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KINDNESS

I recently heard a man share about his eleven-year old son, Seth, who is Mongoloid. Before the boy was born, prenatal testing had revealed the situation to the parents. Their faith precluded even considering abortion, but they were devastated and deeply concerned about their future.

But now they say that Seth has been the greatest blessing of their lives. Seth is a walking, talking expression of love. He loves life and loves everybody all the time.

Seth categorizes people in a simple way: they are either kind or unkind. But Seth loves them irregardless. Because he lacks the filters that normal people have, he makes people feel awkward and uncomfortable. He hugs everybody when he meets them, ready or not. If his dad doesn't monitor him, he will go into a public restroom and hug men who are using the urinal. Oops!

Seth has taught his family and many others what it looks like to love unconditionally.

And this is the key question for you and me: How would Seth rate you? Are you kind or unkind?

You may be "saved," but are you kind?

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In his letter to the Galatians, Paul lists the "fruit of the Spirit." Can you name them? "Love, joy, peace, patience, **kindness**, goodness, faithfulness, **gentleness** and self-control." If you don't already have them memorized, I hope you will and do it now.

You noticed that I highlighted two of these fruits - kindness and gentleness. I think they go together, and there seems to be a shortage of these characteristics in our culture. You don't find a lot of kindness and gentleness in Congress or the media or the movies (James Bond, All Quiet on the Western Front, children's cartoons).

The fruit of the Spirit describes the character of the Holy Spirit, the character of God the Father, and the character of Jesus. This is what God is like. And it's what God desires for us to be like. We are supposed to be "Christians" which originally meant "little Christs." So go through the fruit of the Spirit and evaluate if you are a person of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Particularly, in line with Seth's value system, are you kind?

When we receive Christ as our Savior by faith, we receive the Holy Spirit. He takes up residence inside of us. That means the nine fruits of the Spirit are now a living part of our nature. But since God never takes away our free will, that doesn't mean that we automatically express love, joy, peace, etc, apart from our will. So the Bible tells us to "put on love" every morning just like we put on our clothes. Our clothes don't jump out of the closet and onto our bodies, nor does love.

Therefore, we are told regarding:

Love. "Husbands, love your wives." "Love your neighbor," "Love your enemies." This does not come naturally to us; i.e., it is not part of our human nature. It is part of God's nature, and we have to choose to let it become a part of our nature.

Likewise, we are instructed to express each of the other eight fruits.

Joy. "Rejoice!"

Peace. "Let the peace of God rule in your hearts." God wants his peace to rule our hearts, but we must choose to "let" it so rule.

Patience. Patience is not natural or easy for us, and we don't unconsciously become patient once we have become Christians. we must choose to "Be patient."

Kindness. "Be kind to one another"- we are admonished.

Goodness. "Make every effort to add to your faith goodness." Note that it takes effort on our part to be good.

Faithfulness. We are told again and again that because God is always faithful to us we should be faithful to him.

Gentleness. "Correct your opponents with gentleness."

Self-control. "Make every effort to add to your faithself-control."

So I ask you again, are you a kind or an unkind person? It's your choice. Have you chosen to be kind? Do you today choose to be kind?

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Max Lucado wrote in When God Whispers Your Name:

"For the next 12 hours I will be exposed to the day's demands. It is now that I must make a choice. I am free to choose. And so....I choose,

I CHOOSE LOVE.

I CHOOSE PEACE. I will live forgiven, and I will forgive so that I may live.

I CHOOSE PATIENCE. I will overlook the inconveniences of the world. Rather than complain that the wait is too long, I'll thank God for the moment to pray.

I CHOOSE GOODNESS. I will go without a dollar before I take a dishonest one. I will be overlooked before I will boast. I will be kind to the unkind.

I CHOOSE FAITHFULNESS. Today I will keep my promises. My debtors will not regret their trust.

I CHOOSE GENTLENESS. Nothing is won by force. If I raise my voice may it only be in praise.

If I succeed, I will give thanks. If I fail, I will seek God's grace.

And then when this day is done I will place my head on my pillow and rest."

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Bobby Schuler said that he was recently asked to give the Commencement speech for a graduating class. He told them that at the end of his life he would not have any regrets about not making more money or winning more awards and recognition. He said that he would regret the times he failed to be kind.

He said he remembered in 7th Grade the girl who was so awkward and isolated. He knew he should reach out to her but he didn't. He remembered one time after he had become a pastor that he was walking down the sidewalk and passed a man who was weeping. After he had walked for a few minutes he thought, "Wait a minute. I should reach out to that guy." He hurried back, but the man was gone.

We can all remember opportunities that we had that we passed up because they were out of our comfort zone.

Let's not miss any more opportunities to be kind.

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THE RETURN OF THE GODS -

Part 3

Jonathan Cahn says that from the beginning the "gods" have been in every land and civilization and culture and that both the Old and New Testaments identify these gods as being actual spirits. In other words, they are not just products of superstition, but they are actually evil entities. They are "demonios" or demons.

When ancient Israel turned away from the true God, they turned to a false god, three gods that embodied their apostasy. Last month I wrote about the first of these gods - Baal. This month I will pinpoint the second major god, which was a goddess - Ashtoreth or Ishtar. We might call her Mrs. Baal.

Ashtoreth/Ishtar

She was known by many names: Ishtar, The Queen of Heaven, Venus, Aphrodite. She was the goddess of sexuality. She was fiery, impulsive, greedy, emotional, demanding, given to rage, insatiable, and full of pride. She was a prostitute and was associated with the partaking of alcohol, particularly of beer. She mixed sexuality with intoxication. She was also

an enchantress, a sorceress, a goddess of magic and spells. Sex temples with religious prostitutes were established in many lands. According to Herodotus, the ancient Greek historian, all of the women of Babylonia were compelled by religious custom to participate in cult prostitution at least once in their lives.

When the Christian faith entered the Roman and Middle Eastern world, the goddess, along with the other deities and spirits, was cast out. The Christian faith saw the covenant of marriage as sacred and sexuality as a gift exclusive to that covenant, so cults devoted to sexual desire could not be maintained.

But what if she was to come back to the modern world, to America? What would happen?

That is exactly what took place. Shortly after America's turning from God began manifesting in the early 1960's, another transformation took place in the realm of sexuality. It would continue until it had transformed American and Western culture beyond recognition. It could be summed up in three words - the sexual revolution.

The sexual revolution was another dimension of the paganization of America. The values it represented were pagan values. What was called the "new morality" was really an ancient morality, the morality of the gods, the demons. Sex became severed from the covenant of marriage and became an end in itself, so America became increasingly obsessed with sex. What was once fornication now became premarital relations and, in time, the norm. The number of Americans living together without marriage and the number of children born out of wedlock or without fathers would skyrocket.

Among the oldest writings in world history are the "sacred" hymns to Ishtar in which she is described as a prostitute. The Greek word for writing is "graphos," the Greek word for Ishtar's profession, prostitution, is "porne". It is from this root, writings about a prostitute, that we get the word pornography. America became the world's leading creator and exporter of pornography, the porn capital of the world.

What do sex, drugs, rock and roll, fortune tellers, witchcraft, intoxication, New Age movements and the occult have to do with one another? They all go back to the enchantments of a Mesopotamian goddess.

Ishstar/Ashtoreth also cast spells, intoxicated people. A form of intoxication that dramatically exploded in American and Western culture in the 1960's was the use of drugs - the drug culture. The state of intoxication and altered consciousness was now glorified as an ideal to be sought after.

She was also the goddess of mediums and of those said to be possessed by spirits. They spoke for the gods. Her spirit possessed them. Today, such mediums would also be known as fortune tellers, psychics, channelers, and practitioners of the occult. She was the occult goddess. The occult movement in our land has given birth to pagan worship, Eastern religions, paganism and Satan worship. Also included is worship of the mother goddess, nature goddesses, and warrior goddesses. All you have to do to see these goddesses portrayed is to watch current movies, especially those produced by Disney.

The gods, the "demonios," have been transforming Christian civilization into a pagan one. Transformation was Ishtar's specialty. She could enchant and seduce a nation, intoxicate it, alter its perceptions, and change its ways."

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AN AMAZING HEALING

(From my Ancient Files of 2009)

The other day I was with a few others at the Healing Rooms in Grand Junction ministering to a lady in her 40's. She came in with much stiffness and pain in her back and told us she had been suffering for six years. I asked her what happened six years ago and she said her 12-year old daughter had died at that time. Her daughter had suffered with cancer and had undergone chemo-therapy. She was doing much better but then was with her father in a car that was struck by a drunk driver. She seemed to recover from the accident but died within a short time.

The mother's grief and pain were plain to be seen in her face and eyes. She said that the death of their daughter had changed her husband. He had turned away from God and the church and had become a bitter man. The lady brought a big book of photos with her and showed us the record of her daughter's life. She also said that she had made a certain place in their home a shrine to her daughter's memory.

Grief, of course, is a normal, healthy human emotion, and it is a God-given way for people to work through the terrible pain of loss. But many people can become stuck in grief and their normal emotion of grief can become a spirit, a "spirit of grief" that is from the enemy.

We led this dear lady through steps of forgiveness and repentance. We led her to forgive:

- the drunk driver
- the doctors whom she thought were irresponsible and lacking in sensitivity
- her husband who had given up and abandoned her emotionally to deal with her loss alone
- God, whom she blamed for her daughter's death. We led her to thank God for her daughter's life and to release her into God's loving hands.
- Herself for any mistakes and sins in connection with all of this
- We led her to repent of self-pity and for blaming God and others
- We led her to repent for building a shrine for her daughter which was a way to hold onto her grief and refuse to go on in life
- We led her to renounce the spirit of grief and to command it to go
- We led her to renounce the spirit of infirmity connected to her back pain

When all of this was done, we prayed for her healing, then had her stand and bend over and touch her toes. She was able to do this and immediately burst into tears of gratitude to God. She was instantly and totally healed! Praise the Lord! We also prayed for her husband and asked her to encourage him to come for ministry. I love this job!

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THE MOCKING SPIRIT

During the course of my ministry, from time to time I have been confronted with a "mocking spirit." The person to whom I am ministering will start being sarcastic and insulting. He or she will start ridiculing me or the Christian faith. Sometimes these will be religious people.

Jesus dealt with this spirit periodically in his ministry. For instance, in Luke 16, Jesus said a person cannot love God and love money and must make a choice. Verse 14 says, "The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus." They were mocking, ridiculing him. If a person loves money, he will always sneer at Jesus and his followers. Psalm 1 refers to people who listen to the wicked and says they "sit in the seat of mockers and scorners." You can see that this is not a new problem.

If you have had thoughts come into your mind that are mocking Jesus, mocking the faith, mocking the followers of Christ, resist them! Command them to go! Then also repent for taking into your heart any attitude of mockery. Then declare your faith in Christ and start praising him. The mocking spirit will flee.

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PATHWAY TO FREEDOM

The videos of my seminar are only a click away. They are broken into 42 twenty minute teachings and cover : Worldview; The trap of unforgiveness; Bad fruit and bad roots; Breaking word curses; Healing for trauma; Ungodly soul ties; Addictions and bondages; Danger of the occult; Demonization, its cause and cure; etc.

These videos were taken last year during my beard phase, so I look almost exactly like Moses. I shaved it off because Moses was old.

Attached is another email listing all the videos.

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God bless,

Glenn

