
The Spirit of Lawlessness in Vancouver!

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Dear Friends

If you have been listening to the news, you've heard about the riots in Vancouver. Last night the Vancouver Canucks lost the Stanley Cup to the Boston Bruins. For the un-informed, this is hockey we are talking about. Hockey is THE Canadian game, and most of professional players anywhere are Canadian. If this is what Vancouver is really like then Vancouver deserves to lose, but obviously most of the city is disgusted and angry about it.

The problem is, this is not just a few disappointed thugs. In spite of the official statements about "a few bad people" there were thousands of rioters, violent, looting and enjoying it!

Remember the crowd in the street outside the game was 100,000 people. What is the root of such behavior? It is not just emotional let down, it is more. Our "modern" society is supposed to be better than this isn't it? Well. not without God. The behavior of the crowd tells us something more than pent up emotions is involved. There is something darker at work here.

National Post reporter Brian Hutchison blogged this last night.

.....And in the middle, on the street, tens of thousands of fans. Not enraged. Just bent. A tall skinny guy held up a piece of cardboard, on which was scrawled: RIOT 2011.

People saw the sign and cheered. Young men, in their twenties. "Yeah, yeah, riot!" they shouted. Lots of milling about. Ugly chants. "F... Boston. F... Boston." Young women join in. Extraordinary delusions and the madness of crowds.

The madness was just starting to simmer, and soon enough it would boil over.

I went to the roof of a parkade, to find a better vantage point. And that's when I heard the first explosions of the night. Boom, and boom. Then black smoke. I got on the telephone and spoke to an editor in Toronto. I wasn't sure if it really was a car that had been torched. Then I saw. Yes, a car, turned over, burning. Outside the post office.

I moved back to street level. The mob was smashing windows. First, a Budget car rental outlet. A fight broke out. Then across West Georgia, a large Bank of Montreal branch was being invaded. More windows smashed. Things would get even worse.

Fans and media were streaming out of Rogers Arena. I saw Brian Williams, the venerable Canadian sports broadcaster. He appeared diminished. We looked at each other. We declared with our eyes something more than surprise, and disappointment. It was disgust.

For me, disgust turned to anger. Who are these people? Thousands, thousands, thousands of them. Laughing. Delighted with the destruction. And these were not just the sort of young men that I first witnessed goading others on, encouraging the violence. These were older people too, middle aged men and women, their eyes opened wide with amazement. They were giggling. Enjoying it.....

For the full blog go to

<http://fullcomment.nationalpost.com/2011/06/16/brian-hutchison-blood-on-the-streets-after-vancouver-loss/>

UNDERSTANDING THE MAYHEM FROM A BIBLICAL POINT OF VIEW

Can you imagine a city full of people like this, having no regard for law and decency? Sodom and Gomorrah were those sorts of cities. Can you imagine a country in the grips of such people? This is the sort of people that Hitler gained control of in the 1930's to form the NAZI party. The "Crystal Night" was the looting and destruction of Jewish property to the great joy of the crowd. What is behind it?

1. The Results of a Godless Culture - A Vile Generation

When I was in elementary school we had prayer and bibles were given out. Christmas was about the birth of Christ. By the time I was in secondary school these things were being removed, and replaced with idolatry. What do I mean? Today our children and our media constantly bombard us with the idea that there is no God. We are told "our life comes from evolution," from the natural things. In fact I saw a TV travel program showing a temple to "the god of Evolution" a few weeks ago. They said "The god who created us all" WOW! So the natural order is god. We are mere atoms with no meaning at all except what we make for ourself. Go ahead take what you want! There is no right and wrong, it is just a social construct. What do we expect when a generation or two are raised on such ideas?

Romans 1 tells us a great deal about what happens to people who do this. Take note of what I underline.

20 For the invisible things of him since the creation of the world are clearly seen, being perceived through the things that are made, even his everlasting power and divinity; that they may be without excuse: 21 because that, knowing God, they glorified him not as God, neither gave thanks; but became vain in their reasonings, and their senseless heart was darkened.

25 for that they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

28 And even as they refused to have God in their knowledge, God gave them up unto a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not fitting; 29 being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malignity;

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whisperers, 30 backbiters, hateful to God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, 31 without understanding, covenant-breakers, without natural affection, unmerciful:

from Romans 1: 20-31

The results of a godless culture are clear

Reasoning becomes dark and senseless
Man worships and serves nature - self, appetites
A reprobate mind takes over. Wickedness is the result.

2. The Spirit Of Lawlessness

Not only does the human heart, mind and culture disintegrate when God is rejected, but there are spiritual results when a nation turns from God. One comment I heard about the riot was that people had a feeling something bad would happen. A "feeling the air" What is that? It is the spiritual atmosphere changing. Satan is called "the prince of the power of the air". A demonic atmosphere can take over when people reject God.

wherein ye once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the powers of the air, of the spirit that now worketh in the sons of disobedience;
(Ephesians 2:2)

For the mystery of lawlessness doth already work: only there is one that restraineth now, until he be taken out of the way.

II Thessalonians 2:7

Conclusion

When people reject God these are the results. Praise God not all have done this. Most still want to do right. But when a people seek the Lord and walk in His ways, good things result. The spiritual atmosphere can be blessed and full of Gods presence. Without knowing it, thats what Vancouver was hoping for when the crowds gathered peacefully during other playoff games. Let us believe God, and be salt and light in our communities. That is why we developed a Christian radio station and pray for the city every day. We realize this is why people need the Lord and cities can change!

The bible says "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord" Psalm 33:12

Many Blessings on You and Your City!

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