



# HEART

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June / July 2022

FREE FROM CHURCHES  
AND BOOKSHOPS  
**FRIENDLY  
CHURCHES**  
P25, 28

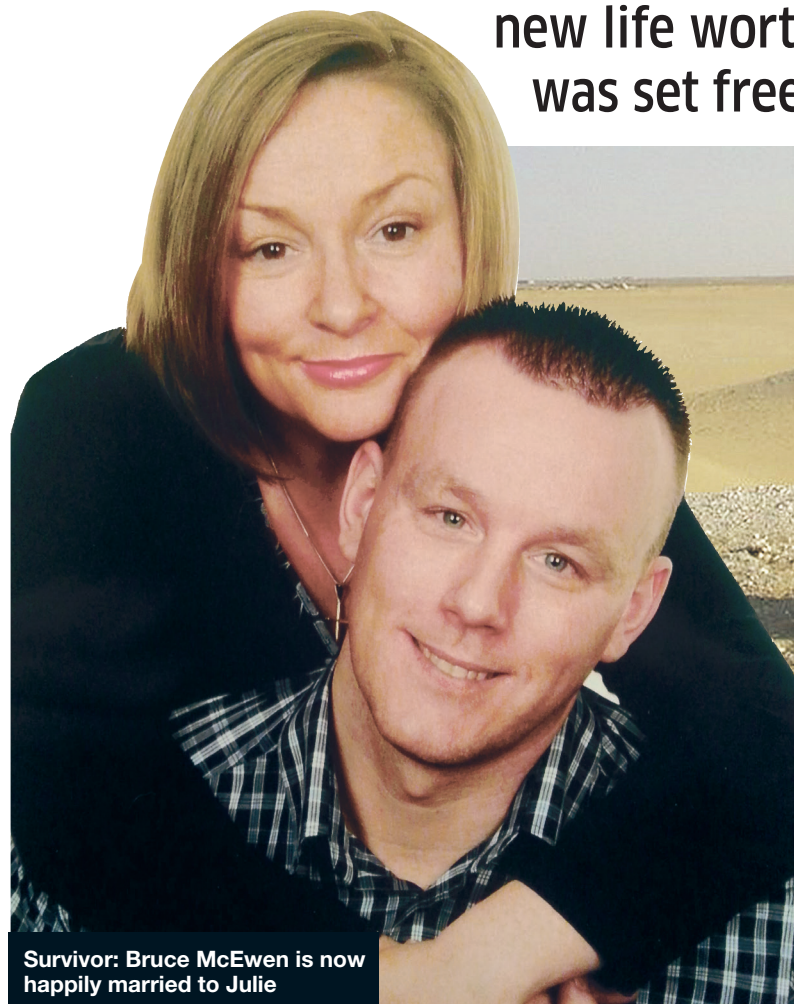
**PROPHECY  
TODAY UK**  
See centre section

## With war in Europe again, a new generation of soldiers is facing battle trauma

Here's how one British soldier survived

# SUICIDAL EX-SOLDIER FINDS PEACE AT LAST

Bruce McEwen survived the bombs and bullets of Belfast and Iraq, but when he was discharged from the military he faced a new battle that nearly took his life. It was only when he found Jesus that he found a new life worth living. Bruce tells HEART how he was set free from depression and alcoholism...



Survivor: Bruce McEwen is now happily married to Julie



Bruce, right, with two comrades in Iraq

Being a soldier for me was everything; it was my very identity, my life. The military came first and my wife and marriage second.

But when I came back from my first tour in Iraq, I was not the same. I was unfaithful to my wife, became dependent on alcohol and made many silly, selfish choices.

Through a chain of events from leaving my wife to multiple relationships to serious drinking binges, I was on a path of self-destruction and trapped by the despair of depression. The internal grenade went off and I had a complete emotional and mental breakdown.

*Continued on page 2*



**World falling apart?**

Tony Pearce p5

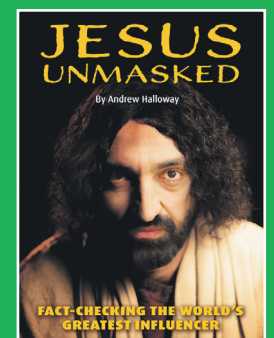


**Financial crash: Don't be caught short**

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## SUICIDAL EX-SOLDIER FINDS PEACE AT LAST

Continued from page 1

I was medically discharged from the military due to my broken state and serious attempts to take my own life.

### I would hide behind the facade of being physically strong

Overnight I had gone from soldier to civilian and trying to fit into normal life was a battle. I would hide behind the facade of being physically strong, but truly I missed the structure and discipline of the regiment.

### I missed the structure and discipline of the regiment

In fact, I was British Army born and bred; it was my identity. Born in Iserlohn British Military Hospital, Germany, into what you would call a typically dysfunctional British Forces family, I had followed my father into the RAF Regiment. I served over nine years as an infantry soldier and my job took me from the streets of Belfast to the desert of Iraq – when the trauma hit me.

The years after my discharge were a roller-coaster of trying to find myself. It took me through door security work, bodybuilding and truck driving to multiple relationships, all while battling despair, depression, suicidal thoughts and attempts on my own life.

I may have been out of the military and active service, but the war still raged on

# I may have been out of the military and active service, but the war still raged on in my mind

in my mind. The battle was for my soul and my sanity. A lot of days I was losing the battle badly. I hated who I was, what I had done and what I had become.

It was in 2009 when I was at my lowest and on the way out of this life for good that God got hold of me and stepped into my life when I had no desire for him.

### I certainly wasn't searching for religion or God

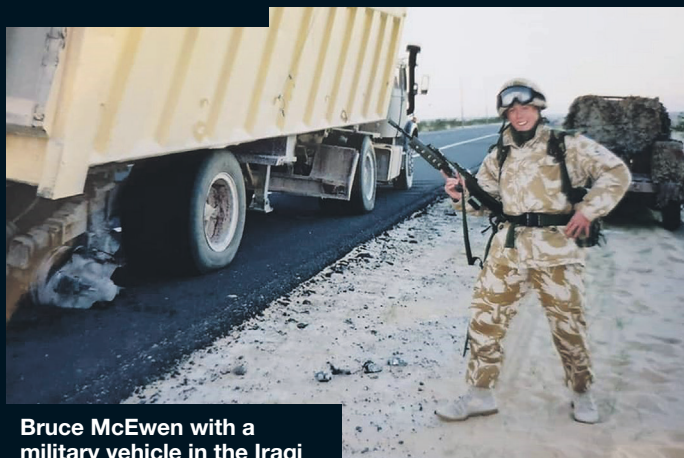
My wife took me to a modern church on an industrial estate near where we lived in Scotland. My only experiences of churches were of old traditional stone buildings and ministers who had the power to put you to sleep with their monotone voices. But this was completely unexpected. I certainly wasn't searching for religion or God, yet I was open to see what this was all about.

### He told us why Jesus had come to earth, why he went to the Cross and paid for all our sins and how he offers us forgiveness, acceptance and eternal life

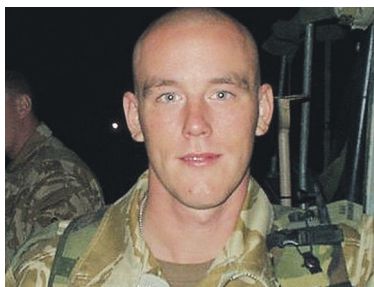
Sitting there in my own thoughts, something came over me and I became extremely emotional for no reason. I felt wrapped up in a love and acceptance that I had never known before. For the first time in my life, I felt a belonging that

was so new to me, beyond anything I could describe.

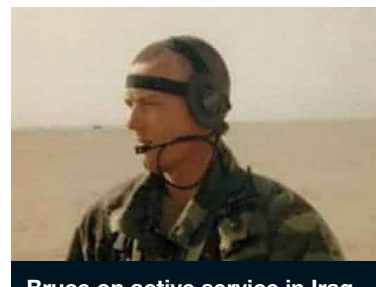
After the music and singing, the pastor got up to preach. He preached like no preacher



Bruce McEwen with a military vehicle in the Iraqi desert



Shaven-headed Bruce in Iraq



Bruce on active service in Iraq, 2003

I had ever heard before, and he had my full attention. He told us why Jesus had come to earth, why he went to the Cross and paid for all our sins and how he offers us forgiveness, acceptance and eternal life.

When the pastor finished, he asked if anyone wanted to come forward and receive Jesus's invitation of forgiveness and salvation. Something inside me started to stir. It was as if my heart was encouraging me to go forward, but I wasn't ready to – I was fearful.

### On 4 October 2009 something happened to change me for ever

But after chatting with a couple called Roy and Ros who went to the church, Ros gave me one of her Bibles, and for the first time in my life I was truly keen to read it. That night I went home, opened that Bible and started to read. The following couple of weeks we both went to church meetings; something was really drawing me in and I couldn't get enough of it. Then on 4 October 2009 something happened to change me for ever.

I was in church, listening to another powerful message, when suddenly I felt Jesus was talking directly to me, as if I was the only person in the room.

### For the first time in my life, I felt a belonging

He was calling me by name to come to him and receive his acceptance, his forgiveness and his love for me. This time I went forward and gave my life to Jesus. The blinkers had been removed, and for the first time



"I'm a work in progress, but I know I'm forgiven"

in my life I felt alive. I couldn't describe the joy I was feeling inside, but I knew it was real.

I came to know that God loves me so much, no matter what I have done, and that through Jesus I am forgiven, loved, accepted and adopted as his child. I was offered another chance – a completely new life. I accepted Jesus' offer of salvation so that I could come into relationship with Almighty God and call him Father and be his child.

Since giving my life to Jesus in 2009 it has not been an easy walk. Although it was my second wife who'd taken me to church, she didn't become a Christian and our marriage fell apart. But despite all the stumbling and blunders I have made, God has been faithful and walked with me each step of the way.

### God has given me Julie, a Christian woman who has been my wife now for ten years, and a stepson whom I love and treat as my own

I was freed from alcoholism and have been sober for over nine years. Through my journey with Jesus, he has restored to me what I lost and threw away.

I have two failed marriages behind me, a string of broken relationships, and the miscarriage of a child. But God has given me Julie, a Christian woman who has been my wife for ten years, and a stepson whom I love and treat as my own. God has also given me a good job; for the past eight years I've worked offshore as a steward on oil rigs.

### I am free in his strength to let go of anger and offence

In all my faults and failures, God has used me to reach out to other broken men, speaking of Jesus and what he has done in my life and what he can do in others' lives if they will let him.

Jesus has shown me what it is to love others unconditionally and what it is to be loved unconditionally. But most importantly, he is teaching me to be able to like and love myself again.

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Bruce and Julie at a friend's wedding in 2014



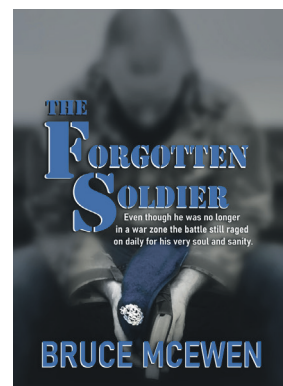
# God has used me to reach out to other broken men

He took my old, bitter, hard heart of stone and gave me a new heart, a gentle heart – his heart which aches for the lost. I am free in his strength to let go of anger and offence, to be able to forgive others and be free of the guilt of my past and know I am truly forgiven.

**I am now his soldier, fighting the good fight of faith**

I am learning more and more each day of my identity as a child of God. I know one day I will step into eternity to be with Jesus for ever, but until then I am called to be here with the purpose of serving my Lord Jesus and sharing him with anyone who is prepared to listen.

I'm not perfect by any means, but I am forgiven. I am a work in progress. I am now his soldier, fighting the good fight of faith, pressing on for him.



If this message has impacted you in any way and you feel you would like to talk or know more about anything mentioned, please feel free to email Bruce at [mcewen-bruce@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mcewen-bruce@yahoo.co.uk) or tel: 07824643082.

Bruce McEwen's book, 'The Forgotten Soldier', is available on Amazon and Kindle.

## TAKING THE GOSPEL *behind the wire*

The young people of the British Armed Forces do dangerous work and face many challenges, including 'moral injury' from their experiences.



Help us take the gospel to them.

Pray. Give. Volunteer.

03000 301 302  
[sasra.org.uk](http://sasra.org.uk)



A recent photo of Bruce with his dog



# U-FEST 2022 REVIVAL

OPEN AIR COMMUNITY OUTREACH

CELEBRATING 13 YEARS OF UNITY FESTIVAL



## Date

**SATURDAY 30TH JULY**  
12:00PM - 8:00PM  
**SUNDAY 31ST JULY**  
11:00AM - 17:00PM

## Venue

**PLYMOUTH**  
**CENTRAL PARK**

U-FEST 2022 will be attended by  
**The Lord Mayor of Plymouth**  
with others dignitaries

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT  
[allnations@allnationsministries.info](mailto:allnations@allnationsministries.info)

## 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 below; 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.

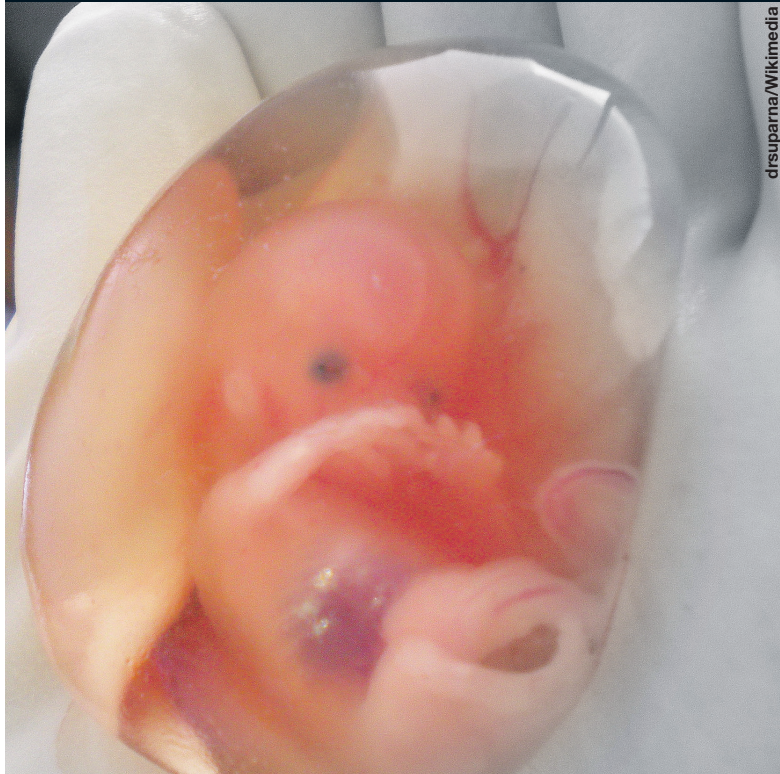
I now invite Christ to come into my heart and life as my personal Saviour. ”





## NATIONAL NEWS by Andrew Halloway

# 10 million abortions in Great Britain



drsuparna/Wikimedia

Right To Life UK report that a staggering 9,900,961 unborn children have lost their lives to abortion across England, Wales and Scotland since the practice was legalised in 1967.

In 2020, more than one baby was lost to abortion every two and a half minutes.

Over 1 in 4 (25.2%) pregnancies in England and Wales now end in abortion, according to the most recent government statistics.

**In 2020, more than one baby was lost to abortion every two and a half minutes**

Right to Life UK spokesperson Catherine Robinson said: "It is a national tragedy that 9,900,961 lives have been lost since the passing of the 1967 Abortion Act... Every one of these abortions represents a failure of our society to protect the lives of babies in the womb and a failure to offer full support to women with unplanned pregnancies."

An embryo at 10 weeks gestation, still alive, aborted because a 44-year-old woman with six previous children was diagnosed with cancer of the womb

## Labour mayor calls Franklin Graham 'hate preacher'

Despite US evangelist Franklin Graham being called a 'hate preacher' by the Mayor of Liverpool, thousands of people attended Liverpool's Exhibition Centre on 14 May to hear him preach the Gospel.

The free event marked the first leg of his God Loves You Tour – a re-launch of the campaign he had originally planned for 2020. In that year, the venues he had been due to speak at cancelled his bookings after activists complained

about his past comments on homosexuality and extremist Islam.

However, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA) took legal action, claiming Graham had been discriminated against, and won every case. Reporting on the cancellations in 2020, this paper pointed out

that the same venues were closed by the Covid measures shortly afterwards, thus losing huge amounts of income.

This time, Liverpool Mayor Steve Rother-

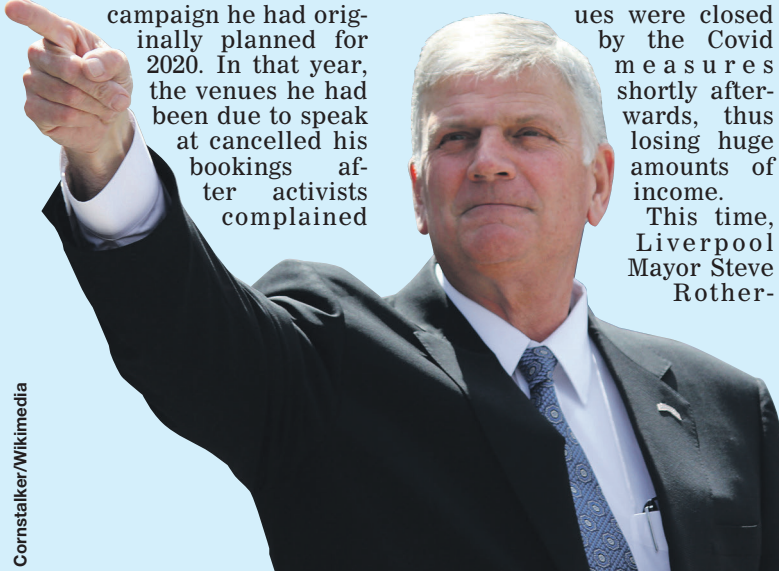
ham tried to ban bus adverts for the tour and called Graham a "known hate preacher". Yet when Blackpool Council removed his bus adverts following similar complaints, the Council had to issue an apology and pay compensation after being taken to court by the BGEA.

BGEA told Premier News that 2,000 churches across the UK are supporting the tour. After Liverpool, Graham was due to visit South Wales, Sheffield and London – unless protests again cause cancellations.

**The BGEA won every case**

The BGEA said: "Despite efforts to mischaracterise Rev Graham as a 'hate preacher' he has made it clear that he is coming to the UK with one purpose—to share a message of God's love for all people."

**Like father, like son: Franklin Graham continues to spread the Gospel message**



Cornstalker/Wikimedia

## Conversion therapy saga continues

A ban on conversion therapy was included in the Queen's Speech in May for the second time, but Christian groups warn it could turn into "an LGBT blasphemy law".

After the government flip-flopped on plans for the ban – first dropping the idea and then U-turning after a furious reaction from the gay lobby – the proposal was included in the legislative agenda.

The government once again claims that the everyday work of churches will not be affected. However, several Christian groups warn that consensual conversations about identity, Bible studies and prayer could still be outlawed if the ban goes ahead.

Let Us Pray, which campaigns against church work being included in the ban and is backed by The Christian Institute, said the proposed bill could turn into "an LGBT blasphemy law, criminalising the mere expression of opinions".

Let Us Pray spokesman Simon Calvert questioned the need for the ban, since a leaked government memo "confirmed that LGBT people are already protected by existing law". He said: "Pursuing this bill seems to be

more about placating angry backbenchers than addressing an actual gap in the law."

The leading Anglican anti-conversion therapy activist, Jayne Ozanne, wants prayer about sexual orientation banned and Calvert says that Humanists UK "even want to widen the ban to include 'repentance' – a core Christian practice".

**Conversations about identity, Bible studies and prayer could still be outlawed**

A protest against the ban by those who have benefited from changing their sexual orientation, called X-Out Loud, is organised for 28 May in Westminster. X-Out Loud's Dr Elene Haralambous says: "It's so important right now that we keep the pressure on the UK government to understand that there are a group of people who have come out of LGBT lifestyles, and to keep the door open to those who have unwanted same-sex attraction and gender confusion, and do everything to oppose this ideological ban."



**PROTESTERS: Viktor Moozz (Co-Director) and Libby Littlewood (Women's Coordinator) – two of the leaders of X-Out Loud: a protest against the conversion therapy ban organised for 28 May**

## Pastor who warned against Pride events wins case



Christian Concern

**Pastor Keith Waters was indirectly discriminated against by Active Learning Trust**

An employment tribunal has ruled that a pastor who was hounded out of his school caretaker job was discriminated against.

The Cambridge Employment Tribunal did not back Pastor Keith Waters' claims of direct discrimination and constructive dismissal, but it did conclude that he experienced "indirect discrimination".

Pastor Waters says the Isle of

*Continued on page 22*



# World falling apart or coming together

By Tony Pearce

**If you put together the current global symptoms of war, impending famine and financial meltdown, we have the signs of the falling apart of society prophesied in the Bible for the last days of this age.**

The veteran philosopher and political activist, Noam Chomsky, wrote in April's edition of the Spectator magazine: "We're approaching the most dangerous point in human history... We are now facing the prospect of destruction of organised human life on earth."

## World falling apart

The most obvious present threat is the war in Ukraine and the terrible destruction it has brought.

The Russian invasion, and NATO's response, have brought the global security order to the brink of collapse, with a danger of nuclear war.

At the same time it has added to the worldwide food crisis by removing a significant amount of grain from the world market, while droughts, floods, heatwaves and unusually cold weather in places have affected food production around the world. An avian flu plague has been destroying millions of chickens and turkeys, yet globalist planners are reducing agricultural production to meet their zero carbon goals.



## Russia's invasion of Ukraine and NATO's response have brought the global security order to the brink of collapse, with a danger of nuclear war— but it's the fulfilment of Bible prophecy



Prices of food and energy are skyrocketing, driving millions into poverty with a prospect of hunger and starvation in many parts of the world and a breakdown of industrial production in others, leading to social unrest. All this could bring famine to many parts of the world by 2023.

The massive debts built up by western economies since the global debt crisis of 2008 have been added to by the Covid lockdowns and the Ukraine war. This could lead to an economic meltdown in the coming year.

There is a worldwide environmental crisis

with potentially devastating results for people living in the areas affected.

This does not take God by surprise, though. In Jeremiah 25:31-33 we read: "Behold, disaster shall go forth from nation to nation, and a great whirlwind shall be raised up from the farthest parts of the earth. And at that day the slain of the Lord shall be from one end of the earth even to the other end of the earth."

In answer to the disciples' question, "What will be the sign of your coming, and of the end of the age?" Jesus replied: "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows" (Matthew 24:3,7-8).

Wars, famines, plagues and natural disasters are all on the increase, causing us to see the 'beginning of sorrows' period. Another word for 'sorrows' here is 'birth pangs' - and birth pangs only increase in frequency and severity.

Jesus goes on to say that this will lead to the great tribulation: "For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened" (Matthew 24:21-22). If God did not intervene to stop this time it would lead to the end of life on earth. But he will intervene with the return of the Lord Jesus in power and glory to judge

the world in righteousness and bring an end to human mismanagement of the planet God gave us to look after (Matthew 24:29-31).

At some stage in this process the Lord will take true believers out of the world in the event known as the 'Rapture of the Church' (1 Thessalonians 4-5). This is another debatable issue, which I will not get into here, except to say that we need to be ready now for the Lord's return at any time (Matthew 24:36-44) and be ready to suffer for our faith if called to in the days to come.

## World coming together

One of the significant developments in current world events is the number of influential voices calling for some kind of world government along the lines proposed by UN Agenda 30 and the World Economic Forum's (WEF) 'Great Reset'.

## The world is on the brink of a dramatic change, which will bring an end to the traditional system of money

In his 2019 book 'Covid 19 – the Great Reset', the WEF's Chairman, Prof Klaus Schwab, said: "This pandemic represents a rare but narrow opportunity to reflect, reimagine and reset our world."

He stated that things will never return to normal after the pandemic, but that the world should work for a new order which will "only come about



Global governance: Klaus Schwab, Chairman of the World Economic Forum, repeated his call for world leaders to unite at the World Government Summit in March 2022

**"Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows"**

Quoted from the Bible, where Jesus speaks about the end of the world (Matthew 24:3,7-8)

Continued overleaf



through some form of effective global governance.”

He repeated this call for a new world government as soon as possible in a speech on the opening day of the World Government Summit in Dubai in March 2022, where he called for world leaders to unite to address global issues such as climate change, trade, and economic disruption. The programme required for this must accelerate the changes to ‘zero carbon’, by reducing, then eliminating, the use of fossil fuels. Coupled with this is a proposal to bring in something called ‘ESG scores’ (environmental, social and governance factors) that would monitor and record people’s use of energy, with the power to cut off those who use too much.

The keynote session of the summit was called “A new world order”.

## Goodbye cash

At the same conference, Dr Pippa Malmgren said that the world is on the brink of a dramatic change, which will bring an end to the traditional system of money and accounting and invent a new one. This will eliminate cash and bring in Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs), a fully digital system connected to blockchain technology run by the world’s central banks.

A new report from the Bank for International Settlements estimates that up to 90% of national central banks are at least in the planning stages for launching central bank digital currencies (CBDCs), while work on retail CBDCs – ie how you’ll pay for purchases – is now advanced.

## This will eliminate cash and bring in a fully digital system

These will be able to monitor every financial transaction we make from buying a house to a cup of coffee, tracked by a new form of digital ID which would include your vaccine status, and would be required for access to bank accounts, social media and internet use, and would also monitor your ESG score. This digitalised system has the potential to be able to identify anyone on earth.

## The WHO’s powers would include imposing lockdowns, medical surveillance, testing and mandatory vaccinations

## The WHO’s proposed treaty

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has launched an international Pandemic Treaty which could impose more restrictive and legally binding pandemic policies on its 194 member nations. This gives them power over the national sovereignty

**God will intervene with the return of the Lord Jesus in power and glory to judge the world in righteousness and bring an end to human mismanagement of the planet God gave us to look after**

(Matthew 24:3,7-8)

of member states, and by implication, the civil liberties and health rights of their citizens.

It has the potential to bring in a “new global public health world order”, giving the WHO the sole right to declare a global pandemic and thereafter impose restrictions upon trade and travel between nations.

The WHO’s powers would include imposing lockdowns, medical surveillance, testing and mandatory vaccinations, also the right to censor and cancel any opposing voices to this programme. This treaty would inject a new supra-national global governance structure on the world in times of what we are being told is an inevitable, future pandemic or declared global health emergency.

## Hacking humans

Yuval Harari is an Israeli technology guru who is a key advisor



to the WEF with a great deal of influence in its programmes and a frequent speaker at its events.

He is openly anti-God, stating that the Bible is fiction, there is no God in the universe and the story of Jesus rising from the dead is fake news.

Here are some quotes from his speeches:

“The current global emergency is creating the conditions when people might be willing to accept the changes required. In emergencies people trust scientists, not God.

“During Covid Israel closed synagogues, Iran even closed mosques, and church leaders said ‘Don’t come to church.’

“Why? Because scientists tell them to. In this time of crisis you have to follow science. It is said you should never allow a good crisis to go to waste, because a crisis is an opportunity to do reforms that in normal times people will never agree to. In a crisis you have no choice so let’s do it. The vaccine will help us.

“People will look back in a hundred years and recognise that the coronavirus was a time when a new regime of surveillance took over, especially surveillance under the skin. Governments want to know what is going on under our skin, to col-



lect biometric data and understand people better than they understand themselves.”

“The potential of AI is much bigger than any historical revolution. It’s really a biological revolution. Now we can give them the tools to start changing or overcoming biology. Humans are hackable animals.

“The whole idea that humans have this soul or spirit and free will and nobody knows what’s happening inside me so whatever I choose in the elections or in the supermarket this is my free will – that’s over. Today we have the technology to hack human beings on a massive scale. This is the most important development of the 21st century.”

“We need some kind of global identity and global loyalty.

## “Humans are hackable animals”

“This raises the question, what do we need humans for or what do we need so many humans for? Earth can be populated or dominated by entities that are not organic, that do not breed and don’t have emotions. By hacking the organism, science can gain the power to engineer the power of life itself.

“In the coming decades AI and biotic life forms will give us godlike ability to re-engineer life and even create completely new life forms. We are about to enter a new era of inorganic life shaped by intelligent design – our intelligent design. We will be upgrading humans, developing bigger powers, upgrading humans into gods.”

Harari admits that this process might enable human elites to “build digital dictatorships... Once human life is hacked, the

hackers will maintain control over life itself.”

## Babel and the Second Coming

This sounds like a weird sci-fi script, but very intelligent and powerful people are taking it seriously. It reminds me of the Tower of Babel in Genesis 11 where we read how humanity came together as one, to “make a name for ourselves” and “build a tower reaching up to heaven.”

And the Lord said: “Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them.”

## Hacking humans and trying to turn them into ‘gods’ in our own image is really asking for trouble from the God who made us in his image

This project was done in rebellion against God, so the Lord came down to scatter them and confuse their languages. God sees the danger of AI and the human potential movement, when he says: “Nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them.”

Hacking humans and trying to turn them into ‘gods’ in our own image is really asking for trouble from the God who made us in his image. The fact that people are seriously considering this as a possibility is another reason why the Lord has to return soon to save us from ourselves.

All this is a sign of human rebellion against God’s created order, as globalists try to bring the world together in a ‘digital dictatorship’ backed by technology with ‘surveillance under the skin.’

In Revelation 13 we read of the world government of the ‘Beast’, given power by the devil and born witness to by the ‘False Prophet’ who brings in the 666 system to control people’s ability to buy and sell: “He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right

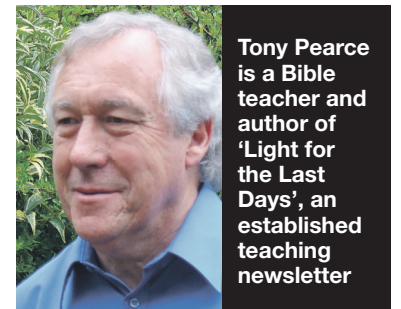


hand or on their foreheads, and no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: his number is 666” (Revelation 13:16-18).

At the same time we see forces of destruction causing this 666 system to fall apart in chaos and confusion.

Ultimately both these trends are preparing the way for the glorious event which will bring an end to this age – the Second Coming of Christ. Jesus said: “When you see these things begin to happen, look up, lift up your heads for your redemption draws near” (Luke 21:28).

Maranatha! Jesus is coming.



**Tony Pearce** is a Bible teacher and author of ‘Light for the Last Days’, an established teaching newsletter

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# PREPARING FOR 'THE MOTHER OF ALL ECONOMIC COLLAPSES'

## WHY WE NEED A JOSEPH GENERATION

By Chris Wickland

**This is the time to prepare wisely, in faith and expectancy, for economic famine – AND miracles – because they'll be needed**



**We have all heard plenty of warning prophecies regarding the days ahead.**

I too have given such warnings, because over the last 30 years God has given me dreams and prophetic warnings about the time to come – and the mother of all economic collapses. A great depression is on its way, yet God has repeatedly said to me, “It will be the worst of times and the best of times.”

One doesn't need to be prophetic anymore to see that the world is heading for a serious financial downturn, crash or depression.

We know that the days ahead will be tough, but it's all too easy to opt out spiritually, thinking that the Church is doomed and we'll just sit this out until Jesus returns.

I believe that God doesn't want his Church to be unaware and unprepared. He wants his Church to be a light to the Gentiles, so we need to be prepared practically for economic famine, but also for miracles.

As a church we have bought food with a long shelf life and I have encouraged our members to start putting by several months' worth of food for themselves and their neighbours. We were also given an acre of land

to grow vegetables and reaped an abundant harvest, which seemed miraculous because the only fertiliser we used was prayer! As I sowed, I prayed repeatedly, “God, bless this seed”. (See the April/May issue of HEART for the full story and photos).

In fact, when Jesus said, “When I return will I find faith on the earth?” (Luke 18:8), he is not talking about the Christian faith, but about finding believers who are still believing!

So we have to ask ourselves some very important questions for the days ahead:

“Do I believe in a God of miracles?” Because miracles will be needed!

“Do I believe God can and will do miracles?”

“If God is immutable (unchanging) will he no longer be the God of miracles in the days ahead?”

### The calling to be a Joseph

In the days ahead we need to thrive, not just survive. Like Joseph, our storehouses must be full both spiritually and practically.

Thirty-seven years ago, before

I was a Christian, I had my first ever prophetic dream which showed me how the hand of God had divinely protected me and how he was leading me to a specific purpose. The dream ended with me being a high prince of Egypt, wearing very ornate clothing denoting rank with a title hovering over my crown which read, ‘Master of Dreams.’

I knew this dream was very significant, but as I had no religious upbringing, I had no idea who the high prince of Egypt was. Many years later I realised the dream was about Joseph and how he would save Israel from a terrible drought.

For many years I have held this dream and other Joseph dreams in my heart, knowing that my primary purpose as a Christian was always to help the Church during a time of severe financial famine by raising a Joseph generation for the days ahead. Well, those days are now here and they are here to stay.

### No government can help

Governments will soon fail us; they will not be able to help so many when so much will be

lost. Our God is really the only source of help and refuge in a time of need. We need to be full of God's wisdom and faith, not fear or super-spirituality. The super-spiritual claim that God will sort everything out, but don't pray to find out what they need to do practically.

### Take courage that in days of famine we shall be satisfied

During the time of Covid many people claimed the promises of Psalm 91 as a source of comfort, but in this new period Psalm 37:18-19 should be our key verse:

“The Lord knoweth the days of the upright and their inheritance shall be forever. They shall not be ashamed in the evil time, and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied.”

The “Lord knows the days of the upright” has multiple meanings, but one of the primary ones is that God has known what will befall his people throughout history.

God is intimately acquainted with the ways of the righteous. He is aware of all our circumstances long before we are aware. In fact, God knew our days before they even began

(Psalm 139:16).

Knowing that God already has it covered should lead us into his ‘shalom’ – the place of peace, where we experience a river of joy. But we must access this place by faith, by resting in the fact that God knows our days and has thus pre-determined all our needs before we are even aware of them. Take courage that in days of famine we shall be satisfied.

Romans 8:28: “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose.”

2 Corinthians 5:7: “For we walk by faith and not by sight.”

**We need to dust off those old books on faith**

### The way of faith

Hebrews 11:6: “But without faith it is impossible to please him. For he that cometh to God must believe that he is and that HE is a rewarder of those who diligently seek him.”

### A doubting Thomas or Peter will drown in the tidal wave that's coming upon this land

There is a whole spiritual realm out there, and some of us would do well to open our carnal eyes to the greater spiritual

*Continued overleaf*




Church members working in the field



realities that are around us right now. We need to be more spiritually aware, and a people of faith, not a people of fear, doubt and unbelief.

God has been challenging me to walk by faith and trust in him, because a doubting Thomas or Peter will drown in the tidal wave that's coming upon this land.

## The 2007-8 financial crash was a small blip compared to what is still to come



Jesus rebukes little faith. He's not interested in just enough faith to get you to heaven when you die. He wants and needs his people, his Church, his mystical body on the earth to do great exploits for him.

Our carnal wisdom and intellect are not going to cut it when it comes to believing in God for a miracle, especially in the way of provision. We need to dust off those old books on faith which we put away and start practising living by faith again. I know living by faith is challenging, but it's a lot more fun than boring mediocrity.

## Who closed the churches?

Chris Wickland told the Solent Prophetic Gathering on 6 May that God had forewarned him of the Covid church closures on 28 November 2019: "He told me, 'Something is coming that will shut down every church. It's an attack of the enemy to shut down praise and worship'. Next day, I suffered a cardiac arrest and died."

His wife Tracey mobilised prayer and posted the news on Facebook, which went viral. Chris said: "It went around the world – people recognised that the enemy had overreached himself." (See HEART's Feb/Mar 2020 issue for the story of how prayer resurrected Pastor Chris and prevented his having permanent brain damage).

Later he was one of 130 pastors who sued the government with Christian Concern over

## An angel came to visit me

Maybe today, as God's holy Church, we can start doing what it says on the tin by being 'believers,' and not 'doubters.' Fear, doubt and unbelief will cost us dearly in the days ahead. Let's stop being worldly and start being godly and 'imitate God as dearly beloved children.' (Ephesians 5:1). Let's walk by faith and not by sight. Don't let your theology or the world steal your joy, for the Kingdom of God is righteousness, peace and joy (Romans 14:17).

In June 2007 an angel came to me in my bedroom as I was falling to sleep. He spoke to me audibly and said, "On 18 September something is going to happen which will be really bad for the UK economy."

As the angel spoke, his words were written across my eyes like a retina burn from a bright light. This was so I wouldn't forget what he said or the date.

Sure enough, on 18 September a series of events took place which caused a chain reaction for the near collapse of Royal Bank of Scotland, Northern Rock, the collapse of the Icelandic bank, plus Bear Stearns and Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac in the US. Then in October 2007 the American stock market crashed by 777.77 points.

It led Britain and the rest of the world into a strong but short-lived recession in 2008. The 2007-8 financial crash was a small blip compared to what is still to come and in-deed it has now already begun in 2022, again on a world-wide scale.

The coming collapse will be of gargantuan proportions. However, the Church is called to thrive in this season. We are to be the solution to the world's problem.

I learned some valuable lessons from the 2007 crash that God revealed to me. When everyone around me was suffering from wage cuts and job losses, I was prospering. As a self-employed



Chris Wickland and his wife Tracey leading worship at a meeting in March

musician, 2007-2008 were the best financial years I had ever had! All my musician friends were losing revenue hand over fist, but I just kept prospering.

Psalm 37:18-19 says: "The Lord knoweth the days of the upright and their inheritance shall be forever. They shall not be ashamed in the evil time, and IN THE DAYS OF FAMINE THEY SHALL BE SATISFIED."

Why did I keep prospering when others didn't? Simple, I live by Kingdom economics. I tithe (give away ten per cent) all my income before tax and I give more on top of that because I know that my God supplies all my needs according to his riches in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19).

Now for a vital warning:

**THE HINDRANCE TO RECEIVING FINANCIAL SUPPLY IN A TIME OF FINANCIAL FAMINE IS THAT MANY CHRISTIANS LIMIT THEIR GIVING ACCORDING TO THEIR CURRENT FINANCIAL SITUATION.**

Please read that again.

### Isaac sowed according to the promise God had given him

And please read Genesis 26:1 and Genesis 26:12-14. Here we see Isaac in a foreign land sowing seed in a time of famine. God blessed his crops and he got a 100-fold return.

However, there are some subtle spiritual principles at play here, because Isaac sowed precious seed which he and his family needed to eat into soil that was bone dry from famine.

This would seem insane to many – why sow good seed into



Courgettes, squash, marrows and cabbages grown by the church

the church closures before the government backed down: "When the Church thought it was being compliant by closing, it was actually illegal."

Nonetheless, Pastor Dennis Greenidge, leader of World-wide Mission Fellowship told participants at the Dovetail-shalom Esther fast in April: "It was God who closed the churches. He'd had enough!"

Similarly, Dave Borlase, when leader of Intercessors for Britain in 2020, wrote in this paper: "God closed the churches because he couldn't think of a single reason to keep them open." Lack of concern over Britain's gruesome abortion statistics was one reason Dave cited.

What do you think? Email [letters@heartpublications.co.uk](mailto:letters@heartpublications.co.uk)

# GOD'S PROVISION

## How God provided a church building worth over £1m and gave us our best financial year during Covid

Both as a church leader and personally, I have witnessed the importance of sowing and reaping in the area of God's provision. I believe that some of the results have happened in order to encourage people and make them aware of the miraculous way that God will provide for his Church in the days ahead.

Last year I gave my lovely Peugeot 3008 to my son due to my health issues. However, I knew that if I sowed a car I would reap a car. Because the spiritual law states, "you reap what you sow".

My motive, though, was not impure; I gave my car away as a gift of love to my son – I didn't 'give to get'!

Six months later, in March 2022, I started praying for a replacement car, simply believing that God would answer my prayer and honour the seed sown.

A week later I met a Christian friend who came up to me and said she wanted to purchase a new car for me.

### New church building

Four years ago our church gave a gift to another congregation which needed money to construct their new building. We gave it to bless them, but also as a seed for our own potential building.

Two years later, while meeting another local pastor for coffee, he announced that he wanted to give me his church.

Initially I thought he meant his congregation, but he actually wanted to give us their building which was valued at £1.2million!

### This was an outrageous miracle of God's grace and provision

So two weeks before the Covid lockdown, the building was transferred to Living Word Church Network. It was a literal Godsend.

Without it, I doubt we would

have survived as a network at that time. Not only were we given the church building, but they also gave us tens of thousands to put in new heating and fire alarm systems.

This was an outrageous miracle of God's grace and provision. It is also a testament to very godly Christians who entrusted us with their building. It was passed on to them many years previously and now they wanted to pass it on to the next generation.

### Best financial year

As a church network we understand that giving is an essential key to our growth and blessing and tithe all our income.

The Covid lockdowns of 2020 and 2021 were a very difficult time for us as a church logistically and relationally, yet God made a way where there was no way. We held church services in an open field on a farm, where we never took an offering and never asked for money. We actually made it difficult for people to give into our network!

Moreover, we lost half of our congregation and gained the same number back.

Yet we had a financial miracle – they were two of our best years financially! What an extraordinary sign of God's goodness!

If we live according to the Kingdom principles of Scripture, then we reap the benefits of doing it God's way. Living a life of obedience to God's Word is the pathway to blessing and miracles.

That's not a great quote, it's a fact. We serve a wonder-working, powerful, miraculous, generous God. Hallelujah, his Name be praised.

*Chris Wickland is married to Tracey and they have five children. He is Senior Pastor of Living Word Church Network which has around 200 members in four churches around Fareham, Hampshire. The network is a HEART Partner Church – see the back page of this paper*

soil that simply wasn't going to grow anything? However, Isaac was living according to spiritual principles, not common sense or the wisdom of earthly-minded man.

Some Christians do not tithe or give offerings if they are in a bind financially. But Isaac didn't sow according to the natural conditions; he sowed according to the promise God had given him.

In Genesis 26:3-4, the key word to note here is 'seed' (or

offspring in some translations). Obviously we know that 'seed' here refers to offspring – but Isaac is applying it literally to his seed sown in the ground. God promised to multiply his seed and that's exactly what happened.

Let me leave you with this verse from 2 Corinthians 9:10: "Now may he who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness."



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# GARDNER'S WORLD

## FATHER, FORGIVE US!

### Church of England repents over anti-Semitic past

By Charles Gardner

**Much of the blame for the current Middle East conflict should be laid squarely at the door – not of Israel, but the Church.**

It is wholly appropriate, therefore, that the Church of England held a service of repentance for historic anti-Semitism at Oxford Cathedral on 8 May.

#### In 1222 humiliating anti-Jewish laws were passed

For it was at the Synod of Oxford in 1222 (800 years ago) that humiliating anti-Jewish laws were passed which ultimately led to the expulsion of Jews from England in 1290. Nearly 400 years passed before they were welcomed back by Cromwell.

The move to hold the service follows the Anglican Church's 2019 document, 'God's Unfailing Word' which acknowledged the Church's role in fostering anti-Semitic feeling, especially timely amidst an exponential rise in this shocking form of racism.

Another significant step forward has been the recent launch in Rochester Cathedral of a new form of liturgy for Jewish followers of Jesus which fully acknowledges the context of their culture. The expectation that such believers should deny their traditions and be absorbed into a Gentile 'Christian' environment has at last been cast aside.

Anglican mission CMJ (the Church's Ministry among the Jewish people) has clearly had a hand in this development, having already followed this policy for over 200 years.

**The cause of Church-based anti-Semitism was not just our sinful, hateful hearts, but bad theology**

of both Jew and Gentile (see Isaiah 53:10). In that sense, we are all responsible for nailing him to the Cross.

**Jewish hearts were hardened for a time so that Gentiles too could taste the sweet salvation of sins forgiven**

St Paul explains how Jewish hearts were hardened for a time for our sakes so that Gentiles too could taste the sweet salvation of sins forgiven. (Romans 11:25)

But God, as a loving Father, still loves his ancient people (see Jeremiah 31:3) and there is coming a day when "all Israel" will acknowledge their Messiah (Romans 11:26).

Indeed, there is coming a time when Jerusalem will no longer be trampled upon by Gentiles in fulfilment of Jesus' prophecy (Luke 21:24). There are parts of the city – particularly the Temple Mount – still under Gentile

(Jordanian) control. But this will soon end, which is why there is such a furious battle over this piece of real estate.

It is, after all, God's 'holy mountain' (Psalm 48:1, Ezekiel 43:6f) – but the devil, the 'prince of this world', is holding on to it for as long as he can. However, King Jesus is coming to reign from this mount and idolatry will cease as he sets up his Kingdom for a thousand years.

The distancing from Judaism encouraged by the likes of Constantine and the Church Fathers went hand in hand with the heretical notion that Christians had replaced Israel in God's affections. This effectively meant that wherever we read 'Israel' in the Bible, we should think 'Church'.

Such denial of the Father's love for Jews spread like cancer through Christ's 'body' on earth and also infected much of the political realm. Luther was an obvious example of this, with his anti-Semitic writings providing the religious defence for

Nazism 400 years later.

Julius Streicher cited Luther's book 'The Jews and their Lies' as part of his defence at the Nuremberg Trials, declaring: "Dr Martin Luther would very probably sit in my place in the defendants' dock today if this book had been taken into consideration by the prosecution."

**Many churches today refuse to see the marvellous miracle of Jewish restoration as part of God's plan**

But as in all things in God's world, there is a strong correlation between the physical and the spiritual. Denying God's favour for the Jewish people will inevitably lead to denial of their right to the land, which is the default position of so many churches today. They refuse to see the marvellous miracle of Jewish restoration as part of



Singing in harmony: Rt Rev Dr Michael Igrave, Rabbi Dr Jonathan Romain and Rt Rev Dr Steven Croft at Oxford Cathedral on 8 May for the Service of Repentance





Diocese of Oxford

Author, journalist and teacher Rebecca Abrams spoke of the English Church's shameful enactment of anti-Jewish laws. Behind her is the Oxfordshire Jewish choir

God's plan in spite of the plethora of Scriptures referring to it.

Jeremiah, who repeatedly castigated his people for their idolatry, nevertheless prophesied that their return from the far corners of the earth would be a greater miracle than the crossing of the Red Sea (Jeremiah 16:14f).

Charles Spurgeon, John Wesley and Bishop J C Ryle were among the great evangelical preachers of the past who clearly saw this.

If you are a Bible believer, Jewish entitlement to the land of Israel is surely a given. And when they are back in the land, according to Ezekiel, they will also turn back to the Lord as they are given a 'new heart' (Ezekiel 36:24-26).

The Good Samaritan parable could well apply to organisations today such as Christian Friends of Israel who are busy dressing the wounds of the

injured victim on the roadside while many religious people walk by on the other side.

We have also been slow to follow the example of the Germany-based Evangelical Sisters of Mary who have led services of repentance since the end of World War 2.

Britain has yet to formally apologise for the 1939 White Paper that severely restricted Jewish immigration to the Holy Land (then under our jurisdiction), thus preventing their escape from the Nazi death camps. That was a truly shameful period of British history.

It's time we returned the favour the Jewish people lavished on us with their precious Scriptures, their patriarchs, their prophets and their Saviour. For everything we do, or fail to do, hinges on our response to a Jew, whose name is Jesus.



Diocese of Oxford

The Catholic bishop Rt Rev William Kenney speaking the Act of Penitence over the anti-Jewish laws passed when England was Catholic in 1222



Oxford Cathedral's beautiful altar

# Historic service to repent over England's notorious anti-Semitic laws – 800 years later

## Hitler was not the first to demand Jews wear a badge of identity – the English had introduced them in 1222

By Charles Gardner

**A**n English cathedral has just witnessed what must be one of the most significant events in Church history.

On Sunday 8 May 2022 the Church of England chose to mark the 800th anniversary of the notorious Synod of Oxford with a strongly Hebraic service of repentance for historic anti-Semitism. And it took place, appropriately, in the city's Christ Church Cathedral, with over 300 present including many from the Jewish community.

It was the 1222 synod that passed a raft of laws which paved the way for the eventual expulsion of Jews from England in 1290, the first such decree in Europe. Among the many humiliations imposed upon the Jewish community by the synod was the requirement – another first in Europe – to wear a badge of identity.

### "A painful and shameful history"

The Synod of Oxford had barred Jews from entering churches, so their active involvement in this service symbolised the complete reversal of that synod's decrees.

The Bishop of Lichfield, Rt Rev Dr Michael Ipgrave, rightly described it as a "pain-

ful and shameful" history, with the synod's decision shaping the entire medieval Church in Europe in contributing to the teaching of contempt for Jews.

As Christians, he said, they were there to remember and to repent, adding: "As Christians and Jews together, we are here to rebuild."

In a very moving ceremony liberally infused with powerful music, along with choral renditions sung in Hebrew, the bishop made it clear that the God of Israel is the one "whom Christians also believe to be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ".

Jewish scholar and author Rebecca Abrams, who outlined the decisions of the historic synod, noted how "unimaginable" this service would have been in medieval England.

Leading the 'Act of Penitence', Rt Rev William Kenney (Roman Catholic bishop emeritus) pointed out how Jesus often quoted the Torah (the first five books of the Bible, foundational to Judaism) in his teaching, and acknowledged "with shame and penitence" the synod's decrees.

Rabbi Dr Jonathan Romain read a passage from Leviticus 19 in Hebrew

and said afterwards: "I think the Jews of 1222 would have been astonished to hear Hebrew ring out in this cathedral."

And Archdeacon of Oxford, Ven Jonathan Chaffey, spoke of the "profound significance" of a ceremony dealing with "penitence for all acts of anti-Semitism and religious persecution".

This service, along with the 'God's Unfailing Word' report which also addressed this issue, had been strongly advocated in recent years by Love Never Fails, an umbrella organisation for a number of support groups like Christian Friends of Israel, Ebenezer Operation Exodus and the Church's Ministry among Jewish People (CMJ).

After the repentance service, a prayer gathering in Blue Boar House nearby was led by Pastor Phil Herklots on behalf of the Oxford churches. More than 100 believers from all over the UK prayed for blessing and healing upon the Jewish people, and for further repentance for replacement theology in the British Church.

*A longer article will be on CMJ UK's website and there will be a report in its July-September News & Views*



CMJ

Was Oxford's Christ Church Cathedral basking in the sunshine of God's approval, as penitent visitors arrived for the repentance service?





## GARDNER'S WORLD ...CONTINUED



Mounting tension: Jerusalem's Temple Mount has recently witnessed fierce riots in defence of Islam's exclusive claim to the site

### ISRAEL "WILL CEASE TO EXIST" ON 8 JULY

Many Muslims are convinced that the state of Israel will cease to exist on 8 July, 2022, which is leading to a spate of murders and stabbings in Israel.

According to Israeli Messianic commentator Amir Tsarfati, Iranian mullahs are inciting violence in Israel because they believe that this year saw the last Ramadan before Israel is eliminated.

Security in Israel now is much weaker than it was under the Netanyahu government, with 11 Israelis murdered by Arab Muslims in terror attacks in just over a week.

The perpetrators had been told this was their last opportunity to win the Muslim martyr's reward of 144 virgins in 'paradise'.

What's more, Naftali Bennett, the new Israeli Prime Minister has advised all Israelis who hold gun permits to be armed whenever they leave the house.

### Knife-wielding man was 'looking for a Jew to kill'

A £10,000 reward has been offered for information that could lead to the conviction of a knife-wielding man who attacked a Jew in London.

After threatening his victim with the words, "You are Jewish; I am going to kill you," the attacker fled and the police only arrived when it was all over.

The incident took place near West Hampstead tube station during the Jewish festival of Chanukah last year. The culprit was tearing down a Chanukah display and screaming anti-Semitic abuse when he saw the

victim and said he was "looking for a Jew to kill" in an apparent reference to a saying of Muhammad that the end times will not come until Muslims kill Jews.

### "The suicide of the West may be what Leftists have wanted all along"

Those who have been warning about the possible impact of this tradition have been denounced as 'Islamophobes'. But now the Campaign Against Anti-Semitism is offering a reward in the hopes of catching the perpetrator.

Robert Spencer, of the Front Page Magazine, said: "We were trying to alert the world to this risk nearly 15 years ago. And in the near future, there are certain to be many other examples of how right we were to call attention to this and how short-sighted and ultimately suicidal for the West the Left's approach has been and continues to be. But the suicide of the West may be what Leftists have wanted all along."

### Death chants go unpunished

Not a single arrest has been made (by 24 April) in connection with seven anti-Israel demonstrations held in Britain last year at which death threats were chanted against Jews. But police have admitted that criminal charges could be brought.

At each of the protests – over Israel's response to the indiscriminate launching of some 4,000 rockets by terror group Hamas – people were heard to chant (in Arabic) "Watch out Jews, remember Khaybar, the Army of Mohammed is returning".

The cry alludes to a series of seventh century battles in which a Mohammed-led Muslim army defeated Jews.

"We've been tracking this for years," said a spokesman for the Community Security Trust, committed to Jewish safety in the UK. "But the police remain deeply reluctant to make arrests in the middle of a demo and, so far, have only investigated after the event."

Yet the police and Crown Prosecution Service both admit that the use of this blatant threat constitutes a crime of incitement to racial hatred under Section 18 of the Public Order Act.

London University, meanwhile, is to host an event in July called 'Marxism 2022'. Its Queen Mary College will welcome speakers who have been embroiled in anti-Semitism scandals including former Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn.

### 'SILENCE' OVER SIZER

Controversial vicar Stephen Sizer is facing a new Clergy Discipline Measure, thought to relate to ongoing issues over his views on Israel.

He has vehemently denied repeated accusations of anti-Semitism, claiming that 'anti-Zionism' is not the same thing. But a full-page article in Evangelicals Now reflects the view of some that many 'conservative evangelical' leaders and bodies are largely silent on Israel's place in the world and have consistently failed to address concerns about Sizer's views and behaviour.

### "If Jews do not count, there simply is no God, no Christ, no Gospel, no Church that is worthy of the name"

In 2015, Sizer apologised for posting a link on social media to an article claiming Israel was behind 9/11, later denying that he himself thought this was the case.

Matthew Mason, tutor in Christian ethics at the Pastors' Academy, has said that "ongoing silence simply will not do... Of course this is a Gospel issue. For if Jews do not count, there simply is no God, no Christ, no Gospel, no Church that is worthy of the name."

## Heavily-armed Arabs pose serious danger

Retired army general Efi Eitam says Israel is facing a violent uprising among its Arab citizens ultimately aimed at dismantling the Jewish state. He said hundreds of thousands of weapons stolen from IDF bases and police stations are now in the hands of tens of thousands of Arabs, and that Israel is struggling to manage a hostile fifth column with enough firepower to pose a serious danger to national security.



Holon, Israel, 11 May 2021. The immediate aftermath of a Palestinian rocket hitting a passenger bus in central Israel

### Palestinian leaders 'the real criminals'

A former terrorist has exposed the Palestinian leadership as the real criminals in the conflict over Israeli territory.

In a letter to Israel Today, 47-year-old peace activist Mohammed Arif Massad said he had fought fiercely against Israel from the age of 13, but soon discovered that the Palestinian leadership wanted neither peace nor freedom because they profit from the war and destruction in their midst.

### The PA's official TV station featured a Ramadan prayer calling for the mass slaughter of Jews

"They like to attract the attention of the free and good people in the world as the death toll among our people increases, so that the world will provide them with enormous amounts of assistance..."

"I have decided to expose to the world the crimes of the real terrorists who are occupying the Palestinian people, which are the Palestinian terrorist organisations that receive full assistance from the corrupt Palestinian Authority."

"If you really want the killing, destruction and siege of the Palestinian people to stop, if you really want the injustice and poverty of the Palestinian people to cease, please stop your support of the PA controlled by the corrupt and unelected dictator Mahmoud Abbas."

Meanwhile, the PA's official TV station on 17 April featured a Ramadan prayer calling for the mass slaughter of Jews.



### REFUGEE STRIKES GOLD

A refugee from the Ukraine has won gold in the Jerusalem Marathon.

Valentyna Veretska, who fled to Poland with her 11-year-old daughter while her husband remained to fight the Russian invasion, clocked 2:45:54 for the 26.2-mile race. Veretska, 31, had planned to participate before war broke out and had asked the organisers to help get her a permit.

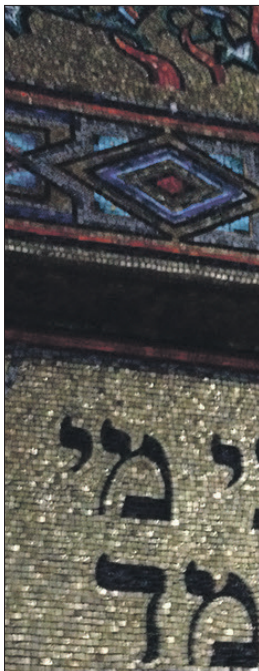
### Other recent articles


Other recent articles by Charles Gardner, which can be found at [www.heartpublications.co.uk](http://www.heartpublications.co.uk), include:

- Passover Peace
- Jesus is Kosher
- Repentance Revival
- Sweet and Sour

Charles is also a regular contributor to Israel Today at [www.israeltoday.co.il](http://www.israeltoday.co.il). His latest book, 'To the Jew First', is available from Christian Publications International. He is also author of 'King of the Jews', 'A Nation Reborn' (both CPI), 'Israel the Chosen' (Amazon) and 'Peace in Jerusalem' (olivepresspublisher.com & Eden).







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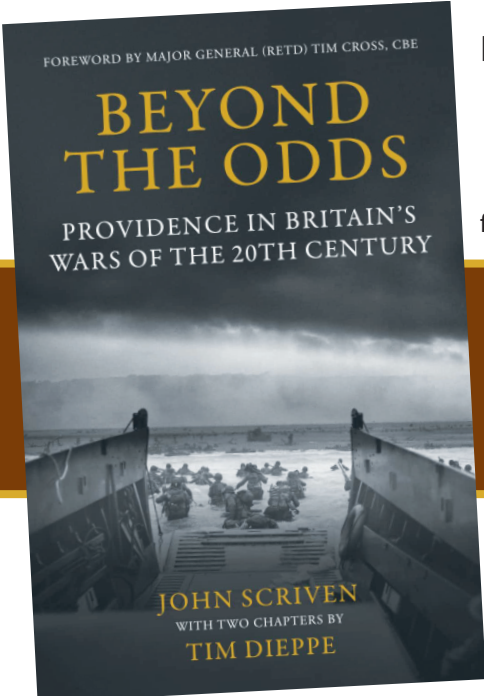
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# Miracle of Bucha – 120 Christians sheltering in a church spared

By Piers Arthur-Crow

**AS THE WAR IN UKRAINE GRINDS ON, STORIES ARE COMING OUT OF THE HAND OF GOD POWERFULLY AT WORK AS PRAYERS ARE ANSWERED AND BELIEVERS REACH OUT**



Pastor Alexi from Bucha attending the One New Man breakfast on 6 May 2022

I have just returned from visiting Ukraine in May, in order to gather Christian leaders from our network from across the country.

Over the years it has been my privilege to travel literally the length and breadth of Ukraine teaching the Bible and building a national network of Christian and Messianic Jewish leaders from many different denominations. Today the One New Man Network includes hundreds of ministry leaders in every part of Ukraine, but I never thought for a moment that it would be used to bring the Kingdom of God to the front lines of a war.

**They responded to the fighting by opening their homes, their churches, their fridges and their wallets to complete strangers**

Yet God is never surprised, so when he spoke to one of our trustees in a dream to prepare for war, that is what we did. As soon as the war started on 24 February, we mobilised prayer

and support for Christian leaders in Ukraine who responded to the fighting by opening their homes, their churches, their fridges and their wallets to complete strangers. This is the Kingdom of God at its best in the face of unimaginable evil.

Pray for leaders like Rabbi Sergei whose home in Kyiv was completely destroyed by shelling and yet arranged for more than 100 believers to escape from Mariupol where they through the prayers of the saints miraculously passed unharmed through Russian checkpoints. Then there's Pastor Vadim whose team risk their lives rushing into frontline villages during pauses in the fighting to bring refugees out. There's also Pastor Volodymyr, whose city is occupied by Russian troops and

despite other leaders being kidnapped by Russian troops still sneaks out to distribute aid to his community.

On my recent visit I met Pastor Alexi from Bucha, who told me that 120 people were hiding in the basement of his church when a Russian commander found them. This commander told them he would return and they would all be killed.

Through the long weeks of occupation, they waited and prayed, but nobody came. When they shared their stories and the name of the commander with the war crime investigators, these hardened men were shocked. This same commander had been responsible for some of the worst atrocities which had



Piers Arthur-Crow with Pastor Alexi from Bucha

occurred and these investigators could not understand why they had been spared.

<https://www.one-newmaneurope.com/ukraine-crisis>

To join our prayer team, email: [office@thedavidhouse.org](mailto:office@thedavidhouse.org)



One New Man Network breakfast in Uzhhorod, 6 May 2022

## "Prayer saved Kyiv"

Veteran evangelist David Hathaway, who has organised national days of prayer for Ukraine with all the major denominations for the past few years, has described how he believes prayer has protected Kyiv.

On his last visit shortly before the 24 February Russian invasion, he and other ministers prayed for a barrier around Kyiv. To date, the Russians have not been able to conquer it.

Speaking to over 100 prayer intercessors at the Dovetailshalom three day 'Esther' fast in April, he said that some of his friends have been killed and that when the Russians invaded Ukraine in 2014, they "destroyed churches and killed pastors". Meanwhile three million Ukrainians had fled the country and his ministry's German office had 16 refugees crammed into it.

## FROM EAST SUSSEX TO UKRAINE...VIA HOLLAND

By Robin Benson

**A small port on the Sussex coast is being used by God to benefit thousands of desperate people hundreds of miles away in the former Soviet Union**

Within days of the Russian invasion, the Christian charity HRIF (Humanitarian Resources International Foundation) was in action sending containers across Europe on an almost daily basis to Ukraine and the surrounding nations, which have been taking in the millions of Ukrainian refugees.

This was nothing new for HRIF; its first shipment went to Ukraine in 1997. At the local level, aid is then distributed mainly through churches and synagogues.

Early on, the Polish government made an empty palace available to HRIF to assist with refugee support and onward processing.

HRIF was founded by Max Veenstra in Holland and partners with Christian business-



This Polish palace was lent to HRIF

man Nevill Smith of Newhaven, East Sussex. Nevill and his late wife, Val, also established The Shekinah Legacy Trust, which supports Israel practically and in prayer. He has worked with Max since 2009 to support people suffering hardship, particularly Jewish people in Eastern Europe, as well

*Continued on page 16*



Ukrainian leaders together with the UK team



# JESUS

# UNMASKED

## A recent survey of 3,000 UK adults found that only six per cent of the population identify as practising Christians – yet ONE IN THREE non-Christians say they want to know more about Jesus Christ

**THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY FROM THE TALKING JESUS REPORT, 2022, INSPIRED THE PUBLISHERS OF GOOD NEWS NEWSPAPER TO PRODUCE A NEW BOOKLET THAT HELPS CHRISTIANS TO TELL THEIR FRIENDS THE TRUTH ABOUT JESUS.**

HEART editor Melanie Symonds interviewed the author, Good News editor Andrew Halloway, who also writes HEART's news pages.

**With a plethora of material about Jesus both on the internet and in bookshops, why did you think there was a need for something new?**

**Andrew:** I believe there's always a need to share the good news about Jesus in a way that is contemporary, fresh and relevant to the current generation – so this booklet is written in today's language and is illustrated throughout.

We're living in a post-Christian society where evangelists are finding that most people know very little about Jesus, and what they do know is often inaccurate because of the untruths about Jesus that have been pushed around by atheists on social media and the internet in the last couple of decades.

A survey back in 2015 showed that the majority of people in the UK think Jesus never existed. Yet, as this year's Talking Jesus survey showed, many people are still intrigued about Jesus and open to learning more about him.

So I've written 'Jesus Unmasked: Fact-Checking the World's Greatest Influencer' to counter the false impressions about Jesus that many people have innocently imbibed. Most non-Christians are aware of the 'fake news' that goes around in the media but are confused about how to get to the truth. Like the BBC fact-checking statements by politicians, I'm fact-checking the claims about Jesus for them.

Also, if people look to the internet to find out the facts, all

they come across is a wealth of conflicting opinions, so it's incumbent on us Christians to get the truth in their hands. Let's face it, if we don't do it, who will?

**What in particular is in the booklet that you think non-Christians really need to know?**

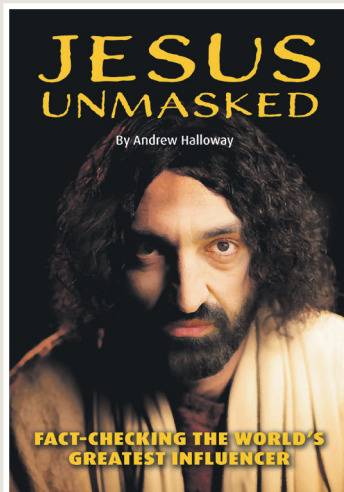
**Andrew:** I think there are some things in the booklet that even most Christians need to know.

For example, I come across Christians who have absorbed the atheist propaganda that the Bible was written long after Jesus lived, so it can't be accurate. Or they have been told that because it was written by the Church that it is biased and so can't be trusted to be true, or that there is no evidence for Jesus outside the Bible!

All three of these things are simply false and there is plenty of historical evidence to show that. So these are the kind of facts I explore in the booklet that I want people to know – both non-Christians who are open to Jesus and Christians who have maybe had doubts because of what they have heard.

**Is the booklet just about the history, then, or is there more to it than that?**

**Andrew:** No, it's not just the historical facts. I also show why the life and teaching of Jesus, and ultimately the Resurrection, form a strong argument that Jesus really is God. And at the end I challenge the reader to consider the facts and discover a relationship with Jesus for themselves.



*Jesus Unmasked: Fact-Checking the World's Greatest Influencer is a full colour booklet and costs just £2.25 inc p&p, or £6.50 for a pack of 5, or £20.50 for a pack of 20. Tel 0115 9233424 to order a copy or you can see and read the whole booklet online at [good-news-paper.org.uk/jesusbooklet](http://good-news-paper.org.uk/jesusbooklet)*



# FREE BOOKLET ON HEALING

**Pastor Les Potter says he hasn't been to a doctor or dentist for 40 years.**

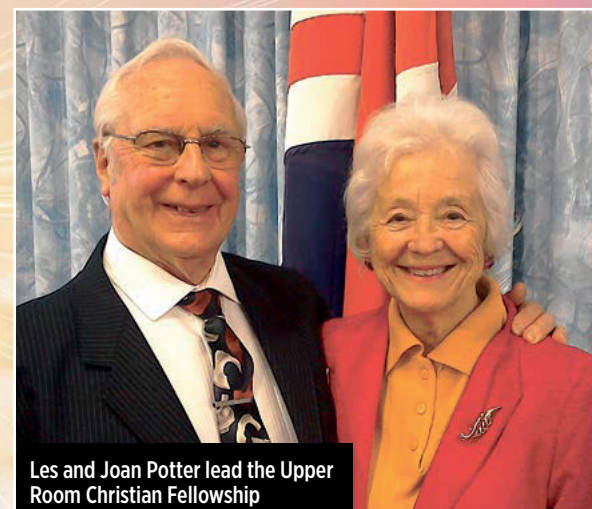
According to Pastor Les, he simply decided to believe the Bible's promises about healing and the miracles that Jesus and others did.

He and his wife Joan had already been married for 19 years before they became Christians. "I was on the verge of suicide," he recalls. "I just called out to God – and he rescued me. My wife got saved a few days later."

Soon Les was given a New Testament and read in Mark 16 that believers should lay hands on the sick. As Joan suffered from painful sinusitis, he simply laid his hands on her head – and within an hour the pain had gone.

With the evidence of a healed wife before him, Les decided he'd believe the Bible. A key book was 'Christ the Healer' by F F Bosworth. Les has written several booklets on healing himself, including 'Chemotherapy: the truth behind it'.

Les would like to offer his latest 48-page booklet, 'How to renew your youth and live in health' free to readers: "I believe that many



**Les and Joan Potter lead the Upper Room Christian Fellowship**

Christians would find it of great benefit in their lives, especially at this time."

To order the booklet, send A5 sae (standard letter stamp) to Pastor Les Potter, 82 Mill Lane, Bradwell, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31 8HR



Continued from page 14

as in Israel itself through a local partner organisation in the land.

As of May 2022, HRIF is distributing aid from Borislav (close to Lviv, in the west). Kiev and Zitomir have also been receiving containers, but due to the ongoing conflict less aid is currently able to reach these areas. Another hub has been opened in Tarnopol, enabling help to reach the Charkov region.

Similar distribution hubs are operating in the countries north, west and south of Ukraine, all supplied by containers driven from Holland on a daily basis, to provide much needed aid and comfort to the hundreds of thousands of traumatised Ukrainians who have fled their homes with little more than the clothes on their backs.

More details at [www.shekinahlegacy.org](http://www.shekinahlegacy.org)

Max Veenstra recently appeared on Revelation TV's weekly 'Middle East Report', when he spoke at length with Simon Barrett about HRIF's work. It is recorded at: <https://youtu.be/9iKeKOYgcR0>



A car crammed with food to donate



A little boy and his mother select donated food



An old lady weeps

## THE ROYAL FAMILY

The nation's Platinum Jubilee celebrations of Her Majesty's 70 years on the throne will inevitably highlight the Queen's physical frailty.

Pray for her health; she will be succeeded by a King who has endorsed the Great Reset (previously reported in this paper) and its environmental goals. Whether King Charles will be ready to "own nothing and be happy" is not known...

In 1952 the coronation service was Christian, with songs based on Scripture. While Prince Charles has, according to Christian Concern co-founder Ade Omooba, been misquoted over his desire to be 'Defender of Faith' (apparently the heir to the throne took 15 minutes to explain to Rev Omooba what he had actually meant), the clear adherence to Christianity as the state religion has already lapsed. A subscriber has pointed out that on 1991's Commonwealth Day, the Queen gave permission for the Koran and other books sacred to other religions to be read as part of the act of worship in Westminster Abbey.

The Queen has often referred to her own Christian faith in her Christmas messages; pray that her children and grandchildren will come to realise their need of a personal Saviour.

## THE CHURCH

Pray for the Church in Britain to focus on the Great Commission: to seek and save the lost and to have faith to see people healed, rather than abrogating responsibility for healing to the authorities. May churchgoers recognise the lateness of the hour; prophet Tobi Arayomi said in 2021 there were nine years left of Church freedom; that would coincide with the UN's Agenda 2030 succeeding.

Pray that Christians will remember they are citizens of heaven and be ready to stand up for biblical values and not compromise out of fear: "The fear of man is a snare."

Author and house church planter Jason Carter is one of those who anticipates a Chinese-style 'State Church' emerging in Britain where politically correct preachers avoid addressing biblical morality. He also urged believers to ensure they have their own supply of 'oil' – a deep relationship with God, born out of full surrender and Bible knowledge – not just rely on their pastor.

He told a meeting on 21 May: "This is the time to build community as per the New Testament model across the UK and the world, to have a lifestyle of evangelism. Print and hand out your personal testimony."

## EVIL LAWS AND TREATIES

**"Forbid evil laws and treaties to be signed. Decry the evil actions of those in power. Do not be afraid. Stand together, for there are more with you, and more with me, than you can imagine...Cry out for justice together."**

From a prophetic message received by Kathleen Mitchell on 19 May 2022 in Jerusalem, sent out by Pastor Jeff Daly of National Day of Repentance ([www.repentday.com](http://www.repentday.com)), three days before the WHO (World Health Organisation) met in Geneva to vote on the Biden administration's proposed amendments to the IHR (International Health Regulations), "which would essentially hand over sovereignty to the WHO."

Boris Johnson is among leaders who have already indicated their approval. Mat Staver, a lawyer and one of the US's National Prayer Assembly presenters, has warned: "The WHO, like the United Nations, has sovereign immunity from lawsuits. This means you cannot take the WHO to court when it infringes on your freedom, or when its 'directives' (like mandatory jabs) injure you. The WHO has 194 member countries that control 99.94% of the world's population. The WHO launched internation-

al vaccine passports in March 2022; giving it sovereignty would globalise vaccine passports."

**Digital ID:** Among several laws that have quietly been passed while the media focussed on Covid and Ukraine is the first part of the UK's Digital ID Framework which would be required for legal transactions. An article by Rev Andrew Baguley, author of 'The Covid Tyranny', will be on our site. Please email if you cannot find it.

**Vaccine damage:** The Expose reports that the ONS's (Office for National Statistics) latest figures reveal 70,000 people in England have died within 28 days of Covid-19 vaccination and 179,000 have died within 60 days. Data confirms it can take just five months for the Covid-19 vaccinated to develop Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome, plus children's risk of death increases for 10-14 year olds by 82 to 303 times following Covid-19 vaccination. More information from [news@dailyexpose.uk](mailto:news@dailyexpose.uk)

## PRAYER TOPICS

# ISRAEL PUTS IRAN ON NOTICE

Iran is just "a few weeks" away from a bomb

**Benny Gantz, Israel's defence minister, has effectively put Iran on notice, saying that Iran is just a "few weeks" from being able to make a nuclear bomb.**

With Iran's mullahs openly calling for the annihilation of the Jewish state, Israel has always said it will not allow them to develop a bomb. Moreover, whereas President Trump pulled out of President Obama's 'deal' with Iran to limit its nuclear production, President Biden is offering a new deal which is said to be "far, far worse" than Obama's 2015 deal.

A statement from 49 US Republican senators on 14 March 2022 said: "By every indication, the Biden administration appears to have given away the store.... What is more, the deal appears likely to deepen Iran's financial and security relationship with Moscow and Beijing, including through arms sales."

The Gatestone Institute reports that the European Union appears "excited" that the nuclear talks have reopened again to revive the nuclear deal that will bring nuclear weapons to Iran, the "world's largest state sponsor of terrorism," and additional billions of dollars. In the meantime, it says, the Biden administration and the EU have remained silent in the face of the Iranian regime taking more political hostages on trumped-up charges, such as happened to Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe until Britain's Foreign Secretary Liz Truss settled an unpaid debt for tanks of nearly \$400 million.

Gantz said in a speech at Reichman University in Herzliya in May that Iran is working on 1,000 new advanced uranium centrifuges at new underground sites being built near its Natanz nuclear plant, providing figures that appeared to extend beyond those published by the International Atomic Energy Agency. And Israel knows exactly how long it is going to take the Iranians to prepare, effectively putting Iran on notice.

At the beginning of his speech, Gantz linked the defence of Ukraine, where he said Israel was in the right place "ethically and strategically," to the Iranian threat, saying it was "correct to mobilise economic, diplomatic, and if necessary, military might, as soon as possible, to perhaps prevent war."

He called for a multi-pronged regional and global pressure campaign against the Islamic republic to stave off possible war. The King of Jordan has warned that Iran and its proxies are filling a vacuum left by Russia in southern Syria as Russia withdraws its forces to bolster its Ukraine invasion, according to The Moscow Times. King Abdullah II has stressed that Russia's presence in southern Syria was a "source of calm". Speaking at Stanford University's Hoover Institution in May, he said: "Unfortunately we're looking at maybe an escalation of problems on our borders."

According to a report on 20 May in the Dutch press, several bases abandoned by the Russians have been transferred to Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guards Corps, as well as the Lebanese terror group Hezbollah. Jerusalem and Moscow have in recent years maintained a so-called deconfliction mechanism that works to prevent Israeli and Russian forces from clashing in Syria. The new development could be problematic for Israel, which has sought to prevent Iranian entrenchment in Syria. Israel has waged a years-long campaign of airstrikes aimed at pro-Iranian fighters located there and at preventing the transfer of Iranian-supplied weaponry.

It was also reported in late May that Israeli planes flying over Syria in operation against Iranian-backed targets had been fired at, which is a very unwelcome development.

Sources: Christians United for Israel, Gatestone Institute



King Abdullah of Jordan speaking in May





# PERSECUTION WATCH

by Andrew Halloway

## SIX QUICK FACTS ABOUT WORLDWIDE PERSECUTION

From [www.christianpersecution.com](http://www.christianpersecution.com)

- While about 30 percent of the world's population identifies as Christian, 80 percent of all acts of religious discrimination are directed at Christians.  
*Source: International Society for Human Rights*
- Christians face persecution in more than 60 countries.  
*Source: US State Department*
- Millions of Christians face interrogation, arrest, torture, and/or death because of their religious convictions and cultural/ethnic identification.  
*Source: Open Doors USA*
- Between 2007 and 2014, Christians have been targeted for harassment in more countries than any other religious group.  
*Source: Pew Research*
- Christian responses to persecution are almost always non-violent and, with very few exceptions, do not involve acts of terrorism.  
*Source: Under Caesar's Sword*

## Sudan



### A COUPLE IN SUDAN FACE FLOGGING



Al Jazirah state, Sudan

A Christian couple in Sudan could receive 100 lashes as punishment after being charged with adultery.

The accusation against them was made after an Islamic court annulled their marriage due to the husband's conversion to Christianity.

Hamouda Tia Kafi, 34, and Nada Hamad Shukralah, 25, from Al Bageir in Al Jazirah state were Muslims when they married in 2016, but when Kafi converted in 2018, Shukralah's family asked a sharia court to dissolve their marriage. Shukralah then left her husband, but in 2021 Shukralah became a Christian herself and returned to Kafi with their two children – at which point her brother charged them with 'adultery'.

The next hearing for the couple was due on 12 May.

Flogging violates the absolute prohibition against torture and other ill treatment in international human rights law, according to Amnesty International.

#### An Islamic court annulled their marriage due to the husband's conversion

Religious freedom in Sudan improved after the ousting of Islamist dictator Omar al-Bashir in 2019, but persecution has returned since the military coup in October 2021.



## Nigeria



### 100 killed in Nigeria in one month

Two attacks on predominantly Christian villages in Nigeria killed around 100 people in April.

Islamist gunmen attacked ten villages in Plateau State on 10 April, killing at least 80 people and abducting 60, according to Release International.

Later, Muslim Fulani herdsman attacked four villages in Kaduna state on 26 April, killing 18 Christians and burning down 92 houses.

Release International is urging the Nigerian government

to take urgent action to protect Christians who are suffering violence "on an almost daily basis".

#### Gunmen killed at least 80 people and abducted 60

According to Open Doors' 2022 World Watch List, more Christians were killed and kidnapped for their faith in Nigeria than in any other nation in 2020/21.



Islamist gunmen with typical weapons

Wikipedia, (Sali Matumash/VOA)

## We are what we read

Communism fell in 1989 and we thought that we had won that war. But the war in Ukraine shows that freedom without Christ is still unbridled paganism.

"Literature", writes the author Shilpa Sandesh, "is the heart and the soul of a society. Like music it's the words expressing a multitude of emotions and gripping thoughts."

"Literature", says Ron George, of Eurasia Education Foundation (EEF), "has had a major impact on the development of society. It has shaped civilisations, changed political systems and exposed injustice. Literature gives us a detailed preview of human experiences, allowing us to connect on the basic levels of desire and emotion."

"Printing truth on a page has power! The multiplication and impact that comes from written words of God's truth on a printed page have changed lives, given hope to the hopeless, love to those who felt devalued, and instruction on how to live a righteous life and receive God's blessings."

When asked about his literature vision, George Verwer (left), founder of mission organisation Operation Mobilisation, says: "My guess is that over a quarter of a billion books in about 50 languages have been distributed."

In my meetings alone way over two hundred thousand have gone out."



Ron George

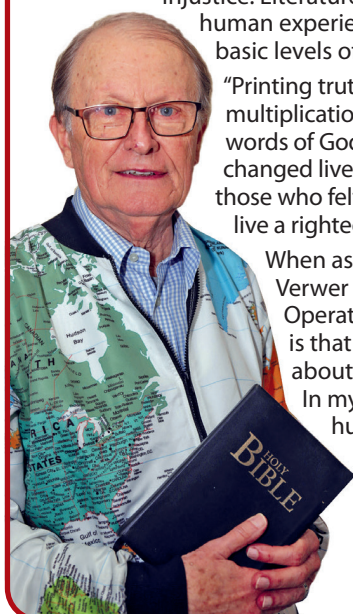
"You are what you read", says Ron George, director of the Eurasia Education Foundation. "The power of the printed page has been used by evangelists, dictators and advertisers all over the world. During my 17 years in Operation Mobilisation I have seen how powerful literature can be. Every church should share the printed gospel with those within it, building them up in the faith, and also with those outside it, facing the challenges of secularism, materialism and hopelessness."

Years ago Ron George met Don McCurry at the Glen Eyrie Conference on Islam and out of that meeting came many papers on Islam's history, culture and strategies. Don, now 93, has retired and handed over his books to make them more available. EEF is now translating these masterly works into all the Central Asian languages. Books like *Stepping Stones*, which shows how the Quran points us to Jesus Christ, and *Blood Line*, which shows that the real Line of Blood is that of Jesus Christ. Then there is *Tales that Teach*, a collection of stories illustrating Don's experiences of sharing the gospel with the people of Pakistan, from which we have much to learn.

#### NOW IS THE TIME TO ENRICH THE CHURCH WITH MATURE LITERATURE.

Central Asia has little in missiological or theological literature upon which to build a stable, mature Christian community. Help us build an intelligent Christian community to serve the next generation of Christians by supporting Christian literature. Translating each of these books costs from £700 (US\$1000) to £1,500 (US\$ 2000), so we now need funds to produce each translation so that they can be sent by email from town to town, church to church and individual to individual.

**Seize with us this moment in history and help us take these great books filled with truth to those who need their souls fed and their hearts encouraged!**



**EURASIA EDUCATION FOUNDATION** • We provide Theological Education to nationals from persecuted countries. • We help support a university in Eurasia as well as several satellite schools. These provide the opportunity for those who have come to Christ to continue serving Him by spreading the Gospel, using their theological education and knowledge of the Bible. • We research and teach an objective approach to Islamic History, its form and faith. • We help protect the persecuted. Many of the students we support put their lives and safety on the line by devoting their life to Christ.

Can you join with us in Building The Church and supporting believers in Christ at this desperate time?



Purpose and training for tomorrow's world

How to give:

- [www.eurasia.org.uk](http://www.eurasia.org.uk)
- or send a cheque

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Web: [www.eurasia.org.uk](http://www.eurasia.org.uk)





# PERSECUTION WATCH by Andrew Halloway



## US COMMISSION WARNS OF INCREASING PERSECUTION IN INDIA, NIGERIA AND AFGHANISTAN

The United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) is calling for India, Nigeria and Afghanistan to be added to the USA's list of countries of 'particular concern'.

The Commission, which advises the President and the US State Department, is calling for 15 nations in total to be included on the list of countries with severe religious intolerance: Nigeria, India and Afghanistan join China, Eritrea, Iran, North

Korea, Pakistan, Russia, Burma, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Syria and Vietnam.

Paul Robinson, CEO of Release International, said: "We welcome this report. Release International has long been reporting on the widespread violence against Christians in Nigeria, as well as India and Afghanistan. These other countries have also earned their places on the list."



Taliban are going door to door in search of Christian converts

## Kyrgyzstan



## Life gets harder for Christians in Kyrgyzstan



Bishkek city, the capital of Kyrgyzstan

Oppression of Christians is on the rise in Kyrgyzstan, reports Open Doors.

The charity, which supports persecuted Christians, gives the example of a Christian man who wasn't allowed to attend his mother's funeral because of his faith. After the funeral, the man tried to enter the cemetery to mourn his mother – but the mullah (Muslim leader) and other villagers threw him out, saying his presence would "desecrate the holy place", and forced him to leave the village.

The same mullah had previously prevented him from burying his brother in the village, because of the family's faith, and the ceremony had to take place in a Christian cemetery nearly 100 miles away.

In many places there have been death threats, violence and abuse.

### Some converts are locked up for long periods by their families and beaten

An Open Doors spokesperson for Central Asia says: "For many Christians in Kyrgyzstan, persecution is a daily occurrence. They face discrimination – be it in their local community, workplace or army. Some converts are locked up for long periods by their families and beaten. Local Islamic teachers preach against them and may cause them to be expelled from their communities."

## European Union



## EUROPEAN COURT SAVES PAKISTANI CONVERT



The courtroom of the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg

The European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) has saved a Christian man from being returned to Pakistan. By doing so it has recognised that Pakistani Christian converts from Islam face danger in their homeland.

The ex-Muslim, known as 'MAM' fled to Switzerland in fear of his life, yet a Swiss court denied him asylum. While the Swiss accepted that MAM's conversion was genuine, they ruled that he was not in danger. MAM was

due to be returned to Pakistan, but appealed to the ECHR with the help of the European Centre for Law & Justice (ECLJ).

### He was due to be returned to Pakistan

After the ECLJ provided evidence of the risks that ex-Muslim converts face in Pakistan, the ECHR ruled on 26 April that MAM was in danger if he was expelled from Switzerland.

The ECHR concluded: "The

[Swiss] Federal Administrative Court did examine the situation of Christians in Pakistan but did not specifically examine the situation of converts to Christianity... the Court considers that... the Swiss authorities have not made a sufficient assessment of the risk that the applicant would face because of his conversion, if he returned to Pakistan."

It is unlikely that the Swiss will now expel MAM and the case reinforces the ECHR's case law on Christian converts from Islam.



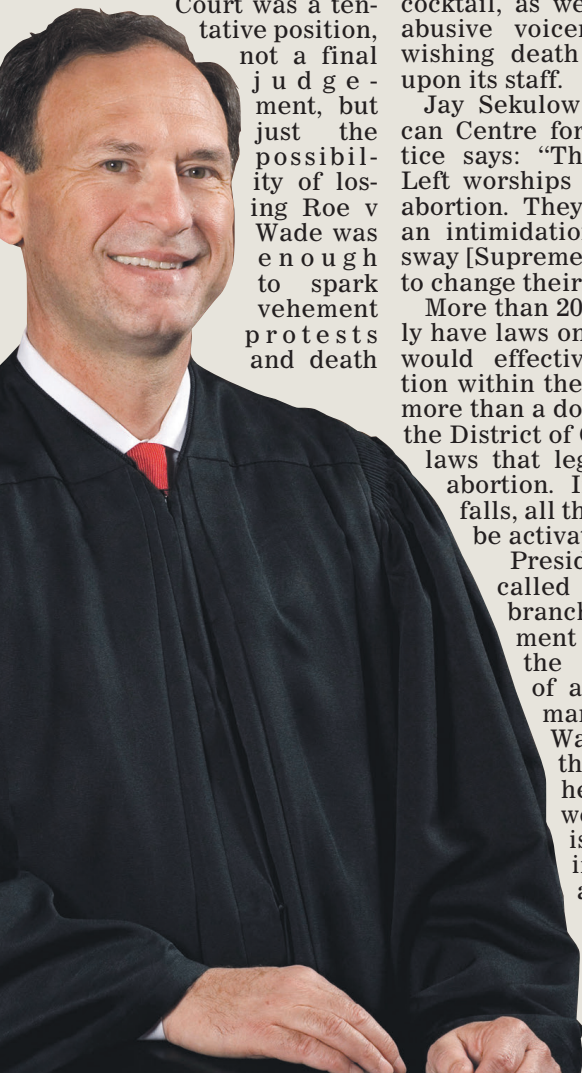
## INTERNATIONAL NEWS by Andrew Halloway

# LEFT TRIES TO OVERRIDE SUPREME COURT ON ROE V WADE

After a leak revealed that the US Supreme Court might overturn the 1973 Roe v Wade judgment which allowed abortions nationwide, pro-abortionists have reacted with protests, death threats against pro-life organisations and an attempt to bypass the Supreme Court.

The Democrats tried to bypass the Court by mandating unlimited abortion nationwide in the Senate, but failed to do so by a vote of 49-51 on 11 May. The Democrat bill would have forced all states to allow the practice by enshrining abortion on demand in federal law.

The leak from the Supreme Court was a tentative position, not a final judgement, but just the possibility of losing Roe v Wade was enough to spark vehement protests and death threats.



Justice Samuel Alito, whose home was surrounded by about 100 demonstrators after his leaked draft opinion indicated the Supreme Court is prepared to overturn the landmark Roe v Wade abortion ruling

threats. Large barricades had to be erected around the Supreme Court building in Washington DC to ensure security.

After the Supreme Court Justices' personal addresses were maliciously published online, protestors attempted to intimidate the judges and their families by demonstrating outside their own homes, in violation of federal law. The Senate even had to pass a bill to allow the Supreme Court to provide 24-hour protection to the families of the justices.

A pro-life organisation in Wisconsin had its offices attacked with fire and a Molotov cocktail, as well as receiving abusive voicemail messages wishing death and suffering upon its staff.

Jay Sekulow of the American Centre for Law and Justice says: "The pro-abortion Left worships at the altar of abortion. They're engaged in an intimidation campaign to sway [Supreme Court] justices to change their minds."

More than 20 states currently have laws on the books that would effectively ban abortion within their borders, and more than a dozen states, plus the District of Columbia, have laws that legally safeguard abortion. If Roe v Wade falls, all these laws would be activated.

President Biden has called on the elected branches of government to take over the preservation of abortion on demand if Roe v Wade goes, and at the federal level he said he would work to adopt legislation that codifies the right to abortion.

## EU POLITICIAN WARNS OF WHO POWER GRAB

### Unelected billionaire-funded body could take power over populations

German MEP Christine Anderson has warned that a planned EU agreement with the World Health Organisation (WHO) would allow the WHO to seize governmental power in the event of a pandemic.

### "A non-legitimised body, into which the richest of the super-rich buy their way through donations"

Anderson said on her YouTube channel: "A democratically non-legitimised body, into which the richest of the super-rich buy their way through donations, is to decide in the future whether a pandemic situation exists, in order to then directly take over governmental power."

Since 1 March, an intergovernmental task force has been revising the treaties between the WHO and the EU member states, for acceptance in the EU by 2024. The WHO confirmed this in a press release last December. The EU Council justified the WHO takeover by saying: "Next time, the world must be prepared."

In her video, Anderson argued that allowing the WHO such power would be a "direct attack on the rule of the people by the people... the most elementary principle of any democracy."

She asked the [EU] Commission how it would ensure that people's rights would be respected. She said: "The answer I received is... not at all! The Commission could have simply stated that it is very important not to bypass citizens... But it didn't."

The MEP believes that WHO decision-makers will be able to "issue instructions to you but are not accountable to you and cannot be held politically responsible by you."

Monoceros Prudentis/Wikimedia



MEP Christine Anderson

## Canada secretly hacked citizens' phone data

The Canadian government tracked the movements of 33 million people by their mobile phone data during the Covid crisis – without their consent or knowledge.

### Health officials monitored shopping trips and when people travelled out of their city

Health officials obtained detailed information on personal behaviour, including shopping trips, family gatherings, how long was spent indoors, and when people travelled out of their city or province. Life Site News reports that the secret surveillance programme conducted by Justin Trudeau's government was revealed to MPs by Canada's House of Commons ethics committee, which made the announcement in May.

The reason given was to understand the "public's responsiveness during lockdown measures".

Commentators worry that the surveillance many governments are using to combat Covid could be used for other purposes.



Justin Trudeau/YouTube/Wikimedia

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's government authorised spying on citizens

## AMERICAN STATE PUTS TAMPONS IN BOYS' TOILETS

The US state of Oregon is forcing all schools, even infant schools, to put menstrual products in boys' toilets.

### Female-avoiding phrases like "students who menstruate"

The state's new Menstrual Dignity Act, approved by the Democrat Governor last year, says that feminine hygiene products should be available in "every student bathroom", along with instructions on how to use them.

Oregon's advice for implementing the law is filled with female-avoiding phrases like "students who menstruate".

Meanwhile, Wisconsin State Representative Francesca Hong, a Democrat, has been lambasted by conservatives for calling pregnant women "birthing bodies" rather than women, while discussing the potential overturn of the Roe v Wade abortion judgement.

"We have a name," women's magazine Evie complained. "Birthing bodies doesn't even make sense since women getting abortions are literally not birthing."

## Bible-Tweeting Finnish MP acquitted in "hate speech" trial now faces appeal

Päivi Räsänen still faces jail if found 'guilty'



Päivi Räsänen, the Finnish MP who was cleared of all hate speech charges for expressing her biblical beliefs on marriage, now faces further uncertainty as her prosecutor is appealing against her victory.

A three-judge panel on the Helsinki District Court had unanimously acquitted Ms Räsänen of all charges on 30 March, arguing that it was "not for the district court to interpret biblical concepts."

Continued on page 20



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Continued from page 19

In a 28-page judgement, the court reasoned that statements made by the former interior minister and Christian Democratic Party leader didn't constitute hate speech even though they may have offended members of the LGBT community.

The court had ordered the prosecution to pay Räsänen more than 60,000 euros in legal costs, but the prosecution has now publicly stated its intentions to appeal the decision.

The former minister of the interior was facing at least two years in prison for tweeting a Bible verse describing homosexuality as shameful in 2019 and for sharing her traditional Christian view on marriage in a TV debate and in a 2004 pamphlet written with the bishop.

Paul Coleman, chief executive of ADF International, the legal organisation representing Ms Räsänen, told Premier that by appealing the ruling, the prosecutor seems to be wanting to protect her reputation over the way the case had been communicated to the media.

"The Helsinki court didn't just find in Päivi's favour and in on the side of the bishop, [it] also had issue with how the prosecutor had set up and framed the case, this is highly unusual.

Reacting to the news, Ms Räsänen said: "This case has been hanging over me and my family for almost three years. After my full exoneration in court, I am dismayed that the prosecutor will not let this campaign against me drop. Once again, I am prepared to defend freedom of speech and religion not just for me, but for everyone."



### Gordon and Lorna Pettie

Gordon, along with his wife Lorna, is part of the leadership team of Revelation TV, a 24/7 Christian television station that broadcasts in the UK on Sky 581 and Freesat TV 692, and throughout the world via the Roku Box and Apple TV. Gordon's passion is writing and he is the author of eight books.



## BOOKREVIEWS By Gordon Pettie

# Revisiting the outstanding David Watson

## The Writings of David Watson

Book reviews always tend to be about new books, hot off the press.

But I decided to take a few days away from work and reflect on the Lord and his work.

Searching my bookshelves for inspiration, I selected 'David Watson, a Portrait By His Friends', and two of David Watson's books: 'You Are My God', and 'Fear No Evil' (his diary of his final year with cancer).

For those of us who lived in the UK through the 70's and early 80's, David Watson was very much the man of the moment as far as the Church was concerned. He demonstrated real faith as he took a near redundant Anglican church in

York and transformed it into a landmark church attended by as many as 700 people.

The congregation then moved to an even larger venue, St Michael's, by York Minister and saw as many as 2,000 congregating.

As well as a being a Church of England pastor and skilled preacher, David had an evangelist's heart and innovated with drama, dance, music and living in community, as he sought to communicate the Gospel.

**He demonstrated real faith as he took a near redundant Anglican church in York and transformed it into a landmark church attended by as many as 700, later 2,000**

His ministry extended to

university missions and then festivals (he did not call them crusades or missions) in city centres around the UK, and to other parts of the world.

Suddenly in the prime of his ministry, he was diagnosed with cancer. The doctors gave him at best a year to live.

Thousands prayed. His mentor, John Wimber, flew from the States to pray with him for his healing.

Thirteen months later he was dead. The books tell us: "On the Friday evening, 17 February 1984, he said to his wife Anne, 'I'm very tired; let's go home'. She was in no doubt what he meant. She went to bed leaving her mother to stay with him, but praying that God would wake her up to be with him before he died. She woke at midnight. He died 15 minutes later."

The books about David that I re-read were about his life, his

work, his love for the Master and his sickness. David was a skilled writer. If you have never read any of his writings, I suggest you start with one of his two autobiographies, 'You are My God', and 'Fear No Evil' (his diary of his final year with cancer). They are all still available on the internet or order them from a Christian bookshop.



David Watson was the man of the moment in the 1970s and 80s

# The man who put a million children into families

## As Many as The Stars

By Robert Glover OBE with Theodore Brun

Hodder and Stoughton

Occasionally I come across a book whose story needs shouting from the rooftops. This is such a book.

It tells of how one man and his family transformed the lives of hundreds of thousands of children in South-east Asia in obedience to one prophetic 'word' from God.

**"I sense you are going to be a father to as many children as there are stars in the sky"**

Ever since Robert Glover befriended a boy from Hong Kong who came to his Norfolk school, the Chinese people had been on his heart. He had also read the stories of the great saints who went to China, such as Hudson Taylor.

After he married, he and his wife had six children and Rob-

ert made his career in social work in the UK and then on the island of Guernsey. One day a visiting pastor from the New Frontiers alliance of churches came to speak at Robert's church in Guernsey. As the visitor prayed for people at the end of a service, he came up to Robert and declared: "I sense you are going to be a father to as many children as there are stars in the sky".

After the service Robert and his wife talked about this. They already had six children and didn't want any more! Could he have been talking about the youth work in their church? But there weren't many young people on Guernsey!

I don't want to spoil the story for you. But let me tell you that there came a time when Robert moved with his wife and SIX children to Shanghai. Robert never hid his Christian faith but persuaded the Chinese government that placing orphans in families was better than letting them languish in institutions.

Moreover, he managed to persuade the British and Chinese governments to agree to fund the programme, which expanded from one city to one

state, then all over China. Other South-east Asia countries became interested and the programme moved on to Thailand, Cambodia, and Vietnam. I really became excited when I read that North Korea approached him to introduce his scheme there.

In October 2018, a Pan-Asia family placement conference was held in Shanghai, marking 20 years since Robert Glover's programme began. One of the speakers, Professor Qu of the Beijing Bureau of Statistics, declared: "Today in China, 85 per cent of the children in care are living in families".

Robert reminds readers that when he started there was not even a word in Chinese for 'family-based care'. The Professor also said that, at an educated guess, the number of children moved from institutions to family care – all because of one man's vision and passion – would be more than one million children. The prophecy from all those years ago when Robert was prayed for in his Guernsey church had been fulfilled.

The book does not have an ending as the work isn't over. Robert tells us at the end of the

book: "Our goal, our passion is to help hundreds of thousands more children across Asia to find their place in a family".

The work of Robert Glover and his charity Care for Children has been recognised by the Queen, who awarded him an OBE for his work among children. It is time for the Church to be shouting from the rooftops what God can do through a family who are obedient to his vision and calling.



Robert Glover was awarded an OBE for giving homes to orphans

Thomas Abbott





# BOOKREVIEWS By Gordon Pettie

## An important book for our time

### Ruler of Kings – Towards a Christian Vision of Government

By Joseph Boot

Wilberforce Publications  
ISBN 978-1-9161211-3-3

It is confession time! I speed-read this book and was disappointed with it. If like me, sometimes, when you pick up a book, you are looking for one that 'does not engage the brain too much', and is a 'feel-good' bed-time read, you will be disappointed with it.

A few days later I sat down and started to read through it again. My attitude to it totally changed. This is an important book for our time. It grapples with what a Christian vision of civil government should really look like.

Here is the challenge of the book: What should a Christian proposal for social order be?

Get ready for some serious study!

**"Humanism has been the dominant cultural driving force... in modern Western civilisation"**

Joseph Boot (usually known as Joe) is the founding pastor of Westminster Chapel in Toronto and founder of the Ezra Institute for Contemporary Christianity. He paints a picture of a world where the 'cult of the (so

called) expert' rules.

He quotes Thomas Sowell: "Intellectuals have seen themselves not simply as an elite – but as an anointed elite with a mission to lead others ... towards better lives".

Joe Boot explains that we have allowed these 'experts' to encroach on cultural and social issues where they don't belong. Quoting H Evan Runner, he writes: "The Western world has rapidly become post-Christianity pagan... humanism has been the dominant cultural driving force... in modern Western civilisation."

The author reminds us there must be a Christian response and it must be biblically rooted.

While I was reading the book, the results of the French presidential election were coming through. The author writes about Western democracies, including France, where "the absolute sovereignty of the people or state is confessional and practical atheism".

He contrasts it to the situation in the UK (and Canada) where "the Head of State swears an oath, under the absolute sovereignty of Christ the King, to uphold the law and Gospel of Christ, and to defend that faith once for all delivered to the saints". We might not always see that in the UK, but it is the foundation of our country.

Is it possible to have a distinctly Christian view of politics, the book asks? A resounding 'yes' is the response.

Where does wisdom come from? Joe Boot reminds us the Bible tells us: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge". (Proverbs 1:7, 2:6).

He shows it is God who gave wisdom to his servant Joseph, in the time of the Pharaohs.

## A WARNING ABOUT ISRAEL'S FUTURE

### Exploring the End Times and Interceding for Israel

By Rosamund Weissman

Fresh Olive Press

There has never been a more important time in human history than right now to understand the relevance of biblical prophecies concerning what we call

The same was true for Solomon and Daniel. Men's ideas come and go but the Word of the Lord stands for ever, and in Christ all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are his. (Colossians 2:3).

Joe Boot concludes with this reminder: "It is surely time for the Church with its prophetic voice and for all God's people in the public sphere to remind all power and authority that Jesus Christ is Lord".



Joseph Boot grapples with a Christian vision of government

'the end times'. This book sets out to help readers comprehend what lies ahead for Israel, and the world – and sets the scene for 'the time of Jacob's trouble', as anticipated in the Old Testament.

**To understand the end times, we have to understand Israel**

Rosamund Weissman is a Jewish Christian. She grew up attending a Reformed synagogue and came to faith in Christ while a law student at Nottingham University. Now married with three sons and a grandson, she brings an understanding of the end times particularly from her deep understanding of the Old Testament and Israeli society.

Rosamund believes that to understand the end times we have to understand Israel. To her Israel is the key.

She tells readers they cannot understand the magnitude of what is ahead for Israel, without considering the country's past and present suffering. The book declares: "The future 'times of Jacob's troubles' will be worse than anything that has gone before".

A glance at the chapter headings show some of the important subjects tackled in the book: the 70-week prophecy of Daniel, the invasion of Israel, Armageddon, the statue in Nebuchadnezzar's dream, eschatology in the Psalms, God's judgement, the Millennium.

For many, the Bible, especially the Old Testament is full of mysteries. I wonder how many of us know that each let-

ter of the Hebrew alphabet has a numerical value?

Rosamund Weissman explains that Jewish scholars have a fascination with numbers and applies this knowledge to the biblical understanding of what a day, a week, Daniel's 70 weeks and the 1000-year millennial reign really mean in Scripture.

There is so much more in the book. For instance, Rosamund explains why she believes a third temple will be built, and how it will come into being.

Above all Rosamund wants to encourage Christians to pray for Israel as we enter the end times. She reminds us that Isaiah says the duty of a watchman is to watch and pray, and not slack. In biblical times, if a watchman was slack, the entire city was at risk.

She challenges her readers: "Let us prepare ourselves for the task of watching, by growing in understanding of the fast approaching time of trouble ahead for Israel".

Reading and studying this book will certainly help you to do that.



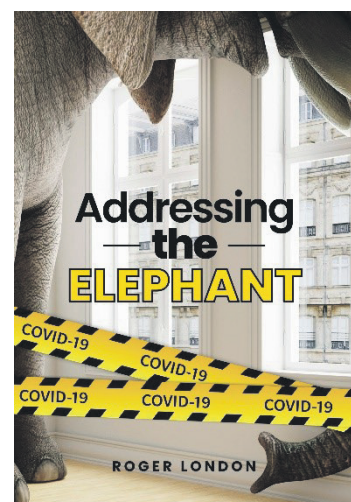
Rosamund Weissman: Israel is the key to understanding the end times

### WHOSE CHILD?

UK Abortion, a Gospel Matter

Available on Amazon

- A journey from wondering if abortion is wrong, to the place of helping to terminate it.
- A study of biblical and non-biblical sources.
- Aims to be an accurate, substantiated short overview of the situation in the UK.
- A positive book full of hope as well as the challenge.



**Addressing the Elephant** is a must-read for anyone who has wondered where God has been in the Covid-19 pandemic. He has clearly allowed it to impact most nations, but has He had a more direct purpose? *Addressing the Elephant* speaks to the reluctance of the Church at large to stray from its grace-heavy theological position and consider the possibility that other aspects of God's character and nature have been at play.

Available from:

[www.mannachristiancentre.co.uk/books](http://www.mannachristiancentre.co.uk/books)

£5.99 plus P&P



## NATIONAL NEWS

*Continued from page 4*

Ely primary school forced him to resign because he had tweeted that LGBT Pride events are “harmful” to children and “contrary to Christian faith”.

### “This is a victory for Christian evangelical leaders across the country”

The judges decided that Waters is “entitled” to hold his views on sexual relationships, even if they may “conflict with the fundamental rights of others” because his Christian beliefs are protected under the Equality Act 2010.

Waters said: “This is a victory, not just for me, but for Christian evangelical leaders across the country. The freedom to resign from your job or be silenced from speaking as a Christian pastor is no freedom at all.”

### “Honest, kind, normal people are subjected to harassment and intimidation for expressing moderate, mainstream Christian views on sexual ethics”

Waters was represented by the Christian Legal Centre. CEO Andrea Williams said this was a “crucial case for Christian freedom” and is “the latest in a long line of cases where honest, kind, normal people are subjected to harassment and intimidation for expressing moderate, mainstream Christian views on sexual ethics.”

She added: “Despite an abundance of psychological studies concluding that children exposed to sexually explicit content at an early age are more likely to develop disorders and addictions, there are many articles online that encourage parents to bring their children to Pride parades.”

### Church of England considers gay marriage

Church of England members have been consulted for their opinions on same-sex marriage in advance of the next General Synod – the Church’s ‘parliament’.

The Living in Love and Faith consultation, which closed at the end of April, is part of a process questioning whether gay marriage should be allowed in the national Church.

Coalition for Marriage reports that the consultation has “been muddying the waters” by giving individuals’ feelings the same importance as biblical teaching.

Meanwhile, the Church of Scotland is set to approve same-sex weddings after a majority of the Church’s 41 regional presbyteries indicated their support ahead of the General Assembly in June.



# letters@heartpublications.co.uk

HEART is sent free to churches, Christian bookshops and care homes, so our letters page provides a forum for Christian opinion.

### Ukraine bias

Many thanks for consistently publishing some excellent Christian articles.

However, I did feel a bias towards Ukraine in the April/May paper.

I was pleased to see that you mentioned UK Column News, who have faithfully broadcast the truth about the New World Order, now called the Great Reset, for many years and also the statement from Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, albeit not until page 6.

Things do not just happen in a vacuum: the USA manipulated the coup and change of Ukrainian president in 2014, when the Minsk Agreement was made but has never been implemented.

Over the last eight years more than 10,000 Ukrainians in the Donbass region have been killed by the Ukrainian military, particularly the Nazi Azov Brigade.

NATO have deployed nearer and nearer to the Russian border, posing a potential threat.

In Ukraine, not far from the Russian border were at least 13 US-funded bio-labs. Russia, China, India, Mexico, Brazil and Gabon have all requested

that the UN investigate these labs.

We are now witnessing a repetition of our dastardly behaviour in Syria when we armed terrorists. Again, alongside America, we are pouring arms into Ukraine into the hands of Nazis and continually stoking up the war which we have clearly provoked. Mr Putin realises that Russia’s sovereignty is at stake.

The hypocrisy of our government is deplorable.

Annie Gallichan  
Bristol

### Well-informed preacher

The preacher at New Life Church, Congleton, mentioned in his sermon recently how important it is for Christians to be well informed. It was good to hear him say how excellent HEART is!

David and Jan Green  
Christian TV  
Congleton, Cheshire

### Bible-based church

Having attended many types of churches and their services, I ended up choosing the one with the best preaching, the best quality hymns, the best prayer time – and attending with a handful of people.

I have also studied church histo-

ry, including how to construct a service.

Even a ‘Bible based’ church has 30 minutes of preaching instead of the actual Bible and four or five hymns/ songs instead of the psalms that I sing at home to modern music. People pray from the TV or radio news, instead of praying God’s Bible words.

We don’t need preachers, we need that time given to the public reading of the Gospel.

We don’t need hymns or songs, we have the Psalms and other Bible songs.

We don’t need man written prayers or free prayer, we need Bible prayers.

If we want God’s blessing we must return to using what he gave us, in every part of the service.

Paul Minter  
Bexhill, East Sussex

### Wrong times

I have to apologise for giving the wrong reference for the “times of the Gentiles” in my letter on the end times (April/May). It should have been Luke 21:24, not Luke 2:24.

John Zipser  
Bexhill on Sea, East Sussex

### Deadline for the August/September 2022 letters page is 1 July 2022.

Please email letters for publication to: **letters@heartpublications.co.uk** as letters sent on paper cannot easily be retyped.

Include your **name, town and county** with your letter.

Letters should not be longer than **200 words** and may be edited.

Comments sent via our website will be considered for printing unless marked ‘Not for publication’.

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## In my own words

### Readers’ longer letters

Fresh thoughts on a newsworthy or devotional topic will be considered for this feature. Email 350-400 words with your name, town, county and photo by 1 July 2022 to [letters@heartpublications.co.uk](mailto:letters@heartpublications.co.uk)

## A new perspective on the end times

The recent lockdowns and recent retirement from my career with the police meant I could at last study end-time Bible prophecy in depth.

The result was a book but much more than that. It was the realisation that all four major views of Rapture timing have merit, but all mainly miss the same point.

The Bible is a book written primarily by Jews for a Jewish audience. Yet, by the grace of God, we Gentiles can avail ourselves of the promises to Israel – if we are grafted into the Olive Tree (Romans 11).

This led me inevitably to Leviticus 23 and the Lord’s appointed times – designated dates that the Lord has set to meet with his people (the ‘olive tree’) corporately. The central tenet still causes me

to marvel at how God works out his plans.

If the first four (springtime) ‘appointed times’ were all fulfilled by the Lord Jesus at his First Coming – all on their exact dates and all in the same year, then, could it just be that the last three (autumnal) appointed times might all be fulfilled by him at his second coming, all on their exact date and all in the same (as yet unknown) year.

The seven events are: Crucifixion (Passover), burial (first day of Unleavened Bread), Resurrection (Firstfruits), pouring out of the Holy Spirit (Shavuot), Rapture of the Olive Tree (Day of Trumpet Blasts), return of King Messiah (Day of Atonement) and regathering of Disapora Jews to Israel plus full pouring out of the Holy Spirit on all surviving believers (Tabernacles).

With this framework and the

help of Revelation’s ‘three woes’ and the Greek phrase ‘meta tauta’ (‘after this’), end-time chronology falls into place simply, elegantly and wonderfully – including all of Daniel’s time periods.

### The future is much simpler than we think

One implication is that the Rapture occurs on the first of Tishri (Jewish month equivalent to September/October) in that final year followed by Messiah Jesus’ return on the tenth of Tishri with the Seven Bowls occurring during the nine days in between.

For more information see ‘The Lord’s Appointed Times and the Olive Tree’ available on [www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com)



Paul Murray  
Meriden, West Midlands





# In my own words

Readers' longer letters

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Stills from an amateur video showing the destruction of the historic synagogue in the Ukrainian city of Mariupol by Russian troops. Built in 1882, it had been commandeered by the Nazis in World War 2 but there were now plans to return it to the Jewish community. Recently it had become a site for remembrance for the local Jewish community; last October, it hosted an exhibition commemorating the 1941 massacre of Jews in the village of Agrobaza in the Donetsk region (Mariupol City Council/Telegram, via World Israel News, 18 May 2022)

## What God is saying about Ukraine

I suggest what God is saying to us re Ukraine includes the following:

1. God is shaking all the nations and their institutions (Haggai 2:6-7) including Russia and Ukraine.

2. God is giving us an insight into what a secular society is like, founded on atheism, where the Church simply justifies the attitudes of the current elite, and where "might is right". He is warning us what will happen if we let go of our Judeo-Christian foundations.

3. The Book of Revelation warns us of plagues, wars, famines, death and financial collapse; given so much personal and international debt, the latter must be close. What Revelation describes may well occur in cycles, but get more severe as the end times approach.

4. The spiritual battle: Ukraine had been experiencing a revival with David Hathaway playing a key role. The Russian Orthodox Church is allegedly led by a former KGB agent (Kirill) and persecutes all non-Orthodox Christians. This is an attack on the revival, but seems to have drawn many Ukrainians to seek the Lord (Romans 8:28).

### Ukraine has a history of severe anti-Semitism

5. The poverty of idolising man-made things: many have put their trust in international bodies such as the UN and EU, who have proved useless in stopping this war; others have trusted education, yet very educated people have launched this war; others trust in the might of weaponry, but it seems the spir-

it of the Ukrainians has been the crucial element, even from the viewpoint of secular commentators.

6. The policy of pandering to bullies to "buy" them off has been shown to encourage more aggression. We failed to heed the warnings of Putin's previous campaigns in Chechnya and Crimea and of the Russia he was creating. God defeats his enemies and chastises the penitent; he does not reward bad behaviour in the hope it will go away!

7. Ukraine has a history of severe anti-Semitism, as illustrated in Elinor Burkett's biography of Golda Meir's and statistics from World War 2. Genesis 12:1-3 and other curses need to be taken seriously by all peoples and nations and repentance on all levels is necessary.

8. War could spread to other nations – let us heed Jesus' warnings in Matthew 24 and call others to seek eternal security in him!



Rev Richard Hill, retired C of E minister Ludlow, Shropshire

## Devilish distractions



some places like Germany, still do have; most shops were closed from 2pm on Saturdays until Monday). That could help our nation return to thinking about God, and give God a chance to speak to us.

Of course sport is played on Sundays, and sports people get enormous salaries. If sport is played on Sundays I don't think they should do it for money.

Perhaps retailers could be discouraged from opening on Sundays by introducing a Sunday trading licence, varying according to how long the trader wanted to trade for, and size of premises.

I like what Marilyn Hickey said on TV one day: "Some people think they can be Christians two days a year – Easter and Christmas – and shall be victorious when a crisis hits their family. But you cannot play loose and free with God and expect to see the miraculous!"

It is no good saying, "God, I will stop and give you two minutes of my time between activity A and activity B."

That is an insult. We need to come into his presence in worship, wait on him, listen to him, and allow him to speak to us.

A SKY advert has just come through the post: "Fill your home with endless entertainment!"

We don't need TV all the time; we need God all the time! Sister Rosalind Markby Stratford, East London

It occurred to me recently that the devil knows that the end times are near, and therefore he was throwing everything at us to distract us from thinking about God.

About 15 years ago a survey found that the average person watched 19 hours of TV a week. Nineteen hours is nearly three hours a day.

But not only that, we now have laptops, notebooks, tablets, smartphones. Youtube, Instagram, WhatsApp, livestream, Facebook, Twitter, internet games played on anything –

every minute can be occupied!

In my early childhood we had no TV to take control of our eyes and ears.

Unless I am watching a Christian programme, I don't feel I can hear God when the TV is on and would welcome the TV being shut down from 11:30pm till 6:30am.

Fifty-one per cent of the population have said that they don't believe in God, and this figure will increase until we officially give God a proper place in our society. We need to regain an official weekly Sabbath, a day of rest like we used to have (and

## Christian investment

Most of us have pensions or savings accounts, so it is frustrating that even British companies have nearly zero info on suitable fund choices for Christians.

Fidelity, HSBC and others have "faith-based" trusts or funds, but these are either boldly stated to be "Islamic", or, more subtly, are called "Crescent" something.

This is Britain and our Queen is the defender of the Christian faith, so we want Christian choices that also give reasonable growth and profit.

It would be great if Christian funds and trusts, did not invest in companies that are:

1. Closely linked to countries and political organisations, which have violated human rights, and performed ethnic cleansing. (How about the Pacific Asia Christian values Equities ex-PRC fund, the Global Christian Flexi-Equities ex-PRC and ex-Russia fund, the Christian Global Properties fund?)

2. Involved in abortion, sex change, sex industries, genetic engineering (includes many vaccine companies and makers of GMO (genetically modified or-

ganism or GE genetic engineering) and drug abuse.

3. Cause pollution to the land, water and air.

4. Produce products or services which promote idols like Buddhism or occultic figures.

5. Headed by people who are anti-Bible and or anti-Jewish.

6. Media companies which have content violating Christian values.

Personally I like Genesis 1:29 (God's design blueprint) and Revelation 22:2 (his director's final cut), plus 2 Kings 19:29.

Who can produce a thorough guide to Christian investment and in-depth advice?

What else beyond Christian properties, co-op style building societies and property management trusts are possible?

Let's pray that there are many more good Christian investment companies and banks to start real Christian investment products, be it ISA, pension or savings fund. Stephanie Smith Polegate, East Sussex



# CREATION CORNER



by Geoff Chapman

**M**ammals come in many different shapes and sizes, and have colonised almost every part of our planet. Although most live on land, some are aquatic, and one kind (bats) can fly.

Evolution tells us that mammals evolved from reptiles. What does the evidence tell us?

## 1. No evidence that mammals' body hair evolved from reptile scales

Mammals have body hair (or fur). Many evolutionists claim that mammals evolved fur to keep them warm.

It is true that hair is an excellent insulator, but they have a problem explaining how mammals got their hair. They claim it evolved from reptiles' scales, possibly starting as sensitive whiskers, but there is no evidence for this.

There are important differences between reptilian scales and mammalian hair. Scales are rigid plates, and when reptiles moult the whole sheet of scales is discarded. Mammals' hairs (like birds' feathers) are rooted in the skin as individual follicles, and are lost singly when moulting. Both scales and hair have been found in the fossil record, but no evidence of hair evolution, despite more than a century of searching.



The oldest fossil mammal, the beaver-like *Castorocauda*, had fully developed hair

The oldest fossil mammal, a beaver-like creature named '*Castorocauda*', had fully developed hair. According to BBC News online (24 February 2006), this discovery "could challenge some current-



## THERE'S NO EVIDENCE FOR MAMMALS' FUR EVOLVING FROM REPTILE SCALES, NOR THAT THEIR JAW AND EAR BONES MIGRATED

ly accepted ideas on mammal evolution," partly because it is alleged to have lived "164 million years ago", yet it had hair, a beaver-like tail, strong arms for digging, and teeth like modern river otters.

The report continued: "Such advanced features have surprised many scientists. The mammals of the time were once thought to be largely primitive shrew-like creatures, scuttling at the feet of dinosaurs, and only flourishing when the dinosaurs died out some 65 million years ago."

In other words, the first mammals were

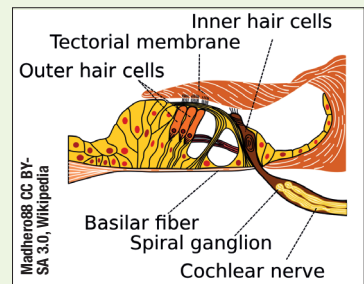
much like mammals are today, including hair.

## 2. No evidence for bones moving

Evolutionists also have "ear problems". All reptiles, living and fossil, have several jaw bones and only one ear bone, but all mammals, living and fossil, have only one jaw bone and three ear bones. How could a transitional creature eat or hear properly, while its bones were migrating from the jaw to the ear?

Another serious objection to evolution

Evolutionists think mammalian hair evolved from reptiles' scales; there is no evidence for this



Reptiles don't have the Organ of Corti, an essential hearing organ found in all mammals



Mammals' hairs such as in the raccoon are (like birds' feathers) rooted in the skin as individual follicles

Evolutionists have suggested they are adapted sweat glands, but this is just a guess — there is absolutely no evidence.

Sweat is actually a waste product, so how could sweat glands gradually evolve into mammary glands which produce milk, full of rich nourishment, and essential to the young mammals' survival? In any case, reptiles don't have sweat glands either!

The scientific evidence strongly points to special creation by God being the best explanation for the origin of mammals. More information from *Creation Resources Trust*: [www.crt.org.uk](http://www.crt.org.uk)



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June/July 2022



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christy@brightonelim.org.uk  
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### St Mary's Church

### WESTERGATE

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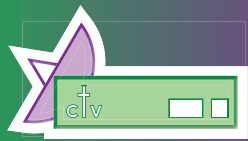
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