



CHRISTMAS WILL NEVER BE CANCELLED!



The peace of God can live in EVERY heart

More than ever this year, millions are yearning to celebrate Christmas.

At a time when previous certainties have evaporated and some communities feel they have nothing in their diary but the next Covid crackdown, Christmas shines as a light in the darkness.

When we celebrate Christmas, it's not just the company and food. It is the eternal hope in our hearts that the baby in the manger represents.

Cute as the baby is, it's all about who he grew up to be.

Sight to the blind

Two thousand years ago, a Jewish boy was born to a young girl. His mother's fiancé knew it wasn't his baby and only went ahead with the marriage because he had

a dream in which he was reassured that the baby was conceived by the Holy Spirit and that he was to call him 'Jesus'.

This was the first of many fulfillments of Bible prophecy.

Jesus grew up to be a Bible teacher, whose followers ("disciples") called him "Rabbi". Like other rabbis of the time, he healed people. Yet this one did miracles that no other rabbi had done before. In bringing sight to a man born blind, and raising Lazarus (and others) from the dead, Jesus performed miracles that only the promised Messiah (Saviour and Redeemer) was expected to be able to do.

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"Call off Christmas!"

So snarled the Sheriff of Nottingham, played with scene-stealing relish by Alan Rickman in the film 'Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves'.

That was 800 years ago, before King John was forced, in 1215, to sign Magna Carta, the great charter that gave the English Church freedom "forever".

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So why did he die a criminal's death at 33, executed with the brutal efficiency of the Roman Empire?

Why was that death different from any other death at the time? After all, the Romans crucified 500 people a day when they put down the Jerusalem revolt of AD70.



Time of birth foreseen

Simply put, this baby "ticked all the boxes" to qualify as the Messiah, the Saviour of his people, the light to the whole world prophesied centuries earlier. His time of birth was foreseen by the prophet Daniel, hence the visit of the Magi (wise men) who had studied the ancient scrolls and understood



"First day in heaven", a painting by artist Keroles Safwat, can be ordered only via Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/GoldenEarth1>

that this was the destined time for the birth of a very special baby.

The baby was even born into the line of King David and in Bethlehem, the village outside Jerusalem where lambs were bred for temple sacrifices. Jesus' death was forecast in detail by the prophet Isaiah some 700 years before he was born, before crucifixion as a means of slow, suffocating execution had been devised. And Isaiah also explained why Messiah had to suffer and die: he would pay the price for mankind's sins.

Illegitimate

Jesus knew what it was not to be accepted – he grew up with the stigma of being thought to be illegitimate, because his mother had him before she was married. There is nobody on whom he doesn't have compassion.

What shattered his followers was his death, despite Jesus telling them that he had to die and rise again after three days. Then there were the rumours that he had been seen alive again.

Famously, the disciple "doubting Thomas" demanded to see the holes in his hands and feet before he'd believe in Jesus' resurrection. Upon seeing Jesus in the flesh with his own eyes (and possibly touching the wounds), Thomas proclaimed, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28).

Jesus responded with one of the most powerful statements

about faith in all of Scripture: "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed" (John 20:29).

Final earthly command

After Jesus' ascension to heaven, his followers lost their terror and their own fear of a similar death at the hands of the authorities. They obeyed his final earthly command to take the message that this Jesus with whom they had lived had not only risen from the dead but was holding out the promise of eternal life and forgiveness of sins (all the ways we've failed) to all who believed.

Millions over the centuries have opened their hearts to him and welcomed in the hope and peace that, in the midst of uncertainty, worry and fear, "passes all understanding."

Carol services

Sunday 20 December, 6.30pm

A carol service by Zoom will be hosted by Rev Mark Madeley, of St Nicholas, Uphill, whom readers may know from his Bible tours to Israel. Details from: mark@mibtravel.co.uk

Sunday 20 December, 6pm

The Diocese of Carlisle is urging people across Cumbria to stand at their doorsteps to sing 'Silent Night' on Sunday 20 December. BBC Radio Cumbria will broadcast a special programme at 6pm, joined by residents singing at 6.15 pm.

Wednesday 2 and Sunday 6 December

'Carols with Compassion', An hour-long virtual carol service with worship leaders such as Martin Smith, Elle Limebear and Graham Kendrick.

Aid charity Compassion is encouraging people to join "social watch parties" so communities can stay connected and celebrate the hope of the Bible's Christmas message.

2 Dec, 7.30pm, TBN UK (Freeview channel 65); 6 Dec, 8pm, @CompassionUK social media channels

This paper would not be in existence if each one of the team had not said the prayer below at some point in their lives.

Why is it necessary to say a prayer? Because that is your move towards the Saviour who died for you. The Bible says that if you were the only person in the world, Jesus would still have died for you. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believed in him should not perish but have everlasting life."

So why isn't the world a happy and peaceful place if Jesus died to forgive sins? Because God gave us free will.

Each man, woman and child is free to receive or reject this unique gift, which we celebrate particularly at Christmas time.

We could, of course, fill pages of this paper with articles about why the birth of Jesus was probably in the autumn around the time of the Feast of Tabernacles, but that doesn't change the offer he puts before each one of us.

The message at the heart of Christianity is really quite simple. It is a message from the Bible about God and his son, Jesus.

It is about life and death, and the choice that we all face.

If you would like to accept the free gift of forgiveness of sins, eternal life and become part of the biggest 'club' in the world – the international, eternal body of believers in Jesus, please say the prayer below and receive the peace in the midst of the darkness that only Jesus can bring.

How do I become a Christian?

BEING A CHRISTIAN is about a relationship with Jesus Christ, the only Son of the living God, who died in our place, to pay the price for our sin. He desires to welcome you into God's family here on earth and into heaven when you die.

To start this relationship, simply pray the prayer opposite; if you mean it, he'll respond, because the Bible says that God looks at our hearts.

The churches featured in this paper will be happy to welcome you and explain the importance of daily Bible reading, daily prayer, baptism, being part of a congregation where the Bible is preached and believed, and telling others about what Jesus has done for you.

Dear God, I am a sinner and need forgiveness.

I believe that Jesus shed his precious blood and died for my sin.

I am willing to turn away from my sin.

I now invite Christ to come into my heart and life as my personal Saviour.

”



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COMEDIAN'S LIFE CHANGED AT A CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME

by Andrew Halloway

“When my time comes to leave this wonderful world, I can go to God in the knowledge that at least I tried” said the irrepressible comedian loved by millions

COMEDY legend Bobby Ball once thought he had everything in this life, but soon realised he had nothing of eternal value.

The former tractor welder from Oldham died aged 76 on 28 October after going into hospital with a chest infection and testing positive for coronavirus. Only three weeks earlier, he was performing alongside his two sons and comedy partner Tommy Cannon.

Bobby formed comedy act Cannon and Ball with pal Tommy in the 1960s, and by 1979 the duo had their own highly popular Saturday night TV show that ran for 11 series. In later years, Bobby also starred in several TV series including ‘Not Going Out’, ‘Last of the Summer Wine’, ‘Benidorm’ and ‘Heartbeat’.

At the height of his fame in the early 1980s, Bobby realised that he had all the success and wealth he wanted, but felt empty inside.

According to his biography, he

“had everything, and yet had nothing”. He started to drink heavily, was womanising and even getting into fights. “I was not a nice man to be with, in fact I felt dirty and knew I needed forgiveness,” he recalled.

“I was not a nice man to be with, in fact I felt dirty and knew I needed forgiveness”

In 1986 at a Christmas pantomime in Bradford, Bobby met old friend Max Wigley, the theatre chaplain. “He asked to go drinking with me after the show!” Bobby recalled later, in an interview broadcast on Radio 4 after his passing.

Max talked about Jesus, and Bobby came to believe that God was real. One day, he asked Jesus into his life, and soon God began to change him. So much so, that just two months later his wife Yvonne also became a Christian.

Tommy Cannon resisted for some years, but in 1992 he and wife Hazel both became Christians

at a church service.

The duo lent their comedy skills to church events

In the following years, the duo lent their comedy skills to church events, often talking about their faith in God in shows called ‘An Evening with Cannon and Ball’.

In a 2014 interview with Northern Life, Bobby was asked what impact Christianity had made on his life. He replied: “Being a Christian? It doesn’t have an impact. It gives you a new life. It doesn’t impact it, it turns it totally around.”

In his book ‘My Life’, Bobby wrote a prayer which ended: “So I shall try each day to become a better human being and, when my time comes to leave this wonderful world, I can go to God in the knowledge that at least I tried.”



Bobby (right) with comedy partner and fellow Christian Tommy Cannon

New ‘Songs of Praise’ host met God in hospital room



Katie Piper at the 2019 premier of the pantomime ‘Aladdin’

A brave nurse introduced Katie Piper to the faith which gave her the strength to survive

This Christmas you will see a new face on ‘Songs of Praise’, the BBC’s flagship religious programme.

The presenter, Katie Piper, is famous for her incredible bravery in coping with severe facial burns from an acid attack.

She credits God with getting her through this agonising experience. Now she will be celebrating her Christian faith on our TV screens, after she landed the BBC job in September.

Katie, 37, had not been brought up in a religious home and faith played no role in her life until the brutal attack using sulphuric acid in 2008, which was arranged by an ex-boyfriend.

“The nurse would probably have been sacked for discussing religion”

Lying in a hospital bed in agony, severely disfigured, a nurse spoke to her about God. “Had anyone known, she would probably have been sacked for breaking ethics by discussing religion,” Katie told The Daily Mail. “But she was just doing it out of Christian kindness to comfort me.”

“I remember her telling me: ‘Things happen for a reason. This is not the end. God has great things in store for you.’”

“That night I prayed for the first time. Then the weirdest thing happened. The room seemed incredibly bright, and I felt I was being enveloped in a warm hug.”

“A voice in my head said: ‘Everything’s going to be OK’. I didn’t see God or angels, but I felt an incredible sense of being loved.”

“The room seemed incredibly bright, and I felt I was being enveloped in a warm hug”

When she left hospital, she joined a church and started an Alpha course. “That was one of the best things I did,” she told Radio 2. “Some of the elders in the church mentored me and supported me... Those key people were a massive part of my recovery, and so was God and faith.”

Katie’s gruelling journey to recovery has involved more than 200 operations to try to reconstruct her face and restore her beauty.

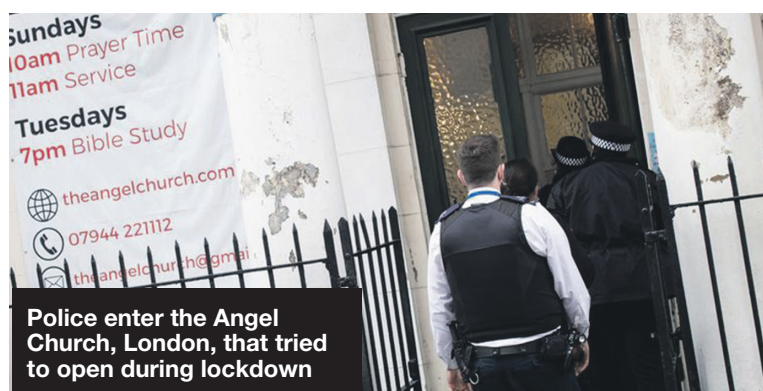
She has recently celebrated her fifth wedding anniversary; in November 2015 she married Richard Sutton, a carpenter, with whom she has two daughters, Belle, six, and Penelope, who is nearly three.

The Alpha course is an informal introduction to the Christian faith. Usually held on weekday evenings in churches, it has gone online in the past few months, attracting many more visitors, according to founder Rev Nicky Gumbel

NATIONAL NEWS by Andrew Halloway

CHURCH LEADERS CHALLENGE WORSHIP BAN

“Glaring inconsistencies” in the way churches are being treated



Police enter the Angel Church, London, that tried to open during lockdown

English and Welsh church leaders have launched legal action against the closure of churches during the countries' lockdowns.

In September, almost 700 UK church leaders had asked the Prime Minister and First Ministers of Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland not to close churches again after the March national lockdown. Now, led by Pastor Ade Omooba and supported by the Christian Legal Centre, 122 leaders have submitted papers asking for a legal review of the bans.

The leaders complain that there is no evidence to show

that socially-distanced church services were increasing Covid-19 infections, and that church buildings were allowed to be open for non-religious uses such as food banks, but not worship services.

Pastor Omooba said: “We call on the government to recognise the vital importance of church ministry and the principle of church autonomy from the state.”

The Christian Institute pointed out that universities are allowed to function despite being known hotspots for Covid transmission – and even garden centres have been allowed to stay open.

“The government appears to think garden centres are more important than churches”

Institute Director Colin Hart said: “There are now glaring inconsistencies in the way churches are being treated compared to other sectors of society... The government appears to think garden centres are more important than churches.”

Darren Millar, Conservative MP for Clwyd West, told the Welsh Senedd: “In the absence of any evidence that suggests that churches and chapels in Wales pose a significant threat of transmission of the coronavirus, closure does not seem to be a proportionate or necessary act.”

But Labour MS Rebecca Evans, the House Leader, rejected his objection with the excuse that government “can't look to every single type of setting”.

On Sunday 15 November the pastor of the Angel Church in Islington, London, Regan King,

defied the ban to open his church for a baptismal service. He broadcast his desire to let the lonely and isolated come together to worship, so it was reported on national news and police were alerted.

Worldwide, only the UK and France have imposed national bans on church services

The police later allowed 15 people to stay inside the Angel Church in Islington to attend a support group, while another 15 held a socially-distanced outdoor service. Pastor Regan King is one of the leaders asking for a judicial review.

On 4 November, former PM Theresa May warned Parliament that church closures during lockdown set a dangerous precedent that future governments could exploit to make public worship illegal.

Worldwide, only the UK and France have imposed national bans on church services.

“I had young men crying about their jobs and futures” says vicar



Rev David Ackerman with the Bishop of London, the Lord Mayor of Westminster, Lieutenant for Westminster, Mayor of Brent and Area Dean after an anniversary evensong in September 2019

Meanwhile Britons had to accept that yet another national commemoration, Remembrance Sunday, was cancelled at short notice.

Outrage was not confined to the evangelical wing of the Church. Father David Ackerman, of St John the Evangelist Church in Kensal Rise, London, said: “I’m disgusted to my core

that we will be told on the eve of the 75th anniversary of the end of World War Two that we can't hold a Remembrance Sunday service.”

“It is a human right to worship”

He added: “We live in a free country. If the police want to come and break up wreath laying and national anthem singing, I'd rather leave this country than live like this.”

Other than for funerals, the only other reasons places of worship could stay open was to broadcast acts of worship, individual prayer, formal childcare, or essential services such as blood donation or food banks.

After his last legal service on 1 November, Fr David said: “I had young men crying in the church about their jobs and futures. It's not fair that the government is doing this, it is a human right to worship.”

“In the Gospel we heard the words ‘blessed are the persecuted’. It's the government which is now persecuting the Church.”

He accused the government of “using terror” to frighten people and told the public to contact their MP to urge them to vote against the November lockdown.

Church of England debates sex – again

In the latest move by the Church of England in its sexuality debate, the Church has published a booklet, podcasts and videos to encourage opposing sides to listen to each other.

The ‘Living in Love and Faith’ resources do not change Anglican doctrine, but sexuality matters will once again be on the agenda at the 2022 General Synod.

The material appeals for kindness in the discussion, and contributor the Rt Rev Dr Jill Duff, Bishop of Lancaster, has asked that people don't prejudge the resources. But she admitted in Christianity magazine: “You may think we haven't done a good enough job to commend the biblical view on sex and marriage. We have done what we can.”



An outrageous Soviet-style proposal to criminalise personal opinions shared in your own home has been put forward by the Law Commission.

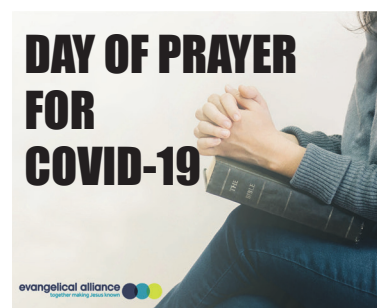
The Commission has recommended that the government should extend hate crime legislation to cover speech at home. Similar ideas have also been incorporated into a Scottish hate crime bill supported by Justice Secretary Humza Yousaf, which could also result in parents being investigated if children repeat their views in the school playground.

The Christian Institute's Ciarán Kelly said: “The Scottish government has drawn criticism from all corners for its sinister hate crime legislation, but the Law Commission for England and Wales appears to have paid no notice.”

The Bible itself could be considered “inflammatory” and destroyed

The Institute adds that if the Law Commission gets its way, private conversations about issues like transgender ideology could bring police to your door. In addition, the Bible itself could be considered “inflammatory” and destroyed if the current wording of the Scottish bill is adopted.

Moreover, former evangelical pastor Steve Chalke and C of E General Synod member Jayne Ozanne also want the government to take action against prayers and preaching which do not affirm ‘alternative’ lifestyles.



On 13 November the Evangelical Alliance held a national day of prayer for the government, health workers and those affected by coronavirus. CEO Gavin Calver had written to the Queen and Prime Minister asking them to proclaim a day of prayer, but after receiving “warm” but “fairly non-committal” replies the EA went ahead with its own arrangements.

NATIONAL NEWS by Andrew Hallaway

DIY abortion 'wide open to abuse' but set to become permanent

Despite horrifying evidence that home abortions are unsafe, the government is planning to make them a permanent option. An online conference in November gave important updates

A senior NHS midwife has revealed that two women have died after taking the abortion pill at home and another 13 "serious incidents" are being investigated, according to CitizenGo.

A woman is also considering legal action against abortion provider Marie Stopes after needing emergency surgery after a DIY abortion went wrong.



Andrea Williams of Christian Concern: "DIY abortions are wide open to abuse"



Caroline Farrow of CitizenGo: "Only the abortion industry benefits"

Christian Concern has found that women can be sent abortion pills despite giving false names, false addresses, false dates of birth and false gestational dates, showing how DIY abortion is "wide open to abuse" and "dangerous and illegal practices".

Caroline Farrow of CitizenGo says: "The only people who benefit from DIY home abortion is the abortion industry... DIY home abortion allows them to carry out their business at a fraction of the cost."

The campaigning organisation adds that some women have described the DIY abortion process as "hell", "horrible" and "a lot worse than I expected". Some also complain of being rushed into a decision over the phone and not being able to access counselling to help them with their pregnancy.

On 10 November an online conference updating church leaders on the home abortion scheme was hosted by Dave

Brennan of Brepheos, the church project of Centre for Bio-Ethical Reform UK (CBR UK). Speakers included Andrea Williams of Christian Concern, Intercessors for Britain director Dave Borlase, who spoke of the biblical seriousness of shedding innocent blood, and the former director of Marie Stopes International, Kevin Duffy.

Duffy shared revelations from a 'secret shopper' project in which abortion providers sent abortifacient drugs to women who weren't pregnant, or who only wanted an abortion to keep their "bikini body", or who intended to pass the pills on to another woman.



Former Marie Stopes director Kevin Duffy has exposed the dangers of DIY abortions through a 'secret shopper' operation

Andrea Williams of Christian Concern related abortion to issues such as embryo research and artificial insemination as well as the weakening of marriage and the family unit. She



Dave Borlase spoke of the seriousness of shedding innocent blood

also gave the conference a detailed run-down of the crucial week in March when the government performed a double U-turn to allow DIY abortions.

In September, Christian Concern lost a Court of Appeal challenge on DIY abortion, even though recent polls suggest that the majority of UK women oppose it. A ComRes pool showed 77 per cent believe doctors should see a woman in person to verify that she is choosing abortion without being coerced, and another survey found that 92 per cent agreed.

In November, 277 Northern Ireland healthcare workers signed an open letter to Minister of Health Robin Swann opposing DIY abortion in the province, where it was still illegal.

CitizenGo has raised a petition asking the government to stop DIY abortions and put the health of pregnant women first.

A video of the conference and details of apologetics training led by Aisling Goodison can be seen at www.brepheos.org



Aisling Goodison, who works at CBR UK, gives training on how to explain being pro-life



Heidi Carter believes current abortion law discriminates against people with Down's syndrome

DOWN'S ACTIVISTS CHALLENGE ABORTION LAW

A woman with Down's syndrome and the mother of a son with the syndrome have been granted the right to contest abortion legislation.

The law currently allows Down's babies to be aborted right up until birth. Heidi Carter and Máire Lea-Wilson, whose case is entirely funded by donations, call the current law "deeply offensive".

Their lawyer, Paul Conrathe, says: "The court has recognised it is arguable that the state is

acting unlawfully towards babies with Down's syndrome."

Heidi, 25, told The Sunday Telegraph that the current law "makes me feel like I shouldn't exist, and that I'd be better off dead in the eyes of the law."

Over 90 per cent of women whose unborn babies are diagnosed with Down's syndrome now choose abortion. The case is likely to go to trial next year.

Mrs Carter also featured in the Aug/Sept issue of HEART, shortly before her marriage.

NATIONAL NEWS by Andrew Halloway

PRO-LIFE ACTIVISTS UNDER ATTACK



Targeted: Caroline Farrow and Ann Kioko

Pro-family and pro-life pressure group CitizenGo reports that two of their campaigners “are under relentless attack from extreme Leftists”. In the UK, Caroline Farrow is being dragged through “expensive and baseless legal battles”, and “her family and young children have been stalked and harassed online”. The other, Ann Kioko in Kenya, is constantly harassed by “abortion radicals” who “bombard her with legal threats”. They have even followed her to her home, forcing her and her family to move. CitizenGo reports that billionaire George Soros’ OpenDemocracy organisation has targeted them.

STREET PREACHER WINS COMPENSATION FROM POLICE

Premier News reports that street preacher Dominic Muir has won compensation from Dorset police after they stopped him preaching in Blandford Forum town centre in April, ostensibly for breaking lockdown restrictions. The Christian Legal Centre, which assisted Mr Muir in writing to the Chief Constable to complain, says police admitted an officer had acted unlawfully and paid £1250 in damages and costs. Mr Muir says he would also like an apology from the force.

Covid-19 contracts “awarded to cronies”

The Guardian reports that Jolyon Maugham, a barrister and director of the Good Law Project, has launched legal action alleging cronyism and lack of transparency in how the government has awarded jobs and contracts relating to Covid-19.

VACCINE “WON’T BE MANDATORY” SAYS PM

Prime Minister Boris Johnson had announced in his 23 November press conference that a Covid-19 vaccination would not be made mandatory.

He said, “That’s not how we do things in this country.”

The Danish government, however, recently proposed new laws that included forcible hospitalisation, isolation and treatment, including vaccination, during a future pandemic.

Danish citizens demonstrated outside Parliament for nine days, banging saucepans, which resulted in the law being withdrawn.

However, there are reports that the Danish government is now redrawing the proposals, which will be presented to Parliament in December.

COMMENT

Corrupting our ways

by Philip Quenby

Failings in government illustrate a wider societal problem

Through much of the 19th century and into the 20th, Britain was envied for the comparative lack of corruption in her business and public affairs.

There were occasional scandals and no doubt some underhand dealing that never came to light, but by and large widespread acceptance of Christian ethics kept things cleaner than in many other nations. The long afterglow of the 18th century revival spearheaded by John Wesley and George Whitefield continued to influence behaviour, even as religious observance entered an extended period of decline that still continues.

Bribery of the kind involving money passed under tables in brown envelopes is still pretty rare, at least compared to many other countries.

A comprehensive turning away from what is right and godly

But there is another kind of corruption, just as damaging and in some ways more insidious. This is the sort the Bible means when it speaks of people having “corrupted their ways” (Genesis 6:12) and “corrupted

[their] wisdom” (Ezekiel 28:17) – such a comprehensive turning away from what is right and godly that each action and every thought comes from a wrong perspective.

In a recently launched legal action, lawyer and founder of the Good Law Project, Jolyon Maugham, alleges cronyism and lack of transparency in how government has awarded jobs and contracts relating to Covid-19. He points the finger at Kate Bingham, cousin by marriage to Boris Johnson’s sister, Collingwood Cameron (a business associate of Dominic Cummings’ father-in-law) and special “VIP” channels for procurement of protective equipment.

Whether these particular allegations are true or not – a judge has yet to rule on them – they point to a worrying trend. Across Westminster, Whitehall and beyond, we are witnessing repeated system failure as institutions that once served us well falter. They are doing so because too many of those who staff and run them have corrupted their ways and corrupted their wisdom.

The Bible tells us where this leads: “By justice a king gives a country stability, but the one who is greedy for bribes tears it down.” (Proverbs 29:4).

WHAT DOES A POOR OR PERSECUTED CHRISTIAN CHILD WANT FOR CHRISTMAS

Our Christmas Appeal 2020 will help Christian children, many of them orphaned or fatherless; traumatised by violence, Covid and natural disasters

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REV DR CLIFFORD HILL

Prophetic insight into today's world

THERE IS GOOD NEWS!

Lockdown has had a positive effect on family life

We all know the lockdown's terrible impact upon the economy. It has devastated many small businesses and decimated the nation's high streets.

There have, tragically, been plenty of reports of domestic violence and paedophiles targeting children online during lockdown periods.

But there is also good news that does not hit the headlines. It is the positive effect upon family life that this unprecedented period has had for many people.

The Institute for Social and Economic Research at the University of Essex published research in November showing that 40 per cent of parents say that their relationships with their children improved during the lockdown period and only five per cent said that problems had increased.

Parents, particularly mothers, spent a lot more time with their children than they had been doing before the lockdown. Both mothers and fathers helped with homework, which many of them found enjoyable and the fact of actually spending time with their children, and sharing in the search for answers to questions, was very good for parent/child relationships. When we give more time to each other within the family, it has

great beneficial effects.

Marriage strengthened

Part of the research looked at couple relationships within a large national survey involving 2,559 parents who were either married or cohabiting as a couple. It showed that 20 per cent of married parents said that their relationship had got better, compared with only nine per cent who said that things had got worse. The remaining 71 per cent of couples said that their relationship had stayed unchanged.

A similar study in the USA last month found that half of all married couples reported that their appreciation of one another had actually improved during times when they were confined to home and had to spend more time together.

In Britain, the divorce rate in the past year has dropped by 70 per cent

Divorce rates dropping

A further research finding, both in Britain and in America, showed that divorce rates are dropping significantly. In Britain, the divorce rate in the past year has dropped by 70 per cent – that is over two thirds – which is quite amazing! And it says a lot about commitment and our relationships with one another.

Commitment

Among cohabiting couples, women were three times more likely than married women to say that their relationship had not improved, or had got worse, during the lockdown period. This shows the importance of commitment in family life.

Cohabiting women were three times more likely than married women to say that their relationship had not improved

Where a couple have committed themselves to each other there is not only the determination to make the relationship work, but when they actually spend more time together, they find greater happiness and fulfilment in their relationship.

Perhaps this is one of the reasons why God allowed the Covid virus to sweep across the nations. Most people are so busy that they don't have time for personal relationships.

This is especially true of young couples with children. The demands upon working mothers and fathers are such that they have very little time for each other, and even less time to give to their children. The children then compensate by spending hours on their smart phones or computer games and much less time with members of their own family.

Spending time together

The pressure of the modern world is one of the reasons why family life has been growing weaker and family breakdown has been so widespread. This may be a reason why God has allowed the virus to spread; to force couples and their children

to spend more time together. In so doing most of them have actually benefited.

The research so far has only concentrated on couple relationships. It would be really interesting to find what has happened to sibling relationships – whether the time spent together has benefited brothers and sisters who have had to learn to share and to do things together.

Caring and sharing

Maybe there is a lesson here for churches. In large congregations we usually only know very few whom we would count as friends.

The first believers met in one another's homes, allowing caring relationships to develop quickly

The early Church grew so rap-

idly because they were not based in buildings like synagogues or temples. The first believers met in one another's homes, which allowed caring relationships to develop quickly.

Jesus had just 12 disciples with whom he had intimate friendships, although there were many more whom he loved, such as Mary, Martha and Lazarus. It was to the 12 that he said, "My command is this: love each other as I have loved you" (John 15:12).

Perhaps one outcome of this unprecedented period will be to make us all re-examine our relationships, both within our own families and in our church.

Clifford Hill's latest book, 'Beyond the Pandemic – is there any word from the Lord?' is available from info@issacharministries.co.uk

Office mobile 07759 042 315

See the reviews section of this paper.

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Rev Dr Clifford Hill



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ISRAEL AND THE END



The view of Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, to which Jesus will return at the end of the age, according to the Bible (Zechariah 14:4, Acts 1:11)

Don't worry about political turmoil – Scripture says all will be well with Jesus

BY CHARLES GARDNER

With international attention on Israel as never before, nobody had been able to find a solution to the conflict. Except, it seems, a much vilified businessman who has failed in his bid for re-election as US President.

Mr Trump may look like a bad loser. What has this election been about, and why did it produce the kind of trouble and strife not seen since the aftermath of the American Civil War?

A battle of the ages is being waged that could well usher in the return of our Lord and Saviour

It's because so much is at stake. A battle of the ages is being waged that could well usher in the return of our Lord and Saviour. It is a classic conflict between good and evil, as Catholic Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò put it in his open letter to the President, in which he also warned of an emerging so-called "Great Reset" and "New World Order" justified by the Covid pandemic.¹

Yes, Mr Trump has been humbled. The Bible says: "Pride goes before a fall" (Proverbs 16:18), and this is what has tripped him up. But there is more to it than meets the eye.

The bigger picture behind what the mainstream media paint becomes obvious once you

interpret the political changes from a biblical point of view.

For centuries, Christians around the world have prayed for the peace of Jerusalem, as they are commanded in Scripture (Psalm 122:6). All of a sudden, the intractable Israeli-Palestinian debacle takes on a whole new light as a succession of Arab countries began normalising diplomatic relations with their former enemy.

Mr Trump has almost single-handedly changed the game

An unprecedented peace process has well and truly trumped the many pundits who were predicting mass protests and violence from the Palestinians. Mr Trump has almost single-handedly changed the game by taking the ball of contention out of the hands of the chief protagonists.

The United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and others are seeing the pragmatic sense of looking to their own interests rather than blindly pursuing a hostile policy that has yet to produce any lasting fruit.

Meanwhile other nations, though waiting to see which way the wind blows, are lining up to move their embassies to Jerusalem in recognising the city as Israel's ancient capital, following the bold lead taken by Mr Trump early on in his term.

The new Arab-Israeli deals are a part-fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecy of a highway of peace in the region (Isaiah 19:23-25)

and a sneak preview, surely, of the time when the Prince of Peace, Jesus the Jewish Messiah, places his feet on the Mount of Olives and brings an end to war (Zechariah 14:4, Acts 1:11). Yet what deep divisions arise when such apocalyptic issues are at stake.

I'm not saying Mr Trump is a saint. Yet Mr Trump has dared to oppose the mass slaughter of innocent, unborn babies, which doesn't seem to worry his opponents one iota. But if your focus is limited to domestic politics, you will not see the wood for the trees.



Palestinians burn pictures of Trump in opposition to recent peace deals

A clue to the bigger picture was the sight in Gaza of Palestinians burning images of Donald Trump alongside those of Lord Arthur Balfour². Who? Exactly. He was the man behind the so-called Balfour Declaration of 1917. As British Foreign

Secretary, he promised that his government would do all in its power to re-settle the dispersed Jewish people in their ancient land.

To the intense chagrin of Arab opponents, and left-wing politicians in general, this has been the focus of conflict ever since. This will continue (despite valiant peace efforts along the way) until Jesus returns, after an alliance of nations attacks Israel from the north and is soundly defeated at Armageddon (Ezekiel 38, Revelation 16).

One of the great ironies of all this is that, while most Israelis see Trump as a firm friend, most of America's five million Jews supported Biden³, following the tradition of Jewish Americans, who define themselves as liberals and identify with the Democrat party's economic and social values.

You could argue that their position reflects more concern for their own comfort than for their ultimate destiny in the land itself. For Biden was Vice-President to Barack Obama, perceived by many as the most anti-Israel President in US history.

Judging by the warring political tribes in America, peace still seems far off. But don't despair. Jesus has a word of encouragement for his followers when they see the world in turmoil.

Talking with his disciples about a time when nations would be "in anguish and perplexity" and "people will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world," Jesus ex-



"At that time, they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory"

plained: "At that time, they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." (Luke 21:25-28)

If you are not yet a Christian, it's not too late to put that right. Turn to him now. He will be there for you! He says: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)

Millions can attest to the truth of an old hymn based on this theme, which includes these lines: "I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn and sad, I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad." (Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889)

References

- 1 Posted on StopWorldControl.com – the Archbishop is the former Apostolic Nuncio to the USA
- 2 Israelis eagerly await final result, www.israeltoday.co.il, 4 November 2020
- 3 Poll taken by Pew Research Centre, World Israel News, 14 October 2020

Iran rejoices at Biden 'win'



Iran's mullahs gloated over President Trump's apparent defeat in early November.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani called on 'President-elect' Joe Biden to make amends for the "errors" committed by President Donald Trump and return Washington to its international commitments.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry said that Iran has prepared a list of demands for which Biden must "compensate" the Islamic Republic, Al Arabiya reported.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia was the last country to congratulate Mr Biden. Under President Trump, a close alliance against Iran's extremism had been formed with the oil-rich kingdom.

Jewish history denied

The Palestinian Authority's Culture Minister, Atef Abu Saif, has denied over 3,000 years of Jewish history in the land of Israel by saying: "There is no such thing as an Israeli." He added that they are simply a group of settlers who arrived from all the world states.

Corbyn back after anti-Semitism inquiry

Former Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn was swiftly suspended from the party he once led when he refused to accept the findings of an inquiry into anti-Semitism. The investigation, by the UK's human rights watchdog, found Labour guilty of "unlawful acts of discrimination and harassment" while Mr Corbyn's office was accused of political interference in the complaints process.

Mr Corbyn said the scale of the problem was "dramatically overstated for political reasons by our opponents inside and outside the party, as well as by much of the media".

But Sir Keir Starmer, his successor, insisted: "If there are still those who think there is no problem with anti-Semitism in the Labour Party...you are part of the problem too."

Following a disciplinary hearing, Sir Keir Starmer readmitted Mr Corbyn to the party, but denied him the Labour whip, provoking a furious response from Mr Corbyn's supporters, who include Unite union leader Len McCluskey. Unite is a major donor to Labour.

Meanwhile The Guardian newspaper has been accused of

anti-Semitism for publishing a cartoon of Sir Keir carrying Mr Corbyn's decapitated head on a golden plate.

The problem goes back to Labour's candidate selection, according to a Talkradio caller in November. He explained that prospective Labour councillors or MPs used to demonstrate that they had spent time at an Israeli kibbutz as proof of their enthusiasm for a communal lifestyle.

These days they need to show that they have spent time in a Palestinian refugee camp.

MASS PROTEST OVER CRITICISM OF ISLAM

Some 12,000 Muslims took part in a mass protest on Jerusalem's Temple Mount after French President Emmanuel Macron said Islam was "in crisis all over the world" and it was time for reform.

BBC FORCED TO BACK DOWN

The BBC has been forced to apologise and drop a planned documentary for its Arabic TV service allegedly promoting sympathy for convicted Hamas terrorist Ahlam Tamimi, mastermind behind the 2001 Sbarro pizzeria suicide bombing in Jerusalem that claimed 16 lives. This follows a campaign led by the father of 15-year-old Malki Roth, one of the victims.

Malawi recognises Jerusalem

Malawi has followed the lead of President Trump and others by announcing that it is opening a new embassy in Jerusalem, thus recognising the city as Israel's ancient capital. The African nation's president is a born-again Christian who called the nation to prayer and repentance over coronavirus.

Other recent articles by Charles Gardner, which can be found at www.heartpublications.co.uk, include:

- True Religion
- Schools Back Bible
- San Remo Solution
- The Great Apostasy
- What's in a Name?
- Repairing the Ruins
- The Beast is Released
- A Call for Courage
- Sheer Lunacy
- Enslaved by Fear?
- History repeats itself

Charles is also now editor-in-chief of 'Prophecy Today' at www.prophecytoday.uk as well as a regular contributor to Israel Today at www.israeltoday.co.il

His new book, 'King of the Jews', is available from Christian Publications International, Eden Books, or HEART Publications (tel: 01903 209383).

He is also author of 'A Nation Reborn' (CPI), 'Israel the Chosen' and 'Peace in Jerusalem' (olivepresspublisher.com & Eden) – all available from Amazon.

The winter festival that Jesus DID celebrate

Under occupation by a hostile foreign power, God's ancient people learned to survive and preserve their heritage, even when it was illegal to do so. As a result, they saw miracles

Like Christmas, Hanukkah is not a biblical festival. It dates from the period between the Old and New Testaments. In the Bible it is mentioned in John 10, where we read that Jesus celebrated the Feast of Dedication ('Hanukkah' in Hebrew) referring to the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem after its desecration.

He outlawed Jewish practice and massacred Jews who refused to obey

About 200 BC, Syrian king Antiochus Epiphanes ruled in Judea (modern-day Israel). He outlawed Jewish practice, massacring Jews who refused to obey. He looted the Temple in Jerusalem, sacrificed pigs on the altar and ordered an altar to Zeus to be erected in the Temple, which the Prophet Daniel had foretold as the "abomination that causes desolation" (Daniel 9:27).

By a miracle it stayed alight for eight days

In 164 BC, Jewish resistance led by Judah Maccabee reclaimed the Temple. However, priestly service could not resume until it was cleansed and rededicated to God. One small jar of uncontaminated oil remained, only enough to last for

one day. They lit the menorah, the huge seven-branched golden Temple candelabra, and by a miracle it stayed alight for eight days until a new supply of purified oil was ready.

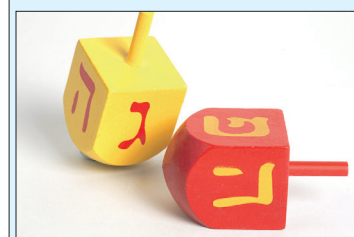
Commemorating this miracle, Jewish people celebrate the Festival of Hanukkah every year for eight days. Each day, using a special candelabra with nine stems, they light the prominent shamash or servant candle and use it to light the others: one candle on the first day, two on the second and so on.

Each day, new souls all over the world are lit up by the transforming light of Jesus the Messiah

At Christmas we often read John 1, which says, "the true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world". Jesus is that light, the servant flame, laying down his life and lighting the lives of those who approach him humbly in repentance and faith.

Each day, new souls all over the world are lit up by the transforming light of Jesus the Messiah, just as each night of Hanukkah one more candle is set aflame. Once we have been set alight we must guard that flame, turning to Jesus daily so that our lives are sustained by the blaze of his Spirit.

The toy whose letters point to Messiah



Games are often played during Hanukkah, including spinning the 'dreidel', a four-sided spinning top. There is a Hebrew letter on each of the dreidel's four sides - un Gimmel Hey Shin - standing for the phrase: "Nes gadol hayah sham," meaning "A great miracle happened there", referring to the miracle of the oil in Jerusalem.

It used to be thought that the dreidel dates back to the Maccabean revolt when Bible study was outlawed and Jewish children studied in secret. If enemy soldiers came calling, pupils would put away their scrolls and pull out their spinning tops.

In fact, the dreidel is more likely to relate to life in the diaspora.

Amazingly, though, the numerical value of the dreidel's Hebrew letters adds up to that of the Messiah.

V Symonds

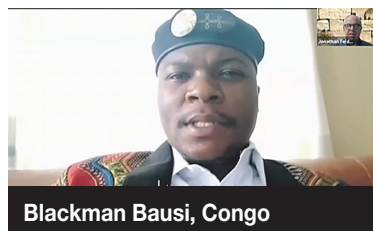
Jews and Christians unite for Hanukkah prayer



Dr Bill Winston, USA



Sharon Sanders, Israel



Blackman Bausi, Congo

US charity The Genesis 123 Foundation is organising an international prayer event for Israel to celebrate Hanukkah in December. Christians and Jews all over the world will be invited to pray together.

Hanukkah remembers the re-dedication of the Temple and associated miracles. John 10:22-23 records that it was celebrated by Jesus himself. The prayers will be held in countries all over the world, in a variety of languages, and will be streamed on the charity's Facebook and YouTube pages.

"Each segment will incorporate both live and recorded prayer and worship, as well as Jewish teaching," said Jonathan Feldstein, an Orthodox Jew who is president of Genesis 123 and lives in Israel. "Because of the miracles related to Hanukkah, prayers will focus on miracles relating to Israel."

"People can also send their prayers for Israel, for themselves, and for their loved ones, which will be placed in Jerusalem's Western Wall."

Some of the leaders who took part in last year's Global Chanukah prayer event were:

Dr Bill Winston, Chicago
Pastor Rafael Cruz, Dallas
Pastor Mark Biltz, Seattle
Pastor Becky Keenan, Houston
Bishop Glenn Plummer, Israel
Blackman Bausi, Congo (in Swahili)
Pastor Ifoema Edith Chukwugo, Nigeria
Sharon Sanders, Jerusalem
Evangelist Rushna Anwar, Pakistan
Pastor Noriyaki Ishii, Japan



*As we look ahead to Chanukah and Christmas,
our Holidays of Lights, Israel Bonds
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light, love, peace and good health*



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Thur 10 Dec. 2020 6:30 PM (UK time)

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STRANGE TIMES



WHY DO WE NEED A VACCINE – LET ALONE AN ECONOMICALLY DESTRUCTIVE LOCKDOWN – FOR A VIRUS THAT HAS A 99% SURVIVAL RATE?

by James Smith

Something strange is going on. Our lives have been turned upside down, not because of a virus, but because of how governments have responded to it.

Is the virus real? Yes. Can people die from it? Yes, but it's a fact confirmed by many doctors and scientists that Covid is neither running rampant through the population, nor is it highly fatal for the vast majority who contract it.

For example, geneticist and health data scientist Professor Anthony Brookes stated in a recent Talkradio interview that only around one per cent of the UK population is currently infected and the vast majority have no symptoms. He said Covid posed less of a threat than regular flu to those under age 65, and the number of people dying from respiratory illnesses is much the same as any other year. He went on to say that the average member of the UK population is much more scared than they need be.

Covid isn't an unprecedented disease, but the government's response to it is. It has criminalised ordinary daily life and forced the young and healthy to stop work and stay at home in order to protect the very old and already very ill, and in doing so, crashed an economy that supports young and old alike.

Sacrificing treatment for more serious illnesses on the altar of Covid

It's enforced lockdown in spite of multiple reports outlining how they do more harm than good. It's turned the National Health Service into the National Covid Service, sacrific-

ing treatment for more serious illnesses on the altar of Covid.

The claim by Professors Whitty and Vallance that only a second lockdown would stop us reaching 4,000 daily deaths by December was debunked within hours by eminent scientists such as Carl Heneghan, Professor for Evidence-Based Medicine, who pointed out that for this to happen, daily deaths would have to be 1,000 by early November. As I write this in mid-November, we're nowhere near that.

The Covid death count is in fact so much within seasonal norms for respiratory illnesses that the narrative has changed to counting 'cases' instead, ie positive PCR tests; a test widely acknowledged to be unreliable when used for the purpose of mass testing, with some experts suggesting only around 10% of positive results are reliable. Many experts, such as Dr Mike Yeadon, former Chief Scientific Adviser with Pfizer and expert in respiratory pharmacology,

The average UK citizen is much more scared than they need be

described the use of such a demonstrably unreliable test as effectively creating a pandemic where one doesn't exist. He stated, "You don't chase respiratory viruses around the country using industrial molecular biology".

Even if the PCR test was 100% accurate, the number of 'cases' is irrelevant, because the vast majority have no symptoms.

We were told lockdown was necessary to protect the NHS from being overwhelmed, so what matters is how many 'cases' need hospitalisation, and that remains within seasonal norms. Professor Heneghan confirmed the NHS isn't being overwhelmed and that 'cases' flatlined around the beginning of November (ie before the second lockdown).

We're told there are only two ways out of this crisis: vaccine or mass testing (both of which will cost billions). Why do we need a vaccine (let alone an economy destroying lockdown) for a virus that has a 99% survival rate? And if the PCR continues to be used for mass testing, we'll never wake up from this nightmare.

Doctors like Consultant Pathologist Clare Craig are convinced the PCR has failed. Indeed, many experts are calling for it to be replaced by the more accurate test currently being used in Liverpool. Of the 90,000+ Liverpudlians tested

so far, only 0.5% are positive.

Has this so-called Covid 'hot-spot' suddenly gone cold, or does it prove we're all being held hostage by a 'casedemic' of PCR false positives?

The government says it's "following the science", as if there's just one sacred scientific truth on Covid that all scientists agree on. There isn't. In fact, Steve Baker MP told MailOnline, "Some of those claiming to be 'following the science' seem not to understand the meaning of the word".

In a BBC2 documentary aired on 19 November, Professor Ian Hall, deputy chair of the SAGE subgroup SPI-M, admitted SAGE used Wikipedia – which can be edited and managed by members of the public – to guide its decisions. Liverpool University Professor Calum Semple, a member of another SAGE sub-committee called NERVTAG, said there was not a single human coronavirus expert in the group, yet this modelling propelled us into the March lockdown.

In response to these astonishing admissions Professor Carl Heneghan said: "The fact they used Wikipedia for their models is just completely unacceptable. You've got to use verified data". He went on to say, "We've never been able to trust these models because they've been wrong every time and even now they are unreliable".

The government has ignored the counsel of many experts who disagree with SAGE, and instead ploughed ahead with a strategy based on a death count projected by flawed modelling and a 'case' count generated by a flawed test.

Proverbs 11:14 says:

"Where there is no counsel, the people fall; but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety."

The government's furlough scheme has merely kicked the

"I think the PCR test at present is throwing up so many false positives that in fact we're misdiagnosing the cause of the deaths that are being reported. The number of deaths at the moment is normal for the time of year. So if I'm right and the pandemic is fundamentally over, what's going on? And I think quite simply it's not over because SAGE says it's not!"

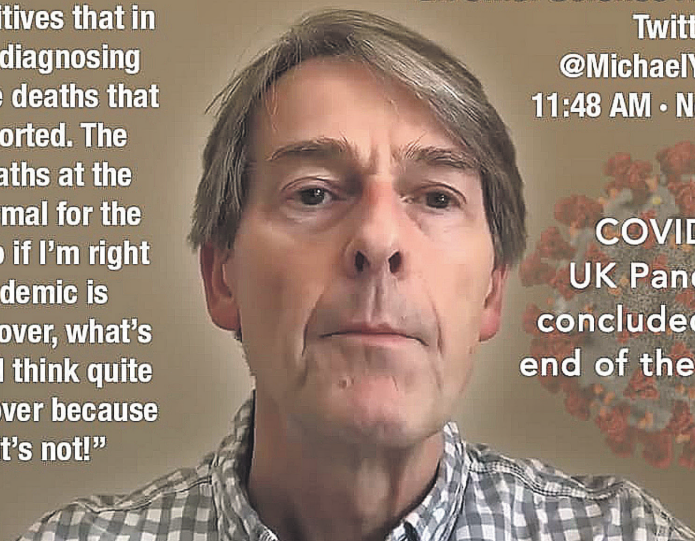
**Dr Mike Yeadon PHD
Ex Chief Science Adviser for Pfizer**

Twitter

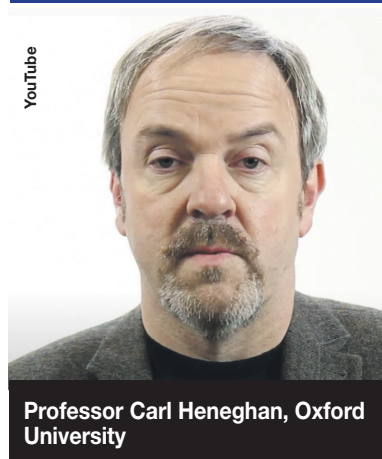
@MichaelYeadon3

11:48 AM · Nov 2, 2020

**COVID-19
UK Pandemic
concluded at the
end of the summer**



These models have been wrong every time



Continued from page 11

can of inevitable financial Armageddon down the road for a short time, but all the money handed out to people forced to stop work will eventually have to be repaid.

The only money government has is what it raises through taxing the working population, and/or borrows on behalf of us all. The government has bankrupted the country, but the full impact is yet to be felt.

The NHS doesn't exist in a vacuum. It's supported by the tax revenues raised from the working population, and those revenues are going to dry up as more people lose their jobs.

Who on earth benefits from these catastrophic strategies? Certainly not the general public who, thanks to an authoritarian and incompetent government (which we must, of course, pray for), have had their financial futures destroyed.

Moreover, in a way never seen before in free and democratic societies, our rights have been replaced with privileges, all in the name of 'public health'. Hence different government and media messages about whether we'll be "allowed Christmas."

Lies, damn lies and Covid statistics are without doubt being used by certain globalist organisations to further their agenda (anyone doubting that should just search for the World Economic Forum's 'Great Reset').

However, what I want to address is what's REALLY going on.

In the Bible, whose relevance is astonishing for most situations we find ourselves in, because the human condition doesn't change, Ezekiel prophesies against the king of Tyre – a real pagan ruler – but then changes halfway through to speaking directly to

the spiritual force behind his throne: the devil (Ezekiel 28).

Ezekiel tells us there are spiritual forces at work in the affairs of humanity, as does the apostle Paul in Ephesians 6:12:

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places."

Just like the king of Tyre, decisions being made by earthly rulers are being directed by demonic forces who have a plan that the Bible told us about in advance, but everything they do is ultimately being used to fulfil God's sovereign purposes. God allows evil for the fulfilment of his purposes. He allowed the rise of Babylon; he allowed the rise of Stalin and Hitler. God is the God of human history, and our future is already history to God.

Our future is already history to God

God put in place three institutions for the good of humanity: the family, the Church and government. God instituted human government because he knew not all of mankind will be saved, so government would be needed to restrain evil and evil-doers in society, and protect the righteous.

The institution of government is attacking the institutions of the family and the Church

In Romans chapter 13, Paul explains that God's purpose for government is to be a terror to those who do evil and a protection for the righteous. Peter says the same thing in 1 Peter 2:14 when he explains that government is God's institution for the purpose of punishing evildoers and for the praise of those who do good. This is why we're called to pray for our rulers, because decisions made by unregenerate rulers can be influenced by demonic forces.

Bearing in mind why God put in place human government, consider how governments in this country – and all around the world – have introduced

laws attacking the institution of the family; they've legislated for sin, not righteousness. For example, since abortion was legalised in the UK in 1967, over nine million babies have been aborted.

In 1989, parliament passed the Children's Act, opening the floodgates to subsequent legislation that's undermined the authority of the parent and given the state ultimate responsibility for our children.

Isaiah 10:1 describes what's been done:

"Woe to those who decree unrighteous decrees, who write misfortune, which they have prescribed."

Governments have also attacked the Church. Our government has tried to make opening church illegal for the first time in the nation's history. In California, abortion clinics, liquor stores and marijuana shops remain legally open for business, but church pastors are battling in court to stay open.

That's a spiritual attack.

church? No, they obey God, not man.

How do we feel about those Christians in California disobeying the authorities by meeting for church? More importantly, how does God feel about them? Is there biblical justification for believers disobeying the authorities? Some would say no; that Paul and Peter are clear on this matter. Well, in response, consider the following:

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego broke the law by refusing to bow to an idol; even when commanded personally by king Nebuchadnezzar.

Daniel was thrown into the lions' den for disobeying the law that no prayers should be made to anyone but the king.

In fact, almost every Old Testament prophet disobeyed their rulers at some point.

In the New Testament, Peter broke the law by escaping from prison. Surely in the light of what he declared in 1 Peter chapter 2, he should have stayed locked up, even when the

Decisions being made by earthly rulers are being directed by forces who have a plan that the Bible told us about in advance

Hebrews 10:25 commands Christians to meet together in person for fellowship. It doesn't say "unless your earthly rulers say otherwise!". In fact, Hebrews 10:25 tells us to meet "so much the more as you see the Day approaching", and while we don't know exactly when the Lord is returning, we surely know that we're 2,000 years closer to "the Day" arriving than when Hebrews was written. Surely that makes it more relevant to us, not less!

Democratically elected governments of (supposedly) free societies have turned upside down the reason why God put government in place. They're no longer a terror to evil and a protection for the righteous. The institution of government is attacking the institutions of the family and the Church.

That's a spiritual attack.

Bearing in mind how accommodating most churches in this country have been to the government's unlawful order to close, I wonder what these same churches will do if – and more likely when – it's made illegal to open.

For many years, millions of Christians around the world have been forced to make that decision. Consider Iran, where practising Christianity is illegal and can lead to literally losing your head; such is the danger of meeting that Iranians do so at a different location each week. Do Iranian Christians obey their government and not attend

opportunity of escape presented itself? But he didn't. He did a runner!

Consider even Jesus, who consistently and publicly criticised the Sanhedrin; going as far as openly mocking them and calling them a "brood of vipers" (Matthew 12:34).

After Jesus' death and resurrection, his disciples were ordered by the authorities to stop preaching the Gospel, but in Acts chapter 4 Peter declares:

"Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard."

Praise God they disobeyed, otherwise Christianity would have quickly died out as little more than an obscure local Jewish sect. That wasn't God's plan and Christians all over the world are the direct beneficiaries of the early disciples' disobedience.

I suspect we're not far away from having to make a similar choice. Christian Concern is currently leading a legal challenge to the UK government's order for churches to close again for November. What will we do if that challenge is lost? Will we obey, or will our response be like Peter's?

Compared to Christians around the world, we have lived relatively persecution-free, but I fear this privilege has left us complacent, ill-prepared and, dare I say, lukewarm for what lies ahead.

TEN YEARS FOR CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS



Pastor Victor Bet-Tamraz, and wife Shamiram Issavi

A Christian pastor and his wife were in hiding after being arrested and sentenced to prison for celebrating Christmas. The arresting officers said they were participating in an "unlawful and unauthorised gathering." Iranian-Assyrian Christian Pastor Victor Bet-Tamraz, 66, was sentenced to ten years in prison, and his wife Shamiram Issavi, 65, was sentenced to five years. They and two other Christians were arrested on 26 December, 2014 when hosting a Christmas gathering.

After years of failed appeals hearings, Shamiram received a notice to report to Tehran's notorious Evin Prison to begin her five-year sentence. The ACLJ (American Centre for Law and Justice) said that the couple had reportedly fled Iran. While seeking shelter, they were vowing to continue to appeal their unjust sentencing.

God tells us to expect persecution. 1 Peter 4:12 says we aren't to be surprised when it comes, or think that "some strange thing" is happening to us when it does (see also Acts 14:12; Philippians 1:29; 2 Timothy 3:12; 1 John 3:13), but too many will be surprised.

As well as warning us to expect persecution, Jesus said another sign of his return drawing closer will be that "the love of many will grow cold" (Matthew 24:12). We need to make sure our love for one another doesn't grow cold, otherwise we may as well keep the church doors closed.

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another" (John 13:34).

This has been adapted and updated from a sermon James Smith preached in October. To receive the longer version, please send sae to the HEART Publications office or email via our website: www.heartpublications.co.uk

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REMARKABLE HEALINGS SHOW GOD'S ABILITY TO DO THE IMPOSSIBLE

In the part of the world where Jesus was born 2,000 years ago, healings are still taking place in his name. Richard Martin of Calvary Chapel, Hastings, recounts what happened to two little girls



Richard Martin in the Middle East

In 2019 I was invited by a few friends to spend some time in a Middle Eastern church, which held a summer Bible club for local children.

I had never visited the region, so was looking forward to experiencing a new culture.

The first miracle happened before I left! Just a week before travelling, excruciating pain started in my jaw, making it all but impossible to eat. I nearly cancelled the visit, but friends at church prayed, so after a slight reprieve three days before departure, I took a deep breath and went. By the time I arrived at the airport, the pain had gone and didn't trouble me again.

The vibrant culture, with its sights, smells and sounds was wonderful, but meeting with fellow Christians was both humbling and heart-wrenching.

Evangelical followers of Jesus in this area are at the very bottom of the social pile. Not only are Christians a minority among Muslims, but they are also outnumbered and often mistrusted by their fellow Christians, who hold to orthodox traditions.

The children were wonderful – full of life and energy – and resilient, as I saw from their all-weather playground. Rock-

ing horses, roundabouts, climbing frames and slides were closely crammed together on a brightly coloured, but concrete surface. "Don't they hurt themselves if they fall off?" I asked.

"They only fall off once," I was told. "Once – and never again."

The Bible club's theme that summer was 'God of all – Lord of land, space and time', and the children's favourite song every day was 'Our God is a great big God' – sung in Arabic, of course.

I had noticed a girl aged about 11 who had learning difficulties, hardly spoke a word and was drenched with her own saliva from drooling. I discovered her name was Janelle.

Other children avoided playing with Janelle, which saddened me. I discovered that the root cause of both her mental and physical disabilities was genetic, with the drooling due to a badly misaligned jaw bone.

That night I woke several times thinking about this child, and began to sense that perhaps we should ask God to deal with her learning difficulties. It was then that a message came to mind from a healing service I'd attended the previous autumn at Ashburnham Chapel in East Sussex.

The speaker, Rev Chris Lawrence, told us how his nine-year-old daughter was on the verge of hospitalisation with an eating disorder caused by traumatic circumstances in her life. God had shown Chris to pray as if her life was a film and to 'edit out' the distressing experiences.

She woke refreshed with no memory of the dark times, and has eaten properly from that moment on

So one night when his daughter was asleep, he prayed, 'chopping out' the traumatic events from her life. She woke refreshed with no memory of the dark times, and has eaten properly from that moment on.

Could the power of the Holy Spirit chop out the corrupted information from her genetic coding?

Was God reminding me about this for Janelle? Could the power of the Holy Spirit chop out the corrupted information from her genetic coding and replace it with a corrected version? If he was a 'great big God', and 'Lord of time', then perhaps....

On 26 June, back at the church, I tentatively asked if it might be OK for a couple of us to pray with Janelle. The response was immediate and a surprise: 'Oh yes, and you must also pray for her sister.'

I was unaware of her sister Sally, who was eight and also affected by the genetic issue. In her case it manifested as severe



Healed: Janelle and sister Sally at the colourful but concrete playground during Bible camp week, June 2019



Happy and healed: Janelle and Sally last Christmas

astigmatism, so corrective eye surgery was planned.

It looked as if her eyeball was about to pop out of her head

Within moments we were in a side room with the two young sisters, asking the one who is Lord of time to be with us. If God was eternal, then he was outside time and we could ask

him to deal with the chromosomal corruption at source in the pre-born girls.

We began with Sally and prayed for divine genetic engineering to remove the imperfect coding and replace it with perfect coding. My thumb was resting on the side of Sally's eye and so when it looked as if her eyeball was about to pop out of her head, I panicked, thinking I must have been pressing hard and hurt her.

It was then that we realised

her astigmatism was no more, with both eyes pointing in the same direction!

"I believe, I believe, I believe"

There were tears of happiness in that small side room as we thanked God for doing what only he could do. And I will never forget how the children's aunt who was watching, repeatedly said, "I believe, I believe, I believe."

Greatly encouraged, similar prayers for Janelle followed, and we thought something might have changed, as she seemed to stop drooling.

Her bite was now perfect and her drooling was history!

Later the next day, we received a report from Janelle's dental surgeon to say that her jaw was where it was supposed to be, her bite was now perfect and her drooling was history!

There was also a message from her mum because Janelle, who barely spoke a word, hadn't stopped talking at home, but her parents found it hard to understand her. They were asking us to "please pray that she would speak clearly".

I confess my reaction was, "Oh dear, no pressure then!"

If the tomb was really empty, then Jesus was alive and nothing was impossible

We had fairly recently visited two places in Jerusalem which might have been the tomb where Jesus was laid after the crucifixion. It sounds stupid to say, but I had always wanted to check that the tomb was really empty! If so, then Jesus was alive and who he said he was, and nothing was impossible.

This was on my mind when we prayed again for Janelle the following morning. This time one of our team sensed God directing us to pray that Janelle's tongue would be loosened.

Next day, 29 June, Janelle's parents sent us a message. Their daughter was now easy to understand and they no longer had to strain to figure out what she was saying!

They also sent us the following text: "... One man told Janelle, 'You speaks very good' [sic]... 'we were worried about you and now no one can stop you from talking'... he doesn't know what happened!"

Back in the UK last autumn, I wrote to ask how the sisters' education was going. I heard straight away from their aunt who that day had unexpectedly met the girls' father at a wedding.

Her text read: "He [the father] want to tell you that something different happened this year [sic]...the girls are doing great at school...he ran to tell me that and want me to contact you [sic]".

While not top of the class, Janelle is now learning to read and write - I am told that previously she was unable to control a pencil. She has friends and has even learned to speak some English.

Sally visited the eye doctor and was given a clean bill of health and all her eye surgery is cancelled.

We serve a risen Saviour, who as St Paul says in Ephesians 3:20, is able to do more than we ask or imagine according to his power that is at work in us. All glory to him.

Since the children are minors, their names have been changed, and due to political sensitivities, the exact location is not given.

Prayer

If you'd like prayer for healing, please contact any of our Partner Churches on the back page or the Supporting Churches on page 16



Richard Martin at the empty garden tomb, a possible site of Jesus' burial

CREATION CORNER

by Geoff Chapman

NO PLACE LIKE HOME!

Do we ever stop to consider just how wonderfully special our planet is?



If you bought a new house with all the mod cons, you would know it was specially designed to live in. And the same goes for our amazing planet!

Life on earth is only possible because of unique conditions which scientists sometimes call "fine-tuning".

Is this a lucky accident, or did a wise Creator design it for our benefit?

Let's have a brief look at some of the features which make earth unique.

If earth's diameter varied ten per cent either way, life would be impossible

The earth's diameter is 8,000 miles. If it varied ten per cent either way, life would be impossible. Were it only 7,200 miles, its magnetic field would be weaker, allowing the "solar wind" to strip away our atmosphere.

This layer of gases around the earth allows us to breathe and protects us from meteorite bombardment.

Conversely, a wider diameter of 8,800 miles would double

the weight of the atmosphere, increasing the total amount of water and probably flooding the whole planet.

The earth's orbit lasts 365¼ days, and its 23½ degree axial tilt gives us our four seasons. This allows crops time to be planted and harvested. Imagine if the earth took 84 years to orbit the sun, like Uranus, or only 88 days, like Mercury!

The earth's 24-hour rotation period is very convenient. A longer period would mean excessive heating during the day, but life-destroying cold at night.

Earth has an ozone layer that protects us from deadly solar radiation which could destroy all life in minutes

Most of the other planets in our solar system have much longer or shorter periods, ranging from Saturn's ten hours to Venus's 43 days. Earth also has an ozone layer that protects us from deadly solar radiation which could destroy all life in minutes.

The Bible says: "God... did

not create it to be empty, but formed it to be inhabited." (Isaiah 45:18) As far as earth is concerned, there's no place like home!

"God did not create the earth to be empty, but formed it to be inhabited" (Isaiah 45:18)

There is something else that makes our planet special: 2,000 years ago, God our Creator visited earth in the person of Jesus Christ. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son so that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

That's what Christmas is all about! Have you responded to God's initiative and accepted the gift of salvation, freely available through the death and resurrection of Jesus?

Geoff Chapman is director of Creation Resources Trust
www.crt.org.uk or info@crt.org.uk

"If you are dreading the event we all must go through, then this is your book. You should never have this fear again after reading it."

R.T. KENDALL

BEYOND the FINAL CURTAIN

What happens
when we die

RICHARD ROE

EXTRACT FROM A 5 STAR REVIEW by Dr Richard Brash

“Richard Roe’s forthright and plain-speaking book puts the question back at the centre of his readers’ consciousness, and his answer is faithful to the Bible and the message of Jesus Christ.

It’s a sombre message, with no punches pulled about our need of rescue from judgment after death, but it’s also a joyful and life-giving message, grounded in the love of God in giving his Son Jesus to save everyone who believes.

This book will be helpful for many types of people:

- Those who are genuinely seeking answers for themselves
- Those who have lost a loved one
- Those who are perhaps not yet thinking about ultimate questions and need a ‘wake-up call’
- Convinced Christians who want to be encouraged in their faith

I found this book to be clear and faithful, and I can envisage many for whom it will be helpful in leading them to life in Christ.”

(Dr Richard Brash is Assistant Professor of Theology, Christ Bible Seminary, Nagoya, Japan)

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A Kindle edition is also available from Amazon.

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This paper is delivered every two months to churches across 51 counties of the UK. We can't guarantee when they'll be holding meetings, but do call them for a chat and say you found out about them in this paper.

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Sundays 10.30am
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BATTLE

- **Battle Baptist Church**
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TN33 0EG
office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk
www.battlebaptistchurch.org.uk

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01243 823619

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christy@brightonelim.org.uk
www.brightonelim.org.uk

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- **Ruwach Christian Church**
- **RCCG –The Joy of All Souls**
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Heath, RH16 4HL
admin@thejoyoffallsouls.org
www.thejoyoffallsouls.org

HORSHAM

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Holbrook Community Centre,
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www.rccglfa.org.uk
info@rccglfa.org.uk

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- **Ellel Ministries** 01323 440440

SOUTHWICK

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1-5 Roman Crescent, Southwick
BN42 4TY
info@southwickchurch.org.uk
www.southwickchurch.org.uk

WALBERTON

- **Walberton Baptist Church**
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- **St Mary's Church**

WESTERGATE

- **Westergate Christian Fellowship**
01243 263821
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davegwenlan@tiscali.co.uk
www.westergatefellowship.co.uk

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cheritonpentecostalchurch.co.uk

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LANCASHIRE

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LEICESTER

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www.emmanuelcentre.com
enquiry@emmanuelcentre.com

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Norfolk, NR31 0AD
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01493 445533
urcf@aol.com

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PERSECUTION WATCH by Andrew Halloway

CUBA FLATTENS CHURCH AND ARRESTS PASTOR

ASSIST News Service



Pastor Alain Toledano before his arrest

Cuban authorities have destroyed a church in Santiago de Cuba and arrested a pastor for filming the demolition live on social media.

The church has been repeatedly threatened in the last five years

UK charity Christian Solidarity Worldwide reported that Cuban state security bulldozed the Assemblies of God Church on 30 October. The church has been repeatedly threatened in the last five years, despite the denomination having legal recognition.

Alain Toledano, who pastors another local church, was broadcasting the events on Facebook Live until Cuban police arrested him. Toledano leads an unregistered Apostolic church.

CSW's Scot Bower said: "We call on the Cuban authorities to immediately release Pastor Toledano and to cease its targeting of him and his family."

CSW added that, over the past 15 years, Toledano's own church has been demolished twice. Now the city authorities have arrested the leaders of the Assemblies of God church and are trying to force them to sign a document claiming that the destruction was legal.

WEST STILL TURNING BLIND EYE TO NIGERIAN GENOCIDE

Christians targeted since Sharia law adopted in northern states



Facebook

Bishop David Sanda: one of many injured in an attack on Christians in Anyigba, Kogi state, Nigeria in October

As extremists increasingly use military-grade weapons to kill Christians in Nigeria, a journalist has accused Western nations of ignoring the slaughter for fear of being labelled Islamophobic.

Suffering Church charity Release International warns that "a genocide in the making" is taking place in Nigeria. Release's Andrew Boyd reports that machine guns and assault rifles are now common in the attacks on Christian villages, along with the use of a chemical to burn down homes.

"A genocide in the making" Over 5,000 Nigerians have died in less than a year

Rev Hassan John, a Nigerian journalist and partner of Release, says: "They are using the chemical in petrol bombs... this burns even in the rain, and when they throw it into the building it

burns right down to the cement." He adds: "We see the same modus operandi as in the jihadi conquest of the 1800s, playing out all over again."

Over 5,000 Nigerians have died in less than a year, according to Genocide Watch, and many thousands more displaced.

The West downplays the religious element in the attacks, but Rev John points out that the violence has only arisen since the adoption of Sharia law by 12 northern states.

He says: "If it was just a clash between Fulani herders and farmers, why would they attack a church and set it ablaze and target church leaders and kill them?"

"Those who try to dismiss this as an economic struggle over resources brought by climate change have a lot of explaining to do... How many more need to die before the international community recognises this as genocide?"

FLOGGED FOR TAKING COMMUNION



Mohammad Reza (Youhan) Omidi was given 80 lashes

Mohammad Reza (Youhan) Omidi was whipped 80 times on 14 October in Iran for drinking Communion wine.

It is illegal for Iranian Muslims to drink alcohol. Because Iranian law does not recognise Omidi's conversion to Christianity, he was sentenced to be flogged in 2016.

According to UK religious freedom group Article18, Omidi has been flogged before for tak-

ing Communion, and was first arrested for attending a house church in 2012, for which he spent two years in prison.

Omidi is also serving two years' internal exile for house-church involvement, and two fellow church members, Mohammad Ali (Yasser) Mossayebzadeh and Zaman (Saheb) Fadaee, are also due to receive lashes.

Breakthrough in Sudan

In a landmark agreement, Sudanese Muslim leaders have signed a declaration to work with Christian leaders for religious freedom.

This is the latest good news from a country that used to be ruled by an oppressive Islamic regime. Recently the transitional government abolished the death penalty for converting from Islam, and is committed to removing Sharia law.

Open Doors spokesperson Jo Newhouse said the declaration is "a crucial step forward for the Church" which should help bring "lasting change".

Christians still need support and prayer because, although

they no longer face the death penalty for converting, many are still rejected or attacked by their families and communities.

Sudan is also to normalise relations with Israel - the latest in a series of Arab League countries to do so. At the same time in late October, US President Donald Trump removed Sudan from the US list of state sponsors of terrorism, unblocking economic aid and investment.

Announcing the normalisation, Mr Trump said "at least five more" Arab states wanted a peace deal with Israel. The Sudan deal came weeks after similar moves by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Bahrain.

PRAYER AS PERSECUTION RISES

Persecution of Christians in the world's most populous countries has increased rather than diminished this year.

The International Society of Human Rights said that 80% of religious persecution around the world today is directed at Christians.

"Persecution doesn't just hide in the backwaters. It is taking place in plain sight in the largest and most populous nations on earth," says Paul Robinson, the CEO of Release International.

In India, Christians are attacked by far-right Hindu extremists, Robinson added.

RESCUED! POLICE FINALLY ARREST 'GROOM', 44, OF COERCED CHILD BRIDE, 13



Arzoo Raja with police in Karachi and Ali Azhar on far right (photo released by Sindh government)

A 13-year-old Christian girl kidnapped by a Muslim in Pakistan has been released, and police have arrested the man who allegedly forced her to convert and marry him.

Shockingly, before the Sindh High Court ordered police to intervene, the same court had validated the marriage of teenager Arzoo Raja to 44-year-old Ali Azhar. Lawyers for Azhar had shown documents falsely showing Arzoo's age as 18, and the police and Azhar's family had prevented Arzoo's parents from entering the courtroom

and presenting their side of the story. It was only after protests by human rights groups that the Court ordered medical tests to decide Arzoo's age, even though her Catholic parents had already provided legal documents proving she was 13.

The case was ongoing at the time of going to press.

Mary James Gill, Christian founder of the Centre for Law and Justice, told Morning Star News that the government should introduce legislation to prevent the forced conversion and marriage of minors.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS by Andrew Halloway

MILLIONS WATCH
PROPHETIC WARNING
IN WASHINGTON DC

Jonathan Cahn led a massive crowd in repentance for the nation

New Jersey pastor Jonathan Cahn gave a warning to the USA in front of tens of thousands on 26 September, as pictured in our Oct/Nov issue.

The event took place on Washington's National Mall and was watched by millions in the States and around the world.

Cahn's rally, 'The return: a day of repentance', coincided with a prayer walk organised by evangelist Franklin Graham in the same city, and President Trump's nomination of Amy Coney Barrett for the Supreme Court.

"What we once revered, we now revile"

'The return' opened with the blowing of a shofar horn and involved other Christian leaders including Pat Robertson, Dr James Dobson, Pat Boone, Nicky Cruz, Congresswoman Michele Bachmann, with worship leaders

Michael W Smith and Don Moen.

Cahn, a 'Messianic' Jew (one who believes that Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah), spoke of America's spiritual founding and explained how America has fallen away from its principles. He said: "What is evil, we now call 'good,' and what is good, we now call 'evil.' What we once revered, we now revile, and what we once knew to be wrong, we now celebrate".

Cahn then compared the harbingers of national judgement that marked the last days of ancient Israel with similar signs appearing in America, including his belief before it happened that 2020 would be a year of great shaking for the nation.

He then lifted a potter's jar and, reciting part of God's message to Jeremiah, smashed it. The message was that if America continues its path away from God, it will end in catastrophe. Cahn then prayed for God's mercy.



Michelle Bachmann led prayer alongside Franklin Graham

AMAZON LAUNCHES 'MARK OF THE BEAST' SCANNER

Shopping behemoth Amazon has rolled out a new payment system for customers – using just their hand.

The palm recognition scanner called 'Amazon One' is now available in two of its Amazon Go shops in Seattle. As it negates the need for cash or credit card, some Christians have labelled the technology a preparation for

the arrival of the Antichrist, as prophesied in the Bible.

Amazon thinks the scanner will become very popular in a Covid-19 world, as it is contactless. Revelation 13:16-17 predicts people will have to "receive a mark on their right hands or on their foreheads, so that they could not buy or sell unless they had the mark".

32 COUNTRIES COMMIT
TO PRO-LIFE PROTECTION

A new pro-life, pro-family agreement between 32 countries was launched in October by senior government officials from around the world.

The Geneva Consensus Declaration on 'Promoting women's health and strengthening the family' was ratified at a ceremony hosted online by the US and led by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

Protection of every nation's sovereignty

The Consensus commits the signatories to working together for better health for women and girls, the preservation of



human life, the strengthening of the family as the foundational unit of society, and the protection of every nation's sovereignty in global politics.

The Key sponsors were Brazil, Egypt, Hungary, Indonesia,

Uganda and the US. The UK was not involved and it remains to be seen if President-elect Biden, if he is finally installed as President, pulls the US out of this Consensus.

CHINESE WHISTLE BLOWER
SAYS COVID IS MAN-MADE

Dr Li-Meng Yan explains her case on Fox News

While the Chinese government and most scientists have dismissed the claim that Covid-19 escaped from a lab in Wuhan, a Chinese virologist says it was not only man-made but deliberately released.

LifeSiteNews reports that Dr Li-Meng Yan, a scientist who has fled China and is in hiding in the US, believes that the coronavirus was created in a lab and China "intentionally" spread the virus to "make such harm".

Few commentators agree that Covid-19 was deliberately disseminated, but its accidental release is acknowledged as a possibility.

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo stated in May that there was "enormous evidence" that the virus had come from the Wuhan Institute of Virology, which houses one of a handful of BSL-4 (Biosafety Level 4) laboratories in the world. As the highest level of biological safety, a BSL-4 lab consists of work with highly dangerous and exotic microbes. Infections caused by these types of microbes are frequently fatal, and come without treatment or vaccines, such as the Ebola virus.

China and the Institute deny the accusation, but the Mail on Sunday reported in April that the

Institute was carrying out virus experiments on bats from the very Chinese caves where Covid-19 is thought to have originated.

The Mirror also reported that photos of a Wuhan lab showed a broken seal on the door of a cabinet holding Covid-19 back in 2018. The images were re-published on Twitter this March but then deleted.

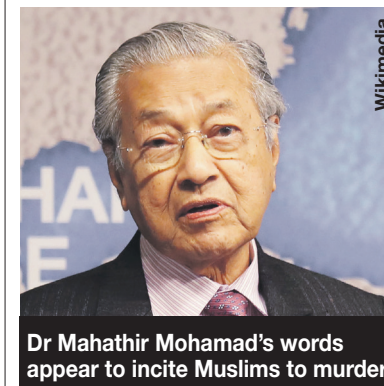
Dr Li-Meng Yan, who worked at Asia's top virology lab in Hong Kong, has published a scientific article showing how "unusual features" of the virus "suggest... sophisticated laboratory modification", including "insertions" that make it fatal for humans.

Norwegian virologist Birger Sorensen said in July: "The properties that we now see in the virus, we have yet to discover anywhere in nature."

"Uniquely adapted to infect humans"

Nikolai Petrovsky, an endocrinologist at Flinders University in Australia, believes "it was uniquely adapted to infect humans".

Prof Joseph Tritto, president of the World Academy of Biomedical Sciences and Technologies,

POLITICIAN SAYS
KILLING MILLIONS
OF FRENCH IS OK

Dr Mahathir Mohamad's words appear to incite Muslims to murder

A two-time former prime minister of Malaysia tweeted in October that Muslims have "a right to be angry and kill millions of French people".

Dr Mahathir Mohamad, 95, who is still an MP, justified his excuse for genocide because of "the massacres of the past". Twitter later deleted his words for violating its rules.

He added: "But by and large, the Muslims have not applied the 'eye for an eye' law. Muslims don't. The French shouldn't".

Mohamad's comments came after the French President condemned a knife attack in Nice and the beheading of a Parisian teacher by radical Islamists.

has published a book showing the virus was man-made, and New York virologist Jonathan Latham told LifeSiteNews it "almost certainly escaped" from a lab.

Dr Yan's escape featured in The Mail on Sunday and The Daily Mirror back in April, but those who get their news from social media may still not have heard of this, as social media companies have been censoring dissenting views on Covid-19.

US ELECTION REPORTS by Andrew Halloway

Big Tech may have 'stolen the election'

Social media giants have been labelled the "single greatest threat to democracy" after censoring conservative opinions – and possibly gifting Joe Biden the US election.

For example, Facebook banned an advert by the pro-life Susan B Anthony List that said: "Biden and Harris support abortion up to the moment of birth, all at taxpayer expense. And they promise to nominate only pro-abortion judges."

Yet the Democrats' own statements confirmed all these claims.

Susan B Anthony List's Mallorey Quigley told CBN News this was one of many examples of pro-Biden bias by social media companies, which "have done their absolute hardest to silence pro-life voices".

Brent Bozell of the Media Research Centre added: "We've documented how 260 different users on Facebook and Twitter have had their posts about Biden scrubbed," and stated that President Trump "has been suppressed 65 times... zero for Biden."

Facebook and Twitter also censored stories on alleged corruption in the Biden family, even



though they were published in the New York Post – the fourth biggest newspaper in America.

Steven Ertelt of LifeNews said: "Our pro-life news stories are slapped with this big warning saying they're false and misleading, which is of itself false and misleading", whereas pro-abortion organisations are never censored.

Republican Senator Ted Cruz told Faithwire: "This poses the single greatest threat to free

speech in America... the single greatest threat to democracy."

One Facebook insider told the New York Post: "Facebook is almost an arm of the Democratic Party" and gave evidence of the media platform's censorship of conservative views.

According to LifeSiteNews, Google has blacklisted conservative websites, suppressed Bible verses and pro-life messages, and skewed searches to favour Biden.

Accusations of election fraud haunt Democrats

As we write, Joe Biden had been acclaimed as the new US President, but Donald Trump was still refusing to accept defeat, and pursuing legal cases to prove corruption in the election.

"Shocking behind-the-scenes ballot fraud witnessed"

All the UK national media revealed their anti-Trump bias by pre-judging Trump's claims of vote count irregularities as "unsubstantiated" – before the US courts had given their verdicts.

Breaking Christian News reported that Gordon Pennington, "a credentialed poll challenger in Michigan, reveals shocking behind-the-scenes cases of ballot fraud, bias, contempt and election interference that he witnessed first-hand during ballot counting in Detroit's Cobo Arena."

In one of many revelations, Pennington saw repeated malfunctions of the tabulation machines that were used in Michigan and other swing states. Pennington says: "Challengers



Official poll challenger Gordon Pennington claims to have witnessed vote rigging

were originally told the Dominion tabulation system computer was... not connected to the Internet and therefore not subject to hacking or compromise. But an independent system test by a challenger found out that was not true."

He also witnessed "poll challengers being blocked from viewing tabulations" and illegal votes being counted. One truck "delivered 38,000 ballots with unknown provenance" at 3.45am in the morning, whereas "by law, ballots harvested after 8pm are illegal."

Continued on page 20

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Reviews

SHAKING OF THE NATIONS

A refreshing biblical analysis of our current woes



'Beyond the Pandemic: is there any word from the Lord?'

By Rev Dr Clifford Hill
Wilberforce Publications

Have you been concerned or frustrated by the deafening silence of national church leaders, who have failed to bring a biblical perspective to the current pandemic? If so, there is some good news. Clifford Hill, having the same concerns, has published a timely and challenging book that tackles this very subject.

God is sovereign and active in the world today

Dr Hill says: "If we are to gain an understanding of what is happening in the world today and why we are seeing plagues and famines and major disturbances in the seasons, and



Rev Dr Clifford Hill's book on our global troubles encouraged our reviewer

unrest in the nation, we have to study the nature and purposes of God as revealed in the Bible." He accurately applies the prophetic word of God, listening to those who have an authentic prophetic ministry and exposing unbiblical false prophecies and teaching that prevails in many churches.

Eternal purposes

He reminds us that God is sovereign and active in the world today, working out his eternal purposes for mankind. God will not refrain from bringing disasters on nations to achieve that. His dealings with Judah and Israel, who consistently disobeyed God, provide a clear warning from history. God is a covenant, promise-keeping God, quick to bless for obedience, but he will

discipline his people for disobedience. The prophets were continually hampered, even opposed, by the religious leaders of their day. That was true in the time of Jesus and sadly true in our own nation. Judgment starts at the house of God.

Godless laws

Having laid the biblical foundations to understand the current situation, Clifford takes us on a journey, beginning with the prophesied global shaking of all nations in response to worldwide rebellion against God. This includes our own nation which has seen a succession of godless laws being passed to undermine our Judeo-Christian heritage. We are confronted with churches in this land embracing and promoting the doctrines of demons.

Global shaking of all nations in response to worldwide rebellion against God

There is much to cause us concern, but there is hope. Along with Dr Hill, I want to shout: "Wake up disciples of Jesus, contend for the Gospel and expose the false teachers and prophets who are crippling our once Christian nation. Challenge them to repent."

Great encouragement

At a personal level, this book has been a great encouragement, confirming what I believe God is saying, despite the blindness of other Christians. It has reminded me of God's love, faithfulness and purposes for Israel and the Church and helped me to identify with the anguish the early prophets experienced. The challenge for all Bible-believing Christians is to ask "what is my response?" Contend, yes, but also to encourage others to read this book which provides a solution and pass that message on to those with spiritual and political influence.

Anthony Smith

Anthony Smith is married to Veronica. They have three daughters and six grandchildren. Following his retirement from the Brighton and Hove City Mission after 24 years of service, they moved to Colchester. He is currently an elder at Plume Avenue Church with a special responsibility for outreach. He is a lifelong supporter of Brighton and Hove Albion and recently published a novel on Amazon entitled 'Pursuing Prophets'

Reviews continue on page 22

Reader recommends

THUNDEROUS TIMES

Storm Warning: The coming world upheaval and how to avoid it

By John Harrold

www.PerissosMedia.com

We all know that political storms rage from time to time. All of us will experience our own personal storms at some point in our lives. National and international upheavals are less common, but all of these can bring times of anxiety and stress.

The Bible has all of the answers.

Throughout the centuries, God's word has shown us how storms arise when individuals and nations reject Him. Man became ever more selfish and godless. They did (and still do) that which was right in their own eyes. God continued to love them however and in order to

have them return to Him, God left them to their own devices to reap the consequences. You can read about these events in the scriptures.

The world is suffering now due to the Covid pandemic. Will these storms get worse?

Unfortunately the answer is yes. In the Bible's last book, Revelation, God has warned us in advance that these storms will become unimaginably strong and devastating.

Storms will become unimaginably strong

Can we protect ourselves?

The answer in this book is a resounding "yes". By placing our trust in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ we have an everlasting anchor, now and forever.

Lynn Patching

US ELECTION REPORTS by Andrew Halloway

BIDEN WILL CHAMPION ABORTION RIGHTS

Bye bye baby? Pro-lifers believe Joe Biden will attempt to reverse all President Trump's pro-life achievements

Continued from page 19

He concluded: "It can reasonably be argued that we have been witnessing the theft of this election by gross negligence, systemic design, and constitutional contempt."

As we go to press, LifeSiteNews reported that the President claims he has accumulated all the proof needed to show massive fraud and vote switching.



Wikipedia

and expanding reproductive rights."

According to The Christian Post, the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League praised Vice President-elect Kamala Harris as "a champion of reproductive freedom".

Joe Biden "would be the abortion president"

National Right to Life told The Post that Joe Biden "would be the abortion president. He has pledged to promote abortion on demand and reverse pro-life laws and policies".

Both Biden and Harris supported the Democratic Party's platform of abortion up to birth whereas "President Donald Trump and Vice President Mike Pence have diligently worked to protect America's unborn children."

However, in a backlash against the abortion agenda of the Democrat majority in the House of Representatives, according to LiveAction.org, the election had more than doubled the number of pro-life women in the House.

After Joe Biden was projected to win the US election, pro-life groups expressed their dismay, while pro-abortion organisations celebrated.

Planned Parenthood Action Fund president Alexis McGill Johnson tweeted that the Democrat victory put America "in the hands of leaders who are committed to advancing

US ELECTION REPORTS Cont.

CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP WARNS OF 'GLOBAL CONSPIRACY'



Archbishop Viganò

A prominent Catholic Archbishop has written his second open letter of support to President Trump, claiming that the President was protecting the US against globalist plans.

The former Apostolic Nuncio to the United States of America, Carlo Maria Viganò, wrote his letter in October, ahead of the US presidential election in early November. It was published in the evangelical and pentecostal Charisma magazine in the US as well as on Catholic websites.

"A global conspiracy against God and humanity"

Archbishop Viganò wrote that the "fate of the whole world is being threatened by a global conspiracy against God and humanity."

"Those who want to destroy the very basis of society"

The plan to which Viganò refers to is the 'great reset' which is openly described by the World Economic Forum as a means to restructure the world's economies and societies following the coronavirus epidemic. Its climate change aims are endorsed by Prince Charles.

However, Viganò said the plan involves removing private property and creating a one-world government. "Around you [Trump] are gathered with faith and courage those who consider you the final garrison against the world dictatorship," the letter read.

Viganò is a conservative and a vocal critic of Pope Francis; he has also campaigned against cover-ups of sexual scandal in the Catholic Church.

In 2020 he turned his attention

to the restriction of freedoms brought by Covid-19 and was one of a group of prominent Catholic clergy, including German Cardinal Gerhard Muller, who warned in a letter of attempts to use the Covid-19 pandemic to create a 'world government beyond all control'.

Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò said the 2020 presidential election presents Americans with a "biblical" challenge "against the demonic forces of the deep state and against the New World Order."

"An inhuman faceless tyranny"

He wrote of daily attacks against "the very basis of society: the natural family, respect for human life, love of country, freedom of education and business. We see heads of nations and religious leaders pandering to this suicide of Western culture and its Christian soul, while the fundamental rights of citizens and believers are denied in the name of a health emergency that is revealing itself more and more

fully as instrumental to the establishment of an inhuman faceless tyranny."

The Archbishop also rebuked the American Catholic bishops for welcoming Joe Biden as the US's "second Catholic president." In a stinging statement posted on LifeSiteNews on

8 November, he pointed out that Mr Biden was pro-abortion.

President Trump responded enthusiastically to the Archbishop's June letter, but there was no response to the latest communication at the time of going to press.



Cardinal Gerhard Muller has warned of a global government

In His Image

A BIBLICAL INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL ETHICS
STEPHEN MCQUOID



"There is one part of the created order that seems more glorious than all the rest, and that is the human race", writes Dr Stephen McQuoid. "Human beings – the very pinnacle of creation and image bearers of God – can mediate His will and purposes." While McQuoid acknowledges that we all have feet of clay and must walk humbly in this life, he sets out clearly why Christians need to be salt and light and stand up for Biblical truth.

He observes that human identity and sexuality are at the heart of the ethical war that rages in our society. Abortion is the silent genocide. There is an assault on marriage, an institution given by God to bring cohesion to the family, and on the issue of gender – the distinctive identity that God has given each one of us. McQuoid deals with each area uncompromisingly but with compassion.

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ISBN: 978-1-9995842-9-0 • RRP: £9.99 • 124 pages



WILBERFORCE
PUBLICATIONS

Reviews

A refreshing, powerful read for believers and seekers

Be a voice, not an echo

By Pat Regan

Zaccmedia

Retired welder Pat Regan pulls no punches with his story, resulting in one of the most readable self-published books that I've read for a long time.

It is a mixture of autobiography and spiritual guidance in which Pat shares his struggles and failures, as he learned to hear and obey God, a journey with which many of us could identify.

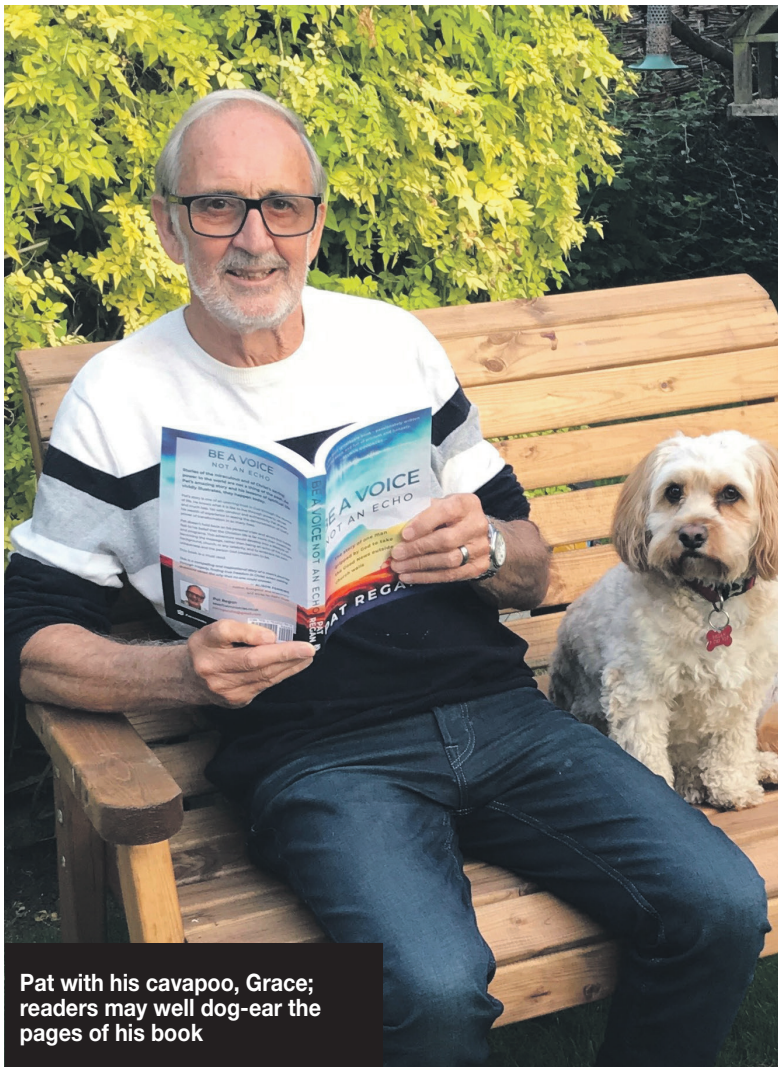
He also give insights into the spiritual realm and the lessons he learned from 'wilderness' experiences.

Now blessed with healthy children and grandchildren (his son has an OBE for charity work), life could have turned out so differently for Pat.

Dad would fly into a rage and tip up the whole kitchen table, sending food flying

His childhood has few happy memories because his father had a violent, unpredictable temper. Nobody knew if they'd get to the end of Sunday lunch before Dad would fly into a rage and tip up the whole kitchen table, sending food and dishes flying. Another time Dad smashed the new television; when the family crept back in, they found him weeping like a baby. Pat did not escape the blows until he was in his late teens and able to take care of himself; unsurprisingly, he did not do well at school.

The one bit of relief was church, where Pat was in Sunday School and later the choir. With the loyalty of children, he did not share the horrors of home life and used puff powder to hide his tear stains: "One Sunday, I had a massive blood blister on the inside of my cheek where we had another smashing session at home and I got hit by something.



Pat with his cavapoo, Grace; readers may well dog-ear the pages of his book

The whole sense of shame went through me as I tried to hide my face. My eyes were stained with tears, the embarrassment was almost too much to bear, as so many people would be looking at me because I was the only boy in the front row singing soprano. I thought it might get found out that I didn't have this wonderful life that everyone else seemed to have."

At 17 he met Daph, the girl he would marry. He didn't have to pretend with Daph, because her father was also very abusive to Daph and her mother, and had

been in prison a few times.

For instance, on the day of the local carnival in Chelmsford, the tannoy announced that Daphne Hobbs needed to go home urgently: "Daph arrived home to find her mother was covered in bruises and had her arm broken by her husband."

"I was walking to a plan already prepared for me before I was born"

When they met, Daph was not a strong 'born again' Christian like Pat, but she had started to pray that someone would help her. As for Pat: "It seemed as if I was walking to a plan already prepared for me before I was born."

With customary honesty and humility, Pat describes the pain that he and Daph suffered when they lost their first son as a baby. Faced with a situation where there appeared to be no answers, Pat decided he could no longer carry on regardless.

"Life really is too short to live by user-defined answers. The person I knew I could trust was Father God, who has every an-

swer. By listening and obeying him I've had so much more meaningful fulfilment and purpose."

In one of his many comments direct to the reader, Pat says: "It might be hard to understand and you might want to give up and get off at that station (chapter), but I would encourage you to stop, ask questions and ask God to give you insight. Listen to your spirit, not your mind."

He describes his spiritual life being transformed when he came across Rev Trevor Deering's charismatic meetings at Hainault, Essex, which gave him a lifelong desire to see people transformed by God's healing power.

Meanwhile, he combined bringing up a family with working as a welder and going to Bible School.

He is under no illusions about the nature of life's spiritual battles: "We are living in a world of war against our health, our family, finances and relationships."

Indeed, he has faced death more than once: "Due to my ignorance I've had to learn that lesson the hard way with no books and only God watching over me. But the Word of God is always our plumbline to live by."

The book is packed with incidents of God changing his and others' lives; my copy has many dog-eared pages.

The later pages also give very thorough explanations about the operation of dark forces in people's backgrounds: "There are families today who have no idea about all the oaths and vows made in their bloodline."

His details about some of the consequences of vows made by people's freemason ancestors are some of the most understandable I have come across, although some may find this area controversial. He even sees the ensuing control operating in some Christian settings. Typically, he is not theological; he writes from the experience of leading a small team to pray for people to be set free from things

over which they have no control.

There will be times when you put the book down and want to open your heart to God

Pat's book will meet people on different levels; whether you are a Christian or a seeker, there will be times when you put the book down and want to open your heart to God.

So if you're looking for an alternative to television this Christmas, I recommend this book as an easy but gripping read.

Melanie Symonds

Pat Regan's vlog is at seekfirstministries.co.uk and his email is on his book jacket

CHILDREN'S BOOKS IN AID OF GOOD CAUSES

Paramedic Chris

Tim Parsons is a chaplain to the South East Coast Ambulance Service and has published three audiobooks based upon calls he has attended. The hero is 'Paramedic Chris'. Through his experiences, children learn about the dangers of bullying and making prank calls to the emergency services.

He is donating 50% of his sales to Medway Food Bank.

www.timparsons.co.uk/store/
Email: chaplainparsons@gmail.com
or call 07931 782 299

St Nicholas survives lockdown

The life of St Nicholas has been brought up to date by London vicar Rev David Ackerman, who features in this paper. Appropriately, it ends with a closed church reopening and refers to the lockdown. Rev Ackerman says: "It has raised over £1500 for Aid to the Church in Need. I think your readers would enjoy its robust Christianity!"

Foreword by the Dean of Windsor. Suitable for age 8 upwards.

<https://acnuk.org/products/st-nicholas-and-the-six-bells/> or call 020 8642 8668



Pat and Daph Regan with their children and grandchildren

MISSING SINGING? HERE'S A ONE-STOP SIMPLE SOLUTION



With worship now confined to homes, and the 'rule of six' limiting Christian meetings, many believers are really missing group worship.

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HEART is sent free to all churches which request and accept it, so our letters page provides a forum for Christian opinion. All comments sent via our website will be considered for publication unless marked 'not for publication.'

Please send letters for the February/March paper by Monday 4 January 2021

Email up to 100 words with your name, town and county to: letters@heartpublications.co.uk Letters are usually edited to fit the space. Or send up to 100 words to: Letters page, HEART Publications, 24 Grafton Road, Worthing, West Sussex BN11 1QP

Healed through praising

This year I celebrated the anniversary of a wonderful miracle, thanks to God and my many praying friends.

In August 2019 I suffered a major stroke. Happily I was in sheltered housing, so was soon taken to our local hospital where I lay, unable to speak or move.

In my helplessness, I decided I would praise the Lord anyway, and after a few hours managed a faint humming of "O happy day, when Jesus took my sins away!"

On his rounds next day, the doctor derided my singing and pronounced that, at 92, I was a hopeless case. I saw him shak-

ing his head when he was discussing me with his group of colleagues and students.

However, the following morning, I got out of bed and said, "Look, I can talk and stand up!"

After a few days, the doctors admitted, "You've made better progress than we thought and are thinking of sending you home!"

So just one week after a major stroke I went home and here I am, 18 months later, able to go out shopping, walking in the park and learning to love Jesus more and more daily!

*Alice Peters
Tunbridge Wells, Kent*

Unkind reaction

I was dismayed to read about the pastor who went on Facebook celebrating the cancellation of an event for gay people.

Yes, the reaction of those who wanted to burn down his church was extreme and the attitude of the local police was somewhat alarming on hearing of a threat of arson.

However, when will we learn that it's "the kindness of God that leads to repentance?"

No one will listen to us if we appear disrespectful and unkind. People don't care how much we know until they know how much we care.

*Jock Pearson
Dereham, Norfolk*

Essential reading

HEART newspaper and Revelation TV are essential for these times.

Regular newspapers and news programmes cannot be believed or trusted – they are lies and intrigue. All the nonsense is now beyond tiresome. I can't wait for each paper to arrive. May God miraculously double your bank balance and bless you with health and strength.

*M Jarred (Mrs)
Brighton, East Sussex*

All the fake news in the media is an attempt to cloud our minds to the truth. It's largely obfuscation and psychobabble!

*Beryl Barua
Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire*



In my own words

Readers' longer letters

Two readers believe God has given them the same clue to the Church's survival

FOUR Rs THAT GIVE US THE ENVIRONMENT FOR REVIVAL

Recently I believe God spoke to me about preparing the way for revival by creating the right environment, using four words, which I will call the four Rs: Reverence, Re-alignment, Revolution, and Revival.

Reverence

We know that God loves us and we take comfort from that. But how often do we thank him?

To revere God means to respect and esteem him, but more than that it means for us to have a high sense of awe from which flows veneration, worship and adoration.

Humility is a key part of reverence. We esteem God when we seek his wisdom and knowledge for all our everyday decisions.

Reverence is like falling 'head over heels in love' with someone. The Western Church, maybe particularly its established leaders, needs to fall in love with Jesus again.

Realignment

I believe that God is saying that we have got our priorities wrong. The Church in the West seems more concerned about finding ways to grow its numbers than influencing and moving culture in accordance with God's will.

Our modern culture has made

idols of sports stars, pop stars, and money. In some instances we have even made gods of ourselves.

Our modern culture has made idols of sports stars, pop stars, and money

When we realign ourselves to reverently seeking and doing God's will, then we create the environment ready for battle against the spiritual forces of darkness and we will be ready for battle as soldiers of the 'light'.

Revolution

I believe God is asking us all, especially Christian leaders, to take up the cross and banner of the Gospel to engage in this revolutionary spiritual battle. We are to spread the good news of the undiluted Gospel and God's promises therein, regardless of opposition, to continuously pray, seeking God's eternal will in all things and to live a life of spiritual excitement and joy. Joy comes when we realise that victory is already achieved in this battle through the sacrificial conquest of Jesus, his Son.

Prayer is one of the greatest weapons of all. Revolutionaries must pray for each other in unity. We are all connected spiritually to each other and to Jesus, the Holy Spirit and Father God.

Revolutionaries do not strive against each other, but are united in one cause. The greatest defence against attack is to allow Jesus to remain in us through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

In the midst of this battle with soldiers that are reverent and seriously aligned towards God, he will send his Holy Spirit to swamp the land.

Revival

When revival comes, we won't be talking about revival – we will be talking about Jesus. Revived people look like Jesus, act like Jesus, talk like Jesus and live like Jesus.

Covid will be swept away by the tsunami of the Holy Spirit

Revival will be accompanied by joyous singing and dancing. No more depression, no more Covid, which will be swept away by the tsunami of the Holy Spirit, no more heartache. A people full of hope, not fear.

It may not happen unless the environment for revival has been improved through reverence, realignment and revolution. This is an individual Christian as well as a corporate Christian responsibility.

*Rodney Shotton
Brighton, East Sussex*

A TIME TO REALIGN WITH ISRAEL

Covid-19 and lockdown have given an incredible opportunity to the Church to examine its foundations.

As early as 2005, God gave me Jeremiah 6:16:

This is what the LORD says:

"Stand at the crossroads and look;

ask for the ancient paths,
ask where the good way is,
and walk in it,
and you will find rest for your souls.

But you said, 'We will not walk in it.'" (NIV)

I sensed this meant that we should return to the biblical model of Church. He also gave me the word 'realignment,' which he said was going to be the biggest transformation of the Church since the Reformation! It was to be his final move in preparing the Bride of Christ for his Second Coming, bringing the true Church and Messianic Jews together as the 'one new man'. (Ephesians 2:15)

In order to become one with the Jews, the Church needs to repent of 'replacement theology' (the belief introduced by some of the Church Fathers that the Christian Church has supplanted Israel and appropriated all God's covenantal promises), which has given rise to so much anti-Semitism over the centuries.

We need to return to a simple, dynamic faith led by the Holy Spirit, not dependant on religious traditions controlled by man

The Church should also reject the pagan practices and idolatry of the Romans and the Greek philosophy of the Church Fathers, which has morphed into humanism. We need to return to our Hebraic, biblical roots as expressed in the early Church of Acts 2, which had a simple, dynamic faith led by the Holy Spirit and was not dependant on structures and religious traditions controlled by man.

Then we should realign with God's prophetic time clock, recognising that he operates within his appointed times or 'moedim' and abandon pagan Church traditions of celebrating Christmas and Easter.

The biblical feasts of Leviticus 23 give us a yearly, cyclical pattern when we remember God's miraculous intervention in history, such as the Passover. This feast commemorates the Exodus from Egypt, which is also a picture of redemption through the cross and Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit was given, which was at the exact time of Shavuot, when the Law (Torah) was given to Moses on Mount Sinai!

The final three, Trumpets (Yom Teruah), Atonement (Yom Kippur) and Tabernacles (Sukkot) reveal the end-time agenda.

It is paramount for the Church to understand the imminence of Christ's return and the need for repentance and holiness, to be set apart and prepared like the wise virgins of Matthew 25:1-13.

*Mary Kelsey
Leamington Spa, Warwickshire*

A longer version of this letter will be available on our website with some recommended books and articles.

If you weren't there...

The Christian Peoples Alliance 2020 Assembly, 3 October 2020

"THERE IS NOTHING TOO HARD FOR GOD"

Firm faith from the Christian Peoples Assembly

Although our 2020 Christian Peoples Alliance Assembly was to have taken place in a London church, by July we realised, like many others, it just wasn't going to happen, so we went online.

"There is no power on earth greater than the power of prayer"



David Hathaway spoke on the power of prayer to address our nation's many pressing problems

Top of the bill was to be David Hathaway, the renowned evangelist who went to prison for smuggling Bibles into Eastern Europe. When I called him I said: "You don't have to travel. You can speak from your home."

So David spoke to us passionately from his office about trusting God with the difficult political situation we are in: "There is nothing too hard for God in this whole world whether it's healing me from cancer, and that's been twice... whether it's getting me out of prison by a miracle, or whether it's solving the crisis of Brexit. What I'm trying to say to Boris Johnson is there is no greater power on earth than the power of prayer."

He also saw parallels between the 2020 restrictions placed on churches and his experience: "For 30 years I was involved with communist governments. They put so many restrictions

on churches that a split happened between the born again, Bible-believing Christians and those who obeyed the government and had their pastor appointed by the government. Every Monday he re-



CPA leader Sid Cordle stressed the importance of parents asking what their children are taught about relationships

ported to the local communist part official with a list of the names and addresses of those who'd attended."

Although we're a political party, prayer is the heart of what we do, and we demonstrated our trust in God by starting at 8.30am with an hour of prayer.

Our President, Maureen Martin, emphasised the



Maureen Martin, CPA's president, is standing for next year's London Assembly

power of prayer in defeating the challenges ahead. She will be our lead candidate for the 2021 London Assembly elections. Maureen joined the CPA to stem the tide of the erosion of Christianity from our culture, in which the government has mostly been complicit so far.

Paul Girvan MP, from the Democratic Unionist Party, explained how abortion and same sex marriage are being imposed on Northern Ireland, against the will of the people.

Another challenge is how the border will work with Ireland after we end the Brexit transition period. There is an idea that we have a binding treaty with the EU which means there can be no border, but he argued that this is false. Free trade with the rest of the UK is part of the Good Friday agreement.

Girvan also gave a wonderful testimony of how God had walked with him through his life, opening doors and solving problems.

He echoed David Hathaway's concerns about church closures: "Once you break the habit of meet-



Paul Girvan MP clarified the EU border issue

ing together, it's hard to get people back. An awful lot of science and statistics being used are totally questionable in terms of what's going on. We've given up freedoms that we fought for."

Rev David Hull of Methodist Evangelicals Together spoke passionately about the state of Methodism, telling us: "The situation is dire and heart-breaking." He had launched 'Remaining faithful' last year with 150 ministers committed to staying faithful to biblical teaching on marriage, despite the fear of losing their church-funded homes and salaries.

God is bigger than all the challenges we face

As we went through the day, we kept stopping and praying about the pressing issues of our times: Covid, elections, abortion, Brexit, Northern Ireland, families and marriage. God is bigger than all the challenges we face. We will never simply accept evil.

As the Leader of the CPA, I then led a session on Relationships and Sex Education in schools, with the help of Helen Spiby Vann, a parent, who has exercised her right to ask what is being taught to her children. Religion is a key part of the Equality Act and we, as

Continued on page 26

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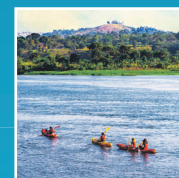
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BE A FRIEND OF  HEART**Invitation from the founding editor:**

HEART was started in 2007 in obedience to a vision for a Christian newspaper which would unite believers and give them a voice.

HEART is run completely by faith with a very small, dedicated team of editor, part-time administrator and freelance designer. It is funded by Christians who take out advertisements and donate because they believe in this paper.

Printing and postage cost thousands, and we need to be able to respond to requests for the paper in other areas, so would you pray about becoming a Friend of HEART?

Melanie Symonds

Partner with HEART's ministry by becoming a Friend of HEART. Friends donate £5 or more each month by standing order and receive a personal copy of HEART in the post each time it comes out.

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If you weren't there...

Continued from page 25

Christians, have the right to know what schools are teaching and to demand that Christian views are taught.

For the finale, Robin Jegede Brimson prayed for the CPA and gave us five key messages, on the importance of setting up hidden, powerful prayer groups, plus the need for discipleship and young leaders. Veronika West shared recent prophetic visions she had received about Britain being a 'prodigal' nation that God would eventually restore. When lockdown had begun, she felt God had showed her that families needed to pray and share communion at home on a daily basis. This needed to be replicated nationwide in a wave of national repentance. God was calling the UK to decide whether to follow God in purity or Baal, the demon god of the Bible who led God's people



Robin Jegede-Brimson spoke of the need for hidden prayer groups

into pagan practices. "How long will the Church compromise?" she asked.

The Assembly was a long day, and was still going at 7pm. God is at work in the Christian Peoples Alliance. We will yet take our place in government!
Sid Cordle

"Greatest hoax ever"

Dr Roger Hodkinson

A biotech executive and pathologist has described the global governmental response to Covid-19 as "the greatest hoax ever perpetrated on an unsuspecting public" in testimony apparently given to the Community and Public Services Committee of Edmonton Council, a town in Alberta, Canada.

The testimony of Dr Roger Hodkinson was uploaded to YouTube, but it has not been formally authenticated at the time of writing. He criticised the need for measures such as face covering and social distancing.

"There is utterly unfounded public hysteria driven by the media and politicians," the clip records him as saying. "It is out-

rageous... There is absolutely nothing that can be done to contain this virus, other than protecting older, more vulnerable people. It should be sold as nothing more than a bad flu season. It is not Ebola. It is not SARS.

"All testing should stop unless you're presenting at hospital with a respiratory problem."

In the clip, he gave his credentials as a medical specialist in pathology including virology, who trained at Cambridge university, and he said he is currently chairman of a biotechnology company in North Carolina selling a Covid test. There is a chairman of the same name listed at MutantDX, a US cancer diagnostic company.

Towns taking HEART

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"THE STORM OF THE AGES IS COMING"

This came as part of a recent three-day prayer and fast by the Operation Breakthrough group, which includes Brenda Taylor, Dennis Greenidge and others.

There has not been room to feature these recent prophecies about the nation, nor highlights from the many videos and articles that concerned readers send in about the vaccine and current situation.

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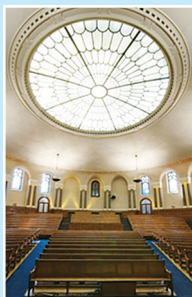
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