

185,000!

“Of a truth, LORD, the kings of Assyria have destroyed the nations and their lands, And have cast their gods into the fire: for they were no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone: therefore they have destroyed them. Now therefore, O LORD our God, I beseech thee, save thou us out of his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the LORD God, even thou only.” (2 Kings 19:17-19)

The king of Assyria sent a massive army to intimidate Hezekiah in Jerusalem, and the soldiers camped in the valley just below. Their number was great - possibly about 200,000 or more. Hezekiah was, except for David, the most righteous of kings of Judah, yet he began to crumble at this spectacular show of strength that surrounded the city. He cried out to God for help.

Though the actual words are not read in this portion, his prayer to God was imprecatory. Isaiah took up the refrain, and called upon the Lord, Who replied:

“Whom hast thou reproached and blasphemed? and against whom hast thou exalted thy voice, and lifted up thine eyes on high? even against the Holy One of Israel.”

(2 Kings 19:22)

God is not cowed-down by numbers or by enemies, for He is the King of kings! He can snuff-out the scariest of foes. Thus, in His answer He scorned Assyria, saying it was “of small power”. He then told the king of Assyria that though he postured as the greatest king, he would become as an animal to be led by God:

“Because thy rage against me and thy tumult is come up into mine ears, therefore I will put my hook in thy nose, and my bridle in thy lips, and I will turn thee back by the way by which thou camest.” (verse 28)

This was because an attack on Jerusalem was an attack against God's people, and an attack on God's people was an attack against Almighty God Himself. Judah was reduced in power because of previous spiritual debauchery, but Hezekiah remedied the evils brought about by so many kings of Judah previously.

So, God listened and took action, for the sake of David and his descendants. He did it by stopping Assyria in its tracks, for "I will defend this city, to save it for mine own sake" (verse 34). Then, after assuring Hezekiah, God did a remarkable and miraculous thing – He decimated the Assyrian army in one fell swoop.

“And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses.” (Verse 35)

God killed 185,000 Assyrian soldiers during the night, all at the same time, leaving not a battle-scratch on any of them. King Sennacherib took the hint and left. But, his full punishment for blaspheming against the Lord was not yet come. Soon after, he was assassinated by two of his own sons, as he worshipped in the temple of his false god, Nisroch. God does not sleep!

What we see is God responding to imprecatory prayers that sought the end of the enemy. He responded because Hezekiah was faithful and righteous.

God will respond to our distress, too, if we, too, are righteous and call upon Him in truth and godliness. But, this latter virtue is almost lost in the West, so homosexuals and Islamists camp right outside our walls. We must all repent and stand up with trust in God.

Another thing missing today is the refusal to utter imprecatory prayers against our enemies. For reasons lost to genuine believers, weak Christians think we must 'love' everybody, no matter who they are or what they do, even when they blaspheme the Lord. In other words, they call upon God to help and nurture those who openly blaspheme His name and harm His people!

Can't you see how bizarre this is, and how ungodly? By praying to God to 'love' our enemies,

when He Himself tells us they are damned, is to reject God and to adopt the wickedness of the enemy! If God wishes to forgive our enemies, He can only do so if they give up their evils against us and Him.

Even if He does so, His forgiveness is on the most rudimentary level, for it will not save the enemy.

Until we understand what all this is about we will be harassed and killed by the enemies. But, live like Hezekiah and God will intervene in our affairs.

Yes the enemies are many (in a previous article I spoke of homosexuals, Islamists, atheists, Marxists, fake environmentalists, etc) and they threaten us with total destruction; they are camped all around us and our end is truly nigh. BUT, God WILL help us and WILL scatter the enemies IF we are righteous and call upon Him. This includes imprecatory prayer.

Are you going to obey God? Will you become as righteous as you ought to be? Will you be holy in His Name? Will you speak only truth and defend the name of our mighty Lord? If you subject yourself to God, He WILL help you, whether swiftly or after a long period of penalties (because we have slipped into unrighteousness). Imagine what God would do to our enemies if we met His will?

Imagine if God put to death hundreds of thousands of wicked homosexual leaders in one day at the same time? Or, if ALL the hounds of hell known as ISIS, Al Qaeda, Boko Haram, etc., all literally dropped dead at one moment throughout the world, without a bullet or bomb? Or, socialists and atheists were taken with such fear of God, they quaked on their faces! If you can't imagine it, then your belief in God is spineless and without truth.

God is Almighty. Our enemies are His enemies. He will drive them out if only we will live genuine holy lives. It is up to you!

Hot Tip!

This is a really hot tip for anyone who is unfamiliar with eating jalapeno peppers...

My son asked me to put a frozen hot dog with fillings into the microwave. But, he is allergic to peppers and asked me to remove the jalapeno pepper slices first. Which I did.

For some reason I decided to crunch on the peppers – just three very thin frozen slices about the size of ten pence pieces. I thought they would cool me like an ice lollipop, and they'd be swallowed immediately. So, I crunched into them and swallowed.

What followed was far from cool! I think maybe I was attacked by a flame-thrower!! The heat began just a second after I swallowed the three little monsters... and got hotter and hotter, burning my entire mouth and throat. I started perspiring and salivating profusely, and my head felt like it would explode!! It was so bad I put cold water into a glass and bent over it, dipping my tongue in the water. It worked... but as soon as I stood up the painful flames again burnt me alive!

So I stayed as I was, tongue in glass for about ten minutes. My tongue felt numb for the rest of the day. Next day, the end of my tongue was tingling and raw. The rest of my tongue seemed to be like a spit-roast still over the coals! Overall it took three days to get rid of the agony. My tip is – don't do it!!

I thought that because the pepper was frozen with ice on it, that it would do nothing. Oh boy, was I wrong! What I thought was a very small act brought me a whole heap of pain.

Many Christians think there are 'small' sins. They easily commit them, because no-one is looking and the result has no observable result. Don't be fooled. To God ALL sins are the same size. And ALL sins receive the same condemnation. Even when appearing cool, a sin can damage you intensely, as it burrows into your mind like woodworm, continuing its damage for a very long time. God sees us every moment. When we sin and do not repent, the Lord takes note. We WILL be held accountable.

With my jalapeno I was held accountable immediately, and just could not get rid of the effects!

My tongue burned for days. Same goes for unrepented-of sin.

The unsaved cannot repent without salvation. My pepper burned for three days, but hell for the unsaved is full of unquenchable flames. My tongue finally healed, but there is no healing in hell, only continual punishment from God and continued by a furious Satan and demons. On earth, they encouraged us to sin, but they do not thereby show respect to people who listen to them. No, they heap scorn on them for being so stupid: it is NOT Satan's aim to give us a great time. Whatever he gives us is pending doom in a hell that lasts forever. So, when you enjoy your sins, remember the true aim, and the penalty, which MUST come about.

Be careful what you think, say and do, for God is there even before you do it. His hell for the unsaved is greater in its harm than any jalapeno. And He DOES take note of sin committed by believers, expecting them to repent and turn away from their sin. If we do not, God will either allow us to reap the bad rewards of committing what He hates, or He will punish us direct. Far worse than jalapeno.

Now for a Cool Tip

Nothing like cool orange juice to drink on a summer's day. Some insist on buying only fresh-squeezed orange. I buy the cheapest, made from orange concentrate. Recent researches show that the concentrates contain more vitamins and other goodies than freshly squeezed orange juice, sold at many times the price!! So, do yourself a flavour and get the cheaper one!! Stop being so elitist about this favoured flavour, and save yourself a lot of money!

How Do You Do It?

I am often asked how I can produce so many articles every month. The answer is simple. Firstly, after over fifty years in the ministry I know my way around scripture. Secondly, I do not just work on one article at a time, but, if the issue is time-sensitive I will write one article until it is completed.

Mostly, though, I have several titles 'on the boil' at any one time. I add to these titles as and when I feel the time is right. Thus, it seems that I have 'burst forth' suddenly with several titles at once. Of course, there is a continuous flow of Bible studies, as I have to deliver these every Sunday.

The rest is simply a matter of compiling several papers at the same time, but written over different spans of time. The exception at the moment is concerned with the EU and the UK referendum, and with Islamic migrants – a very urgent issue that needs my constant attention.

So, there you have it. My work patterns have had to change dramatically because of my wife's condition, but the Lord is still guiding me. Unfortunately, even this has been slowed right down for the past few weeks, as my heart is doing a merry dance, making me weak, sleepy and breathless... feels like a host of butterflies taking my breath away! However, I keep going, because there is no-one else to be with Diane (this is complex and ongoing). I thank God for any strength given and hope this episode will pass.

EU Referendum a Test of Orthodoxy?

It is true that some Christians become very angry with their fellows if they don't do the same as they do! So, what do you say if it is asserted that true believers **MUST** vote to exit the EU? It thus becomes a 'test of orthodoxy'.

Do you see that as dramatic and totalitarian? Why? God demands full obedience from us. If we are not obedient He judges us. Look at **WHY** we must vote to leave the EU... it is not just a matter of holding to different political opinions.

Britain was handed-over to the EU by Edward Heath who **KNEW** that our joining was far more than a simple agreement to conduct mutual trade. He was a liar and deceiver! And his duplicity is found in present-day politicians.

Forty years ago I did not vote to enter the EU, but I am affected anyway by the ignorant and foolish ideas held by my fellows. Their freedom to choose has left **ME** with harm done to my person.

The EU has taken our sovereignty, just as if it had done so by war. It is notable that the lead country against us is – Germany. It is also the country that invited Muslims to migrate in massive numbers. Since arriving they have committed mayhem, violence, rape, theft, benefit fraud... you name it and they've done it, because it is part of their pseudo-religion! Above all

else they refuse western laws, are left unpunished for crimes by order of the EU, and show intense hatred for us.

They attack not just fellow Muslims of a different sect, but also Christians. And they promise to change the West irrevocably – something they have been doing for some years anyway. (Yes, some Muslims are against what foul Islamists are doing. But, we do not know who they are, so they must be lumped-together with the violent ones).

Sharia courts are already working, though they are illegal, terrorists arrive almost daily amongst migrants – most of whom are economic migrants, of no use at all to the West, but taking social benefits that should belong to our own citizens.

If Britain allows in even more Muslims the UK will be changed forever, into the image of Mohammed and the Koran, an image that does not tolerate Christians or God.

Our economy is being strangled by obtuse and useless EU laws and policies, and CAP gives away our taxes to bad farmers in the EU, whose work gives nothing of value to Europe. Migration from the EU is also a big problem, because eastern workers will take a much lower rate of pay, forcing our own people out of jobs. They also claim amazing multiple benefits for their extended families... something British people cannot do.

And now the EU is going to form its own army (again, our taxpayers will fund it), bringing defeated Germany back from the ashes: a Germany and EU that are fully fascist and socialist. Socialism hates Christ and Christians, which is why their laws try to do away with us, through many channels, such as homosexuality, Islam, atheism, evolution... whatever works they will use against us. The EU even said recently that if we vote to stay in the EU, they will 'punish' us with a huge number of laws and policies. So, if we vote to stay in, we will be agreeing to our own demise.

Check out scripture, friends! You will see plenty of warnings about joining with such demonic forces. As far as I am concerned, your claim to be my brother or sister is now on the line. It is NOT just about politics... it is about rejecting a godless and wicked regime and living a godly life, or being just as sinful.

Just last Sunday we studied 2 kings 22, where God warned Josiah that Judah would be crushed by God's wrath for the sins committed previously by Judah. Yet, Josiah is documented thus: ***“And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in all the way of David his father, and turned not aside to the right hand or to the left.”***

Which one of us can be so praised by Almighty God? God requires every Christian to be spotless and holy. He obliterated Israel and then Judah for their sins, which included the adoption of evil men as leaders... so what do you think God is telling us in the run-up to the referendum? What he says is very obvious!

Do you truly think He will shower us in His love if we deliberately choose to vote to join with a fascist organisation that hates Him?

Yes, I am making a controversial claim – but it is absolutely necessary. We are at a crossroads of belief and faith. Will you take the right road? Or, will you become a turncoat against God and His people? I have not said the above lightly, but with heavy heart. But, it has to be said... I am not seeking a hearty clap on the back from my peers. Rather, I fear the Lord and must warn His people.

“They that hate thee shall be clothed with shame; and the dwelling place of the wicked shall come to nought.” □ Job 8:22

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