

My Dear Clergy Members:

I have the honor of serving as the founder of SAVE - Safeguard Atone Validate Educate - a national campaign aimed at saving the misguided from crime, drugs and violence. I have been incarcerated altogether for more than 20 years of my life - I know first hand what the street life is doing to our youth. Therefore, I am committed to finding solutions to the problems of juvenile crime and violence. I have international support that stretches from North Carolina to the Netherlands in Europe. Frequently, we share information with the over 500 million users of Facebook and Newsvine. A couple weeks ago I received a letter from Evangelist Betty Harris of Rock Island, Illinois. She thanks me for intervening in a life threatening situation concerning her 29 year old incarcerated grandson. Ms. Harris is almost 86 and she had prayed earnestly for God to send her grandson, Damar, help. I heard the voice of the Lord, and when He spoke to me, I proceeded to do His will and give Damar the love and support that he needed. In short, Damar was being extorted and physically abused by other inmates. It was not by my might, but God's power working through me that I was able to get the evildoers to leave this young man alone. So I, along with my Facebook and Newsvine friends, are equally as concerned about the 9 to 15 million at risk youth in America.

But more specifically, I am writing you because it is time to arise out of your pulpits and go into the streets. Just as God said to Jonah, "Get up, go to Nineveh and proclaim against her that there business has come up before me," and just as the Apostle Paul left his village of Tarsus and carried the gospel of Jesus Christ to the sinners, so are we commanded to carry the gospel to the misguided gangsters, gang members and drug dealers. Like Paul, I have responded to Jesus' light from Heaven.

Furthermore, I am aware of the mutuality of all mankind. No man or woman of God should sit comfortably in their sanctuary and not be bothered by what is happening to God's children. Crime and violence in the streets are the dark clouds on the horizon of righteousness. We, the believers, of the Light that is never darkened, that which will illuminate all absence of luminescence, are bound by the Almighty, the All-Powerful, the All-Wise, the All-Merciful, the All-Seeing Lord of Lords and King of Kings to go into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Jesus sat at the tables of sinners and said, "They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick." He said, "I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." Yes, it was God (that was made flesh, and dwelt among us) in Christ, reconciling and restoring the world, not calculating or condemning us for our trespasses but cancelling them. It is so unfortunate that so many of you are uninvolved with our children, but it is even more unfortunate that you know in your hearts what Jesus would do. He was a doer or the Word. He acted accordingly - that is what faith is: acting on God's word.

There can be no denying the fact that sin engulfs this nation. Chicago is probably the most sinful city for children in America. Its grotesque record of juvenile crime and violence is unfathomable. Children are being killed at school, on their way home and even at home. On the basis of the insanity, you must allow the unselfish love of God to pour through you to the misguided, creating an atmosphere of love. We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love our brothers. He that loved not his brother abided in death. Whosoever hated his brother is a murderer: and you know that no murderer hate eternal life abiding in him. I know that I have

passed from death unto life because I love my brother as I love myself. And I allow that love to control my actions. I walk in love toward the sinners. And so should you.

I commend those of you that have ministries. But overall, I must truly say that I have been disappointed with the religious community. I do not say this as one forsaking the faith. I say this as a firm believer of the gospel, who loves God; who grew up in the church; who knows that the Word of God is quick and powerful, and shaper than any two-edged sword and who knows the weapons of my warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to pulling down of strong holds, we can pull them down with the mighty Name of Jesus. They are no match for that Name. And that Name is a mighty weapon given to us to use against Satan's soldiers.

When I wrote: How To Save Our Children From Crime, Drugs and Violence last year, I felt I would receive the support of the clergy. I was optimistic that you all would be among my strongest allies. Instead, many of you have been missing in action, taking refuge in your pulpits; far too many of you have acted cowardly and have remained silent about God's word, His grace and mercy. Why should any man of God have fears when he has Jesus' commandments, and he keeps them.

I love children as God has loved me. I walk in love toward His children. I show my love for Jesus by keeping His love commandment. I had hoped that more of you would too. But again I have been disappointed.

I hope this letter will be a reminder to you that you have no need to be afraid, you have nothing to fear, because you have a spirit of power, you have a spirit of love, and above all, you have God on your side. I also hope that circumstances will soon make it possible for me to work with each of you, not as an author or activist but as a fellow human being and man of God.

Yours for the cause of Love and Peace,
Cedric Dean

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