

Welcome to Ministry of Prayer Website

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To our friends -- We have decided to use this area to share things with our visitors. It could be words of encouragement, revelations, prophecies, etc. If you have something you would like to share, we encourage you to submit it to us for review and editing as may be required. Any submissions will remain anonymous. All glory goes to God. We will find a place in our Storehouse to archive these for future reference. Emails may be sent to submissions@ministryofprayer.org. If you would like to comment about this article, you may email at comments@ministryofprayer.org. We pray you will be blessed as you visit this site.

NOTE: We invite you to download our newly created "Promise Card" which is stored under Scriptures for Framing. We hope it will bless you.

Intro

Dear friends in the body of Christ -- I thought this would be an opportune time to re-post our recent article on persecution. There are so many around the world enduring much in this present time we are going through.

Although some may not be going through physical persecution, we are certainly all enduring a time of trial in our lives. If we are in the body of Christ, we should all use this time to draw closer to Him. Know that He has not given us a spirit of fear, but of love, power and a sound mind. Having a sound mind requires a thought process based on the wisdom and clarity that God imparts rather than being manipulated by fear. We know that nothing has taken our God unaware.



Indeed there will be coming a time of great trial. I do not know if this is that time or not. God knows. I do know that there will be a time of cleansing and purging. He will have a bride that has been fully dressed for her wedding and judgement always begins at the house of God. Too many have become slack in their commitment and dedication. They have lost their first love. Instead of standing for holiness and righteousness, they have lowered their standards to accommodate political correctness. God's redemption is free but His standards have not been lowered. The church has become good at presenting the Word of God as a suggestion instead of a commandment. We have watered it down to make it more acceptable to the world. He is merciful and loving, but also Holy and Righteous. His atonement is free, but His standards remain the same. If we do not repent and we continue to live in sin, His judgment will be swift. His righteousness demands we reap what we sow.

We have all become too slack in dealing with ourselves and others. I remember years ago when the Lord spoke to me about keeping Him in the awe and wonder He deserves. He put in my heart the prayer, "Forgive us for being too familiar, for thou You are Father, You are God." Too many in the body treat Him just like a buddy. There is no fear and reverence of Him. Certainly we can cuddle up in His arms as Father, but we must always remember His holiness and righteousness. He is there because He is loving and merciful and we are all undeserving sinners. Forgive us Lord. Let us all treat Him not just as Father and friend but also as Lord and Judge.

If you consider yourself a Christian, I urge you to consider from where you have fallen. Let each of us rededicate our lives to Him. Let everyone count the costs of what following Him might someday mean. Is your commitment serious or would you deny Him for a piece of bread? Many in this world are already making that decision. There are none (or definitely very few) who have maintained the devotion and gratitude of when we first believed. We have indeed lost our first love. We need to feel again the urgency felt by a Leonard Ravenhill in seeking Christ and sinners. The Lord has blessed us with many great men of faith. Men and women to light our way towards Him. Will you be one of those?

If you do not know our precious Jesus, I urge you to spend some time in this life contemplating where you might be spending

eternity. This life is just a moment that will quickly pass. Faster for some than for others. In either case, judgement day will come for all. Our God loves His creation so much that He provided a means to redeem us. Unfortunately, some love the darkness more than the light. I urge you to repent of your past ways and follow Him into that eternal, beautiful light that is His essence. What does He require? To do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.

The fool has said in his heart, there is no God. Are you a fool? You will seek Him and find Him when you search for Him with all your heart. He who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. Seek Him now. I humbly beg you. The prayer of salvation will begin your journey. It is at the top of every page here.

Persecution

“A servant is not greater than his master. If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also.” That’s what we have from the lips of our Lord Jesus. And Paul assures us that all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

I wonder how many of us have ever really contemplated what it might mean someday to confess and follow Jesus. I know it’s not something pleasant to think about, but perhaps we should all arm ourselves for the possibility. As the Word says “to count the cost.”

In America we are all very blessed and usually consider it persecution when businesses decide they should not wish us Merry Christmas. In many other parts of the world it is quite different. It often means sacrificing your family or even your very life — and yet many are still making that decision. Because even when it might mean their death, it is really a decision for life. It is a decision not just for this temporary life, but for all eternity. It is a decision to spend it with the God who loves and made you, or to be without Him in torment for eternity.

That decision made brings on a hunger to learn more about their Lord. I think of all the bibles we have here in America (an abundance) and how little we often regard or even open them. The other day I was watching a show and it told about a man who had a chance to travel and receive some old tattered bibles people were willing to donate. The only thing is he had to be smuggled out in a coffin, under a decaying body with unbelievable stench. And the return trip would be the same way. More than that, some had tried before and ended up buried with that same body. But it was worth the risk to get God’s Word.

My God, my God, could we ever be willing to do such a thing? Do we even remember to pray for those around the world who are going through such trials? They are our brothers and sisters in Christ. They are part of the Body. He says the death of His saints is precious in His sight.

I have heard that Jesus is appearing to muslims in dreams. He appears to many in a white robe and asks them to follow Him. Some have had these dreams for years, even Imam’s (muslim worship leaders). Jesus is getting His message out to places where Christians cannot reach. He loves us that much. Indeed, He will reveal Himself to anyone who is truly hungry and desires the truth.

The day is far spent and time is drawing near. I think it is necessary to prepare ourselves (and our commitment) for whatever lies ahead. Let us take nothing for granted, especially our availability of the Word of God. By it we are nourished and grow. Do we cherish it as much as the man who was smuggled in a coffin?

Let us also not forget those that are in darkness still. There are many that are still lost and seeking. Many that are left without hope — young girls in sex trade, alone and afraid, families destroyed through war or persecution, hunger and famine and disease rampant. Sounds like the description Jesus gave of the end times in Matthew 24. Certainly we give our support as we can, but we can always give our prayers.

I just want to urge each of us to seek the Lord and His righteousness. In Him is life and His life is the light of men. Remember to praise and worship Him for that is our strength. Pray diligently as Paul said, without ceasing. Then when you have laid all your known prayers before Him, just be still before the Lord. Spend a little time and ask Him what’s on His heart that you might need to mention. That’s where praying in the Spirit helps.

Learn to listen. Learn to know the voice of the Holy Spirit. It will be so important in these days. Be obedient to that leading. Moses struck the rock twice instead of speaking to it the second time as instructed. It kept him from entering the promised land.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.” Prov. 3:5-6

He is worthy above all that we can even think or imagine. He is so holy, so good and righteous and our perceived own righteousness is as filthy rags. To think that He loves us and wants to exalt us into His presence — to share eternity with Him. What a God we serve.

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