

"TENT ON FIRE . . . Judgment Falls on the House of God"

Dream by Averine Pennington, Received 7-22-19, Posted 7-22-20

This is a dream I never thought to share. Since it was about my adult son, I assumed it was not from God and perhaps from my own sub-conscious. I am not even sure why I wrote it down and saved it. It was so terrifying! I wanted to forget it altogether. Yesterday, while taking a shower of all things, the Lord brought it to my remembrance and started giving me a download of the interpretation. When I realized it truly was from the Lord, I just stood in the shower and wept like a baby. I did not have the time to locate the dream and write up what the Lord revealed until today. You can imagine my surprise when I saw the date I received this dream . . . exactly one year ago TODAY!

Here is the dream received a little after 6:00am on July 22, 2019:

It begins with my son as a little boy, perhaps 5 or 6 years old. I had purchased him one of those pop-up play tents that are so popular for children to play in. This one was covered with cartoon characters, (can't remember) probably Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles as he was really into that back then. I had set up the tent somewhere on a paved area, like the drive-way or cul-de-sac. He is excited and goes inside the tent to play (as a little boy). I am watching from outside the tent. Suddenly, the tent appears to be larger and it looks as though my son (as a grown man) is struggling to get out. This tent no longer has an entrance or an exit. My son is TRAPPED INSIDE. His fists are punching against the walls of the tent. I cannot see him, only the evidence of him inside fighting desperately to escape. Then to my horror, the tent goes up in a flame of fire. I start screaming for God to save him. Suddenly, I see several fire trucks surrounding the tent and firefighters with hoses dousing the flames.

I woke up before I knew whether or not my son was rescued in time. The dream felt so real that I was trembling and in tears. I called my son that very morning to check on his well-being. He assured me that he was fine. I shared the dream with him, but I know he thought his mama was crazy.

Fast forward to this past weekend, I believe this happened on Sunday afternoon. My son and his wife were visiting from out of town. I was sharing something that I wanted my son to read. I had forgotten, he hates reading. I must give you a little background here. My son was diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder and Dyslexia when he was in Kindergarten. His school years were very difficult and required special education and tutors. Learning difficulties can certainly leave a mark that is hard to overcome, even as an adult. He tends to avoid what he doesn't want to deal with. Anyway, his wife was kind enough to read him the article. Afterwards, my son made an off the wall comment. He asked if I remembered a song I use to sing as a solo while he was growing up in church. He even sang a few of the words to jog my memory. The song title was 'Down at the Tabernacle'. You will see why I thought this was strange after the Lord gave me His revelation.

God's Interpretation to the best of my ability. (I was in no position to write it down.)

The TENT – represents the House of God, particularly the apostate church

My Son – a 'type' of those in the church who are lukewarm, asleep, or just playing church

Cartoon Theme – represents deceit, delusion, drawing in by the promise of fun times

Paved Area – represents not being safe (should have been on grassy lawn or indoors on the carpet)

Have you ever given much thought to the fact that the book of Revelation was actually given to John to be written to the seven churches in Asia (Rev. 1:4, 11, 19-20). Chapters 2 & 3 go into specific detail as to what John was to write to each individual church . . . 1) Ephesus, 2) Smyrna, 3) Pergamos, 4) Thyatira, 5) Sardis, 6) Philadelphia, & 7) Laodicea. Jesus Christ wanted His church (His body) to be prepared. In verse 19, he told John, "Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;" I'm sure that when the book of Revelation was written it somehow made its way off the isle of Patmos and reached its intended recipients. Our generation, however, can now read this book and better understand the last phrase of that verse. We are in the time of the end! Jesus is coming soon! He wants his church to be prepared for his coming! We can look at the 7 churches listed above and find they are in many ways typical of the churches of today. Each has their strengths and weaknesses. Some are almost perfect, some are mediocre, and some are so far off the mark, they are in great danger. In Rev. 3:19, Jesus said, "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore and repent."

That is what this dream was about. He loves His church, His body, so much that he is bringing judgment to His house (1 Peter 4:17). His judgment is his MERCY! It is His wake-up call! How many of you have witnessed a great change in the Christian churches just in say the last 10 to 20 years? And not for the good! The things that are happening within the walls of God's holy sanctuary in these end times are most alarming. No longer is it like the days of "Down at the Tabernacle," where precious sacred scenes unfold . . . of praying and singing . . . everybody living the way they should . . . knowing the wrong from the right. What changed? The enemy came in to deceive! The altars were taken away. The rostrum was replaced, the choir loft dismantled. In their place, a stage with walls painted black, and black lighting to highlight the performances, suits and ties became frowned upon. Casual was every Sunday. Flip-flops and shorts became acceptable attire. Hymnals put on the burn pile. Bibles no longer needed to follow along, just read the words on the overhead screen. We make it easy for you. You don't have to flip any pages looking for the right verse. Oh, and the Holy Spirit, not welcome anymore. We have a church bulletin all printed out for you. Everything will happen in the order that it is printed on the bulletin. We will start at such & such a time and end promptly at such & such a time. You want to give a testimony of what God has done in your life? Uh, sorry, I don't see that in the bulletin, and we don't have the time. Forgive me for being a little over-dramatic here . . . I'm just trying to make a point.

I will share a short true story that happened to me personally. I was on staff at a church back in 2002, working as the Administrative Assistant to the Education Director of a large church. We had 16 ministers on staff. We were all in a staff meeting, all the ministers and their assistants. A problem had arisen concerning a couple who had been visiting our church who were not married but living together. This was a known fact. They had desired to join the congregation and the question on the agenda was where the church stood on this issue. I was flabbergasted by their decision for it seemed to openly condone fornication. While they were at it that day, they decided to discuss, where they would stand on allowing homosexuals to join the church. I could tell from the discussion where their decision was headed. I usually did not speak up at these meetings. I was primarily there to take the minutes of the meeting. I could not hold my tongue. I stood up in front of 16 ordained church ministers and other support staff and started telling them what God's Word said on the subject. I shocked a lot of people that day, including myself. My family and I found a new church after that incident and within a short time God provided me with a different and even better job.

That was years ago, so you can imagine the state of many churches today. We would all hope that any church we attend would be typical of the Philadelphia church, the one that was most pleasing to the Lord. Yes, there are some, but they are far and few between. You must really search and pray to find one. Likewise, there are many churches that fall into the category represented by the Laodiceans, the church with the worst report. God wants His body to do some self-examination. If you are involved in a church whose leadership does not follow God's holy Word as their supreme authority, it is time to make a change. If you are going to church week after week and there has been no visible growth in your relationship with the Lord, ask yourself . . . 'Why?' Something is not right. You should be moving from milk to meat. There should be evidence of spiritual growth. Be honest with yourself. Are you just 'playing church?' Are you happy with the comfortable rut you have established for yourself? Has attending church and fellowshipping with your friends become your 'social club?' Are you happy that it is not necessary to take your Bible with you? Do you accept everything you hear from other teachers without studying the scriptures for yourself? Are you spiritually LAZY? COMPLACENT? ASLEEP?

In the dream, I believe my son represented those who attend church all their lives. He was inside the TENT from the time he was a little boy until adulthood. His being trapped inside was God's way of emphasizing how horrifying it is going to be for those who have been deceived by wolves in sheep's clothing, by the doctrines and traditions of men that have crepted into the church over the centuries. My son hates to read for himself. Do you read your own Bible so you can know what God's Word says for yourself? There is a scripture that says . . . "work out your own salvation with fear and trembling." Some people try to use this in reference to 'works' having some part in a person's 'salvation.' I don't believe that is what that verse means at all. If you read the entire verse, Paul is talking about the Philippians being obedient not only in his (Paul's) presence, but much more in his absence. Their obedience in following Christ was something they wanted to do of their own free will. They had to have a PERSONAL relationship with Christ, not just know of him through Paul. This is enforced even more with the next verse . . . "For it is GOD which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure." We must know WHAT and IN WHOM we believe for ourselves! You can't make it into the kingdom of God on anyone else's coattails. And even if that were possible, what if you are hanging on to the wrong coattails? What does the Bible say about the blind leading the blind? They both fall into the ditch! When that happens, who are you going to blame? Are you going to be like Adam and answer God, "The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree and I did eat." He tried to blame Eve, and even to a certain extent, implied that it was God's fault because He was the One who gave him the woman. I have heard so many stories of people who have fallen away from the faith and try to blame it on a bad preacher, or somebody said something to hurt their feelings. Do you really think that excuse is going to fly when you stand before Almighty God at the judgment seat? Did excuses work for Adam? No! He got kicked out of the garden of Eden and worked by the sweat of his brow until his dying day! You and you alone will stand before God one day . . . either naked and afraid . . . or unashamed, clothed in the righteous robe given you by Jesus Christ. Will you be like Paul, able to say, "For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day."

I'm sure this post will probably ruffle a few feathers, but I will not shrink back from what the Lord asks of me. I implore you, everyone who is reading this message, please examine your heart. Know where you stand with Almighty God. He loves you. He wants you to be an overcomer. The book of Revelation speaks of overcomers from every single one of the seven churches mentioned and lists the rewards that

will be given to those individuals who do overcome. Even the church with the worst report, the lukewarm Laodiceans, still had some overcomers. Their reward . . . "I will grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in His throne."

No matter how bad you think you are, God still loves you and gave his life for you. It is not too late! There is still a chance for all who have a change of heart. He is waiting with His firetrucks on standby! If you call to him, He will be there in an instant to put out the fire. If you follow a false doctrine, a false leader, your destination may be the same as theirs. God forbid that should happen to one of our Lord's sheep! He is calling you away from apostasy! Heed this warning! If you do not turn back to God, APOSTATE CHURCH, you will be judged accordingly. Your tent is even now in flames!

Yours for the Harvest,

Averine

SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES (KJV):

Rev. 1:4,11,19-20

Rev. Chapters 2 & 3

Rev. 3:19

1 Peter 4:17

Phil. 2:12-13

Matt. 15:4

Gen. 3:12

2 Tim. 1:12

Isaiah 61:10

Job 15:30-35

Isaiah 5:20-24

Isaiah 66:14-16

