



Don't ask God to guide your steps if you aren't willing to move your feet.

The poor have been voting Democrat for 50 years - and they're still poor. *Charles Bradley* 

The heart of the wise inclines to the right, but the heart of the fool to the left. Eccles. 10:2

If you don't change direction, you may end up where you're heading.

Lao Tzu



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## ...Too Busy For God?

It impresses me that not much catches God by surprise. In fact *nothing does!* I continually find statements in scripture that match up with current events and think to myself, Jesus saw this coming And *said* so.

Like with the story of the ten virgins and the return of the bridegroom. Only half of them were prepared for His return, it says. The others lacked the necessary oil for their lamps. Yet, when He arrived it says, 'they <u>all</u> slept.'1 Does that describe the stupor over His people *today?* 

Note that all awaited his return, but only half (50%) were prepared. Yet we find today that most of the church apparently feel they're **ready** for the rapture! *Are* they?

A curious thing is that, of the 7 churches in Revelation, the only one told they would be saved from tribulation, was Philadelphia.2 Thyratira was promised it...! Hmm.

And, Revelation does say the 'bride has made herself ready...' How? She adorns herself in white linen, symbolizing purity. We should make every effort to cleanse our lives of unforgiveness & the 'sin that so easily besets us.'3

Why do this? It's simple. We should desire to please our Father God. He says, if we keep His commandments and please Him, He hears and answers our prayers!4 'Works' alone don't please Him – works without 'faith' are dead. It's impossible to please Him without faith ...5

Many believe we have entered endtimes because they see so much prophecy fulfilled. Jesus saw our days too, saying it would be just like Noah's era, where the whole earth was filled with violence, and the imagination of men was only evil continually.6 But, during that time, He said we'd

be like them in our daily lives! How? He said we'd be busy. Marrying & giving in marriage, (marriage is a hot issue now), buying, selling 7...Preoccupied with living. Driving the kids to soccer; or preoccupied with football; career, work, & school; family dining, and entertainment!

Nothing is intrinsically wrong with these ...unless they are distracting us from God's daily instructions or making wise choices! Or if we're too busy with life to listen...leaving us full of only the world's counsel as opposed to God's - which prepares us for the life to come! For safety's sake... to protect our family we need to hear Him. But we're just too busy with life - to listen.

Where will you be when the Day of the Lord comes? Are you listening for guidance? To another point of view than what the world offers...? If you aren't listening now, what makes you think you'll hear Him when crisis hits? Will you just be one of the herd then?

God wants you to learn to hear His still, small voice. You can! God has not changed, and just as Elijah heard Him, so can you! But panic will stop you from it...! If you read His word, and wait on Him, He will guide you now. And you'll learn His voice.

Recently, several of us discussed cancer & prayed for people battling with it I shared that doctors are purveyors of facts, which doesn't make those facts inaccurate. Yet believers are guided by truth. And truth trumps facts, due to our faith in scripture. It was Jesus who said, "According to your faith, be it unto you."8

If we believe scripture, we all foresee cataclysmic events attend endtimes. We know the godly will not be here when God's wrath falls on evil folks. Yet- there's those *birth pangs* Jesus foretold leading up his coming *-they're what bother me!* Have they started...?

I've told you before of FEMA camps in America, fully equipped to hold millions & millions. Because they exist worldwide (google them) I find them troublesome – it must be prophetic - There for future use....after the church is raptured, I'm hoping.9

In food shortages, these camps will be the only places with provisions. And what father would want to see his children starve? None. With riots in the streets, they might also seem safer...

America now readies for 2016 Elections, as tho martial law would even permit that if declared. But *who* knows?

We do know God has a plan and it will prevail! Will He give the U.S. one more chance – as He did Samson – to declare salvation to save billions of souls? It seems He might! If everyone warned someone, world revival could occur in only weeks! 10

We don't know what the future holds – though strong indicators say a world stock market crash may come –or that the dollar may collapse. Others point to war...some say ISIS. We **do** know this:

We only have so many billion of actual dollars in play each day. Two to three times the money we spend daily, is simply credit. A default in credit looms, and it is **the** house of cards that I believe the gov't foresees... banks have tightened \$\$ already.

Let's pray God stays the hand of ungodly men, to restrain martial law. He could have a 'trump' card up His sleeve. Think on this. Might Donald Trump make America great again... for a season; for His reason? God did use evil King Cyrus... just sayin'.

## HE SAVED US, NOT BECAUSE OF RIGHTEOUS THINGS WE HAVE DONE, BUT BECAUSE OF HIS MERCY TITUS 3:5

If you're going to change the future, you're going to have to trouble the present." Wm Booth

I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just, that His justice cannot sleep forever." Thomas Jefferson

A time will come when instead of shepherds feeding the sheep, the church will have clowns entertaining the goats.

Charles Spurgeon

## A Room of Your Own

Friends and I attended the first night's showing of the **War Room** movie. I am so grateful we did! I won't go into the story here – you need to see it - but only its impact upon me.

I'm always looking for spiritual gaffes in doctrine. There weren't any. Just a wonderful story that can change your life. Promise.

But at the end when the elderly woman prayed as she did, I wept. That's not terribly unusual — it's happened before. But last night, I was so in agreement with her prayer, I sobbed. Many wept.

It was what I realized then that made me weep.

I'm always searching for passion, in a body of believers that is largely passionless. I saw 'why' last night. It's about war...

God revealed to me the tools of prayer in this movie years ago, when my beloved daughter went astray. That's when I woke up that believers are in a war! (We prevailed!)

But today, many believers haven't located the battlefield, (the mind-II Cor.10:5,6), and they don't know we're in a war. That's because they over 'spiritualize' our kind of war.

The common denominator of all wars - is Death. That's right. People die in war, so it's serious! There is a time for war, scripture says...because principles do matter!

The Apostle Paul calls Christ's followers 'soldiers', and tells them to dress accordingly, in uniform 11 for our own safety so we won't be captured by satan. We're not to get caught up into worldly entanglements,

endeavoring to please God.12

Last night, I saw that many folks lack passion because they don't take our warfare seriously. People do die without Christ in our war... and end up in hell.

Folks go blithely on, thinking somehow their loved ones will be saved. No. We must make war over their souls – the hold of the world, the flesh and the devil are too strong on them. 13

God has given us the tools. He wants us to be serious about it.. Intense to the Nth degree because...war is serious and there's always a winner and a loser!

"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." "My people are taken into captivity for lack of knowledge." 14 Study I Cor. Chapter 3. Equip yourself with knowledge. And prepare your **own** War Room. Builders exited that movie...



References: 1.Matt.25:5 2. Rev.3:10; 2:22 3.Heb. 12:1 4. I John 3:22 5. Heb.11:6 6.Gen.6:5,11 7. Luke 17:27-28 8. Matt.9:29 9. I Thes. 4:16-17 10. B.Graham Quote 11. Ephes.6:10 12. II Tim 2:24 13. I John 2:16 14. Is.5:13

I am no longer accepting the things I cannot change.
I am changing the things I cannot accept.

## Looking For 'The Real Thing'

Dear Agatha: Agatha, I have a question, and maybe it's just me. After moving, our family has been church shopping...Ugh. Why is it that when I visit churches. I often come away feeling like I saw a lot of pretty faces and nice clothes but no real people? I don't get the feeling these people can relate to me - I have problems! They appear to 'have it all together'! I'd have a better worship experience with manikins. And again, this may be just me and my many hang-ups. Thanks for hearing me. **Ann** Dear Ann: Bruce Larson wrote a book, Dare to Live Now. In it, he told of a man who came to his office for counsel. He sat down, and hesitated, but then said, Pastor I have trouble with lust

Bruce said everything he'd ever learned rose up in him, to counsel this man. But, instead Bruce said, "I do too."

What happened in that moment? Bruce became real to this man, and transparent. He met the man where he was, and then they both prayed for one another! His 'counsel' otherwise would have been shallow anyway...

I admit it's difficult to be authentic to newcomers. When people see me, they often think I have it all together! But....they don't see the long road of suffering behind me. It's just that I've come so far, and I've learned a little about life. "That's why I wrote my book, Answered By FIRE, so people could know things are not always as they appear...

But we can't wear our testimony on our sleeve. What then? Greet them with a caring smile that looks people in the eye, or touch them on the arm. Welcome them. We want strangers to act right or dress right before they're even saved! We catch 'em but God cleans them up! Then let Him... Meantime, act like 'family' among each other so those without a family want to join in!

Don't unite around 'doctrine' – it's cold and uninviting...legalistic. Our love for one another, should be *visible*. Be like Bruce. Meet people where they are.

We're all cracked pots anyway, because "We hold this treasure in earthen vessels, so the transcendant glory **belongs to God**."15



