

## Prayer Meeting – September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

We've seen over the past years a greater falling away, backsliding of Christians, they're not in church or going to church. Ironically though, they're yoking themselves with the world for common causes. The world is giving them the counterfeit. Yet the Bible says in **2 Corinthians 6:14-18** says; "*14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what [d]fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what [e]communion has light with darkness? 15 And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? 16 And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you[f] are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people." 17 Therefore "Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you." 18 "I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the Lord Almighty."*

**James 4:4** also says; "*Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.*"

This is not saying to not be friendly with the world, but not to allow the world to dictate and convince Christians that this earth is their home. Heaven is their home, this earth is temporary and we're just passing through, but the devil would like to deceive Christians that this is a permanent residence. Christians have to stop clinging to the world and its lies that say they don't need to congregated with other Christians. If you're truly born again, you want to be in church fellowship.

We're also seeing Christians getting side-tracked on social justice issues, rights and freedoms issues. There are many things globally that are getting the Christians and non-Christians up in arms about loss of freedoms, and while demonstrations and marches probably have their place, as Christians, the battle has to be waged in the spirit realm and it has to be told that this is a spiritual battle. But very few state that but just emphasize the obvious of how evil people are.

The Apostle Paul says in **2 Corinthians 10:3-5**; "*3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not [a]carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,*"

Jesus says in **Luke 10:19**; "*Behold, **I give you the authority** to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.*"

How much more authority does one need except Jesus' authority? None. We have to pray and declare the authority He has given to us.

We always reference **Ephesians 6:10-18** for a reason, which says; "*10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the [b]wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against **principalities**, against **powers**, against the **rulers of [c]the darkness of this age**, against **spiritual hosts of wickedness** in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and*

*having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; 18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints”*

We **must** defeat the demonic realm in this way in the name of Jesus. We don't physically fight people, politicians or enemies of the cross. Many Christians rely on their emotions, their personal thoughts or what they're being influenced by from the media, instead of focusing on what the Bible explicitly says.

We know the antichrist spirit is already in this world as **1 John 2:18** says; *“Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.”*

Christians have a target on their backs simply because they bear the name of Jesus. Don't be surprised at the fiery trials.

Jesus told us this in **John 15:18-19**; *“**18** “If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. **19** If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.”*

Jesus also says in **Luke 9:23**; *“Then He said to them all, ‘If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.”*

Christian, you can't be surprised to see more persecution coming. Jesus said it would come. If Christians want to understand the Biblical plan for God's intervention, they must look at what happened with King Solomon. We see God specifically lays out conditions of His blessing on the Israelite's and that condition is their obedience to all of His commandments.

Solomon completed the building of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Jewish temple in Jerusalem and then it says the following in **2 Chronicles 7:12-21**; *“12 Then the Lord appeared to Solomon by night, and said to him: “I have heard your prayer, and have chosen this place for Myself as a house of sacrifice. 13 When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, 14 if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. 15 Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer made in this place. 16 For now I have chosen and [d]sanctified this house, that My name may be there forever; and [e]My eyes and [f]My heart will be there perpetually. 17 As for you, if you walk before Me as your father David walked, and do according to all that I have commanded you, and if you keep My statutes and My judgments, 18 then I will establish the throne of your kingdom, as I covenanted with David your father, saying, ‘You shall not fail to have a man as ruler in Israel.’ 19 “But if you turn away and forsake My statutes and My commandments which I have set before you, and go and serve other gods, and worship them, 20 then I will uproot them from My land which I have given them; and this house which I have [g]sanctified for My name I will cast out of My sight, and will make it a proverb and a byword among all peoples. 21 “And as for this [h]house, which [i]is exalted, everyone who passes by it will be astonished and say, ‘Why has the Lord done thus to this land and this house?’ 22 Then they will answer, ‘Because they forsook the Lord God of their fathers, who brought them out of the land of*

*Egypt, and embraced other gods, and worshiped them and served them; therefore He has brought all this calamity on them.”*

Humility, repenting of sin and turning from wicked ways is what the church needs to stand for. As we read the scripture at the beginning from 2 Corinthians 6:14-16, what does light have to do with darkness? There is a subtle deception in the church right now that Christians can yoke themselves with Muslims, Sheiks, and a host of religions, all in the name of a good cause to come together and stand against injustice to children and to lay aside all differences. It's not acceptable to God for Christians to lay aside their religious beliefs to yolk themselves with unbelievers. This is why it says, 'what fellowship has light with darkness.' Regardless of the cause, as good as it is, our battle for the children is a spiritual battle that goes all the way back to 1988 (in Canada) and 1962 (in America), where prayer, the 10 Commandments and the Bible were outlawed. This is a slippery slope which will cause many to continue to back-slide if they're not already backslidden.

It's no wonder our nations – and many other nations that did the same thing – find themselves in such moral decline. **Isaiah 5:20** says; *“Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!”*.

This is a spiritual war against Almighty God, His sovereignty and power being removed from society. If anything, the secular education union needs to reestablish prayer, the 10 Commandments and the distribution of Bibles to students in order for restoration and healing in our school systems.

The church has to be extremely discerning today. Every day something new is happening or coming to light which makes society upset and mad, but Christians have to have self-control to not jump on every band-wagon of social justice issues. Again, our battle is a spiritual one that has to be fought on our knees with the church body as Paul said in **Ephesians 6:18**; *“18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints.”*

Pray, pray, pray Christians. Praying in tongues is of utmost importance for the saints.

[Click here to read the prophecies from Sunday's church service.](#)