

# **John Newlin Ministries, Inc.**

*- realizing the power of a life in Christ-*

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## **THE COST OF FOLLOWING JESUS**

The Lord warned of the cost of following him as a disciple in this secular world. He laid it out specifically. He warned us.

I have written from time to time of the attacks on believers when they step out to do something for the Lord. In serious jest I have warned that if you are going to tell your unbelieving neighbor across the road about Jesus, be sure to look both ways before crossing the road. The evil one does not play games. It is all seriousness to him; insane serious evil seems an apt description.

At times I have written of our own personal experiences of unusual and bizarre attacks – on our computer systems, our web site, on our physical persons (such as not being able to speak suddenly as I traveled to a meeting where I was the speaker – Cathy and I prayed during the journey and finally as I arrived at the meeting my voice was back), on finances, on family relationships, on really anything.

That is why I warn all so often of the need to take up all the protections the Lord has provided us. He has not been stingy in his provision but has provided abundantly, such as in the armor of God described by Paul, such as other scripture, such as the power we as born again Spirit filled believers have in Jesus, such as in our ability to cast out demons in Jesus' name, such as the protection God's wonderful angels provide for those who will inherit salvation.

Most Christians today have not wanted to get into or look into any of this. But it is all real. And if you are a true believer you must know how to fight and you must be prepared to fight. You will have no choice. The evil one will not leave you alone forever (Unless you are a sleeping Christian doing nothing for the Lord).

Years ago I had a young friend. He told me his wife and he had planned to be missionaries and were spending a year in preparation. But, he said, the attacks became so severe they decided they couldn't survive and they had to give up the goal of being missionaries. I am sorry they felt they had to give up, but I understand that. You don't want that result. You want to persevere and to win and to go forward in all the Lord has called you to.

This same friend relayed a story that perhaps I should tell. When he and his family and young children were returning from a flight somewhere, they left the airport and boarded an airport bus to take them to their parked car. As soon as they got on the crowded bus, his young son ran to a strange man and jumped into his lap. My friend said the man was obviously evil. He also said that ever after that, this son was uncontrollable. He could not sleep calmly. My friend and his

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wife tried all sorts of things. Finally he spent the night alone out on their porch fasting and no doubt praying. When the next day came the evil spirit was gone from his son and he was back to normal.

This is not a game dear friends. It is all real. The evil one leaves people alone who are no threat to him. Unfortunately, those people also are likely no help to God either.

Jesus said the evil one was a murderer. He didn't say he just offered up weak temptations, as some today seem to believe. He didn't say the devil was just a liar. He said the devil comes to steal, kill, and destroy. And he does. We know from scripture just how high this evil one ranked in the angel hierarchy.

In a quick sentence, the devil wants to kill any believer who is out there seeking to lead others to Jesus, and then he wants to kill unbelievers so they cannot learn the truth. Really he just wants to kill.

Here's a great example of all this:

For years when I speak about Israel I often mention Theodore Herzl, the earthly father of modern Zionism. It was through Herzl that God got the ball rolling toward the creation of the new state of Israel in 1948.

I will not repeat Herzl's biography here, but you should read it. Let me just give a couple sentences. He was a reporter who became convinced after covering the Dreyfus affair that there never could be assimilation or tolerance of the Jewish people in world society. He became convinced the Jews had to have a homeland. He wore himself out working toward that, but he got it all going. In 1897 he held the First World Zionist Congress. He wrote a couple books that had a big impact on all this. He traveled here and there meeting with world leaders. And he died in 1904 at a young age. When Israel came back into existence his remains were taken there and buried on Mount Herzl. There are many streets named after him in Israel.

Now just look at how he and his family were attacked by the evil one:

Herzl died as a young man, exhausted from his efforts. Of his three children, the eldest daughter was a drug addict and died as a young adult. Hearing about this, his adult son shot himself. The third child was killed with her husband in a concentration camp in WWII. Hearing about his, this child's son – an adult who had served in the British military in WWII, jumped off a bridge to his death.

How is that for horror in a family? Here a man who seemingly worked his whole life to bring about God's plan regarding Israel, and his family lived a life of horror. Obviously, the evil one attacked this family relentlessly. The return of Israel was something the evil one surely did not want to see happen. Also obviously, the Herzl family did not know how to protect itself spiritually.

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But you do know how to protect yourself. You know about putting on the armor of God (Ephesians 6). You know about casting out demons in Jesus' name (Mark 16:17). You know that God has sent his ministering spirits, that means angels, to serve you (Hebrews 1:14) and that service surely includes protection. You can read all this in our newsletters, such as the March 2018 one which is especially good at explaining the armor. If you have not received it, ask for our pocket laminated card concerning the armor of God to carry with you. And you can go to the website and watch the four part program about *Fighting Evil – Being a Christian Soldier*, or get the CD by the same name.

Following Jesus brings a cost. He was clear about that. But it also brings great joy and peace and so many things beyond my ability to describe in words.

May the Lord bless you and lead you in all he would have you do.

## **ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FROM THE MARCH 2 MEETING “THE IMMINENT RETURN OF JESUS”**

At our March 2 meeting on “The Imminent Return of Jesus,” we promised to answer some questions that were submitted in the next newsletter. Here are two received:

**WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE GREAT AND TERRIBLE DAY OF THE LORD AND THE TRIBULATION?** Let's just look at the Day of the Lord phrase itself. This occurs several times in scripture. Basically, this is the time when God intervenes directly in human affairs to bring his final judgement on this age. It obviously can refer to the very last of the Tribulation period and the battle of Armageddon, but more generally it seems to refer to the whole time, to the entire seven year Tribulation period. The more dramatic term Great and Terrible Day of the Lord is just a more dramatic way of expressing the same thing. Certainly it could refer to Armageddon where all of God's opposition is removed. Or to the last half of the Tribulation period which seems to be far worse than the first half, or to the entire Tribulation period. Again, it is just another way of referring to God's pouring out his judgement on the world at this time.

**SOME PEOPLE ARE GETTING A CHIP IN THEIR HANDS AT THEIR PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT. IS THIS THE MARK OF THE BEAST OR DOES THE ANTICHRIST NEED TO IMPLIMENT IT?** I certainly would never accept such a chip willingly and I certainly recommend no one else do so. How does anyone know what exactly is in that chip? We are deep into the move to a one world government, to a time when the secular government structure takes over more and more of our lives. Why would anyone let an organization, likely a godless organization, put a chip into them which gives the ability to follow their location, know more about them and what they are doing, and so on.

The one official Antichrist who rules in the last days has not yet been publicly revealed, but surely the antichrist spirit is operative in our time throughout the land. In 1 John the disciple

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John writes of how that spirit even then was active. I would think the chip described in Revelation 13 and 14 that the False Prophet sets up just is the final result of this gradual buildup and incursion of technology today in our lives. The companies putting chips in their employees today are paving the way for that future action.

## **USE WAKE UP AMERICA! TO REACH OTHERS WHO DON'T KNOW JESUS OR ARE NOT AWARE OF HIS IMMINENT RETURN!**

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Giving this book to others is one way to reach those around you. Most people will take a book. They may read it later, but at least you will have a book in their hands!

Thanks again to all for your prayers, your contributions, and your support in other ways. All this enables us to go forward in getting the great truths of this time out to others. Remember too that others can be added to our distribution list to receive the newsletter, the Sign of the Times, and the Watchman Warning. Just let us know their email or postal address.

*May you live in the blessings of God always.*

**John**

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