

Christmas or the Spirit of the World

December 22nd, 2022



Beloved Heart Dwellers, this is the time of year when our love and our devotion for the Lord is really tested by the world and its agenda and the way that Satan has twisted the Christmas season into being a holiday of outrageous spending. People work all year so they can spend all their money at Christmas time, and party up.

And well, I am not of that head set at all, I still have a weakness in the area of avarice, and I love beautiful things. My mother was partly an antique dealer in Chicago, and she sold expensive paintings at Marshall Fields, so she was a connoisseur of fine things, and that kind of got ingrained in me as I was growing up.

So, this week I have been feeling a little distant from the Lord, like I am not really in love with Jesus, kind of cold, kind of empty, and I pulled a card that just shattered me the other day. It said, 'You say you are Mine, but your heart is far from Me.' And I got that card and 'oh no, is that for me?' Did I- Am I there in that place? That is a terrible place to be!

Well, I tried to think if it was for anyone else, and I asked around, and I really knew it was for me, it was the Lord's gentle correction. So, I have been fighting this nasty streak of avarice, wanting this and wanting that and 'window shopping'- for no real reason at all, just really stupid wasting time, and the Lord finally addressed it.

I asked the Lord where I was at in my heart- if I loved Him or if my heart was far from Him. My first reading out of the Bible Promises was Money, my second reading was Be led by My Spirit, not by your flesh, my last reading was about Hospitality. So, obviously He is saying, 'I want you to give money away, I want you to take care of other people. You know, whatever we have left over, we need to take care of those people who do not have food for Christmas or whatever.

So, I was pondering how very backslidden I was and last night, entertaining myself on Etsy, I was looking at pretty things while I ate dinner. The Lord had just allowed me to get a Star of David image to remind me of my Jewish roots and my consecration to Mary, and I was looking and thinking, wow, that is really special, in fact it had Mary all over it when I opened the little box that it was in, I could just feel her love, and her telling me 'You are part of my family', that my bloodlines do go back to her somehow, and I was just really in seventh heaven about the vibe that was on this gift, it just was really her, I could really feel it.

So, I had Ezekiel bless it, it is a tiny little ring and I put it on, and I was feeling very sweet about that but then that avarice monster popped up and said, 'You know, maybe there is a better one on Etsy, you ought to look around a little bit and compare them.' Right? And I said, 'no that is not the Lord, I know what you are up to.' But what did I do anyway? I said, well, I am going to eat dinner now so I guess I will look while I am eating dinner.

I mean, you guys, I am weak, I am so weak, I really enjoyed looking through the pages on Etsy because they have some really beautifully crafted things, but where was my heart? I said, is my heart far from God? And I had to say yes, it is. I would rather do that than press into the Lord in prayer right now. And I am very depressed about myself and my curiosities. My "play pretties", as Ezekiel calls them.

So, I was thinking that I deserve to be left behind. Then I became fearful...truly how far have I fallen, Lord? Am I blind to how far I have fallen? It must be very far, am I losing my soul?

Well, we had worship and three Misty Edwards songs played during worship that were about the world and the things of the world. She is an incredibly anointed prophetess and musician, by the way. I highly recommend that you listen to her A LOT, because she addresses the things that are really important for us right now.

So, we played three of her songs, random picks, we put it on shuffle, and they were all about the thing I was struggling with. In the meantime, I do not have a fire for God, but for beautiful things that He created. And just the other night I looked at photos of crystal mines and was delighted with the beautiful crystals...and praising the Lord. I used to study Geology and was very much into that in high school even thinking I might become a geologist. And I thought, Oh Lord, am I so ashamed of my attachments.

Then I was impressed to pull a card, because I was beginning to lose hope about myself and the condition of my soul. And it said, 'Be at Peace - Let nothing disturb you - Frighten or upset you.'

And then the Lord began to speak, but before He did, I said, thank You, Lord. It is true the only thing in this world I am really afraid of is myself – myself and all my selfish impulses.

I saw Jesus to my right, He said, *"I am listening, Beloved one."*

Oh Lord, how could You continue to love such a shallow person?

He replied, *"You are weak, that I will give you. You also have exquisite taste and a deep appreciation for beauty. That coupled with the internet is a recipe for disaster. You see, the people of Earth are being tried way above their parent's previous limits. What was unthinkable in their Parents' Day, is now at your fingertips, only a touch away. You see Clare, when you look at beautiful things, you are window shopping and that feeds lust and a drive to acquire things. You must starve the beast in every conceivable way. Instead of responding to the infomercials, shun them like dog excrement."*

Because the infomercials can be really interesting, even for vitamins or something.

"You keep opening doors that should be locked behind you, My love. I have not drawn away; you have been preoccupied. What shall we do about this?"

Then He answered His own question and said,

"Shun every occasion of sin My love, shun it and walk away. Come to Me immediately and repent for having given into such things, for having given such things a place in your heart where only I should dwell. Note also, that this is the time of year curses are sent out to draw people away from Me and into shopping, buying, eating, drinking, celebrating in extravagance. If only they would celebrate My birth. If only they would shun the malls and spend more time with Me. If only their heart was not far from Me, I would lavish choice graces on them."

Lord, this is what I want, eyes only for You. Please help me acquire that. I feel so distant from devotion to You, and I do not even know where to begin.

And interestingly, one of Misty's songs was, 'I cannot worship You, Lord, unless You give me the grace to worship You.' And I was feeling that song very much in my heart.

The Lord replied, *"I totally understand this and am here to help you and the thousands more around the world who are in a similar dilemma. That is why I am giving you this message. There is a force pulling you towards avarice, you must deny it and walk away from every temptation, with great resolution, rejecting the*

invitation. And I acknowledge that you cannot do this alone. I am here to help you, Clare."

Ahh- That is our Jesus, He is so sweet.

"I am wrapping you in a garment self-control with new armor over your chest that will repel the arrows of lust for the things of the world. Remember this flat, steely gray plated breastplate over your red breast plate, every day. You must really take the time to visualize each piece of armor, which you have not been doing."

So, when He said He had new armor for me, I saw kind of a steely gray, flat, gray breastplate with scales on it, so there were many layers of protection over the chest.

He said, *"Then repeat this short prayer, 'I renounce the lusts of the flesh, the world and all that is in it. I desire only You Jesus, please remove them from my sight.' And do not be ashamed to come to Me if you have fallen, waste no time My precious, come, come into My tender waiting arms, for I know your heart and truly it is not for these things but for Me. This is why I have stationed Myself beside you always to help you renounce those things that are not profitable for your soul."*

"Come now, let us walk together. Place your precious hand in Mine and let us go past these temptations and win a new level of commitment, a new level of walking in those things that really matter and rejecting all else that is unprofitable to your soul."

And that was the end of His message, and I just made a note here-

Heart Dwellers, this is no time for you to backslide with food or the glamour's of the world. Your world is on the brink of war, and this should be your focus in prayer as well as tending to the needs of the very poor who may not even have food for the festivities of this season.

"With tenderness, Jesus said, I welcome you back into My arms, My Bride, forever."

There is a song that you might want to listen to, I do not know the title of it, but it is about forgiveness, by Michael W. Smith, it is a really beautiful song, 'that You have washed away all my sins, washed away, washed away, You have washed away all my sins'. Beautiful song, and I encourage to include that in your playlist, your random playlist, so that if you have fallen, you can get a touch from the Lord with that song.

God bless you, Heart Dwellers, and keep your heart for Him and for His Nativity this Christmas.

Amen.