MARK 16:15-20





Dave Leinenbach, Sr. Pastor . 4660 Portland Rd. NE . Salem, OR 97305 . 503-949-0342 . www.jesusourjubileechurch.com

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"IS IT LIVE OR IS IT MEMOREX?"

Several years ago there was a commercial that implied that you could not tell the difference between a "real" performance and one that was "taped." In other words you couldn't tell the difference between what was real and what wasn't.

I am sorry to say that today, in the Church (not all) but some, have substituted the Glory of God with an "artificial glory;" by using special effects, lighting, smoke machines and so on; so that it is difficult to discern the "real" from the "manmade."

We are told in the Word of God that when they were dedicating the Temple, The Shekinah Glory of God filled the temple with smoke. The presence of God was so powerful that the priests had trouble standing up. It's sad when we resort to producing artificial glory because we don't expect the true manifestation of the Glory of God to be present.

At the turn of the century, the Glory of God was manifested at the Azusa Street Revival. For OVER THREE YEARS the visible, tangible manifestation of the Glory Cloud was present in the building. I have read testimonies of many of the children who were there during that revival. All of their stories tell of the same events: young men and women seeking God and God revealing Himself. There were no flashing lights or smoke machines at the Azusa Street Revival.

A hundred years ago, circuit riders were traveling across the United States stopping at every community and preaching the Word of God. Great revivals took

place and people of all social standing were coming to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. In one community, a meeting place was set up in a field by one man. After a few days only a handful of people were coming to hear him teach the Word. But he didn't give up. He continued to teach and within weeks, hundreds were attending the meetings.

One evening a farmer showed up with his shotgun at one of those meetings. He was drunk and angry because his wife and daughter had been coming to the meetings. Everything got quiet as the farmer approached the area where the minister was speaking. With his shotgun in his hand, he yelled at the minster, but the man of God had no fear. He pointed at the man and said with a voice of authority, "I rebuke you, in the name of Jesus, and I command you to lay down that shotgun." The man dropped to his knees, sobbed, and immediately received Jesus as his Lord. The town drunk with the violent temper became a strong leader in the church after the circuit rider left town.

Just before Jesus was received up in a cloud after His resurrection, He told His disciples, Acts 1:8 (KJV)

⁸ But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

In order to witness and bring the world to Jesus, I believe we need three things. We need PERSONAL SALVATION, the WORD OF GOD, and the HOLY SPIRIT! When we boldly live holy lives, full of power and joy, the world will want what we have. And by the influence of the Holy Spirit, the Bible says that Jesus draws all men to the Father (John 12:32).

So here's my point. The modern church can create programs and events that touch the senses of man, but it's ONLY THE HOLY SPIRIT who can turn the heart of a man toward Jesus. Don't misunderstand what I am saying. I am not against Christian rallies, concerts, special events, and programs that will introduce people to the house of God and make them feel like they are not excluded or condemned. However, to *replace* the manifested presence of the Glory of God with man-made substitutes is admitting that we do not expect a TRUE

manifestation of His Glory. Jesus told Martha that if she could believe, she would see the Glory of God (John 11:40).

I have seen some amazing manifestations of the Glory of God, but I am not satisfied...I am hungry for the ax head to float, the 5,000 fed from a lunch sack, the apostles walking on the water, the sick healed by a touch of the hand, and life exist in the presence of death. (2nd Kings 6:6; John 6:1-14; Matthew 14:29; 8:13; John 11:43-44.) Technology can mesmerize and tantalize and bring the level of excitement to a feverish pitch, but ONLY THE POWER OF GOD will raise the dead!

We are all living in a world of artificial substitutes, but I am on a quest to press in for the real manifestation of the GLORY OF GOD THE REAL THING! HOW ABOUT YOU? Do you want LIVE or are you satisfied with MEMOREX?

3 John 1:11 (AMP)

¹¹ Beloved, do not imitate evil, but imitate good. He who does good is of God; he who does evil has not seen (discerned or experienced) God [has enjoyed no vision of Him and does not know Him at all].

John 6:44 (KJV)

⁴⁴ No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Remember above all that You are Loved, You are Welcome and You Belong!

Visit us at Jesusourjubileechurch.com Email: mrk1123@juno.com



From "American Minute" by William J. Federer

Sanctity of Life

"The greatest destroyer of peace today is abortion"-Mother Teresa;

"Pro-Life is Pro Science"-Gary Bauer.

Proverbs 6 states: "The Lord hates...hands that shed innocent blood." Nothing is more innocent than a baby who has never sinned. 2nd Kings 21: "Manasseh...sacrificed his own son in the fire...The Lord said...Manasseh king of Judah has committed these detestable sins...therefore...I am going to bring such disaster'...Manasseh also shed so much innocent blood that he filled Jerusalem from end to end." 2nd Chronicles 33:33: "Manasseh...did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, like unto the abominations of the heathen, whom the Lord had cast out before the children of Israel." Leviticus 20: "Anyone...who sacrifices his child as a burnt offering to Molech...I myself will turn against that man...And of the people of the land pretend they do not know what the man has done...then I myself will set my face against that man and his family."

Should Christians be involved in politics? Will God notice if they sit back and allow the innocent to be killed? Proverbs 24:11-12 makes it clear that God will judge those who do nothing to stop the killing of the innocent: "Rescue those who are unjustly sentenced to death; don't stand back and let them die. Don't try to disclaim responsibility by saying you didn't know about it. For God, who knows all hearts, knows yours, and he knows you knew! And he will reward everyone according to his deeds." (TLB).

"Don't fail to rescue those who are doomed to die. **Don't say, 'I didn't know it!'** God can read your mind. He watches each of us and knows our thoughts. And **God will pay us back for what we do."** (CEV)

"If you excuse yourself, saying, 'Look, we didn't know anything about this,' doesn't **God who knows** what you are really thinking, understand your motives? Isn't your Protector aware of why you aren't protecting the innocent? Will He not repay you in kind?" (VOICE)

In other words, a just God will judge a nation which knowingly allows the unjust killing of the innocent. If God does not judge, His silence would be giving consent to the sin, and if God gives consent to sin, He is no longer a just God. He would be denying His just nature...He would be denying Himself.

An **individual believer** is **saved** by believing that **Jesus** took the **judgement** for **their sins** upon the **cross**, but what about a **nation**?

Colonel George Mason, a founding father from Virginia, stated at the Constitutional Convention, August 22, 1787: As **nations** cannot be rewarded or punished in the next world, they must be in this.

By an inevitable chain of causes and effects, Providence punishes national sins by national calamities." He added that national sins: ".......bring the judgment of Heaven on a country."

When Cain killed Able, the Lord asked him: "What hast thou done? The voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground." If the blood of one innocent person, Abel, cries out for judgement, how deafening is the cry from 60 million innocent unborn babies killed in the United States since 1973, in addition to an estimated one billion abortions globally?

Populations of western countries are declining, due, in part, to the attitude of Planned Parenthood's founder, Margaret Sanger, who wrote in Woman and the New Race (chapter5, "The Wickedness of Creating Large Families," 1920): "The most merciful thing that a large family does to one of its infant members is to kill it." Sanger stated: "No woman shall have the legal right to bear a child...without a permit."

Senator Zell Miller, one of the few pro-life Democratic Senators stated in a video interview on his book A Deficit of Decency (2005): Unfortunately, the National Democratic Party...has been taken over by the very liberal left wing leaning special interest groups in Washington."

The largest ethnic group affected by abortion are **African-Americans** as nearly **20 million black babies** have been **aborted** since *Roe v. Wade*.

Alveda King, niece of civil rights leader Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., founded the National Black Pro-Life Coalition. Alveda King told CNSNews.com (Dec. 5, 2016): "Abortion is...designed for population control...The numbers are higher in the African American community, so that's certainly black genocide...We also discovered that once black people are made aware of the genocidal eugenics by abortion that the community will speak out."

(To be continued next month)

2 Chronicles 7:14 (KJV)

¹⁴ If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

IT IS TIME FOR CHRISTIANS TO AWAKEN AND ACT!

MAY GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA!