John Newlin Ministries, Inc.

- realizing the power of a life in Christ-

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THOSE PERISHING IN OUR MIDST

I have written much about Jesus' first warning concerning these last days – to watch not to be deceived. Deception is indeed rampant in our time.

I want us to look even deeper into this. What are the implications? What is happening? In the early part of 2 Thessalonians 2 the verses describe the coming of the man of lawlessness, the Antichrist. And then, beginning in verse 9, we get a curious and deep insight:

⁹ The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie, ¹⁰ and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. (NIV)

So the coming of the Antichrist will be accompanied by all sorts of miraculous things happening, things that really do happen but are from and through Satan operating through the Antichrist and perhaps directly as well. Real, miraculous signs and wonders. From the dark side. And all this deceives those who are perishing.

Curious word – perishing. Do you know what the word perish means? It means to die and has a violent, untimely sense. Even more meaningfully, the original Greek word of the Bible translated perish here carries a sense of ruin and utter destruction, of the loss of well-being as regards the hereafter. People who are perishing are absolutely and in the fullest sense of the word dying. They are actively dying, on their way to final death, separated from God.

These are the people who are deceived by the actions of the evil side in these last days. Why are these people perishing? As often the case, Scripture goes on to answer that for us. The rest of verse 10 gives the answer:

They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. (NIV)

These are people who refused to love the truth and so be saved. And what is that truth? I know you can answer that. It is the gospel message, the truth of who God is, who Jesus is, what Jesus did in going to and through the cross – how he reconciled humanity to God, and how people can be saved and be in the Kingdom of God by repenting and asking Jesus to be their Lord. The truth that counts. Jesus is the truth. "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6 NKJV)

The people perishing have refused to love the truth and thus to be saved!

And then the next step in 2 Thessalonians 2, the coup de gras for their behavior.

¹¹For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie ¹² and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness. (NIV)

God sends these perishing people a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie...apparently the lie about who the Antichrist is, that he as is described later in Revelation 13 is to be worshipped. And in conclusion these perishing people are condemned. They have deliberately rejected the truth, and they are condemned.

We as Christians have always hoped and continue to hope for the salvation of any person no matter how lost or reprobate. And we continue in our actions and our prayers to that end, as well we should. There is ample guidance from the Bible for this view and approach.

Still, these difficult scriptures from Thessalonians make it clear that there are many people in the time of the end, the time of the coming of the Antichrist, that indeed are perishing, that have rejected God's truth, and that clearly are given over to a delusion and are condemned. What does this mean for us today? We are so close to that coming of the Antichrist. And there are all these lost people out there. How many of these does God consider right now to be in the perishing group, the group of people who have rejected the truth and thus will be sent the delusion and are condemned. We don't know that do we? No we don't. So we continue with our efforts as we can and as we are led by the Holy Spirit to help in God's drawing people to Jesus.

But the inescapable fact is that God does recognize when people have rejected the truth, that there is a moment and a time when they are indeed perishing even though they still walk the earth, and that these people will be dealt with specifically as we have just read.

Tough times we live in. The last days. The end times. All real and all true. Just as I have often said in the past: God is real, Jesus is real, the Holy Spirit is real, the Bible is true, angels are real, and so too the devil and demons. All true and real. And God's judgment and actions in the last days are real too.

HELP IN RECEIVING HEALING

All of you know, I hope, that our website contains a healing resource page with all sorts of materials to help in your seeking to receive God's healing when you are fighting any physical attack – pain, illness, injury. There are handouts you can print out, like a list of the wonderful healing scriptures, or a list of keys to receiving based on our experience in healing programs and services and one-on-one situations over the years, or a list of proclamations to declare over yourself. There are our television programs on healing and the CDs and several wonderful testimonies of persons who have been divinely healed in wonderful ways.

Now on top of all this I just want to suggest something else that works for me when I am attacked, sometimes in the middle of the night suddenly with really bad neck and head pain. Yes, I am not totally immune, even though we pray the protection prayers. But we do know how to fight. Lately I have found that I go stand by a counter in the kitchen and read the particular scriptures listed below in that order. Often by the time I am finished the pain is gone, or soon thereafter. (And of course I have ordered it out in Jesus' name. You should do the same.).

So I share these and recommend you use them when you are being attacked in some physical way:

Isaiah 52:14 (reminds me of just how horribly Jesus suffered for me)

Isaiah 53:4-5

Matthew 8:16-17

1 Peter 2:24

Exodus 15:26

Exodus 23:25-26

Psalm 103: 1-5

Psalm 105:37

Psalm 107:20 (which means that God sent Jesus and healed you!)

Proverbs 3:7-8

Proverbs 4:20-23

Proverbs 26:2

James 4:7

Remember in all this how often Jesus said to someone that their faith had made them well. Remember that he said believers can do the same thing he did. Remember that he said in Jesus' name believers will cast out demons. Remember how he said believers will lay hands on the sick and they will be well.

You get the picture. God's words are true. All those scriptures just listed are true. Divine healing has never gone away. It is real and true today just as 2000 years ago. And it is for you and me and every other believer in the Lord Jesus Christ. So too miracles. You know that if you've been reading these newsletters or our emails or the testimonies on the web site.

WAKE UP AMERICA! – A BOOK FOR EVERYONE

A quick update:

- The book is now at the final step. It is in the hands of the printer right now but for some inexplicable reason the printer is taking some time to schedule the printing. We will notify everyone as soon as the book is out in print form.
- Anyone can right now preorder the print version from our ministry website or by using the order form at the end of this newsletter.
- Amazon already has its Kindle eBook page up for the book on the Internet; this Kindle version has been designated for a formal May 1 release on Amazon. But you can go there now and preorder the Kindle if you wish. Be forewarned the site is still under development. (Amazon will also be adding the print version to its site as well as soon as the book is printed.)
- In a few days we will also put an eBook file on our web site for those interested to order.

The extraordinary saga of this book is a wonder in itself. Sometime I will write of all the challenges faced in getting this book out, but not now. God asked me to write it back in 1993. I tried then but it was



not the right time and I did not have the revelation needed. About a year ago it came up again, and this was the right time. The book is for now for all of us. These are the last days.

I wrote this book so that those who do not yet know might realize that Jesus Christ is returning soon – very soon. Not soon as in the next hundred years or thousand years. But really soon, as in the next year or ten years – certainly in the lifetimes of many of those living today. He is returning to collect his believers. And the seven year period of God's judgment on the world will begin.

WAKE UP AMERICA presents the case, the facts. It looks at the effects of the gigantic fall away from God today. It looks at the prophecies fulfilled, the deception, the lost, and the move to a one-world government. At what is coming and what you and other readers should do about it, how you should prepare, what you should be doing as regards others.

Our hope is not in governments or in organizations or in other people. It is in Jesus and our relationship with him. This is a book that can change your and other people's lives. I encourage you to get it for all those God has in your life – believers and nonbelievers.

May you live in the blessings of God always.

John

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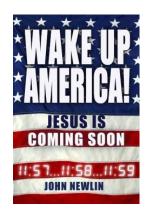
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