**While you were sleeping…**

Three Characteristics of Sleep…
1. **You don’t know you were asleep until you wake up**.
We’ve all done this – to lie down for a moment to relax – only to find out we slept for a while!

2. **You do things in your sleep you would not do if you were awake**.
Our dreams prove this. Whether such dreams are unexpressed fears or wishes.

3. **We hate the sound of an alarm**.
How would you like to be awakened at 2am? We resent being woken up. We want to sleep on.

**Mat 25:6**  And at midnight (middle of the way) there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.

A Sleeping Church:
Here are some signs we are asleep at the present time:

* The absence of conviction of sin
* A lack of the fear of God
* Little sense of outrage over the godlessness of society
* Watching pornography and feeling justified
* Avarice, greed and lack of financial integrity
* No sense of outrage over the Church’s lack of credibility in the world
* Little or no concern about people going to hell
* Little concern about the lack of knowledge of God’s Word
* Indifference to the biblical view of marriage
* Indifference to holding grudges and unforgiveness
* Indifference to talking to people about Christ
* Tolerating heresies such as open theism and hyper-grace teaching
* Indifference to the teaching that the Bible is infallible
* Indifference to how much time is spent in prayer and quiet time

The first great awakening was on the day of Pentecost when the Word and the Spirit came together as one in simultaneous combination and resulted in spontaneous combustion. The next great move of God on the earth will be an awakening precipitated by a cry that will be so real and eventful that the event of 9/11 will be insignificant by comparison. This awakening will begin in the Church. This will lead to millions of conversions including Muslims and Jews.

There are three types of people implied in the parable of the virgins, the wise, the foolish and the Christians not asleep but who lead the way in waking up the Church that will result in the greatest revival in the world since the days of the early Church. These people will announce the soon coming the Christa and, incredible as it may seem to us now, *the world will believe it*!

An awakened Church will help restore a fear of the Lord in the nations. No election will do it. But God can and will do it soon.
R.T. Kendall (Prepare Your Heart for the Midnight Cry)

Mat 25:1  Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.

Mat 25:2  And five of them were wise, and five *were* foolish.

Mat 25:3  They that *were* foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them:

Mat 25:4  But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

Mat 25:5  While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.

**Mat 25:6**  And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.

Mat 25:7  Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.

Mat 25:8  And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.

Mat 25:9  But the wise answered, saying, *Not so;* lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.

Mat 25:10  And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut.

Mat 25:11  Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.

Mat 25:12  But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.

How did sleeping beauty wake up?
She fell asleep for 100 years…her one true love, the prince (the King’s son) kissed her!
She awoke and they lived happily ever after.

#1 Phrase of American Christians each year? God is leading me from this church or from Church…
#1 Phrase of the Chinese Church and other around the World. That God is leading them to Church and they have to be led by the Spirit of God (as true sons are) the hear him give them the location since it is secret, and they attend willingly at the risk of their own lives!

Barna Group
40% of Christians say Satan is not a living being but is a symbol of evil.
19% say they agree somewhat
26% say he is real
9% disagree somewhat
8% not sure what they believe

**The point is only 26% of Christians believe Satan is real.**

More than 22% of Christians believed that Jesus sinned while he was on the earth.
17% agree somewhat
9% disagree somewhat
46% disagree strongly

**The point is the percentage of those who disagree with this statement are not the majority!**

38% of Christians do not believe that the Holy Spirit is a living force.
20% agree with them somewhat
 **The point is only %25 of Christians believe He is a living force.**

“The Midnight Cry” and Barna group…11/15/2020…Pastor Marie