

## MY PEOPLE ARE DESTROYED FOR A LACK OF KNOWLEDGE

I was walking alongside a famous actor and commending him for the way he had performed his role as a soldier. He was in full military uniform with weapon in hand, the picture of the prototype soldier, experienced and seasoned. Moments later the actor was no longer at my side and I found myself taking up the rear position of a company of real-life soldiers, in military uniform myself, locked and loaded! I gazed forward beyond the lead soldiers toward a dark reflective glass wall. Propelled forward in time, I could see that an ambush was about to take place in mere seconds. I saw the enemy and their military vehicles crashing through the glass wall with guns blazing at our group of soldiers. They were heading straight toward us! The enemy had been concealed so well behind the wall, that our company of soldiers were oblivious to the danger that lay directly ahead. Uncharacteristically for an experienced and seasoned soldier, I did not warn of the impending ambush but instead decided to protect myself and wait for the dust to settle. I awoke from my dream when I stood up to fire my weapon.

The dream awakened me to the fact that I must not be silent, but to speak a warning of the ambush just around the corner and yet, a battle that is already upon us. Battles can start out small but then rise up into something terrifying and catastrophic. It is time to speak this warning. I have prayed for interpretation of this dream and also shared it with trusted Godly people who have helped me immensely with interpretation and content. I believe it to be a word of the Lord for the Church today. As I begin, I am also reminded by Peter's words in 1 Peter 4:11 that, *"If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God."* This verse holds me accountable for the things I am about to write.

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My warning shout today is directed toward us, each one of us in the body of Christ. *We are being destroyed for a lack of knowledge!* It is written in Proverbs 25:2, "It is the glory of God to conceal a matter; to search out a matter is the glory of kings." There is knowledge that God has concealed that requires that we, with an open mind, search for and discover. The enemy has blinded many in the Church by creating a smokescreen (or reflective glass wall) that conceals a Trojan horse in every facet of human activity. Media, Politics, Education, Health, Hollywood and yes, even the Church universal, have not been spared this full-frontal attack. I believe the reflective glass wall signifies the fact that we're deceived into thinking we're fighting an enemy that looks like us when in fact, it's much more insidious. The battle for our hearts and minds is upon us but we're oblivious to the spiritual nature of the attack. As in my dream, we are walking into a trap. Not *knowing* this gives the enemy the advantage. If we remain on the same trajectory, we will be picked off by the enemy, one by one.

**"Our struggle  
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The apostle Paul tells us in Ephesians 6:12 that, *"Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."* There is an enemy so numerous, so vast and powerful who has swept over the earth. The enemy is deception, and this twisted 'truth' has so efficiently deceived us, that we allow ourselves to be defeated by lies, lies that are so pervasive they divide the Church and make us essentially irrelevant in the context we're living in today. Sadly, we have put on glasses with lenses called *conformity* that we confuse with love. Conformity to the world has caused the Church to grow

cold. Many are asleep. Jesus said in the end times that children and parents will be against each other and the love of many will grow cold. We are seeing this come true everywhere because we have reacted to the enemies' lies by employing man's wisdom and not the wisdom of God. Jesus prayed, *"That all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me...all will know you are My disciples if you have love for one another."* John 17:21

**"Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me."**

### **BUT WHERE IS TRUTH?**

Solomon in all his wisdom says in Proverbs 23:23, "Buy the truth and do not sell it; get wisdom, discipline and understanding." Let us seek truth while it may be found and understand that we live in precarious times.

**"... test the spirits to see if they are from God."**

When I was young, I believed the words of Jesus when he said, "I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me." When I gave my life to Christ, I was no longer a slave to sin. However, in my lack of abiding daily in Christ and trusting in him fully, I allowed deception to take root in my life. Oh, it was very *easy* for deception to take root, because deception looks so very much like the truth, and does so because it carries aspects of truth that disguise the lies, which in turn entice the flesh. Any aspect of truth that is twisted even a little bit becomes a lie. For that very reason, we are told to *test the spirits to see if they are from God*. The reflective glass wall highlights the deception; Many of those deceived are currently our sources for

knowledge and truth, such as our educational institutions, media outlets, social media, the government, health organizations and 'experts', to name a few. Another source that I dare to mention, can be church members and our family and friends. Jude speaks to this when he writes about certain people... *"...who have secretly slipped in among the church, godless men, who change the grace of God into a license for immorality...They are blemishes at our love feasts, eating with you without the slightest qualm – shepherds who feed only themselves...They are grumblers and fault finders; they follow their own evil desires; they boast about themselves and flatter others for their own advantage."* Could that grumbler be me? Could that fault-finder be you? We must become introspective and know by the Spirit that we are aligned with Christ, equally yoked.

I have discovered a simple yet profound principal...that any belief, action, attitude, behavior, and word that does not measure up fully to God's Word, which is altogether true, is deception. It is a lie. Based on this premise, however, is the realization that unless I know the *Word-Who-Became-Flesh* intimately, how can the *Spirit of Truth*, guide me in all wisdom, knowledge and understanding? Even fully surrendered, we won't have "all" until we go to heaven but we have the ever-present help of the Holy Spirit to reveal truth moment by moment as we live a lifestyle of intimacy. Jesus says in John 4:24 that God is Spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth. It is written in 1 Corinthians 2:9-10 that, *"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no heart has imagined, what God has prepared for those who love Him."* *But God has revealed it to us by the Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God."* God reveals truth by and through His Spirit.

Jesus' prayer for his disciples and all believers describes truth as a prerequisite for sanctification and highlights the importance of the *Word*, when he prays to the Father in John 17:17, "Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth." Lest I confuse you, the Pharisees knew the Word of God backwards and forwards but that alone didn't open their eyes to the truth. They lacked the Spirit of truth. In John 16:13 Jesus says, "*But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.*"

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Earlier in the book of John, chapter 8 verse 31-32 Jesus tells the Jews who believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." In John 18:37-38 it is written, "*You are a king, then!*" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "*You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.*" I have learned through the application of God's Word that the Word should be taken as absolute truth. Knowing His Word brings us into a more comprehensive understanding of where we live, this place called Earth, and how it is currently under the control of a masquerading angel of light, the great deceiver. Where we see deception, let us confront it. We must assess whether what we believe is actually true. We may be holding to a belief that is replete with deception that can lead us to destruction.

Many of us have been deceived by Hollywood's image of the true warrior. Take Rambo, one of my favorite late-teen movies. This one-man army overcame overwhelming odds to defeat the enemy. The famous actor in my dream reminded me of him – a hero by the world's standards. In my dream, however, I was at the back of the column and not at the front where I thought I should be. I also felt remorse because I didn't alert others to the danger. I am alerting everyone now. When I shared this dream with several spiritual advisors, they all gave a similar alternative interpretation, seemingly confirming that I had interpreted my rear position in the company incorrectly. All of them, without knowing how others had interpreted the dream shared that God was saying something else through it! *I was in the right place!* The Bible describes a true warrior much differently than the world. Jesus says in Luke 13:30, "Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last." Similarly in Luke 14:11, Jesus exclaims, "*For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.*" *God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble.* Proverbs 18:13 says, "*Before his downfall a man's heart is proud, but humility comes before honor.*"

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Brothers and Sisters, it is my firm belief that humility and courage are vital attributes during these dark days. Even as important as humility and courage are to our posture in battle, is knowing our capacity to withstand and be strong in the face of adversity. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 16:13, "*Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.*" Paul then quotes Jesus, saying, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Paul goes on to say, "*Therefore, I will boast all the*

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*more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”* (2 Cor 12:9-10) This is the posture of a seasoned, experienced warrior of God.

As believers in Christ, we are prototype soldiers – if we abide in him and his truth is in us. We are expected to **discern** a truth from a lie, to **understand** the enemies’ schemes and **battle** against them. We are to **speak** against the lies and **challenge** our brothers and sisters not to condone lies, nor run after human wisdom when dealing with evil spirit-driven agendas.

Let us heed Jesus’ warning in Luke 21:34-36 when he says, *“I tell you the truth, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. Be careful or your hearts will be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and the day will close on you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all those who live on the face of the whole earth. Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.”*

Pray like you have never prayed before. Read the Word like you have never read before. Spend time in the presence of God like you have never done before. Expect God to bless you with the Spirit of Truth so that you will be equipped as a true warrior of God, having the full armor of God to withstand the attack of the enemy and to resist him at every turn.

Lastly, in Jude 1:22-25:

**“Be merciful to those who doubt; snatch others from the fire and save them; to others show mercy, mixed with fear – hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh. To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy – to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore. Amen.”**

Anonymous