

Fighting Evil

Commentary for August 19, 2010 — Count the Cost, Know Your True Enemies

QUESTION: I was listening to your show on *The Byte Show* about the "[Coming: the New World Order](#)," and you state we should not resist it. So I guess we just let evil things happen and say nothing, like their [HAARP](#) earthquakes that are killing millions of people, 9/11 and their WMDs [**W**eapons of **M**ass **D**estruction, the justification for the 2003 Gulf War] lies which I became personally aware of, and am now a targeted individual because I spoke out against these crimes. So we as Christians are just supposed to be obedient little creatures to this evil? That does not set right with me or what God teaches about resisting evil.

ANSWER: The Kingdom of Judah was told not to resist Nebuchadnezzar, God's servant (Jeremiah 25:9, 27:6, 43:10). If they did not resist, they would survive (Jeremiah 21:9, 38:2). They resisted. They died. Later God through Jeremiah told a remnant **NOT** to go to Egypt, and if they did so, they would die (Jeremiah chapter 42). They went. They died.

The antichrist in the future is appointed to perform some actions that God wants done. Do not resist him in doing them. You do so at your own peril. Do not expect God to respond to prayers that are against His will. Your task is to discover God's will for you in your current situation, in your locale, in your government, your society, and your culture. The New World Order is NOT the antichrist, but it and other "conspiracies" around the world are setting the stage for the antichrist to step onto and perform his part in the play. The antichrist will be a principal actor. Indeed, he will be an identifiable actor. But God is the Director.

You say you are a targeted individual. If this is so, perhaps you have made yourself a target. Deal with those consequences. Targets are fired upon. Do not be surprised if they shoot at the target you present to them. Keep in mind the true struggle, your struggle as a believer:

"For it is not ours to wrestle with blood and flesh, but [we wrestle] with the sovereignties, with the authorities, with the world-mights of this darkness, with the spiritual forces of wickedness among the celestials."

• Ephesians 6:12, Concordant Version

These are not physical beings that we "**wrestle**" against. They are spirit beings with tremendous power and authority beyond our present physical imagining. Their power and authority (granted and allowed by God temporarily) are in the celestial realms. These beings are angry and fighting against us, or rather, we are fighting against them as their rule and sovereignty is being threatened. Yes, they have human servants.

Understand that you are one warrior fighting in a tiny corner of the world, among billions of other people. You are probably alone. You are doing nothing wrong by telling truth, even truth to power, but in every struggle, you must count the cost (Luke 14:28-31), use wisdom in your wrestling, and avoid becoming a casualty. Right now, count the cost again.

None of us should expect a lifestyle or fairness in this world now. If you are persecuted for doing good, you will be rewarded (1 Peter 2:19–23, 3:14–18), but many try to determine what is good and righteous for themselves, ignoring God’s instructions through Paul. Beware of sacrificing your family on the altar of your own ego, thinking yourself a savior to others in this world. You are not of this world. You are in this world as a citizen of another kingdom:

“Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.”

• *John 18:36*

Our Dual Citizenship

Every believer has a dual citizenship in the present life. Each of us is a citizen of the land where we were born or live. In fact, the apostle Paul was proud of being a citizen of Tarsus, and used his Roman citizenship to advantage when he was in trouble (Acts 21:39). We are also citizens of another more important spiritual realm. Paul wrote to a Gentile *ekklesia*:

“That you were, in that era, apart from Christ, being alienated from the citizenship of Israel, and guests of the promise covenants, having no expectation, and without God in the world. ... Consequently, then, not longer are you guests and sojourners, but are fellow-citizens of the saints and belong to God’s family.”

• *Ephesians 2:12, 19, Concordant Version*

How do you think we of the household of God should conduct ourselves? Should we engage in physical combat against flesh and blood (Ephesians 6:12)?

“Only be citizens walking worthily of the evangel of Christ, that, whether coming and making your acquaintance, or being absent, I should be hearing of your concerns, that you are standing firm in one spirit, one soul, competing together in the faith of the evangel.”

• *Philippians 1:27, Concordant Version*

I will not encourage you to fight “the good fight,” or to fight to a physical victory, although that victory will come: **“But thanks [be] to God, which gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ”** (1 Corinthians 15:57). God loves you, evil will occur in life, resist evil when it effects you and your loved ones directly, prayer changes things (Proverbs 16:7), and your salvation (and that of your enemies) is certain. Love and pray for your human enemies. That is commanded, as Paul writes in 1 Timothy 2:1–2, and particularly as Jesus spoke:

“Yet I am saying to you, Love your enemies, and pray for [the sake of] those who are persecuting you, so that you may become sons of your Father Who is in the heavens, for He causes His sun to rise on the wicked and the good, and makes it rain on the just and the unjust.”

• *Matthew 5:44–45, Concordant Version*

Read all of Matthew chapter 5, particularly verses 38–39. May God bless you and keep you.

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