**Jubilee Christian Center October 20, 2014 It’s Time to take a Stand!**

Today is another different Sunday service in the life of Jubilee Christian Center. I am going to lay aside the series of teachings on the radical, revolutionary Jesus for a week or two. As many of your know, my name is **Gregory,** and this name means **‘watchman** – a person who keeps guard; who warns of impending disaster; a lookout; a sentinel; a person characterized by wakefulness.’ Part of my job description as a Pastor is to be a watchman who protects the sheep, so I am well suited to my name. **Question:** what good is a watchman who sees danger approaching and does not sound an alarm? He is useless. So this morning I am going to **sound the alarm** on several subjects, time permitting.

Today you will be fed spiritual food that has no hormones, no steroids, no additives, no artificial sweeteners, ‘no any funny thing’, as they say in Uganda. The pure, undiluted Word of God only!

**Warnings against deceptions.**

Today our world is full of liars and deceivers. They are in the church and out of the church. In our world today, **it is deception** - not poverty, not the Ebola virus, not ISIS or ISIL, not persecution – it is **deception**, that is the single greatest danger and threat to our existence in our world today. First, a foundational scripture in **11Timothy 3:16** states, ‘All scripture is given by inspiration of God.’ No mistakes, no contradictions, no errors. Full stop. In **1Thessalonians 5:21** we have some scriptural instruction. ‘Test all things; hold fast that which is good.’ So failure to test every supernatural experience is disobedience to the Word of God. There is no need to not wonder if the newest experience is of God or not. **Is it in the Word** **of God? That is the test.**

Jesus gave us warnings against deception and false manifestations. **Matthew 24:4** ‘Take heed no one deceives you.’ **Vs. 5** ‘For many will come in my name, saying, I am the Christ (Messiah) and will deceive many.’ **Vs.11** ‘Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.’ **Vs. 24** ‘False prophets and false Christ’s will rise and show great signs and wonders, to deceive, if possible, even the elect.’ We are surrounded by great danger – the danger of being part of the deceived crowd of people!

On our own – in our own strength – our hearts are many times unable to discern deception. That is why we depend on the power of the Holy Ghost to reveal deception to us. Signs and wonders are no guarantee of the truth, neither do they determine what is the truth. The truth is found here in the Word of God! **John 17:17** ‘Jesus prayed, Your Word is truth.’ God’s Word is settled forever in heaven, it is unchangeable. There is nothing that can or will ever change God’s Word. True signs prove the truth – lying signs prove lies. Every supernatural sign and manifestation is not necessarily the truth or from God. satan is completely capable of fake signs and wonders. **11Thessalonians 2:9-12** ‘Even him, whose coming is after the working of satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish, because that they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them a strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.’ This passage proves that lying signs and wonders exist – they are there! Remember in Exodus, how many of Moses’ miracles were matched by Pharaoh’s magicians and sorcerers? Satan gives people power to perform certain miracles. Those who accept satan’s lies do so because ‘they did not receive the love of the truth…..God will send them a strong delusion.’ **11Thess**. How frightening! If God sends a delusion, you are certain to be deceived! Condemnation comes to those who ‘did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.’ **Vs.12** Discernment is a definite need in these days. The only way to know what is fake and what is real is to measure it with the truth – the infallible, unerring, completely truthful Word of God. If it is in the Word, you can believe it. If it is not in the Word, throw it out, get rid of it. **John 8:22** Jesus said, ‘You will know the truth and the truth will set you free.’ Free from what? The lies and deceptions of satan. **1Thess 5:21** ‘Test all things; hold fast what is good.’ In the Book of Revelation, specific signs and wonders and miracles in the sky and in the earth will signify the end of time as we know it. We must practice and use the discernment found through the Holy Ghost. Be on guard against seducing spirits and all the devils tactics. If in doubt, check it with the Word of God. Hold fast to the truth of God’s Word – cling to the cross of Jesus. It will secure your salvation in these last days. Share the light of Jesus and the love of God with the world everywhere you go. Focus on your heavenly home – fill your vessel with the Holy Ghost – and stand firm on the Word of Life, Jesus Christ. **Avoid all** **unbiblical and extra-biblical manifestations.** Can you name some of these manifestations that are around today? Ie. Gold teeth, gold dust, angels feathers, diamonds, emeralds, jewels etc. Tell you what, let’s take these feathers to a laboratory at VIU and have them analyzed – probably sea gull feathers!

**THE CURRENT EVENTS OF THIS WORLD**

There is lots going on around our globe of life called the Earth. Don’t forget that God created the heavens and the earth, and He is in total control. Israel is surrounded by nations who want all Jews and Christians annihilated. In all our prayers we need to be careful to add ‘Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven’ although I am sure God doesn’t need our stamp of approval on what He is doing. **Matthew 24:3-14, 30,31,35,36,42,44** ‘Be ye not troubled.’ **11Peter 3:10-14** ‘The coming of the day of the Lord.’ The Ebola issue – we were faced with Ebola outbreaks 3 times during our stay in Uganda. Yes, it was serious – the governments’ advice was to stop shaking hands. We are alive today. Think about it – 1,000,000 sub-Saharan Africans die yearly of a mosquito bite, 3,000,000 die from malaria around the globe. 800,000 died in a 10 day period in Rwanda – genocide. Another 800,000 died in Uganda over a period of 20 years – ethnic cleansing. 4,500 die from Ebola (as tragic as that is) and we now have a pandemic of epic proportions. Now we have the USA and Obama accused of starting Ebola in their own country, along with a host of other conspiracy theories. Jesus told us these and other horrors were coming on the face of the earth and it is happening today – we hear reports daily – and it brings fangs of fear with it. Don’t get all caught up in this world’s sense of panic. Concentrate on reaching out to the lost and to those who do not know the Prince of Peace, Jesus. Opportunity knocks!

**HALLOWEEN IS ALMOST HERE, AGAIN! WHAT TO DO?**

Emotions are many, Principles are few, Emotions will vary, Principles never do!

Is the Bible clear? What about other subjects like……(print out)

The answer is a whole lot simpler than you might think. I want to give you a principle to live your life by, so that any time something comes up that is doubtful or controversial, you will be able to judge the issue very quickly.

OTHER ISSUES – MEN’S MINISTRIES – MEETING IN NOVEMBER – SUBJECT – SEX! Helping men regain their dignity and sexual integrity.

Houston officials demand Pastors turn over their sermons – what should our reaction be?

As Christians, we need a good dose of Godly fear! I am still making this message.

The Prosperity Doctrine – refuted, using the same Bible they use to manufacture this heresy.