's wife left him for another man in their local church. The only reason these things are possible is because there is no Holy Ghost power and conviction within the modern church.

I am too far along and unrelenting in this race to sugarcoat the truth in any way for anyone! It is high time the people of God rise up, grasp the horns of the altar of Jehovah, and plead with Him until His power fills our lives and churches once again.

As I said some time ago, everything will only worsen to the degree seen in the days of both Noah and Lot. I am not necessarily looking for another eruption wherein giants will be manifest, but rather, the spirit of this age becomes one of gross indulgence, avarice, covetousness, and unbridled perverse deeds concerning human sexuality.

In the days of Noah and Lot, the Scriptures reveal mankind's sexual perversion and deeds committed outside God's natural boundaries.

I confess I do not understand things such as transgenderism. I pray I never understand the depth of such perversity or how it can be embraced.

From the very beginning, Satan has sought to distort, confuse, and blind the minds of mankind concerning a holy God and His righteous demands. Tragically, due to so much demonic activity, multitudes are departing from the faith, and many have become far too casual with a holy God they do not know.

Suffer me to rehearse a few passages of Scripture from the apostle Paul: "Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come (the Second Coming of Christ), except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition" (2 Thessalonians 2:3).

Paul admonished the people of God not to allow anyone to deceive them by any means, mode, or method; for the coming of our Lord will not take place except there first come a "falling away", followed by the revelation of the Antichrist, the son of perdition. The phrase "falling away" in Greek means a bill of divorcement. This passage of Scripture makes it utterly clear that some in the church will fall away spiritually before Christ returns and the revelation of the Antichrist. Sadly, some twist this passage of Scripture by saying the "falling away" is the Rapture of the church. Just how intellectually and spiritually dishonest will men become here in the end?

In our next text, we read: "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared (cauterized) with a hot iron" (1 Timothy 4:1-2).

Paul says the Holy Ghost clearly declares that in the latter times, some will turn away from the faith. They will allow deceptive spirits and false teachings to manipulate and deceive them. Furthermore, Paul declares these people are liars, hypocrites, and their consciences are dead having been seared as with a hot iron. Somewhere around the fourth century, physicians began to cauterize deep wounds and injuries when they became infected due to a lack of antibodies. The only problem with cauterization is that it destroyed the nerve endings where the hot iron was applied. Due to this searing, the individual lost all feelings around the place of their injury.

Sadly, through demonic entities, false doctrine, and false prophets, Satan has severely seared the minds of untold numbers.

In closing, we thank you so very much for your love and support for this ministry. We strive to understand the sacrifice you make through your obedience. We know giving is a sacrifice, and we are so grateful for your sacrifices.

The Lord God of Abraham is eternally faithful in all things no matter where we might find ourselves. Please do not become discouraged in any manner. Rather, keep your eyes on the King of glory, for He will soon come again: "pass the time of your sojourning (pilgrimage) here in fear:" (1 Peter 1:17). As you pass the time of your earthly journey, do so in the fear of Jehovah.

Serving with you,

David W. Lankford Pastor / Evangelist