

Prophecies for July 27, 2008

Miranda

We were walking around Bele Chere yesterday, and my reaction when I get in large mobs of people like that tends to be to want out. It was coming to me while we were singing that song that Jesus' reaction to large mobs of people was to want in, and to have compassion, to have a heart for them. If we're ever going to have an impact on this city like we want to, we've got to want in probably more than we do. I walk down there in that freak show in downtown Asheville all the time. I heard people coming back talking about the preachers screaming and trying to pick fights with people. I don't think that's going to do it. So I just pray that we would have a heart that wants to be for those people, and I pray especially today for Bele Chere, because Jaci Velasquez will be there as one of the closing acts. Building 429 will be there. A black gospel group called the Lee Brothers, I think, will be there. God's word will be preached. Not the "You faggot, you're going to hell!" which was being preached yesterday, but God's word of compassion is being preached. If anybody can be magnified over Bele Chere, it's the Lord. And so I just pray for those people, and for the people who are going to be there to listen to those Christian acts that they will be God's heart in that city to the people who go down there, because God wants to be in with that crowd. He doesn't want to get away from them.

Amanda

I've been reading a book, rereading a book that I read a long time ago. One of the main characters in it is this big burly artist who lives in Rome. Of course, he went there because of the incredible light that seems to always be present in that city. But he's angry, and he's angry at the church. And the reason he gives is because he says the church always asks you to give up the one thing that is impossible to give up. And I've been thinking about that, and with the other words that were said this morning, I just thought, "what would be the point to ask you to give up something that was easy to give up?" You can do that in your own power and in your own strength. But when you're asked to give up the impossible, it is only through the help of the Lord that you can do it. And it's only through His help and strength that you can, but He doesn't ask you to do it without giving you something in return. And He always fills you with more, once that thing is gone. He gives you more of Himself. And I just felt saddened by that character in the book, because he's never going to know what is more important, what is greater than that thing, because he's not going to give it up and allow the Lord to fill him, or replace it with something that's even better. So I ask, Lord, that you would help us, make us all aware and give us strength to understand that it's okay to let go. Even if it's those things that we so desperately want to hang on to, because we know that You will fill us and love us with even more and something that's even better than what we thought we had.

Miranda

Remember, too, sometimes when the Lord asks you to give up the impossible thing like Abraham and Isaac, He gives it back to you, even better than it was before.

Father Nick

Thus sayeth the Lord: I am the Lord thy God. Thou shalt have none other gods before Me.

Jack

So often it's the doing that's not the hard part. It's the preparation that the Lord has to take us through to get us to the point where we want to give up what He wants us to give up. After that He's already prepared the way. Lord, I ask forgiveness for the times when I have every ability to do so and yet I choose not to.