

Prayer Focus – Setting your mind on things above

June 2020

This month the focus will be **setting your mind on things above.** Last month we discussed the importance of **the Spirit of Wisdom** and being able not only to discern the times, but to keep clearheaded and stay wide awake. We explained how we are in the **birth pains of a new age being birthed** which simply means the *church’s final hours* *are here* (1 Corinthians 10:11 AMPC)*.* There is a mission that the body of Christ is assigned to and we must get to it! Satan knows his time is short and is attempting to prevent the church from fulfilling its plan in the earth (Revelation 12:12 TPT). He has only five devices he uses to steal, kill and destroy but he can use them a thousand different ways! In Mark 4:11 NKJV, Jesus told us that the understanding of this parable was given to us and not to the world. Our Lord discloses these 5 attacks in Mark 4: 17-19 NKJV.

*And they have no root in themselves, and so endure for a time. Afterward, when* ***tribulation*** *or* ***persecution*** *arises for the word’s sake, immediately they stumble. Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word, and the* ***cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches,*** *and* ***the desires for other things*** *entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful****.***

Paul reminds us that we are to be aware of Satan’s devices in 2 Corinthians 2:11 NLT, *so that Satan will not outsmart us. For we are familiar with his evil schemes.* Throughout this period of turmoil and change, it’s imperative, we don’t allow the enemy to divert our attention off our mission that the Word has clearly defined for us. Lucifer and his cohorts are making every effort to steal God’s plan from us! One of the devices he makes use of is the **cares of this world**. Several examples that can become cares (causes) are vaccines, civil liberties being infringed upon or lost, the loss of prayer in the schools, the loss of our ten commandments and bible in the public square, social issues such as social injustices, abortion, homosexual marriage, transgenderism, etc.…. As Christians we should know what the Word has to say about these issues and we should be involved in voting, calling our representatives and senators, signing petitions, but these societal issues should not become a distraction **(device)** that diverts our attention off the mission the Word has defined for us! Unfortunately, the body of Christ at times has **championed these issues as the mission**. Jesus nor any of the disciples took on the causes of that time instead they **stayed on task and fulfilled their mission**.

Paul describes in 2 Corinthians 11:23-32 AMPC all the circumstances he had to endure. Did Paul deal with these cares by taking up a cause against or for them? No, in fact Paul reveals he knew it was a messenger of Satan (2 Corinthians 12:7-10 TPT) trying to steal, kill and destroy the gospel of Christ (Ephesians 6:10-13,18 TPT). How did Paul respond to Satan’s diversion? He looked away from all that attempted to distract him from ***his mission***to teach the church! Paul delivered this message in Colossians 3:2 NKJV; ***Set your mind on things above,*** ***not on the things on the earth.*** (read Colossians 3:1-2 TPT).

Therefore, let’s **set our mind on** **things above!** What does that mean? **Set your mind on the** only mission Christ, the head of the body gave us to do, Mark 16:15 TPT; *And he said to them, “As you go into all the world,* ***preach openly the wonderful news of the gospel*** *to the entire human race! Whoever believes the good news and is baptized will be saved, and whoever does not believe the good news will be condemned. And these miracle signs will accompany those who believe; They will drive out demons in the power of my name. They will speak in tongues. They will be supernaturally protected from snakes and from drinking anything poisonous. And they will lay hands on the sick and heal them.”* Pray that the church would look away from the natural realm and **set their thoughts on their destined purpose**.

Mission Minded,

*Scott and Jackie*

**SCRIPTURES as references and those TO PRAY:** 1 Corinthians 10:11 AMPC (TPT); Revelation 12:12 TPT; John 10:10 TPT; Mark 4:3-20 TPT; 2 Corinthians 2:11 NLT; 2 Corinthians 11:23-32 AMPC; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 TPT (AMPC); Ephesians 6:10-20 TPT; Colossians 3:2 NKJV (TPT); Mark 16:15-20 TPT; Hebrews 12:1-3 TPT; Mark 13:13 TPT; Psalms 16:5 TPT; Ephesians 1:17-23 TPT; Ephesians 3:16-21 TPT; Colossians 1:9-23 NLT; Philippians 4: 5-8 AMP (TPT)

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