

Capital Region Gatekeepers Watch Report

Website: www.ichcndp.org; E-mail: togetherinministry@verizon.net

President: Dr. Corinthia R. Boone * Executive Director: Pastor Eric Yarbough * Executive Secretary: Dr. Hernando Caicedo
Editorial Team- Together In Ministry International

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On behalf of ICHC, it is our wish that you, your family and ministry have a blessed Merry Christmas! May you be refreshed and encouraged as you meditate on the hope and promises of our Lord Jesus on this Christmas Day; cherishing the relationships we share.

Thank you for your faithfulness in the joy and love of Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Situation

We are facing serious challenges; however, we are not dismayed because of the apparent victory of those attempting to redefine marriage. We have been called to an attitude check. Today's morning prayer was an outstanding powerful experience. The moderator Pastor Carlos Peñaloza used as his prayer focus the scene of the encounter between David and Goliath found in 1 Samuel 17:1-50.

The central idea was not to be afraid because of the size of the giant who is challenging or defying us. We must focus on God's power and sovereignty. In addition to the moral decay of the politicians, many people in the D.C. Metro area are faced with serious human challenges such: as illnesses and diseases, the economy, loss of jobs, broken relationships, etc. God has not given us a spirit of fear but a spirit of power and strength.

The second major focus was based on the need to worship and praise the Lord at all times especially when circumstances and conditions are adverse. (Psalms 34:1-7) God will deliver us from anything we may fear because the victory for righteousness is the Lord's.

During the Evening Watches the Lord moved us to worship pray strategically to defeat the plots and schemes of the enemy. The Lord revealed to us that he is giving all of us extra time to do his

will. To the church He is giving extra time to get our act together by deliberately focusing on fulfilling the Great commission as He mandated on Mathew 28:16-20 to make disciples and teach them to obey His law. To the world He is giving them extra time to repent from their wicked ways like He did to the people of Nineveh. Jonah 1:1-17

During the second Watch the Lord also let us know that we have prayer partners in other states who are interceding on behalf of the D.C. Metro area. We also learned about a young woman in Saudi Arabia who became a new martyr. Whom because of the joy showed on her face and her attitude, it was discovered that she was a Christian. Therefore, when she was apprehended by the authorities, she was given 3 minutes to recant her faith in Jesus Christ and she said that the joy she found in Christ would not be found outside of Him and for that they beheaded her on Thursday November 18, 2009

Question

What will you do if faced with the question: Are you willing to die for Christ? Do you prefer to continue acting out of your carnal nature or respond to the direction of the Holy Spirit?

Response

Our response to the region and national community of believers is let us lift up the name of Jesus! Let us "magnify" the Lord and let us exalt His name together for His mercy, His goodness and his patience. (Psalm 34:3) We have inquired of the Lord by reason of our necessity and on the authority of His Word. He has heard us and has delivered us from all our fears.

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We have looked to Him therefore our faces are radiant. We shall never blush of shame nor be confused. The Lord has given us His strategy. He will fight for us. Hallelujah. (Psalms 34:4-5) paraphrased from the Amplified Bible.

Prayer Focus

(We need you to pray in agreement with us)

The spirit of prayer and fasting to fall upon believers with a greater and urgent calling; greater protection for religious freedom.

Beneficiaries of those in need will continually be served; while protection is afforded on individuals, church organizations, deeply held religious beliefs Additional Information: www.marriagemattersdc.org

The Kingdom of God: A change has come!

In this environment of global change, the new season in God is ushered in. God has stirred the hearts of leaders in the Body of Christ to move away from the current preoccupations of the Church, to the more serious consideration of representing the nature and character of God himself. This is a shift from the narcissism of hierarchy leadership to the maturity of responsible sons of God.

Character, not merely style, has become the substances of the current season. Being empowered by the spirit as sent ones has replaced the elementary use of ministry gifts.

The restoration of community, based in divinely ordained relationships, as opposed to membership in an institution is the new reality. These relationships have replaced simple membership,

Discipleship is no longer for the purpose of consolidating church membership. In this new season, those in authority rule for the benefit of those under their care. The goal of discipleship is to release the disciple into his or her divine purpose and to assist them to engage their unique destinations. Fathers are replacing hired pastors, and spiritual children are coming to maturity.

The purpose for being on the earth is not to work to leave the earth a better place than when you entered it, but to be conformed to the very image of Christ in your time here. Seeing all things through spiritual lenses is replacing a logical view of reality; a life of trusting God is replacing a rational decision making process; divine wisdom is replacing secularism. The realities of heaven and earth meet in the Body of Christ, and define earthly existence as being to show the glory of Christ in the way the community of the Body of Christ governs itself.

The evidence of the changed season is that there is a new level of enablement by the Holy Spirit to match the hunger in the hearts of believers, many of whom are not content with being spectators, but want to engage the reality of being an expression of the character and reality of God himself. They want to be mature sons of God.

God himself has prepared this answer for the times that have come upon the Earth. In this season of global uncertainty and growing distress among nations, the sons of God will govern themselves so righteously that the nations of mankind will see the wisdom and counsel of the Body of Christ. The Kingdom of God is Come!