

CHRISTIAN WATCH

A PROTESTANT BIBLICAL WITNESS

“And what I say unto you

I say unto all, Watch”

Mark 13:37

NEWSLETTER

August 2009

CHRISTIAN WATCH

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To all Christian Watch Members

Dear Friends,

Greetings, once again, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. As we commence another letter to you, we feel the need of assistance from the God of all grace and wisdom,

Words cannot convey the solemnity of the times in which we are living. However, it is our mercy, that our Lord God is still on His throne and provides a secure and never failing refuge for all who put their trust in Him. We know not what the Lord has ordained for us during our remaining days upon earth. However, we increasingly observe that our religious liberty is being threatened, and persecution will inevitably follow, for those who stand firm for the Word of God. The Lord has said for our encouragement, *“My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness”*. (2 Corinthians 12:9) and the Apostle Paul, having received that grace could say in verse 10, *“Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ’s sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong”*. May we each be given faith to trust in the Lord at all times and in whatever experiences we may have to endure.

Those of us who are not directly involved with the more intricate affairs of the European Union are kept in ignorance of much that is taking place. This is the strategy of the un-elected Commissioners, who increasingly rule over us. We include three very revealing articles under the title **EU MATTERS** by Ashley Mote, who has recently resigned as an MEP. He deals with the influence of Communists, the funding of the EU and a summary of his final EU address. The progressive control of our nation by this undemocratic organisation is in effect no different to the control exerted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic on so many nations prior to its disintegration. Ashley Mote reminds us of what President Gorbachev said, *“The EU is the old Soviet Union dressed in western clothes”*. May the Lord deliver us from it.

You will no doubt be aware of the concessionary privileges recently promised to the homosexual fraternity, by the political leaders from the main parties. Their objective is an endeavour to win the homosexual vote, to help them obtain a governing majority in the next general election. We include information about this in the article **POLITICAL LEADERS COMPETE FOR THE PINK VOTE**. How solemn it is that few, if any, of our political leaders apparently have any understanding of either the laws of God or the inevitable consequences nationally, if such wickedness is condoned. This fact is further dealt with in an article entitled, **THE CURSE AND CONSEQUENCES OF HOMOSEXUALITY** which deals with the present conflict in the Anglican Communion of which the Church of England is a part. We are thankful there are those in our National Church, including the Bishop of Rochester, Dr. Nazir-Ali, who contended firmly for the Biblical position with regard to homosexuality.

The importance for us to defend the revealed will and laws of God, as given to us in the Bible - together with our Protestant heritage - cannot be over emphasised. We are being increasingly attacked on various fronts by the devil and his agents and as the time approaches for the return to this earth of the dear Lord Jesus Christ, he will be increasingly active, because he knows that his time is short. One of our Members in the USA, Pastor Kenneth C. Kemble, has provided us with an article entitled, **Stand Your Ground!** It is based upon an instructive event in scripture and provides much encouragement for us to stand firm for that which we believe, in spite of the threats and activities of those who promote and practice their wicked ways. If the Lord is with us, none can gain victory over us. We, therefore, are told to trust in Him at all times and then we shall gain the victory at last - which will be eternal bliss and happiness with Him who said, *“I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also”* (John 14: 2,3).

You will recall we announced in our June/July Newsletter that Andy Clarke had now joined our team to supervise and assist with the furtherance of our work throughout the United Kingdom. His title is ‘National Campaign Manager’ and in that capacity he requests your prayerful and practical support as and when

possible. We include details of the initial work Andy has been involved with, under the title, **Christian Watch Notice Board**. We hope to include this as a regular feature in our Newsletters.

We received a letter from one of our Members, Mrs. Margaret Wiltshire, who lives in Walton- on-Thames, Surrey in which she expresses her grief and concern over the state of so many of our churches as well as the state of our nation. We requested permission to publish this letter because we consider it summarises the experience of so many of the Lord's people at the present time, not only in the UK, but also in many other countries where the Word of God has in past times been faithfully proclaimed. This letter is included under the title, **OPEN LETTER TO CHRISTIAN WATCH**.

Our penultimate article is an exposition by the late Rev. J. Stevenson (1847) "**They shall praise the LORD that seek him**". We felt encouraged when reading this article to continue to seek for the Lord's mercy and help - in spite of our many personal concerns with regard to how we fulfil our duties and responsibilities, particularly as we have made a public profession of His great and holy Name.

Finally, we include a brief report of a recently published article in the Daily Mail under the heading **FURY AS BIBLE IS DEFACED IN THE NAME OF GAY RIGHTS ART**. To consider that this vile and blasphemous event took place in Glasgow using taxpayers money, illustrates the terribly solemn state our nation is in. We are presently investigating what we can do in order to counter this event and request your prayerful support. We plan to report further to you in our next Newsletter.

We wish you the Lord's blessing and thank you for your prayers and financial support for our endeavours.

Yours in the Lord's service,



David Crowter

Management Committee

Mr D Boyd; Mr M Brockes (Hon Treasurer/ Co Secretary); Mr A Busk; Mr D Crowter(Chairman);
Mr I Henderson; Mr R Jupp; Mr D Lawson; Mr M de Semlyen; Mrs J Cummins (Secretary).

EU MATTERS

By ASHLEY MOTE (ex MEP)

Communists Still At the Heart of EU/NATO Affairs

The Cold War may have ended nearly 20 years ago, but we are still a long way from being cleansed of former Soviet-trained communist collaborators working in the West.

At least two current European Commissioners were educated in the Soviet Union – Siim Kallas of Estonia and Dalia Grybauskaitė of Lithuania. Despite coming relatively recently to the EU, and from two of its tiniest and newest members, between them they have controlled the EU budget and the (pathetic) fight against corruption for the last five years.

Several other Commissioners were once communists and remain sympathisers to the hard left agenda. Until Peter Mandelson was recently replaced, he was one of them.

Cleansing former traitors and collaborators remains a top priority for the eastern end of the EU and, by implication, for all other members as well.

This continuing threat has been highlighted by recent events in Estonia.

Last week an Estonian official, Herman Simm, who passed Nato and other defence and diplomatic secrets to Russia was jailed for more than 12 years, ending what investigators called “the biggest ever spy scandal in Nato history”. For many years he worked in the Estonian Ministry of Defence and, amongst other things, was in charge of issuing security clearances. He almost certainly nodded through other Russian agents.

Since the Berlin Wall came down he continued to hold high office in the Estonian civil service, under successive governments. His access to secrets and policy at the highest levels continued up to his arrest in September 2008. It is inevitable that much information about policy developments and decisions being made in Brussels found their way straight to Moscow.

Herman Simm, now 61, studied in the Leningrad police academy before joining the Estonian Ministry of Defence. He handed over more than 2000 pages of information to his handlers in Russia’s SVR Foreign Intelligence Service, according to a document linked to the investigation. He was responsible for handling all of his country’s classified information at Nato, giving him access to every top-secret graded document from other NATO alliance countries.

A German official described the Russian penetration of Nato via Mr Simms as a ‘catastrophe’. He was not a relic from the days of Kim Philby. He was at the cutting edge of one of Nato’s most important new strategic missions: to defend the alliance against cyber-attack. He even headed government delegations in bilateral talks on protecting secret data flow. And he was an important player in devising EU and Nato information protection systems.

Estonia has been described as “Nato’s most IT-savvy nation”. That is undoubtedly why Estonia in particular has been lobbying hard to put cyber-defence on the Nato agenda, and had set up a Cyber Defence centre in Tallinn which was supposed to help the Alliance as a whole. That project has now been compromised.

Worse, no one now knows how and where to start again to rebuild Nato’s electronic defences against cyber-attack. They have to start again on the assumption the Russians, and others, know everything that was planned up to September 2008, and maybe are still being fed current information.

Recession Won’t Stop Taxpayers’ Money Pouring into EU

Ashley Mote’s question asked what urgent plans were being made to reduce the EU’s present and future budgets in the light of falls in all three revenue streams as the depression takes hold.

The European Commission confirmed that its massive stream of income from taxpayers is gold-plated. It will not be reduced because of the recession now strangling the world’s economy.

Dalia Grybauskaitė, the Moscow-educated Budget Commissioner from Lithuania, confirmed in a written answer to Ashley Mote that “when customs duties and VAT-cased revenue fall, the GNI (Gross National Income)-based own resource is automatically called in at a higher rate, so that total EU budget revenue remains sufficient to match total EU budget expenditure.”

Decoded, that means a collapse in the two sources of EU income based on each nation state's customs duties and a percentage of VAT collected will not result in a shortfall in EU income.

The total liability of each of the 27 countries remains the same. Each country has to find the difference between what was estimated originally to be their share of total EU expenditure, and what is now missing, regardless of the damage to their own economy and public finances.

We now know the answer is 'none'.

In other words, as the world falls into an economic blackhole, the EU expects to spin blithely past it. No doubt they are on their way to another planet!

European Parliamentary Elections in June produced a new crop of members. As I was not standing for re-election, I attempted to summarise in the one minute permitted what I thought voters ought to know before I left.

This is what I said:

"Over the last five years I have watch in horror the EU's endless, scandalous, institutionalised looting of taxpayers' money.

"I have watched in horror an already overcrowded UK deluged by hundreds of thousands of uninvited foreign workers who arrived for their benefit and to claim our welfare.

"I have watched in close-up a legislative system which permits anonymous bureaucrats to generate so-called law without any regard for the damage they do to the British economy and businesses.

"I have watched in close-up this expensive, ineffectual talking shop of a parliament masquerading as an elaborate illusion of accountable democracy – a monstrous deceit on the electors who sent us here.

"President Gorbachev was right. The EU is the old Soviet Union dressed in western clothes.

"One day you will realise you cannot be masters in someone else's house."

POLITICAL LEADERS COMPETE FOR THE PINK VOTE

David Cameron

David Cameron has publicly apologised for Section 28, the law introduced by the Thatcher government banning local authorities from promoting homosexuality.

The Tory leader, speaking at a “gay pride” event, went much further than before in apologising for decisions taken by the party when Baroness Thatcher was leader.

Mr Cameron, the first Tory Leader to speak at a “gay pride” event, said: “I am sorry for Section 28. We got it wrong. It was an emotional issue. I hope you can forgive us.”

Section 28, which became law in 1988, banned local authorities from spending any money portraying homosexuality in a positive light. It became a totemic (key) issue for Conservative modernisers. In 2003, when it was abolished by the Labour Government, Mr Cameron voted for only the partial lifting of the ban.

Mr Cameron was speaking at an event in London to support Margot James, the Tory candidate for Stourbridge, who is the party’s only open gay woman candidate. If she wins Stourbridge, one of the party’s key seats, she will be only the second openly gay woman in the House of Commons.

Mr Cameron said, “It is remarkable to have a Conservative leader standing on a gay pride platform. Five years ago not many gays would have turned up. Five years ago not many Tories would have turned up either.”

He said one of his ‘proudest’ moments as Tory leader was telling the annual party conference in 2006, that they had a duty to support a “commitment to marriage” among men and women, between a man and a man, and a woman and a woman.

Mr Cameron and the shadow cabinet have been on a charm offensive with the gay community as new research indicates for the first time since 1988 they have moved ahead of the Labour Party.

Last year Michael Goves, the shadow schools secretary, said that the party had got it badly wrong on the gay issues. “I think we indulged prejudice in the 1980s and missed the point,” he said, “It’s not gay men who are abusing women and abandoning children- it’s straight men.”

Ben Summerskill, the chief executive of Stonewall the gay rights organisation, said, “This is something people have waited on many years. It is a remarkable positive step forward. Without any doubt the legacy of Section 28, even after it was repealed in 2003, has been a great deal of electoral damage to the Conservatives among a significant number of people who would otherwise have been natural supporters.”

Gordon Brown

Gordon Brown’s policy on homosexual rights is based on the principal that “ you can’t legislate love”, he told Gay Pride march organisers.

The Prime Minister made the comments in a message of support to the organisers of this weekend’s march in London

Mr Brown’s wife Sarah is expected to join up to 1 million lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) marchers at Saturdays (04.07.09) parade.

Peter Tatchell, the prominent gay rights campaigner and founder of the group Pride, said he would march with Mrs Brown. He promised not to embarrass her despite an earlier row when he was not invited to a Downing Street reception for gay community leaders.

“Sarah’s participation is much appreciated, ”said Mr Tatchell, “I won’t embarrass her. I will be on my best behaviour. But I do plan to remind Sarah that she and Gordon were able to get married, whereas gay couples cannot. I hope Sarah will be persuaded that the time has come for marriage equality.”

Mr Tatchell said that the civil partnerships introduced by Labour for same-sex couples were “a form of sexual apartheid” because they institutionalised different marriage laws for heterosexual and homosexual people.

In his message to Pride London, Mr Brown described the creation of civil partnerships as one of a set of “massive strides towards equality” for the gay community made under the Labour Government. “I’m very proud of all that this Government has achieved on LGBT rights these last 12 years – often in the face of fierce opposition”, said the Prime Minister.

“But I also know that we quite simply couldn’t have done it without the activism of our out and proud LGBT community, so I hope you’re very proud of what your campaigning has achieved: you’ve changed laws, you’ve changed lives, you’ve changed the world”.

“Together we’ve done a lot- but we can never be complacent and must always be vigilant to see that progress isn’t reversed. This Government is committed to standing at your shoulder in the fight for equality and we guided by one very simple principle when it comes to LGBT rights: you cannot legislate love.”

With acknowledgements to The Daily Telegraph

CW Note: As we record these facts, how it reflects the judgement of God upon our nation, and our Political Leaders are blind to it.

THE CURSE AND CONSEQUENCES OF HOMOSEXUALITY

The practice of sodomy has resulted in the destruction of nations throughout the history of the world. The unalterable Word of God is very clear with regard to the inevitable consequences for all who either practice or condone it - unless repentance is manifest. A never-ending eternity is before the whole human race and a day of judgement, when all must appear before our God to give an account of our conduct in this life (*2Cor.5:10*). How solemn it is for those who fear God and are aware of the terrible consequences of sin without repentance, to witness the ever increasing promotion and acceptance of sodomy in our nation at the present time. Also, how grieving it is for those who have a concern for the future of our country, to witness the conflict on homosexuality which is taking place within the Anglican Communion - of which the Church of England is a part.

The 'TIMES online' reported on the 17th July that the bishops at their Episcopal Convention in the USA voted by 104 to 30 to develop theological resources and liturgies for blessing same sex marriages. It states, "*The resolution notes the growing number of states that allow gay marriage, civil unions and domestic partnerships, and gives bishops in those regions discretion to provide a generous pastoral response to couples in their local parishes.*" The decision on gay consecration and same sex blessings ends the uneasy truce agreed after the consecration of the openly gay Gene Robinson as Bishop of New Hampshire in 2003.

We are thankful that there are those in the worldwide Anglican Communion and particularly in the Church of England who oppose this development. The Archbishop of Canterbury expressed his regret over the decision of the Anglicans in the USA and said that it represented a blow to his hopes for Church unity. However, the Bishop of Rochester, Dr Michael Nazir-Ali has spoken out in defence of traditional Biblical teaching on homosexuality.

The following report, by the Religious Affairs Correspondent of Telegraph.co.uk, gives details of Dr Nazir-Ali's position:

"A senior Church of England Bishop has called on homosexuals to repent and 'be changed' in comments that have infuriated the equality campaigners. The Bishop of Rochester, Dr Michael Nazir-Ali has defended traditional Biblical teachings on homosexuality and said the Church should not be 'rolled over by culture'."

Dr Nazir-Ali spoke as tens of thousands of people, including Sarah Brown, the Prime Minister's wife, joined the annual Pride London march to celebrate homosexual culture.

The Bishop's controversial comments will re-ignite the battle over homosexuality in the Church of England.

A new coalition is being formed of evangelical and Anglo-Catholic parishes, backed by Dr Nazir-Ali, which critics have claimed is an attempt to create a "church within a church".

The organisers said the Queen, who is the Supreme Governor of the Church of England, had sent a message to the leaders of the movement saying she understood their concerns about the future of the Anglican Communion.

In an interview with the Sunday Telegraph, Dr Nasir Ali said, "*We want to uphold the traditional teaching of the Bible. We believe that God has revealed his purpose about how we are made.*"

"People who depart from this do not share the same faith. They are acting in a way that is not in accordance with what God has revealed in the Bible. The Bible's teaching shows that marriage is between a man and a woman. That is the way to express our sexual nature. We welcome homosexuals, we do not want to exclude people, but we want them to repent and be changed."

The Bishop added that it is not just homosexuals who need to repent, but all who had strayed from the Bible's teaching. He said: *"We want to hold on to the traditional teaching of the Church. We want to move for a renewal and we need a reformation of the Church and the life of the Communion."*

Dr Nazir Ali, who is resigning from his post in September, said there was a need for the new evangelical movement, called The Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans, because the church is already divided. *"We are two different sorts of religion,"* he said. *"One has a view of God and the Church and Christianity that is completely different to the other."* This was portrayed by comments made by the Rev Dr Giles Fraser, the president of the Inclusive Church, a liberal grouping in the Church of England, who said, *"Homosexuality is not a sin. It is the way many people love each other and is a gift from God. Ordinary people in the pews know this,"* he said, *"and they are a lot more theologically aware than the handful of narrow minded bishops who want to play politics with the Anglican Communion."*

Comment by Christian Watch

We grieve for all currently in the Anglican Church who the Lord has blessed with a gracious desire to follow in the footsteps of so many of their predecessors, who prayerfully conducted their lives in accordance with Bible teaching. These include those who faithfully ministered the Word of God, such as Dr. J. C. Ryle, John Newton, Isaac Watts and many others. We are thankful for the support of our Members in the Anglican Church, and pray they may be blessed in contending for the **'Old Paths'**, so clearly and graciously identified by the late Bishop Ryle of Liverpool, in his book with that title.

Christian Watch Notice Board

Activities

The London Local Group organised two witnesses. The first was at the launch of the London 'Gay' Festival opened and supported (with public funds) by London Mayor, Boris Johnson. This was received with the normal vitriol to be expected from many of our 'tolerant' homosexual friends. However, there were many encouragements from 'passersby' supportive of our stand.

The second witness was outside the National Portrait Gallery where the homosexual lobby were making their demands of the Government and Shadow Ministers.

However, this also proved an encouraging witness with many conversations and words of support. *We even had a member of the public joining in with us!*



The third witness was organised by the United Protestant Council at the main march on 4th July. There were approximately thirty five people there. THIRTY FIVE... out of a nation of sixty million of which 72% claim to be 'Christian'!

It is shameful that those who profess Christ are willing to silently 'pass by on the other side' whilst this moral perversion parades in our streets with 'Pride', and is openly taught in our schools as an acceptable 'alternative' to God's created and natural order.

Again this was blessed of the Lord with the Word of God being plainly seen *and* heard. In fact marchers kindly posted a twenty minute video on the internet for us!

WARNING: There is little (if any) censorship of the comments to these videos, which are therefore likely to include the profane.

<http://snipurl.com/gaypridevideo1> and <http://snipurl.com/gaypridevideo2>

These witnesses are not only done in obedience to the Lords command to preach the gospel to every creature (Mark 16:15), reprove, rebuke, exhort (2Tim 4:2) and contend (Jude 1:3); but to *encourage* the Lords people to be *active* in promoting His Word. Every year there are more and more banners, posters and floats aimed directly against this witness, showing that the Word of the Lord is a able to prick the conscience (John 8:9, Act 2:37) of even the most wicked.

Forthcoming Events

Conservative Party Conference – 5-8 October 2009

Together with the Church Society and Protestant Truth Society, this event provides us with a unique opportunity to present the biblical view to those who may well make up the next government.

Christian Watch Annual Public Meeting - 6 November 2009, 7:30pm

Ramada Hotel, Three Bridges, Crawley, East Sussex. RH10 8XH. Details in the next mailing.

New Releases

The 'Why Parliament Needs the Christian Faith' booklet will be available shortly either as a FREE online download or a low cost booklet (£2.00 inc p&p). You can secure copies from:

www.ParliamentNeedsChristianity.com or from CW, PO Box 3268,Leamington Spa, CV32 6YA

Appeals

To Prayer

Whilst we are a nation which deserves nothing but the Lords judgment, may He in His mercy and longsuffering, move amongst us once more, raising up *active* workers for His name and glory.

To Action Against 'Gay Pride' Marches (and EVERY other wickedness).

These London witnesses were organised within days using simple Biblical texts from the Trinitarian Bible Society, fixed to cardboard from fruit boxes and blue tack! Sometimes there were only four people witnessing, and yet these witnesses were blessed of God, with the Word preached, evil rebuked.... and even coverage in the national papers.

These abominable 'Gay Pride' events are all over the country. **If you'd like our help and provide assistance to organise a witness in your town please contact us NOW!**

To Join and/or support Local Groups

So rapid is the descent into depravity **it is imperative** that those who profess Christ are **constantly** active in spreading the truth. This is why we are working so hard organising events, training programmes and producing literature so that Christians and Churches can **constantly** be promoting the truth of God's Word in their area and... '*rise up for me (God) against the evildoers?*' ...and.... '*stand up for me (God) against the workers of iniquity?*' (Ps 94:16). Contact us **urgently** (form below) about how we can help you become more active in your area.

For Assistance

We have an ever increasing need of help and assistance so if you feel constrained to help in ANY way please don't be afraid to contact us.

Internet – We are looking for assistance with research on the internet, monitoring the news, posting comments and videos, using the social media (Facebook, Myspace etc), writing blog posts and much more. Don't be intimidated, basic knowledge is all that's needed to start with.

Research and Writing – We are seeking people who are knowledgeable in specific areas to help with research, literature preparation and production. If you have this knowledge, or know anyone who does, please be sure to contact us urgently.

Andy Clarke

Email: andy@christianwatch.org.uk

Tel: 0870 1996797



Local Group Response Form

I hereby confirm my willingness to discuss with Andy Clarke what can be done in my local area, in an endeavour to stem the tide of evil and wickedness by promoting the Word of God.

Full Name:			
Address:			
	Post Code:		
Telephone:			
Email:			

Return to: Christian Watch, P.O. Box 2113 , Nuneaton, CV11 6ZY

Stand Your Ground!

By Pastor Kenneth C. Kemble - USA

In 2 Samuel 23:11-12 we read of Shammah, the son of Agee the Hararite, one of David's mighty men:

"And after him was Shammah the son of Agee the Hararite. And the Philistines were gathered together into a troop, where was a piece of ground full of lentiles: and the people fled from the Philistines. But he stood in the midst of the ground, and defended it, and slew the Philistines: and the LORD wrought a great victory."

In this passage, we read that the Philistines were advancing against the Israelites, and they were after a piece of land that was full of lentils.

The Israelites – to their shame – fled from before the Philistines in fear. Only Shammah remained to defend the land. But God was with him, and he stood successfully against the enemy.

Shammah was one of the three chief men among David's Mighty Thirty. His name means "astonishment," which usually has a bad connotation to it, but in this case I believe it refers to his awesome fortitude, and that which he was capable of doing to the enemy. His father's name, Agee, means "I shall increase," and Hararite means "mountain dweller." Therefore shall his increase be awesome!

Shammah stood firm *"... and the LORD wrought a great victory."*

Today – just as it was back then – there are still comparatively few Shammahs in Israel. Political correctness has beaten the people of God down to the point where there are few today who will stand up for what is right, for fear of being persecuted. And the ones who will actually stand up for what is right, often find themselves standing all alone in the middle of the field.

This has got to change! When the enemy comes against God, against His Holy people, and against His Holy Word, we have got to ***stand firm*** upon the ***fruitful field of God's Holy Word***, and ***not give up one single lentil to the enemy!***

It is high time Israel found its backbone, and stood up against the onslaught of the enemy that is besieging us in this evil day. For if we do not stand up and defend the Kingdom of God and His Holy Word, we do not deserve His blessing or His protection.

There is no room for compromise in this battle between good and evil!

"Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just; And this be our motto, 'In God is our Trust!'"

Therefore let us stand our ground, ye men of Israel; for all that we hold dear is at stake! But more than that – let us not be content to merely stand our ground, but let us also ***advance*** upon the enemy and ***take his country back for Christ! Onward Christian soldiers!***

It is time to build this crumbling building back up, and restore the walls that are broken down! Let us be about our Father's business! Let us take the two-edged Sword of the God's Word in our hand (for we wrestle not against flesh and blood – Ephesians 6:12) and go forth to battle at His direction! Let us build up the Holy Kingdom of God!

Stand your ground and ***defend that which is worth defending!*** And see if God will not once again bring about a great victory!

OPEN LETTER TO CHRISTIAN WATCH

(From a concerned Christian Watch Member)

1 July 2009

Dear Christian Watch,

Yes, I am totally committed to the Lord; but He has led me along the 'Way of Love', not weak and woolly, but after being 'cut out' from everything I previously thought important. That is the circumcision of the heart, following after Abraham, who was called out from amongst those worshipping other gods. So I was led to a charismatic church and teaching. Sadly things went wrong – and the Lord called me out from there for my own protection.

Although I have tried many other churches – He has led me out, again and again. He would rather that I be alone with Him than be conformed to the world's way of thinking and unbelief in the Bible and the necessity to let it transform you.

Slowly, slowly, He is leading me to others who love Jesus – and there is no law against love.

I too am appalled by what is happening in this country; but I believe that the lack of a true knowledge of Jesus in our churches – and a total ignorance of the power of the Holy Spirit, is far more serious. This is the reason why sin has so abounded, because there are so few to call for restraint.

People prefer a soft human-led church, lacking in power; for where God is, there is conviction of sin. And all sin is sin. There is not one sin that is worse than another (although in our human eyes, this is so). But in God's kingdom, a lack of love for Him and refusal to obey Him are rebellion.

That is why my first call is to the church – and I have tried, but they refuse to listen to me. With a transformed church, we would have places to which the Lord could direct those who are seeking Him. The main problem, contrary to how it looks, is not the people out there, but those within church walls – the self-righteous, the ignorant, the unrepentant and the rebellious.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Wiltshire

PS I weep over the state of the church in this land.

“They shall praise the LORD that seek him”

Psalm 22 v 26 (Part)
An exposition by the Rev. J. Stevenson (1847)

The mind of Christ on the cross appears to dwell with delight on the thought, that his people shall experience what he himself enjoys. He had now tasted of his Father's goodness, and was satisfied; and it seems to be with gratification that he declares concerning the meek, "*that they also shall eat and shall be satisfied.*" He had likewise earnestly sought the favour of God, and had given thanks that he had found it; and now he turns from his own joy to that of his disciples, as if his were not complete without theirs, and says, "*They shall praise the Lord that seek him.*"

It is declared by the Redeemer, "*Seek, and ye shall find,*" Matt 7:7. The command is imperative. The promise is faithful. The performance, therefore, ought to be sincere and persevering. "*Ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart,*" Jer. 29:13. The true seeker of God shall become a finder of real joy. He may not now be able to rejoice, but in due time he shall praise the Lord. As it was with Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane, the seeker may be in anguish of spirit; he may have a most bitter cup to drink; his will may be strong against it; yet will he not faint. Again, and again, and again, will he seek the Lord; and though he may not be able to praise him with joyful lips, yet will he praise him with a submissive heart, and strive to render also the substantial praise of obedience. Or, again, like Jesus on the cross, the seeker may be so enveloped in darkness, that he may be constrained to cry, "*Why has thou forsaken me?*" Yet will he continue to seek, and search, and seek again, with all his heart. He will cry, entreat, beseech, use every argument which wisdom or necessity can suggest, and will follow up all by an unceasing importunity of earnestness.

Let the seeker remember for his encouragement that he is not alone. He has an all-prevailing Intercessor. Christ had no advocate on his side, yet he persevered till he prevailed. Having, therefore, such an High Priest at the throne of grace, we should draw near with boldness. Christ is worthy of the fullest confidence. Like Christ, too, every true seeker shall find, and shall praise the Lord. There is no doubt on this point. The promise is as express as the command. "*I said not unto the seed of Jacob, Seek ye me in vain*" Isa. 45:19. The wrestler shall become a prevailer. Jacob shall be named Israel. The beggar shall become a bestower. He gets blessings, and he gives praises. Thus shall it be with every one who seeks the Lord, not only with all his heart, not only perseveringly, but also in the right time.

The Scripture addresses every man and says, "*Seek ye the LORD while he may be found,*" Isa 55:6. There is a period approaching when it shall be too late. God has limited a certain day, saying in David, "*To-day, if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts. Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation,*" Heb. 4:7; 2 Cor 6:2. Christ wept over Jerusalem, because she let slip the period allotted to her. God declares regarding many, "*They shall seek me early, but they shall not find me,*" Prov 1:28. Let this warning rouse the slothful professor. Let it alarm the careless sinner. Should he inquire, "But how shall I seek the Lord?" We reply, first, by earnest, secret prayer. This is a work which cannot be engaged in by any friend in your stead. It is a personal seeking. If your own heart be not engaged in it, you can obtain no blessing. Let secret, earnest, private prayer, be daily exercised by you. Cause constant ejaculations to ascend, wherever you are, and howsoever occupied. Remember that prayer is the first, and most needful part of your duty in seeking the Lord. But neglect not other means. Seek God in his church, in the assembly of his people. Where his word is preached, and spiritual worship ascends, he is present to bless. There fail not to meet your Lord, that you may obtain his blessing. Seek him also by diligent reading of the Holy Scriptures, which are as a lamp to guide you to his presence. Seek the Lord by all the means of grace, and the ordinances of his appointment; but rest not in the mere use of means. Ask of the Spirit of God to make them helps, otherwise they shall prove hindrances. Above all, and along with all, seek the Lord by faith. Believe that he is willing to reveal himself to you. Be persuaded that he is not far from you; that he notices your every inquiry. Believe that he is more willing to hear than you are to pray, more ready to give than you are to ask. Such faith honours God. It prevails. Those who place confidence in God shall never be confounded. "*They shall praise the LORD that seek him.*" In the flesh you shall praise God. You shall find him to be a Father, a Preserver, a Friend, a Saviour, a Comforter. With the fleshly body, all seeking shall be put off. Then praises of the Lord, which commenced in time with feebleness, shall be resumed with immortal vigour, and the arches of heaven shall resound with the music of eternal gratitude!

FURY AS BIBLE IS DEFACED IN THE NAME OF GAY RIGHTS ART

By Graham Grant, Home Affairs Editor
Daily Mail 22nd July (article abbreviated)

Visitors to a taxpayer-funded art exhibition are being urged to vandalise the Bible, sparking outrage among Scottish church leaders. The organisers have provided pens to enable people to scrawl obscene messages over the text, which is dismissed as 'just a book'.

The aim is to allow gays and transsexuals, disillusioned by mainstream religion, to vent their frustration by defacing the holy book.

The anti-Bible show, called **Made in God's Image** has been organised by the controversial Culture and Sport Glasgow body, a council funded arts and leisure charity and is part of a project costing taxpayers £7,000. It aims to explore the intersection of sexuality and religion

Senior figures in both Christian and Muslim communities called for the disgraceful show at Glasgow's Gallery of Modern Art to be axed and for the organisers to be sacked.

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