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FEBRUARY 2019 “DON’T CORRUPT YOUR PROGRAM”

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17 - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20 I will be ministering at
The Family Prayer Center of Immokalee
1380 N 15th Street
Immokalee, Florida 34142
(239) 657-5652
Bronc Flint, Pastor
Sunday services are 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM
Monday - Wednesday services are 7:00 PM
Pre-Service Worship 30 minutes before all services.
If you are unable to attend in person, all services will be streamed live at
www.broncflint.org

Our 2019 Prayer and Power Conference will be
SUNDAY, APRIL 28 - FRIDAY, MAY 3
Grace Christian Center
4184 East Patterson Rd.
Dayton, Ohio 45430
(937)426-4543
Sunday services are 10:30 AM and 6:00 PM
Monday - Friday services are 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM
Pre-Service Worship 45 minutes before all services.
You can register at www.jmmgrace.com
There is NO CHARGE to register or attend.

Dear ,

The greatest conflict within the Body of Christ over the last 2,000 years is now taking place. There have always been disagreements, self-exaltation, strange beliefs, and so on. But what is presently happening is at a level some would have said could never happen. Briefly, here are just a few examples of the warfare and division taking place:

- Many Christians are calling sin acceptable and declaring that such things as prayer, worship, Bible study and fasting are actually works of the flesh.
- Preachers who openly declare that Jesus is the Son of God also say that there are many paths to salvation other than faith in Jesus.
- Pastors are proclaiming that what Jesus taught prior to His death on the cross does not apply to Christians.

- Christians in churches small and large are being taught that if they sin, there is no need to repent.
- In order to “reach the lost for Jesus,” some churches are conducting services in bars and nightclubs, openly embracing the consumption of alcohol. Some churches have even gone so far as to hold beer and wine tasting parties.
- Many churches and pastors are openly embracing homosexual lifestyles, promoting such individuals into positions of church leadership and performing same-sex marriages.

This is just the tip of the iceberg. But what does God have to say about these teachings and behaviors?

²⁰Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! ²¹Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight! ²²Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink: ²³Which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him! ²⁴Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust: because they have cast away the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel. (Isaiah 5:20-24)

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. (John 14:6)

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. (Acts 4:12)

The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it. (Luke 16:16)

¹⁸And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. ¹⁹Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: ²⁰Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen. (Matthew 28:18-20)

²⁰For I fear, lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I would, and that I shall be found unto you such as ye would not: lest there be debates, envyings, wraths, strifes, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults: ²¹And lest, when I come again, my God will humble me among you, and that I shall bewail many which have sinned already, and have not repented of the uncleanness and fornication and lasciviousness which they have committed. (2 Corinthians 12:20-21)

¹⁴Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? ¹⁵And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? ¹⁶And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ¹⁷Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, ¹⁸And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall

be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. (2 Corinthians 6:14-18) Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. (James 4:4)

²⁶For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: ²⁷And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet. ²⁸And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; ²⁹Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, ³⁰Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, ³¹Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: ³²Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them. (Romans 1:26-32)

There are so many more passages of scripture which totally, completely and without debate refute the heresies mentioned earlier. But why are so many pastors, teachers and church members preaching and willingly accepting what so blatantly contradicts the truth and purity of God's Holy Word? I'll give you a way to understand this heartbreaking trend.

Computers work correctly by virtue of the operating system that is programmed into their hard drive. The day we buy a new computer, the operating system is in perfect working condition. If a virus or malware is allowed to corrupt the operating system, the computer does not work correctly and it analyzes information ineffectively. Eventually, it can stop working altogether. It is necessary to protect the operating system with an anti-virus program, an anti-malware program, and a firewall to keep the viruses out. It is also critical to regularly update the operating system to patch security vulnerabilities.

Our spirit is our hard drive. Our operating system is the new nature, which is perfect and undefiled the moment of salvation. The viruses and malware are false doctrines, some of which I identified earlier in this letter. The more those viruses & malware are allowed to corrupt our operating system, we will analyze information and behavior from that corrupted perspective. We will develop beliefs and make life choices which do not coincide with the original programming of our operating system. If not dealt with, the viruses can eventually result in our operating system being totally corrupted and non-operating (see the book of Jude, especially his reference to "twice dead" in verse 12).

We have to use the anti-virus, anti-malware and firewall of meditation in scripture, praying in tongues and remaining teachable to protect the original programming of our spiritual operating system. Remaining teachable and continually listening to line-upon-line teachers is like regularly updating our operating system to patch security vulnerabilities.

Watching an R-rated movie is less destructive than listening to a wolf in sheep's clothing who teaches something that sounds really good but is exceptionally wrong. You already know the R-

rated show you're watching is wrong. When the movie is over, you know it was wrong. The next day, you still know it was wrong. But doctrinal error is something you may accept as truth, allowing it into your operating system where it will begin corrupting you away from the unblemished condition of your original programming. [By the way, do not interpret this paragraph as a blanket approval of watching R-rated movies.]

When Christians attend church, they shouldn't have to be on their guard concerning what is being taught. Church is supposed to be more than a gathering of Christians under the banner of the Name of Jesus. It is supposed to be a place where that which God has revealed in scripture is delivered unto the people. Too many Christians follow the personality of a pastor instead of the personality of Christ flowing through a pastor. The personality of Christ is that of love, mercy, grace, healing, deliverance, salvation...and judgment, confrontation, correction, chastening, reproof and instruction in righteousness.

A church where there is essentially never a message that confronts Christians over sin, compromise, moral behavior, integrity, doctrinal error, and lukewarmness is a church that has no business existing.

Too many Christians are seeking after demonstrations of God's power and the Gifts of the Spirit. In fact, many would seem to prefer a preacher who gets people healed over one who has few healings, yet teaches God's Word uncorrupted. But all it takes is a diligent study of First Corinthians to discover that demonstrations of power and the Gifts are not confirmation of correct doctrine. In Mark 8:36, Jesus said, ***For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?*** A variation of that would be, "What does it profit if a preacher can heal the whole world, yet lead them to an eternity in the lake of fire with an all-inclusive doctrine?"

As Christians, we live by what we believe, not by what we know. For example, one may say, "I know the Bible says that those who live in fornication will not inherit the Kingdom of God; but God loves my girlfriend and me, and He understands the battles we have with the flesh." While it's true God loves that couple, it is also true He calls it what it is: they are willingly choosing to give themselves over to the sexual lusts of the flesh. The original programming of our new nature declares that sin cannot have dominion over Christians unless we yield to it. The power of God's life in us is all we need to conquer and dominate every form of temptation. The conscience of our original program confirms our ability to mortify the flesh and its deeds. We override that program when we choose to go against God's Word.

In Matthew 4:1-11, after He was filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus went into the wilderness for 40 days of fasting. It was there Satan launched a direct attack against Him. If you study closely what happened, you'll notice that the attacks were focused on two specific areas: (1) What Jesus believed and (2) His knowledge and understanding of God's Word. This was a variation on what took place in Genesis chapter three as Satan tempted Eve concerning what she believed and what was her knowledge and understanding of God's Word.

In Genesis chapter three, Satan is portrayed as speaking through a serpent. Today, he has unwitting mouthpieces standing in pulpits every Sunday. These mouthpieces have let their guard down and embraced the doctrines of devils and seducing spirits. Then, blatant error and lies are unabashedly proclaimed to tens of thousands in attendance (millions if we include television and internet streaming). Every person listening to these shameless sermons of corrupted scripture are

being tested concerning what they believe and what they know and understand about the Bible. If they have been actively using their anti-virus, anti-malware, firewall and regularly updating their operating system, a huge alert will pop up in their spirit that a malicious virus is attempting to attack and embed itself in their hard drive.

In Matthew 24, Jesus warned that this deception was going to be so effective that if possible, the very elect would be deceived. In other words, It doesn't matter what your status in the Body of Christ, if you can be deceived, you **WILL** be deceived. *This deception is taking place now!* It will continue to increase, with more and more Christians being pulled in. Some will be pulled out of the fire, the eyes of their understanding being enlightened as to how they had been misled (Jude 1:23). However, others are going to continually sear their conscience and follow pernicious ways, resulting in them being eternally excluded from the Kingdom of Christ (2 Peter 2:1-3).

Have you opened yourself to spiritual viruses and malware? Do you want to guard yourself against such corruption? Then you absolutely **MUST** put into ongoing use the anti-virus, anti-malware and firewall of meditation in scripture, praying in tongues and regularly updating your operating system by remaining teachable and continually listening to line-upon-line teachers of God's Word. We cannot rely on our own mental reasoning and emotional conclusions about what we believe. The more we meditate in scripture **AND PRAY IN TONGUES** it is like running a continual virus scan in the background of our spirit. The Holy Ghost will only lead and guide us into all truth; He will never, ever in a thousand eternities bear witness with teaching which does not line up with the Bible. (For more teaching about the need to pray in the Spirit, be sure to use the form below to order my sermon, *Reasons to Pray in Tongues.*)

Jesus did not save us and then leave us to our own devices. He saw to it that we would have access to the Holy Word of God, and He sent the Third Person of the Godhead, the Holy Spirit, to help us remain spiritually pure and spotless, waiting for the return of the King of kings! Hallelujah!

In His Grace,

Jim

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☐ Check this box to receive a CD of the sermon, *Reasons to Pray in Tongues.*

My love gift for this month is \$_____

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