

The Refreshing Times Aug. 2020

The Great Awokening Or Great Awakening.

For every true move of God there is a counterfeit move that seeks to undermine the genuine. Moses appears before Pharaoh and performs several miracles. Pharaoh's magicians seek to mimic the snakes, the blood and the frogs. After the frogs, their ability to mimic ceased. Not only that, but Moses' rod (that turned into a serpent) ate pharaoh's magicians (snake). The Prophets have been speaking of a last Great Awakening. Satan, hearing this, seeks to undermine the legitimate with the false or illegitimate "awakening". A former President actually

called the Woke movement a "great awakening". The true move of God does not fight against flesh and blood. It will not be violent toward its neighbors. The true Awakening awakens the human heart to God. The human heart comes to God through Jesus Christ for the first time or returns back to the Father God. It will produce the fruit of honor and love to humanity. A false movement will fail to display the qualities of love for God in Christ and good will toward humanity. Jesus said "You will know them by their fruits". Many Christians are deceived into following these false movements to help shoulder social justice. They call themselves "Social Justice Warriors". Woke means "alert to injustice in society, especially racism". I believe we are to be those who speak up for injustice and cry out for mercy. However, much of this is done at the expense of other peoples property, reputation and future. There is a "cancel culture" that seeks to destroy the future of those that disagree with their beliefs. The book of Micah addresses social ills. **"He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6:8 NKJV** . Justice without mercy is anarchy and mercy without humility is false

humility. True humility remembers that God is full of mercy. In other words, where would we be if it was not for the mercy of God. When we look to our forefathers and see their faults, do we judge tear down their statues, or show mercy and learn from them? According to Epistle of James "mercy triumphs over judgment". While our forefathers have not been perfect, they have

Upcoming Events

Aug 5

**Communion and
Divine Health
Service**

Aug 9

**Todd Levin (Zoom
service)**

Aug 16

Vision Sunday

Aug 19

Relationship Sun

Aug 5&19

Midweek Manna

Via Zoom

made sacrifices and paved the way for the great country we have today. I am sure 150 years from now our great great grandchildren will look back at us and think we might have been reprobates for some of the things we've allowed or condoned in our society. God is giving America a chance for another great awakening so we can see the blessing come upon our children and our great grandchildren unto 1000 generations. Every prayer we pray, every act of justice and kindness, every display of mercy and every time we humbly come before God and before others we are setting the stage for a great awakening in our country which provides a bright future for our children. We should be careful what we call an "Awakening". We will know any movement by their fruits. In a true move of God, the Holy Spirit will move in dramatic ways. New births in Christ will emerge, the in the Holy Spirit will be poured out and miracle healings will occur. Pastor Laurie and I were awakened to God in the 70's, during the Charismatic Renewal (An Awakening to the Holy Spirit). When the Berlin Wall came down in 1989, (a non violent event), I believe that was a result of world wide prayer and intercession of the Church of Jesus Christ. Millions prayed over communist countries and their leadership. As we continue to pray, we are seeing the Church come alive in places like China and Iran. Iran has the fastest growing movement of Christianity in the world. Without a new birth in Christ, we may change laws but we will never change hearts or racism. Racism can be defined as a spirit of division. All division comes from a war between the spirit and the flesh (the human selfishness, and reliance on ones own righteousness). The solution to racism/division is, a changed heart and mind coming through the love of God in Christ and the infilling of the Holy Spirit. In a true great awakening, racism (divisiveness) will be destroyed.

We believe a Great Awakening is at our door!

God's richest and best be yours,

Pastors John and Laurie