

HEALING THE NATIONS
Part Three
GOD, HIS GAUNTLET
THE SWITCH & OUR SWITCH
By Rev. Chris Meier

Welcome to this third, and final installment of our subject. For the better part of 2018 we have been studying a topic which has proven timely as well as targeted. As a quick review, our Lord let me know the word brewing in my spirit had been published already by our ministry in 2003. When I went to find that word, I realized it was three articles, not just one. I was also flabbergasted by the clarity and felt it was so much better to just republish those articles. We have been doing just that, while adding some of the things the Lord has impressed upon me for our current time period now.

If you will look at the March and May (2018) articles on our “Archives” tab, which is under the “Home” page drop-down on this website, you can read the previous articles. As I was preparing for this final installment, I sensed that what our Lord is doing this time is not just for the church to remain inside the church, but He is preparing these ‘Gauntlet’ people to be used outside the church walls in politics, government, science, research and development, our military, education, business and many other areas. The church has relegated many of these influential systems to the unsaved. It is time we woke up and realized by doing so, we have turned, not only America, but the planet over to the hands of our enemy, the devil. We can now see how many of these institutions are being used to trap, lie and steal from ordinary citizens.

Our money, freedom and liberty do not belong to the bureaucrats or people running these systems. For instance, we see here in America that the 44th President consistently lied to Congress and America when he said the Iranian deal was a good thing. We now know how much of our

money and freedom was turned over to terrorists.¹ It gave me no joy when I saw photos of pallets of money turned over to Iran back in 2016. While that ticked me off, it wasn't until recently, when I found out what was supposedly guaranteed to the American people was an utter sham and con game.² This is just one, small instance of how turning over our decisions to the unsaved is a danger for all Americans, not just Christians and Jews.

Let me give you a simple example of what I mean by 'Gauntlet' people. Fifteen years ago, when the Lord gave me this word for the first time, He raised up many people to take back our world now. Whether you like this present American administration or not, many of them are born-again believers. People like Mike Pompeo, the present Secretary of State; Sarah Huckabee-Sanders, the present White House Press Secretary, and Mike Pence, Vice President, just to name a few. I bet if we could ask them to think back fifteen years ago, they would tell us the story of how God prepared them for the positions they hold now. All of these individuals are vocal about their Christianity, and you can see it reflected in the awesome jobs they are doing.

¹ <<http://www.foxnews.com/opinion/2018/06/08/marc-thiessen-obama-took-lying-to-new-heights-with-iran-deal.html>> <<https://apnews.com/27e8179cf10140dca7eb86b3488f01e2>>

² Ibid. See how what is being published in the press was leaked because of an affair and what was leaked is basically a lie. <<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2018/06/08/james-wolfe-former-senate-intel-panel-security-director-indicted-for-allegedly-lying-to-fbi.html>> The reason I am using Fox News for this is because the New York Times has literally buried this story because it was their reporter and has used it to attack the FBI's ability to uncover the info about this security director. <<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/interactive/2018/06/08/james-wolfe-indictment-read-it-here.html>> You can also read the indictment in the previous link. I place that here because some people are saying this isn't a big deal. I beg to differ. It's a huge deal, as is the connection between the "lovers" on Robert Mueller's team, the Special Counsel investigating Russian involvement in the 2016 election. In both these situations tainted material has been used to promulgate a narrative to make America believe a lie. <<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2018/04/27/strzok-page-and-fbi-texting-scandal-explained.html>> When you Google this topic you will find many claiming it is a conservative "conspiracy theory". I beg to differ again. Read these next articles and tell me how the church turning over our politics, government, money, media and education to the unsaved is a good thing. <<https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2014/12/a-brief-history-of-the-cias-unpunished-spying-on-the-senate/384003/>> <<https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/3-month-review-shows-how-new-york-citys-failure-honor-immigration-detainers-leads>>

I watch with excitement every time I see Sanders doing her job with many of those reporters at a daily White House press briefing. I can feel the hatred, and demonic activity this woman has to deal with on a daily basis. Yet to watch her work, you would never know it unless the Holy Spirit revealed it to you. I challenge you to watch a press briefing live—one the media can't edit. Think about the job our Vice President does in going around the world to bring healing and a calming effect to nations he travels to. Think about the present job our Secretary of State has done in laying the groundwork for an agreement concerning nuclear weapons with North Korea. These, as well as many other Christians around the world, are doing our Lord's work to bring peace, prosperity and tranquility to their corners of the globe.

While it may take our Lord years to prepare us for our work, He always works with us, covering us and encouraging us. When you get a chance, pray for the Christians now in places of education, government, media, business, military and many other institutions. They were prepared years ago for what they are now doing. Our Lord is getting ready to prepare a new group of people.

You will also see reference made in this 2003 article to the two photos you clicked on. One has been on the site for the duration of this topic and one is new this month. It is titled "Substitution." Fifteen years ago when I asked an artist connected to our ministry to draw what I was seeing, the drawing titled *Substitution* was the first one he drew. It wasn't right for what I saw and we had a lively discussion about it. He told me how much 'God' was on it and he didn't feel led to change it. We both learned a valuable lesson over that experience. I had to keep pressing him to go back to the drawing board, so to speak. He had to be willing to do so. He sat for a whole day with no ideas how to change the drawing. When he gave up and told God he was giving up, the Lord told him to draw *one* line. Within minutes one line became the drawing that became the right one. Afterward, the Lord let us both know if I had stopped pressing this brother to change his drawing, and he had refused to go further, we both would have succumbed to what our Lord

considers substituting His will for our own desires. You can read how that's tied to this topic within this final installment.

As with the last articles, I will place what was published 15 years ago in blue ink. Only minor changes were made for grammar, flow and punctuation.

God, His Gauntlet, The Switch and Our Shift Part Three (Published 2003)

Over the last two months we have been talking about God raising up a group of common, ordinary people who are willing to go through tremendous hardships in order to see Christ exalted. We talked about God preparing these people to be thrown down as a gauntlet to say, "Take That, devil!" And as God does so, a switch is turned in the spiritual realm that shifts events into God's plan for eternity. We looked at how they challenge the religious as well as the secular world around them. We looked at the tests they must go through in order to remove any and all areas of rebellion, control or manipulation in their lives—which reveals those same areas in those they are called to. Finally, we looked at the historical climate that this situation can take place in.

In this final installment I would like to look at the "switch." I explain the switch as a situation or series of events that requires actions which go totally beyond human reasoning. Some would say that takes faith. What I am talking about takes no ordinary faith, but a consuming and passionate belief that says, "God said so. I know you say He couldn't. I know you say it violates His Word, but you don't see or hear His Word any longer the way He intends for it to be seen and heard." (See last month's article.) Jesus did the exact same thing when He came the first time. After that, these 'gauntlet' folks are used by God to show those around them what God sees and God hears.

Before I go into specific biblical situations, Isaiah 58 comes to mind. Isaiah is not talking to the heathen, but God's people. He says, "Declare to my people their rebellion . . . For day after day they seek me out; they seem eager to know my ways, as if they were a nation that does what is right and has not forsaken the commands of its God. They ask me for just decisions and seem eager for me to come near them. 'Why have we fasted,' they say, 'and you have not seen it? Why have we humbled ourselves and you have not noticed?'" (Isaiah 58:1-3)"

I'm always amazed at how God views us. Isaiah says these folks were actually asking for God. They were crying out to Him and fasting before Him. But they still were not ready to loose those they had oppressed and restore those they had broken (see the rest of Isaiah 58). So God sent a 'switch' that shifted the people Isaiah was speaking to right out of their own country. It brings to my remembrance all the religions of the world that fast and cry out to the one they understand as God, including Christianity, but they can be blind to seeing what God really requires. Let's look at this 'switch' situation from the Bible.

There are so many stories that exemplify this situation in the Scriptures. When Joshua and Caleb are sent with the spies to view this new land God is giving Israel, the other spies made the people afraid (see Numbers 13 & 14). Caleb stands up immediately in front of Moses and the people and encourages them to take possession. The Bible says that the other spies sent a bad report among the camp. This gets two plus million people all stirred up in discouragement. It gets so bad that Moses and Aaron fall face down before the Lord. At this point Joshua and Caleb do an interesting thing. They stand up as a riot is beginning to foment and they tell the people to believe and trust in God to do this thing. They encourage them in the ability of God. So God throws down Joshua and Caleb as examples. They could have entered into substitution instead—they could have come in agreement with the other spies to avoid being stoned to death (Numbers 14:10). Their agreement with God in the face of severe adversity pulls a switch which shifts a nation.

Years later, Israel is in a situation that causes God's army to come face to face with their enemies. David's brothers happen to be in that army. Little David is sent by his father to bring food to his brothers on the battlefield. This work gets him accused of self-promotion by them (1 Samuel 17:28). This is because the situation looked so impossible to the family of David— how could God use *him* to actually mess with a giant? David challenges their understanding of who he is, by ignoring them, and by talking to others in the camp (1 Samuel 17:30-32). He eventually talks to Saul. That's when he is up against another problem— substitution.

At the top of this article you saw two separate drawings. (In this republication, you clicked on the photos to get to this article. See my explanation in the previous paragraphs.) The first one you have been seeing over the last two months is titled, "God, His Gauntlet, the Switch, Our Shift." The second one we put up is titled "Substitution." They both look good, but if you view them closely, you can see the gauntlet on "Substitution" has some different looking armor. It also creates a shadow on the land, but it does turn a switch. The substitution in David's story is Saul's armor. David had his own weapons that were not of this world. Let's face it, five small stones are not going to cut it against a giant— unless God shoots those stones (1 Samuel 17:37, 40-51). If David had taken Saul's armor (1 Samuel 17:38, 39), he would have bowed to a religious and secular understanding of the situation, not how God Almighty viewed this situation. We all know the outcome. When David obeys God, the enemy is defeated and the nation starts its journey toward walking in God's heart by introducing a man who would follow God's heart (1 Samuel 13:14).

This did not produce total change immediately. It would take approximately 21 years of running, hiding and hardship for David to learn how to be a better king than Saul. God saw all the damage that Saul's regime had caused. God did not want David to become the same tyrant. David would need to understand the pain and anguish of running from such a king. He would need to see it from God's perspective. It reminds me of some ministry situations we see in different organizations

and many churches. I watch people learn the system and then go on up the line in these endeavors to be blessed. But unfortunately, God is not always doing the blessing.

In David's case he was primed as the son-in-law of the king. In this closed environment he would never have understood the pain in God's heart (1 Samuel 15:10, 11) that these systems can cause. So God allows an evil spirit to descend on Saul (1 Samuel 16:14). Eventually it causes Saul to think evil of David. One minute Saul likes him, the next minute Saul wants David dead. This sends David out into God's learning field so that David functions in God's ways, not Saul's and his system's ways. Since David was a younger man and the price was the kingship, this took a longer time. The eventual shift turns the nation toward God, not away from Him. It also makes Israel one of the most prosperous nations of its time.

Once Samuel is gone as the judge and prophet over Israel, Saul was to take the lead and institute both priests and prophets according to God's design (Exodus 19:6; Deuteronomy 18:15, 18). God sees in Saul's heart that he has no intention of instituting any system possibly challenging his kingship. But David's heart would be different. Not only would he allow the priests to function, he would create an environment that would cause them to prosper. And as for the prophets, he would not only do the same for them, but at their word he would institute such a system—and allow them oversight in setting up God's system (Chronicles 29:25).

Our next biblical example is Esther. If you are not familiar with the story, please turn to the book of Esther and start reading. Most folks would think that the 'switch' is when she goes to King Xerxes unannounced, which could cause her death. Esther is a woman that I love to read about. For me the real switch is when she willingly goes into a system that is a stench in the nostrils of her upbringing and her God.

Some would think for a young woman to be picked for the king's harem would be an honor and would also come without a choice. The Jews

were granted their freedom under Cyrus. Babylonian law gave freed slaves rights. While the king's decree was final, had she made known her Jewish heritage, she may not have been chosen for the harem. Once Esther entered into the harem that was 'IT'! Her life as a Jew with the possibility of marrying freely was over. She gambled greatly. For one night with the king she prepares for one year (Esther 2:12). If the king was not pleased or did not choose her as queen, she went into the harem as one of many, never being seen by the king again— or practically anyone else. This is for life. There was no leaving the harem or finding marriage elsewhere.

If I were living during Esther's time, I might have been one of those sweet saints who would have told her she was crazy and going against all that was 'God' and all that God had commanded her people to do. All along the way, she could have substituted human reasoning and what we would call *accepted practice* and common sense. But she never does, not even in beauty treatments or dress (Esther 2:15). She relies on a wisdom that is certainly beyond her years and could have only come from God above. Not only does she challenge her religious upbringing, but after she becomes queen and her uncle Mordecai exposes Haman's plot to her, she challenges the law of her land and risks the possibility of death, in addition to challenging her husband's good nature (See Esther 4:11). When she allows God to use her to throw a switch, her people are shifted from certain death to life.

There are so many other biblical characters that we could talk about. But the last one must be Jesus. Some may not appreciate this characterization, but Jesus entered into a system just like Esther did— a system that had become a stench in the nostrils of God Almighty— all in order to deliver His people. The Bible tells us that Jesus became sin for us so that we might be the righteousness of God in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:21).

The disciples are rationally minded men. They see their duty to protect their asset in Jesus as long as it takes. When Jesus tells the disciples He must go to the cross (Matthew 16:21-24), Peter protests. Jesus

recognizes satan in the words of Peter and rebukes any and all kingdoms that would violate what God is intending to do by sending the Christ to the cross. Human reasoning, at that time, could not possibly understand this. Jesus does not take the substitution of the devil (see Luke 4:1-14). He does not take the easy road. He allows His Father in heaven to make Him a ‘switch’ that can shift every life to be able to call upon His name for all eternity (see Philippians 2:8-11). When we as human beings decide to switch our allegiance from our own way of running our lives to Christ’s way of running our lives, we are shifted right into God’s plan forever.

A question could be asked, why does God do this? While I don’t pretend to know all the reasons why God does a certain thing, three possibilities come to mind as I have experienced this situation. One is obvious, and it’s to shift us back to God’s plan instead of our own plans. The next one is to shift His leadership or to change leadership. Both these are evidenced by the lives of the biblical characters we have talked about. But the last reason may be better evidenced by the life of Daniel, Isaiah or Jeremiah.

Instead of looking at their lives individually, I felt as if the Lord gave me a Scripture verse that models this. “When the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord will raise up a standard against him.” Let me share a possible transliteration from the Hebrew of this verse in Isaiah 59:19 (see page 256 from “Beyond Strongholds”):

“For [because] Tyre [a distressing enemy] enters by [within] a flood, the Spirit [wind-breath] ‘driven’ — [behold], even Yahweh with a beacon [flag fluttering] shall raise up a Standard Bearer.”

In this portion of exact word for word understanding of Isaiah, it seems that the flood might not always come from the enemy. Sometimes it might, as in Revelation 12:15. In other cases it might not. It might be natural or it might even be Godly, but in any case the enemy is hiding within it. At that point the Spirit of the Lord— even Yahweh— has a beacon which raises up a *Standard Bearer*. I was amazed as I started to

think about this for our time and season, especially in light of the vision the Lord had given me on February 5th.³

Our only *Standard Bearer* is Jesus Christ— King of Kings and Lord of Lords. The Old Testament city of Tyre eventually became part of the old Babylonian empire (it was always a part of Sumeria and Akkadea). Throughout Israel's history it was always a distressing enemy, hence its name became known as 'enemy'. This is the literal word used in this portion of Isaiah for enemy, *tyre*. But every time I looked at this in the Hebrew, it always seemed to me that the beacon or flag was different from the *Standard Bearer*.

What I felt the Holy Spirit say to me recently truly amazed me. If the devil is hiding in a situation, you would like a flag waving over his head saying, "He's right here!" Preferably, with an arrow pointing down on his head! Well, sometimes that's exactly what *gauntlet* people are. They have an eyesight that can tell the difference between the waters that

³ This vision was explained on a different link. It was received in 2002 (or 2003, I can't remember now) and involved the Iraq war. I will say, after reading what I had totally forgotten, I am amazed at God and His timing now. I have not placed it here because some of it is not applicable, but the concept is. In 2001 we had an attack on our nation. By staying longer in Iraq than we should have, I had a vision of demonic hordes coming back with our troops, causing infirmities and other ailments. These hordes also tried to overrun other countries and would try to do the same to America. I also received a word of encouragement from Isaiah 54 that God was giving America another chance. That chance is now and that timing is now. Yet, I will say, we must pray. It's not necessarily a "done deal," to use a modern term. I thought I had nothing further to add here, but after reading that vision from 2002 or 2003, I have to say that the enemy is trying to hide, again, on events and circumstances in order to bring chaos to the world. He has gained ground in the last 15 years, but he has also lost ground. We must continue to pray so he continues to lose ground. I will write something here that is not popular in some Christian circles. But by taking in illegal immigrants, we are removing the impetus for change and deliverance that whole countries around the world could see had their people not left for America or Europe. This is not good. Here is God's pattern: Create an example (Israel and America) of Godly covenant and government. Allow the peoples of the world to see it and bring it back to their own countries. In this way, the Gospel expands, along with prosperity for all. By abandoning their own countries and taking the easier way out, these immigrants are leaving their own countries to the forces of evil, so that evil gains a beachhead. This is basically what my vision showed. It used a map of nations in the Middle East with black blob-like birds, literally thousands of them, moving like a flock of birds trying to escape a predator or a school of fish doing the same. But this horde was evil and where it went it made a mess, causing violence and devastation in its wake. I marveled as I read it fifteen years later. Continue to pray and continue to ask for the Holy Spirit to open your own eyes to His way of doing things, as opposed to our human ways.

sometimes get mixed (clean and unclean) as the devil spews forth. Instead of backing off, they jump right into these ‘shark infested’ waters and hold up the flag of the Holy Spirit. Since Jesus is living on the inside of them through the precious Holy Spirit, they invite Him into the situation— and He is raised up— Jesus is exalted.

Because they have already gone to the cross in their lives— and with each test God takes them through— when God does use them in this way, there is no crying and complaining about the water. They learn how to allow God’s word to keep them from being devoured by shark attacks while swimming. While in the water, they expose where the devil is hiding so the rest of the body of Christ can pray and see his attacks nullified by God. These saints delineate the ‘devil water’ from ‘holy water’ and lift Jesus up to show the world. That’s how God uses them to switch and shift nations and events.

Of course, the devil wants to get them out of the water because they are wreaking havoc on his schemes. As they swim with devils, the enemy tries to swallow them up (see Revelation 12:15). But these saints have learned valuable lessons and the devils learn they cannot kill them (they’re crucified with Christ already, Galatians 2:20). Because they’re dead in Christ, the devil has no real power to do this. He needs the church and other humans on earth to help him. So he will persuade people to substitute some portion of how God wants to bring deliverance. Or substitute the Word of God for ‘another gospel’ (see Galatians 1:6-10). In my experience this is what causes so much trouble in the world.

Let me share some examples of this. When people get involved in cults and false religion, God will always raise up someone to go to these people to open their eyes to see and hear the true word of God, the Bible. In some dangerous situations these saints have been martyred. In other cases, they have escaped danger and have been set free while leading others to Christ. Another example of this goes on in Christian churches today, but from a different vantage point. We talked about this briefly in last month’s article.

When God is getting ready to send a new wave of Himself in glory, our understanding and practices usually have to go up to new levels of repentance, grace, wisdom and revelation in Christ. Sometimes this change can look like the devil (Matthew 12:24). That's because God is doing something new in the Spirit and the devil can see some area of radical change is coming (he can never forget the pronouncement of judgment over him by God in Genesis 3:15, Isaiah 14:12-20). So he tries to get people to think that the new is bad and cannot be of God, and these 'gauntlet' people must be from the devil. But these people are sent by God as a flag or beacon so everyone can see the Standard Bearer, Christ. Unfortunately, in many historical revivals the old always persecutes the new because the old misses the beacons or markers God places. They have lost their spiritual eyesight and hearing. (See the May 2018.pdf article in the archive.)

We are facing some interesting challenges in the world today. Since Christ has been offered up, war is never God's total and desired plan. Bringing souls to the cross of Christ is always the way to avert war. War is always a substitution because mankind will not bow at the cross of Christ and do what is right. As a result, some wars become unavoidable. But it is always God's desire to bring peace, health and healing when His people pray (2 Chronicles 7:13, 14). It will take special eyesight and hearing to pray in advance of the enemy's tactics in the days and weeks ahead so that we avert war or avert infiltration by enemy forces.

I pray all of you that have read these articles will be able to recognize the gauntlet people in your midst. I pray that you don't follow down the road of substitution by voices distracting the body of Christ from doing her job. There is still a great ingathering of souls, not just to pray in, but to go out to the fields to bring in. If we do not pray and go, God will use whatever means necessary to bring them in. As Mordecai said to Esther, "And who knows that you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" My prayer is that these articles will help to bring God's word to life in the days and situations that may arise in the future. As we see some of these things played out in the world and even in our churches,

we can find rest and security in God's Word, knowing that nothing takes Him by surprise (Revelation 21:6, 7).

I still marvel at the explicit nature of this word from fifteen years ago. God is getting ready to do some pretty amazing things. I firmly believe these three articles (March, May, July 2018) can give us insight to where God is going as well as our own, individual place in His plan. Be encouraged that He has a plan for all of us. Prayer, fasting, worship, Bible reading and listening are all good avenues to access your special place that our Lord has intended for you, literally from the time He formed the earth. Nothing takes Him by surprise. Never give up on yourself; He hasn't. You could very well be the one He will use as a "gauntlet" to say to the devil, "Take That," as you lead groups of people through enemy territory and into the safety of our Savior, Jesus Christ.