

Is Evil Winning?

I remember our first television. It was a black and white set which stood on four skinny legs, and we were not allowed to watch it very often. I do remember watching a few Chicago Cubs games on channel 9 when I was a kid on certain summer afternoons. I remember watching the Ten Commandments with Charlton Heston and the Billy Graham Crusade whenever that came on. I also remember watching the wizard of Oz and the lunar landing when Neil Armstrong stepped foot on the moon. I could hardly ever make out what I was watching because those old rabbit ear antennas weren't very reliable, and it always looked like there was a snowstorm going on.

It's not that much fun to turn on the television these days. We live in strange times for sure. As a pastor of twenty-five years and as a believer in the God of the Bible for over fifty years, I can easily say that I have never seen such blatant evil in our society and at the same time I have never seen the Holy Spirit more powerful in the lives of people in this country. It seems the two sides are going in the opposite direction at break-neck speed.

First of all, let me address what it means to say that I believe in the God of the Bible. I believe that the creator of the universe, the one we call God, always existed and always will exist. Now I'll admit for an unbelieving person perhaps that is a difficult concept to comprehend. The Apostle Paul wrote to the church at Corinth in 1 Corinthians 1:14 *The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he is not able to understand them because there are spiritually discerned.*

We are used to accepting things that can only be seen, touched and understood by our natural mind and intellect. However, there are a myriad of things that we believe in and trust as Christians that can only be understood by the spiritual mind, and so when we first believe we must take them by faith. In Hebrews 11:6 we read *that without faith it is impossible to please God.* You see, by faith we understand that God always existed and that just by His powerful word, He spoke the universe and every last detail of life into existence. At first believing this requires a step of faith. However, once we have taken that step, the Holy Spirit begins to strengthen our understanding and before long, we confidently know that everything in the Bible is true. The Holy Spirit is the third part of the person of God. God is the Father, Yahweh. He is the Son, Jesus Christ, and He is the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is everywhere and lives in the heart of anyone who believes that Jesus is God, that He died, and that God brought Him back to life. The Holy Spirit helps us understand and grow strong in our faith.

When we look at the intricacies of the tiniest cell to the largest Solar System, a believer's heart resonates with joy at the reality of God. With the wisdom that God gives to me from the Holy Spirit it all makes perfect sense. When I read that this incredible God loves me with a love beyond anything this world has ever known and that He sent Jesus Christ to this earth to pay the price for my sinfulness and to be my Savior and Lord, I am overwhelmed with gratitude and love for God.

So even as the world gets darker and nastier, the power of God in the lives of old and new believers is reaching epic heights. God is doing something amazing in this world, but you probably will not see it on your television on the evening news. One of the Christian leaders I've

been following lately on youtube is Sean Feucht. He is leading worship and revival services all over the country even as the riots continue, and lives are being transformed because God's power is greater than evil. That is the best news ever my friends! Until next week, God bless.