

are you waxing cold

"and because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold." matt 24:12 kjv

what is wax? broadly speaking wax is a flammable, carbon-containing solid that becomes liquid when heated above room temperature. in other words it's the candle's fuel. when the scented candle is lit, the wax melts, is vaporised and combusted, which in turn produces the heat and light. each type of candle wax has different properties, making some better at holding and transmitting fragrance while others excel in burning slowly and producing a smoke-free flame.

one might say the church consists of different types of candles; some burn brighter and hotter and are extinguished faster than others; these might be martyrs or persecuted believers. some burn slower and last longer; perhaps representing those who have faithfully followed our Lord their whole life - like the tortoise and the hare; slow but sure wins the race. some are fragrantly scented; believers whose carry His presence with them wherever they go.

i don't necessarily see any of these as being more distinguished than the other. that is not what this message is about. God has created many types of vessels which He works through. "but in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor." 2 tim 2:20 we are all unique in our own way. God knows that. "before I formed you in the womb I knew you." jer 1:5

the main point here is that unless a candle is burning, it is just a useless decoration or such. the candle must be working to produce light and heat. it was created for a function and that's function is to be used.

it's interesting about this daily. initially i thought the Lord was speaking to me from a verse in leviticus, of all places. i don't know about any of you but i just find leviticus a little dry in some places. i know it's all the word of God but i'll take romans or john over it every time. just saying.

anyway, He was dealing with me about this scripture: "the fire shall ever be burning upon the altar; it shall never go out." lev 6:13 it wasn't until He spoke to me about one waxing cold that i put it all together. i don't know about you, but i love it when the Lord puts it all together. i love it when i have just finished thinking or writing about something and suddenly, i'm hearing the same thing in other places. it just goes to show there is one Holy Spirit and He is dealing with us all.

sorry, i got side tracked again. there are too many these days that have their eyes on all that's going on instead of Jesus. we cannot let the lawlessness we see ruling dampen our flame. even like the priests of old were commanded to keep the fire burning, so must we. it might mean throwing another log on the fire to ensure our flame is not extinguished; perhaps a little fast or something to aid you in your pilgrimmage.

they had to keep the fire burning on the altar. now there is no more physical altar to offer our sacrifices at. the altar now is the altar of our heart and the burnt offering we offer up is our self; our commitment, our worship, our goods, whatever it is, it is really our obedience He seeks as our sacrifice.

but back to "waxing cold." if one watches the news much, it doesn't take long to become disheartened by all that is going on. evil acts are not being punished for their actions and even seem to be prospering in many cases. one sees innocents suddenly attacked for no apparent reason other than the desire of another to inflict pain.

it especially pains me to view these actions among the increasingly younger. because there is no "King" in their lives, chaos rules. "in those days there was no king in israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes." judges 21:25 i almost hate to say it, but many will need to suffer the pain they inflict to seek repentance. "for when Your judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness." isa 26:9

not only is the love of many waxing cold, many are joining in the perils that they may reap the spoils as well. they do this not realizing - He has set them in slippery places. why? "and this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil." john 3:19

i would not see your love wax cold as well. take

solice, "there is hope in your future, says the Lord, that your children shall come back to their own border." jer 31:17 don't give up on that rebellious child or someone you are believing to come into the light. toss another log onto your fire. brighten up your light so it might serve as a beacon to them.

i know many young people are seeking truth today, even in this world of distortion. i know because i have several friends that are busily working with them. but we must be ready for when the Holy Spirit moves in them. we must be there as witnesses and "always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear." 1 pet 3:15

people, God isn't finished with any of us yet. "therefore we do not lose heart. even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day." 2 cor 4:16 so keep that fire burning.