

Venezuelan Pastor: A Curse Has Destroyed Our Country

Christians in Venezuela are fervently clinging to prayer as their country is in crisis, a Venezuelan pastor says.

Enrique Soto, who is currently in the United States for medical treatment, says he speaks with his fellow pastors daily, especially as the uprising gains momentum.

“It’s difficult to describe the suffering unless you see it with your eyes,” Soto says. “Please pray that in the midst of the suffering people don’t lose hope. That the heart of the Venezuelan people may turn to Christ.”

On Tuesday, opposition leader Juan Guaido, whom many countries recognize as Venezuela’s interim leader, called for the military to take action against dictator Nicholas Maduro.

The Venezuelan government calls the actions an attempted coup, but Guaido was not dissuaded. On Wednesday, Guaido called for the “largest march in history,” to protest the regime.

During the protests, a military vehicle plowed through a crowd of people. The scene was broadcast across international news media including CNN.

In the midst of the chaos, though, believers see a spiritual root.

“Our main problem is spiritual,” Soto says. “Many are being touched by the Lord but many still cling to witchcraft, Santeria and all kinds of idolatry. The spiritual war is intense because the late president Hugo Chávez was a Santeria priest himself and made all kinds of pacts and satanic rituals, aided by Cuba’s Castros, in order to hold on to power, and hand Venezuela over to the darkness of communism.”

Soto says Chavez cursed the country when he cursed the state of Israel in 2010. Chavez died of colon cancer in 2013.