

FIRE BY NIGHT

"Reflections Upon Reflections" [of The Father's Heart]

...."You, in Your great compassion, did not forsake them in the wilderness; The pillar of cloud did not leave them by day, to guide them on their way, or the pillar of fire by night, to light for them the way in which they were to go".... Nehemiah 9:19 NASB

February 12th

THE INFLUENCE OF A "SELF-RIGHTEOUS SPIRIT"

Words of prophecy:

* *Always remember: the mighty oak starts with one small seed. In other words, one small seed can turn the course of a person's destiny - whereas, many eloquent or persuasive words spoken in one's own strength and understanding [self-righteousness] serve only to move one further away from Me.*

...."And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God. For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling, and my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God".... 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 NASB

...."For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven".... Matthew 5:20 NASB

...."Departing from there, He went into their synagogue. And a man was there whose hand was withered. And they questioned Jesus, asking, 'Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?' - so that they might accuse Him. And He said to them, 'What man is there among you who has a sheep, and if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will he not take hold of it and lift it out? 'How much more valuable then is a man than a sheep! So then, it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath.' Then He said to the man, 'Stretch out your hand!' He stretched it out, and it was restored to normal,

like the other. But the Pharisees went out and conspired against Him, as to how they might destroy Him. But Jesus, aware of this, withdrew from there. Many followed Him, and He healed them all".... Matthew 12:9-15 NASB

...."He [Jesus] began saying to His disciples first of all, 'Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. But there is nothing covered up that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known'".... Luke 12:1a-2 NASB

...."But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, pretenders [hypocrites]! For you shut the kingdom of heaven in men's faces; for you neither enter yourselves, nor do you allow those who are about to go in to do so".... Matthew 23:13 The Amplified Translation

Anyone who "allows" themselves *[through pride]* to come under the influence *[control]* of a "self-righteous" spirit *[any spirit of self-exaltation]* is not aware *[although they most certainly should be!]* that what they are doing and saying is apart from the Righteousness of God *[Christ]*. Because the one who comes under the control of that "spirit" to any degree is deceived in their heart into thinking that their intentions are good *[righteous]* when, in reality, deep down in their heart, they are not - and this, without exception!

Prayer of Proclamation:

Father, we thank You and praise You that, in Christ, we are free from every form of "self-righteousness" - and the desire to be found right in our OWN thinking *[above all else]* that is its foundation. And we declare it DONE *[on an ongoing basis]*, in the Name of Jesus - to Your greatest Glory. Amen.