

CHRISTIAN WATCH

A PROTESTANT BIBLICAL WITNESS

"And what I say unto you

I say unto all, Watch"

Mark 13:37

NEWSLETTER

JUNE/JULY 2011

June/July 2011

CHRISTIAN WATCH

To all Christian Watch Members

Dear Friends,

We greet you in the Saviour's holy and blessed Name. How important it is for us to know Him personally by His merciful dealings with us. We need to be more than nominal Christians for unless we are born again by the work of the Holy Spirit within us, we shall never be in possession of that new heart and new spirit which the Lord gives to everyone of His people - to replace the stony heart, which we all possess by nature. (Ezekiel 36:25-27).

The Lord has, in His great mercy, spared us to communicate with you again and whilst we know not what the events of any future day may bring upon us, we are told, "*Take therefore no thought for the morrow.*" Matt. 6:34. Faith is the important element in our hearts and minds, enabling us to trust and believe in the goodness and mercy of a heavenly Father, who always knows what is best and necessary for us. We are exhorted in 1 Peter 5:7 "*Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you*". In line with these thoughts, we include an extract from the works of the late John Flavel entitled, **THE SINNER DIRECTED TO THE SAVIOUR**. He bases his remarks upon the text, "*Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world*" (John 1:29) and explains, with various examples, that which the Lord Jesus Christ is to His people. He then provides words of encouragement for the benefit of those who feel cast down by their sins, their hardness of heart and unbelief. We are told, "*Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.*" Proverbs 3:5.

We observe many issues and events in our nation which confirm the Lord is bringing us increasingly into judgement because of our rejection of His Word and commandments. It is also very evident that many other nations, who were once favoured with material prosperity, are now coming into increasing judgement because of their tolerance and promotion of the sin of Sodom. We include an article entitled, **Welcome to Eurabia**, published on www.ynetnews.com. The statistics quoted illustrate the rapid growth of the Muslim population, particularly in the United Kingdom, where it is estimated it will exceed 50% by 2050.

We include a second article on the subject of the progressive influence of the Muslims, entitled **London serves as Islamic Hub for Radicalising Muslims** - published by www.telegraph.co.uk. It reveals some solemn developments which have taken place in the London area. This information, and other news items we receive, are a cause of much concern to us for the future of our children and young people and, more particularly, with regard to the persecution of Christians which regularly takes place in those countries, where the Muslim population is in the majority. This article reveals the vast amounts which, it is reported, are being paid by the British Government to some of the high risk Muslims, who have been returned to the United Kingdom from the USA. In addition, it reveals a considerable amount of information which has not previously been publicised.

Another recent development of which we have been advised is that Jews, Israelis or people carrying any non-Islamic "article of faith", such as Bibles, will not be permitted to fly from the USA to Saudi Arabia by either the American, Delta Air Lines or Saudi Arabian Airlines. This new arrangement, which is scheduled to commence in 2012, will mean that a Christian person, visiting Saudi Arabia on business, will have their Bible confiscated, even if they are only carrying one for personal use. These developments are a warning to us concerning the future, if the Islamic religion is imposed upon us by the Muslims achieving a population majority. Their plan for this is detailed in the previous article, **Welcome to Eurabia**.

The fulfilment of the prophecies concerning Israel continue to be in evidence by the various events currently taking place in the world. The present policy of the United Nations, and particularly that of the American President, is to re-establish the Arabs into parts of

Jerusalem. The Lord God has left a warning on record to every nation and people who attack Jerusalem in that prophetic period of His solemn judgements. We read in the book of the prophet Zechariah chapter 14:11-12 "*And men shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited. And this shall be the plague wherewith the Lord will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth.*" We include an article entitled, **THE CANARY IN THE COAL MINE**, by Dr. Michael Evans from 'Jerusalem Prayer Group' in which he deals with the events currently taking place in the Middle East and particularly in those countries that surround Israel. An interesting article by **Corrie Ten Boom** (a holocaust survivor), who gives her thoughts on persecution, is also included.

Whilst the recent rain in the UK has partially relieved some of the problems experienced by the months of drought, there continues to be a water shortage in many areas. It is reported that the wheat crops will yield much less grain than normal, because of the lack of moisture in the soil. The drought situation has affected many areas and we include an article by an Australian News web-site entitled, **MILLIONS FACE FOOD POVERTY AS NORTHERN EUROPE IS HIT BY WORST DROUGHT IN 35 YEARS**. The solemn effect upon livestock and agricultural crops are detailed, as also is the estimated consequential costs to the public for the purchase of many foods. Is not this further evidence of the Lord's judgements upon us because of our constant rejection of the commandments He has given us for our benefit? May we carefully and prayerfully take heed to the warnings the Lord is increasingly giving and may we not be backward in conveying the same to others, as and when opportunity allows.

The situation in Nigeria continues to cause considerable concern. We include an article by Release International as a Prayer Alert, entitled **NIGERIA – Pastor killed amid rising Islamist militancy in Borno**. It details some of the terrible atrocities taking place in that country. We pray for our colleagues there and also for the dear children who attend their school for orphans. May the Lord watch over them and preserve them from harm.

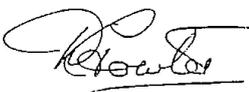
We consider it important as professing Christians to do all we can to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered unto the saints (Jude 3). Many of our Members share our concern to do all within their ability, in fulfilment of this requirement. In order to assist our Members in this endeavour, we plan in future, with the Lord's help, to include in our Newsletters requests for appropriate Biblical action to be taken to deal with current issues. We will identify these and recommend the action we suggest should be taken, for example, writing a letter to your local media or Member of Parliament.

Andy Clarke continues with his articles on Christian Responsibility, this month dealing with Lord's exhortation to 'Love thy neighbour as thyself'.

Finally, we wish to correct a false rumour that has been circulating concerning our views on women engaging in public prayer. Whilst we have no objection to a woman praying or speaking in a meeting with only women present, we believe it to be unscriptural for women to engage in public prayer if men are present. We are told in 1 Corinthians 14:34 "*Let your women keep silence in the churches, for it is not permitted unto them to speak*".

May the Lord bless you with all the help and support you need in these solemn times.

I remain, yours in His service,



David Crowter

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

THE SINNER DIRECTED TO THE SAVIOUR

An Extract from John Flavel (1628 – 1691)

From The Sower 1882

“Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.” John 1:29

These are the words of John the Baptist; and they were spoken in consequence of the question which was asked of him by the Jews, “Who art thou?” The humble prophet confessed, “I am not the Christ;” and on the next day, seeing Jesus coming to him, he exclaimed, “Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.”

Since the Redeemer left the world, He is not to be seen with an eye of flesh; but believing on Him is seeing Him by the eye of faith; and every one who thus seeth the Son, and believeth on Him, shall have everlasting life (John 6:40).

Jesus Christ Himself has pronounced a blessing on those who “have not seen and yet have believed” (John 20:29); and this blessedness is well described by the Apostle Peter, when he says, “Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see Him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory” (1 Peter 1:8). It is a disparagement to so glorious an Object as Christ to behold Him and not wonder – to see, and not love Him. Certainly, the admiration, love, delight, and joy of our hearts are all at the command of faith. Let us, therefore, consider what excellencies are in Christ for the eye of the believer to behold and admire.

1. **“God was in Christ”** (2 Cor. 5:19). He was “God manifest in the flesh” (1 Tim 3:16). A God incarnate is the world’s wonder. Here is Infinite and finite joined in one; the Creator and creature united in one Person. It is an argument of weakness to admire little things, and of stupidity not to admire great things. Many miracles were wrought by Christ in the flesh, but the greatest of all miracles was, that He “was made flesh and dwelt among us (men)” (John 1:14).
2. **“Christ is the wisdom of God”** (1 Cor. 1:24); yea, “in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge” (Col. 2:3). Never did the divine wisdom display its glorious beams in the eyes of men and angels, in any work since the beginning of time, as it hath done in the appointment of Christ to be the Lamb of God, a sacrifice for sin. “Behold the Lamb of God!” and in Him behold the unsearchable wisdom of God, in recovering sinners who believe in Him from all the danger of sin; and yet making sin more dreadful to them, by the way of their recovery from it, than ever it could be made by any other consideration. Behold the depth of infinite wisdom in suiting the sinner’s remedy to the cause of his disease. The disease was the pride of man; the remedy was the humiliation of the Son of God. Man affected to be as God; *that* ruined him. God was manifested in the flesh, and found in fashion as a man; *that* saved him. Oh, profound wisdom, which, from the loss and ruin of our primitive glory (which was the undoing of us, soul and body), takes the occasion of raising us up to a far better state, and settles us in it, with a much better security than the former.
3. **The love of God is in Christ.** “Behold the Lamb of God!” and in Him behold the love of God, in the highest and most triumphant discovery that ever was or can be made of it in this world. “Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the Propitiation for our sins” (1 John 4:10). Oh, here is the love of God to sinners! God manifests love to us in our daily

provisions, protection, deliverances, and comforts; that we have health when others groan under pains – herein is love: that we have bread to eat when others are ready to perish – herein is love! Oh, but to have Christ to be a Propitiation for us, when the angels that fell were left in their fallen state, herein is love indeed! All the love that appears in the variety of providences for us in this world, in our health and estate, in our relations and comforts, is nothing compared with this love: herein is love indeed!

4. **The tender mercies of God over poor sinners are in Christ.** As Christ is the mercy promised (Luke 1:72), the capital mercy, so He is the channel through which all the streams of God's mercy flow freely to the sons of men (Jude 21). The mercy of God to eternal life, or His saving mercies, are only dispensed to us through Jesus Christ. "Behold the Lamb of God!" – a Lamb prepared by the astonishing mercy of God; a sacrifice for us, when no sacrifice was appointed for fallen angels! This is the Lamb of God, to which, under the Jewish dispensation, all legal sacrifices had respect, and from which they derived all their virtue and value. The paschal lamb and the lamb for daily sacrifice were but the types and shadows of this Lamb of God. Behold the Person appointed by God for a sacrifice to take away sin. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was crucified for us. He shed His precious blood and offered up His life, a sacrifice to God of a sweet-smelling savour, "that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). As the sprinkling of the blood of the paschal lamb upon the door-posts of the Israelites was that which preserved them from the destroying angel, so the blood of Christ, the Lamb of God, typified by that blood, saves all who believe on Him from the wrath to come. Thus Christ, the Son of God, prevents the destroying angel executing the fierceness of His Father's anger, and preserves them as His people, that they may enter into the land of Canaan, the everlasting rest. But who can open the unsearchable riches of Christ, or recount His wonderful excellencies? Angels, and the spirits of just men made perfect, behold and admire Him for evermore. Heaven would be no heaven for them if they could not behold Christ there, sitting as a King in His perfect beauty, on His holy hill of Zion.

But let us rather proceed to improve this subject than endeavour further to unfold it; for new wonders will appear in Christ, if we behold Him through the countless ages of eternity.

- Oh, sinner, if you are sensible of a stony, hard heart, which cannot relent and mourn for all the wrong done to Jesus Christ by sin – that your affections are benumbed and stupefied, so that no considerations you can urge upon your own hearts are able to cause a relenting pang – to you I would direct these encouraging words, as the most effectual means to melt your heart. Look hither. "*Behold the Lamb of God!*" Consider what is here represented, and thy heart is hard indeed if it relent not upon such a view of Christ. It is said (Zech. 12:10), "They shall look upon Me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for Him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for Him, as one that is in bitterness for his first-born." Behold the Son of God, brought "as a Lamb to the slaughter" for thee, a vile, polluted sinner! Bring thy thoughts close to this subject – think who it is that was made a Lamb for sacrifice; for whom He endured all His unspeakable sufferings; how meekly and willingly He endured all the wrath of God and men, standing in His perfect innocency, to be slain for thee. Behold, He who had no sin was made sin for thee, that thou, who hadst no righteousness, mightest be made the righteousness of God in Him (2 Cor. 5:21). Oh, whoever loved thee at such a rate as Christ hath done? Who would endure

the misery that Christ endured for thy sake? Would thy father, or the wife of thy bosom, or thy friend that is as thy own soul, be content to feel that for thee, though but for one hour, which Christ felt, when “His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground?” (Luke 22:44). Nay, thou wouldst thyself never taste such a cup for the saving of thy own child as Christ drank of to the very last dregs when He cried, “My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?” Behold how He loved thee! Surely, if the rocks rent asunder at His sufferings, thy heart is harder than rock if it thaw not at such a sight as this. Fix thine eyes awhile here, and thine eye will affect thine heart.

- Oh, sinner [for whom Christ died], are you making light of sin, and easily overcome by every temptation to the commission of it? Oh, come hither: *“Behold the Lamb of God,”* and you cannot possibly have slight thoughts of sin after such a sight of Christ. See here the price of sin! Behold what cost the Son of God to atone for it! Did He come into the world as a Lamb, bound with the bands of an irreversible decree, to die for sin? Did he come from the bosom of His Father to be thy Ransomer, and that at the price of His own life? Did the hand of divine justice shed the heart-blood of this immaculate Lamb, to satisfy for the wrong thy sins have done to God, and yet canst thou look upon sin as a light matter? God forbid! Thy sin actually cost the blood of Christ, one drop whereof is more valuable than all human blood; and yet wilt thou not deny thy lusts, nor resist temptation for His sake: *“Behold the Lamb of God”* slain for thy sin, and thou canst never have slight thoughts of sin any more.
- Are you drooping and discouraged in your spirit because of your manifold and aggravated iniquities, and sinking into despair from being overwhelmed with the burden and weight of your sins? These words are a sovereign cordial to revive your heart and hopes – *“Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world!”* If the blood of the Lamb can take away the sin of the world, it can take away thy sin, though there be a world of sin in thee; for do but consider Christ, as appointed from eternity to be our Propitiation: “Him hath God the Father sealed;” as sacrificed in our room in the fullness of time – “Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us” (1 Cor. 5:7); as accepted by the Father with the greatest content and pleasure, even “as a sweet-smelling savour” (Eph. 5:2); as publicly justified and discharged by God, the Creditor, at His resurrection (1 Tim. 3:16, and John 16:10); and, lastly, consider Him as now in heaven, where He “appears in the presence of God for us,” as “a Lamb that had been slain” (Rev; 5:6), bearing the very marks of His death, and presenting them before God as the most effectual and moving plea, to procure pardon and mercy for His people. Let these things, I say, be duly pondered, and nothing will be found more effectual to relieve your mind, under the desponding sense of your sins.
- Are you faint-hearted, and ready to shrink from any sufferings for Christ, as unable to bear and endure anything for His sake? *“Behold the Lamb of God!”* Did Christ suffer such grievous things for you, and cannot you suffer small matters for Him? Alas! What is the wrath of man to the wrath of the great and terrible God? Besides, Christ was an innocent Lamb, and deserved not to suffer the least degree of penal evil upon His own account; but you have deserved Hell, and yet shrink under the sufferings of a moment. Did He suffer so much for you, and can you suffer nothing for Him? Surely He, in suffering for you, has left you an example “that ye should follow His steps” (1 Pet. 2:21). Are our sufferings to be compared, in kind or degree, to the sufferings of Christ? Or what is our blood to the blood of Christ? Remember, “if we have been planted

together in the likeness of His death, we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection” (Rom. 6:5). Like Christ, you must endure the cross, and despise the shame, for the joy that is set before you.

- Are you impatient under your personal trials and troubles, apt to grieve under common afflictions, or to swell with revenge under injuries from the hands of men? *“Behold the Lamb of God!”* “As a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He openeth not His mouth” (Is. 53:7). And can you bear nothing without complaining? How meek was Christ the Lamb when He suffered most vile things from the hands of sinners! And art thou a lion for fierceness? He suffered patiently, and deserved it not; you suffer impatiently, and have deserved what you suffer. Oh, that you would learn to be more like Christ in all your trials and afflictions!
- Lastly. Are you “staggering at the promises through unbelief”? Can you not rely upon the Word of promise, because your own unbelieving heart fills you with unworthy suspicions of the power, faithfulness, or willingness of God to perform it for you? *“Behold the Lamb of God!”* “For all the promises of God in Him are yea, and in Him Amen, unto the glory of God by us (2 Cor. 1:20). Or, is there anything put into any promise of greater value than the blood of the Lamb that was shed to purchase it? Or, is not the giving of Christ to die for us the accomplishment of the greatest promise that ever God made to us? And after the fulfilment thereof, what ground remains for you to doubt the fulfilling of lesser promises, for, “if God spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? (Rom. 8:32)

“Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world!”

WELCOME TO EURABIA

**-as Muslim population mushrooms, we may be seeing
the last days of Europe as we know it**

We are living through the self-extinction of the European civilization that shaped the age we live in. In his new bestselling book “Civilization,” renowned Harvard historian Niall Ferguson writes: “If the Muslim population of the UK were to continue growing at an annual rate of 6.7% (as it did between 2004 and 2008,) its share of the total UK population would rise from just under 4% in 2008 to 8% in 2020, to 15% in 2030 and to 28% in 2040, finally passing 50% in 2050.”

Ferguson is not alone in using the term “Eurabia” to describe an Islamicised, aging European continent. Historian Bat Ye’or spent her career studying the phenomenon and Professor Bernard Lewis told German daily Die Welt that “Europe will have Muslim majorities at the latest by the end of the 21st Century.”

The global number of Muslims is expected to jump by 35% in the next 20 years, growing twice as fast as the non-Muslim population, according not to these “Eurabia mongers,” but to the famous US Pew Forum, which published projections of Muslim population growth between 2010 and 2030.

The most frightening figures are in Europe. Some of the biggest increases in Europe’s Muslim population in absolute numbers over the next 20 years are expected to occur in

the United Kingdom, France, Italy and Germany. The Muslim populations in Italy and Sweden are projected to “more than double in size”. The President of the Italian Episcopal Conference warned about Italy’s “slow demographic suicide” and a representative of the Vatican’s missionaries warned that “Europe will be dominated by Islam in the space of a few generations.”

A low European fertility rate, massive immigration from Muslim countries and a confident Islamist minority are turning the cradle of Western civilization into its grave. As historian Walter Laqueur has warned, these are “the last days of Europe.”

Losing precious gifts

All over Europe, the number of births has dropped in comparison to the number of deaths year after year. For a stable population, a nation needs a fertility rate of 2.1 live births per woman; that’s roughly the case in America. Israel has a significant 2.6 rate. Meanwhile, Italy shows one of the world’s lowest levels of fertility: 1.3. Canadian journalist Mark Steyn, author of “America Alone,” has warned that at the end of the 21st century there may “still be a geographical area on the map marked as Italy,” but this will “merely be designation for real estate.”

While Austria was 90% Roman Catholic in the 20th Century, Islam could make up the majority religion among Austrians under 15 years of age by 2050, says American journalist Christopher Caldwell. In the four largest cities of the Netherlands – Amsterdam, Rotterdam, The Hague and Utrecht – Mohammed, with the variations of Mohamed and Muhammad, is the leading name among newborns. The same is true for the European Union’s capital, Brussels.

Elsewhere, only 3.2% of Spain’s population was foreign-born in 1998. Now it is more than 15%. According to the Pew Forum, France’s Muslim population will increase from the current 4.7 million to 6.9 million by 2030. Indeed, demography is changing all European cities. The populations of Amsterdam, Brussels and Marseille are between 20 and 25% Muslim; Birmingham, Cologne, Copenhagen, London, Paris, Rotterdam, Stockholm, Strasbourg and The Hague are between 10 and 20% Muslim; Berlin, Hamburg and Vienna are between 5 and 10%.

The problem is that the fastest-breeding demographic group in Europe is also the most religious and the one most resistant to the pieties of a liberal democracy. It is not difficult to imagine how this confrontation between a European atheistic apathy and an Islamist theological turmoil will end.

The Muslim Brotherhood runs most European mosques. Its front groups are courted by Western governments and media. Europe is one of their priorities. They call it “dar al shaadi”, the land mission. Yusuf al Qaradawi, the most famous guru of the Brotherhood, spoke clearly: “Islam will return to Europe, not by the sword, but with proselytism.”

Europe risks losing all its precious gifts - human dignity, freedom of conscience, freedom of religion, freedom of expression, rule of law, separation of state and mosque. Across Europe there are dozens of journalists, cartoonists and writers who are living under terrorist threats.

The latest WikiLeaks files revealed that at least 35 Guantanamo terrorists were radicalised in London mosques before being sent to fight the West. In the UK, there are 80 sharia courts operating like a legal apartheid within common law. These courts are based on the rejection of the principle of inviolability of human rights. The courts

formalise the “talaq,” the repudiation of the wife by the husband, polygamy, the right to “rebuke” wives and the prevention of intermarriages.

Jews a barometer of tolerance

Holland – with all of its rules against discrimination – is already a segregated society. The biggest mosques in Europe frame the vibrant green, luxuriant, wooded, watery Dutch countryside. At the Zuidplein Theatre, one of the most prestigious in Rotterdam, an entire balcony was reserved for Muslim women. This is not happening in Pakistan or Saudi Arabia, but in the city where the Founding Fathers set out for the United States.

The Economist, a publication far from anti-Islamic ideas, spoke of Rotterdam as a “Eurabian nightmare.” This nightmare is threatening the Jews too. Anti-Semitism in Western Europe last year was “the worst since World War II”, according to the Jewish Agency. It will only worsen in the future. Books such as ‘Mein Kampf’ and ‘The Protocols of the Elders of Zion’ are prominently displayed bestsellers in Muslim stores on Edgware Road in the heart of London.

Let’s not forget Ilan Halimi, a young Jewish man from Paris, kidnapped and tortured without anyone intervening in the surrounding apartments of the housing complex. Residents heard Halimi’s screams, but didn’t say a word.

In Sweden, a country described by The Guardian as “the greatest success the world has known,” Jews are leaving large cities such as Malmo due to security reasons and anti-Semitic attacks. Dutch liberal guru Frits Bolkestein just sparked an uproar in the Netherlands by saying that Jews have “no future here and should emigrate to the US or Israel.”

The famous Holland of Baruch Spinoza, the shelter of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews who fled the Inquisition, is making way for a realm of fear, intimidation and subjugation. Jews are also fleeing Antwerp, the city once proudly called “the Northern Jerusalem.”

Anti-Semitism is an eruption of barbarism into our civilisation and the Jews have always been a barometer of tolerance. When the Jews will be gone from Amsterdam and Antwerp, nothing will be the same in Europe. We should not be surprised if, one day, under the Eurabian banner, these new Europeans will try to expel the descendants of the Holocaust from the land Israel. This second Shoah will be called “Peace and Justice for Palestine.”

www.ynetnews.com

(Slightly edited)

London serves as Islamic Hub for Radicalising Muslims

Abu Qatada and Abu Hamza, two preachers who lived off state benefits after claiming asylum, are identified by the American authorities as the key recruiters responsible for sending dozens of extremists from throughout the world to Pakistan and Afghanistan via London Mosques.

The leaked WikiLeaks documents, written by senior US military commanders at Guantanamo Bay, illustrate how, for two decades, Britain effectively became a crucible

of terrorism, with dozens of extremists, home-grown and from abroad, radicalised here.

Finsbury Park mosque, in North London, is described as a “haven” for extremists. United States intelligence officials concluded the mosque served as “an attack planning and propaganda production base”.

The files will raise questions over why the Government and security services failed to take action sooner to tackle the capital’s reputation as a staging post for terrorism, which became so established that the city was termed “Londonistan”.

The documents show that at least 35 detainees at Guantanamo had passed through Britain before being sent to fight against Allied forces in Afghanistan. This is thought to be more than from any other Western nation. Of those, 18 were originally from abroad. The other 17 were British nationals or citizens granted residency here after claiming asylum, who were indoctrinated before being sent to terrorist training camps in Afghanistan.

The British Government has paid millions of pounds in compensation and benefits to people regarded as highly dangerous by the US authorities.

Qatada, who was paid compensation under human rights laws for being “unfairly detained”, is described as “the most successful recruiter in Europe” and a “focal point for extremist fundraising [and] recruitment”. Hamza is accused of encouraging “his followers to murder non-Muslims”.

Four mosques in London and an Islamic centre are highlighted as places where young Muslim men were radicalised and turned into potential terrorists. Finsbury Park mosque “served to facilitate the training of recruits,” note the files, adding that it was “a haven for Islamic extremists from Morocco and Algeria.”

The Daily Telegraph, along with other international newspapers, is publishing details of more than 700 files on the Guantanamo Bay detainees obtained by the WikiLeaks website.

Earlier, this newspaper disclosed that dozens of terrorists held at the prison had admitted plotting a wide array of attacks against targets in Britain and America. However, it also emerged that more than 150 innocent people had been sent to Guantanamo.

Now, the key role that Britain and British-based preachers played in the lives of many of the Guantanamo detainees can be disclosed.

British intelligence services also provided information, including lists of suspected extremists seized from raids on Islamic centres, to the US military as it interrogated detainees. The information was passed on despite the Government publicly condemning the use of torture at Guantanamo. The leaked documents also reveal that:

- Sixteen detainees sent back to Britain are regarded as “high risk” by the US authorities and are liable to plan attacks against the West. However, they have been paid a reported £1 million each in compensation by the Government. For the first time, details of their alleged extremist activities, including travelling to Afghanistan to fight against British troops, are disclosed.
- The US Government suspected the BBC of being a “possible propaganda media network” for al-Qaeda after details of a phone number at the broadcaster was

found in the possession of several suspected terrorists. The number, which now appears to be disconnected, was thought to be for an employee of the BBC World Service, which was then funded by the Foreign Office.

- Terrorist recruits from across Africa and the Middle East flocked to London to claim asylum, often after travelling through other European countries.
- British taxpayers' money was used to bankroll an Afghan politician who was sent to Guantanamo Bay after being exposed as an al-Qaeda aide. Mullan Haji Rohullah received more than £300,000 to destroy his opium crop – but he sold the drugs and kept the money from the Department for International Development.
- Four of the Guantanamo detainees were “British intelligence sources” who betrayed their paymasters.
- The last remaining British national at the prison is an al-Qaeda commander who directed terrorist forces in Tora Bora during the Afghanistan conflict. His family, who were previously allegedly paid directly by Osama Bin Laden, is thought to have received compensation from the Government.

The files help to explain American anger towards the British authorities, who have been regularly accused of failing to tackle radicalisation in this country.

The top-secret documents show how Muslim men travelled to European countries such as France, from where they obtained fake EU passports. They then crossed the channel to take advantage of Britain's generous asylum system.

Extremist preachers radicalised the men at London mosques, showing them videos of atrocities committed against Muslims in Bosnia and Chechnya.

According to one document, Finsbury Park mosque was a “key transit facility for the movement of North African and other extremists in London to and from al-Qaeda training camps in Afghanistan”. They were flown to Pakistan and Afghanistan at the terrorist group's expense, put up in special guesthouses and sent to the training camps. They were introduced to senior al-Qaeda figures including Bin Laden and taught to fight and make bombs. Wives were arranged for some terrorists and their families received generous payments.

The US government condemned the release of the WikiLeaks documents. In a statement, the Pentagon said: “It is unfortunate that news organisations have made the decision to publish numerous documents obtained illegally by WikiLeaks concerning the Guantanamo detention facility. These documents contain classified information about current and former detainees, and we strongly condemn the leaking of this sensitive information.

“The WikiLeaks releases include Detainee Assessment Briefs (DABs) written by the Department of Defence between 2002 and early 2009. These DABs were written based on a range of information available then. Any given DAB illegally obtained and released by WikiLeaks may or may not represent the current view of a given detainee.

“The previous and current administrations have made every effort to act with the utmost care and diligence in transferring detainees from Guantanamo.”

Barack Obama, the US President, previously made a high-profile pledge to close the Guantanamo Bay facility and prosecute in the criminal courts those alleged to have broken the law. However, the pledge has now been largely abandoned and the US authorities recently announced that Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the most senior terrorist

at the prison and the alleged mastermind behind the September 11 attacks, will be tried at a controversial military tribunal.

Mohammed, who was tortured more than 100 times, has admitted his involvement in dozens of plots, including plans to hijack aircraft and crash them into Heathrow airport, Big Ben and Canary Wharf, and assassination attempts against Pope John Paul II and former President Bill Clinton. He is among 15 so-called kingpins at the prison who are unlikely to ever be freed.

www.telegraph.co.uk 14 May 2011

THE CANARY IN THE COAL MINE

By Dr. Michael Evans, Jerusalem Prayer Group
(Self-styled Ambassador to Jerusalem)

Events in the Middle East are rapidly moving toward total chaos. Eyes worldwide are directed toward every country but the one that is most important – Israel. It has been called the “world’s canary in the coal mine.” You know the story of how miners carried canaries into coal mines to detect poisonous methane gas. It was one of the first early warning systems.

Each of the countries that surround Israel – Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and Egypt – is in upheaval to some degree. The only matter on which all can agree is their hatred for Israel and the Jewish people. It is unlikely that few in the region are aware that centuries ago ancient prophets took up quill and ink and wrote the names of these nations on the pages of time. Yet many of those who are alive and remain fail to see the truth as the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse saddle up to herald the approach of Armageddon. And on the sidelines, the canary waits, muscles alert, heart beating rapidly, feathers aquiver. Is anyone paying attention to these skirmishes that signal the beginning of the end?

Sadly, the Liberal Left in America has drawn a line in the sand and stepped over to the other side – away from our long-time ally, Israel. President Barack Obama’s one-world view has placed him squarely alongside the United Nations. He has cast his lot with those who would see Israel stripped, bleeding, and impotent to defend herself. No longer the Good Samaritan, he has befriended those who pass by on the other side and ignores the threat Israel faces. Israel stands as a shining beacon in a sea of darkness, an island in a sea of madness, abandoned by her friends, but determined to defend those in her care. In preparation, this tiny nation has installed “Iron Dome” which has been called its most advanced version of an anti-missile defence system. Another new system for intercepting anti-tank missiles, the “Trophy-Windbreaker” system, was battle tested in early March. It successfully intercepted an anti-tank missile launched from Gaza.

It appears that Israel is making preparations for whatever is to come. With Iran courting Syria and Egypt and with its proxies, Hamas in Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon fully entrenched; it is only a matter of time until the canary flies the cage and leaves the hapless “miners” to face the consequences of their hateful actions.

Israel’s leaders are well-aware that without the aid of the world’s premier fighting force behind them, Israel’s odds are grim. The percentage is the same as that of one of its

Old Testament heroes, Samson. After having met the seductive Delilah, he revealed that his long locks were the secret to his strength. Lulling him to sleep, Delilah called in her Philistine cohorts who shaved her lover's head.

The once mighty Samson was then bound and dragged away to Gaza where he was blinded. In time, he repented of his perfidy and as his hair grew, so did his strength. Asking to be led to the pillars that supported the temple of the Philistines, he braced himself between the uprights and brought the structure down on its inhabitants – dying in the rubble.

With that historical figure in mind, Israel named its nuclear plan “The Samson Option.” It is Israel's strategy of last resort. It will bring her enemies to their knees, but will also bring about Israel's near-total destruction. Knowledgeable individuals estimate that Israel has a stockpile of some 400 thermo-nuclear weapons capable of being launched by air, sea, or land. Israel would have second-strike capability even after being severely crippled from a retaliatory nuclear attack.

Israel is prepared to face her enemies with unconventional weapons rather than face the possibility of captivity or annihilation at the hands of her enemies. Only once in her history has Israel considered the Samson Option – during the days of Prime Minister Golda Meir. The nation was surrounded by enemies and facing the possibility of being overrun when Mrs. Meir ordered that silos be opened in anticipation of a nuclear attack. President Richard Nixon stepped in and offered arms assistance to forestall a nuclear confrontation.

Sadly, the current US President has shown little more than disdain for Israel. Our ally has been treated like a Cinderella – ordered about and demeaned. Rather than look to Israel, the canary in the coal mine, for insight, Mr. Obama has cosied up to Israel's foes. The US is playing the harlot and crawling into bed with whoever offers the best deal. The payoff: black gold and the promise of continued greatness. Little does Mr. Obama realise that America is more akin to the Revelation church of Laodicea described as wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked. Mr. Obama is the Emperor – the leader whose new clothes are about to leave him exposed for all to see.

The world stands on the brink of destruction; Armageddon is just around the corner. The President of the United States has the opportunity of a lifetime; the opportunity to stand as a champion of Israel. Yet, he has shown no propensity to do so. Instead, he has bowed to the kings of this world, invited terrorists to talk, and turned his back on the canary that would warn of impending peril. Will he choose to ignore the signs until it is too late?

It is time for Mr. Obama to take an unpopular stand; it is time for him to take his position firmly beside our brothers and sisters in Israel. Should Mr. Obama decline, he should be given his walking papers and allowed all the time he might want to improve his prowess at basketball or just community organise to his heart's delight.

It is time for the American people to call for accountability from their elected officials, and to post a warning that the job of defender of the brave and free is up for grabs. Only those who are willing to stand with our staunchest ally in the Middle East need apply. Now more than ever before, we need to do our part to stand firmly and publicly with the nation of Israel and the Jewish people. (ABRIDGED)

Corrie Ten Boom (Nazi concentration camp survivor)

Article written in 1974

When I was in the concentration camp, a camp where only twenty percent of the women came out alive, we tried to cheer each other up by saying, "Nothing could be any worse than today." But we would find the next day was even worse. During this time a Bible verse that I had committed to memory gave me great hope and joy:

"If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you; on their part He is evil spoken of, but on your part He is glorified." I Peter 4:14.

I found myself saying, "Hallelujah! Because I am suffering, Jesus is glorified!"

In America, the churches sing, "Let the congregation escape tribulation," but in China and Africa the tribulation has already arrived. This last year alone, more than two hundred thousand Christians were martyred in Africa. Now things like that never get into the newspapers because they cause bad political relations. But I know. I have been there. We need to think about that when we sit down in our nice houses with our nice clothes, to eat our steak dinners. Many, many members of the Body of Christ are being tortured to death at this very moment, yet we continue right on as though we are all going to escape the tribulation.

Several years ago I was in Africa, in a nation where a new government had come into power. The first night I was there some of the Christians were commanded to come to the police station to register. When they arrived they were arrested and that same night they were executed. The next day the same thing happened with other Christians. The third day it was the same. All the Christians in the district were being systematically murdered.

The fourth day I was to speak in a little church. The people came, but they were filled with fear and tension. All during the service they were looking at each other, their eyes asking, "Will this one I am sitting beside be the next one killed? Will I be the next one?"

The room was hot and stuffy with insects that came through the screenless windows and swirled around the naked bulbs over the bare wooden benches. I told them a story out of my childhood.

"When I was a little girl," I said, I went to my father and said, "Daddy, I am afraid that I will never be strong enough to be a martyr for Jesus Christ." "Tell me," said father, "When you take a train trip to Amsterdam, when do I give you the money for the ticket? Three weeks before?" "No, Daddy, you give me the money for the ticket just before I get on the train." "That is right," my father said, "and so it is with God's strength. Our Father in Heaven knows when you will need the strength to be a martyr for Jesus Christ. He will supply all you need – just in time..."

My African friends were nodding and smiling. Suddenly a spirit of joy descended upon that church and the people began singing,

"In the sweet, by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore."

Later that week, half of the congregation of that church was executed. I heard later that the other half was killed some months ago.

But I must tell you something. I was so happy that the Lord used me to encourage these people, for unlike many of their leaders, I had the Word of God. I had been to the Bible

and discovered that Jesus said He had not only overcome the world, but to all those who remained faithful to the end, He would give a crown of life.

How can we get ready for the persecution?

First, we need to feed on the Word of God, digest it, make it a part of our being. This will mean disciplined Bible study each day as we not only memorise long passages of Scripture, but put the principles to work in our lives.

Next we need to develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Not just the Jesus of yesterday, the Jesus of history, but the life-changing Jesus of today, who is still alive and sitting at the right hand of God.

We must be filled with the Holy Spirit. This is no optional command of the Bible; it is absolutely necessary. Those earthly disciples could never have stood up under the persecution of the Jews and Romans had they not waited for Pentecost. Each of us needs our own personal Pentecost, the baptism of the Holy Spirit. We will never be able to stand in the tribulation without it.

In the coming persecution we must be ready to help each other and encourage each other. But we must not wait until the tribulation comes before starting. The fruit of the Spirit should be the dominant force of every Christian's life.

Many are fearful of the coming tribulation; they want to run. I, too, am a little bit afraid when I think that after all my eighty years, including the horrible Nazi concentration camp, that I might have to go through the tribulation also. But then I read the Bible and I am glad.

When I am weak, then I shall be strong, the Bible says. Betsy and I were prisoners for the Lord. We were so weak, but we got power because the Holy Spirit was on us. That mighty inner strengthening of the Holy Spirit helped us through. No, you will not be strong in yourself when the tribulation comes. Rather, you will be strong in the power of Him who will not forsake you. For seventy-six years I have known the Lord Jesus and not once has He ever left me, or let me down.

"Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him", (Job 13:15) for I know that to all who overcome, He shall give the crown of life. **Hallelujah!**

Millions Face Food Poverty As Northern Europe Is Hit By Worst Drought In 35 Years

Bernard Maquis's cattle would normally be grazing in the lush green pastures of the Limousin region in central France at this time of year. Instead, they are eating hay intended for the winter after months of drought that has turned the fields yellow. He is wondering whether it might be better to sell his cows at a reduced price, rather than find himself without fodder by the end of the autumn. "I'm starting to sleep badly," he said.

Third World nations are braced for riots as Europe's heat wave creates a rise in food prices and drives millions deeper into poverty.

"We are in a situation of crisis and of crisis management," said Nathalie Kosciusko-Morizet, the French Ecology Minister.

Meteorologists say that Northern Europe has had 50% less rain than normal over the past two months, while temperatures have been 4°C higher than usual.

In France, water restrictions have been implemented across more than half of the country and the drought is already comparable to 1976, when a heat wave wrecked the annual harvest. The difference, according to Michele Blanchard, an engineer in the climatology division of Météo-France, the French weather office, is that “in 1976 the high temperatures came in June, not in April”.

Germany has had twice as many hours of sunshine as it would normally expect in the spring. Some German regions have had just 5% of their standard rainfall. “We desperately need rain,” said Andrea Adams, spokeswoman for the Farmers’ Association in Rhineland-Palatinate in Germany. She said that the wheat was yellow, the sugar beet had barely grown at all and the rye was “curling up and dying”.

In the Limousin, Mr. Maquis said that the corn to fatten his cattle in the winter should be 20cm high by now. “But it’s just vegetating,” he said, raising the prospect that he will have to buy in fodder. “But at the price we have to pay, it’s not even worth trying. We may as well just shut up shop.”

With breeders across France beginning to sell animals they cannot feed, protests are under way. In Southwest France, farmers blocked roads to a motorway for several hours last week after they failed to obtain temporary permission to take water from rivers.

The French Government has asked Brussels to pay \$948 million in European Union aid several months early. But the French farmers’ union also wants the State to underwrite interest-free loans to help “les agriculteurs” through the summer.

In Belgium, the Flanders regional council said that it would pay farmers EU aid out of its budget and then claim the money back from Brussels. But finding \$332 million is proving difficult.

In France, bakers’ unions are predicting a 5% increase in the cost of baguettes, while in North Rhine-Westphalia, the German region, tomatoes are 25% more expensive than last year. Governing parties fear that the rises will create anti-government sentiment that extreme movements will exploit.

With droughts also reported in China and southern US states, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the UN fears rioting in poor countries. Officials said that the global price of cereals had risen 71% over the past 12 months, and while Moscow will lift a ban on exports of wheat, barley, rye, corn and flour, introduced during the heat wave last summer, it may provide only temporary relief.

Europe’s nuclear industry said that it may have to shut down some riverside reactors if water levels became too low, while champagne vineyards said that they would harvest grapes in August rather than September as usual. *From: www.theaustralian.com.au*

“And I called for a drought upon the land, and upon the mountains, and upon the corn, and upon the new wine, and upon the oil, and upon that which the ground bringeth forth, and upon men, and upon cattle, and upon all the labour of the hands.”

Haggai 1:11

NIGERIA – Pastor killed amid rising Islamist militancy in Borno

Extremists shot dead a Nigerian pastor and his secretary in the north-eastern town of Maiduguri, which is beset by increasing Islamist militancy.

Pastor David Usman and church secretary Hamman Andrew were killed in the Borno state capital by Boko Haram militants, who have been blamed for several recent bomb attacks. The attacks have been widely interpreted as a protest against April's national elections, which returned Christian incumbent Goodluck Jonathan to power.

A bomb attack on an army barracks in Maiduguri on May 29 killed 15 people and a series of seven bombs on June 7 included an attack on St. Patrick's Church which killed three people. Boko Haram claimed responsibility for bomb attacks on the Plateau state capital, Jos, on Christmas Eve (Prayer Alert, December 29, 2010).

Another pastor in Maiduguri, Rev Titus Dama Pona of the Evangelical Church Winning All, told Compass Direct news agency that recent violence had left Christians in fear of their lives.

'We no longer feel free moving around the city and most churches no longer carry out worship services for fear of becoming targets of these unprovoked attacks,' he said.

Pastor David, 45, described as a gentle and jovial man, was shot in an area of Maiduguri called the Railway Quarters, where his church is based, on June 7. He had reportedly raised the problem of Boko Haram with his superiors and commented that the Government needed to do more to stamp out this threat.

This was the second time Boko Haram had targeted Pastor David's church, a Church of Christ in Nigeria congregation. In July 2009, militants set fire to their building and killed several church members.

Boko Haram is committed to extending strict Islamic law or Sharia across Nigeria and has regularly targeted officials – including politicians, military personnel and police – as well as Christians. It rejects democratic institutions, which it sees as based on Christian values, according to Compass Direct.

On June 6, Boko Haram killed Ibrahim Birkuti, a moderate Muslim cleric who had criticised the group. He was shot dead outside his home in the town of Biu, some 120 miles south of Maiduguri, according to the BBC.

(Sources: BBC, Christian Today, Compass Direct)

- Ask God to bless and comfort the grieving families of Pastor David Usman and Hamman Andrew. Pray that their deaths will not be in vain.
- Pray that moderate Muslims will stand up against the extremist activities of Boko Haram – and against Islamist extremism generally which so often targets Christians.

From: Release International Prayer Alert

Christian Responsibility

Part 4 – Love thy neighbour as thyself

In the previous Newsletter we learnt the first part of the Lord Jesus Christ's answer to the question '*Master, which is the great commandment in the law?*' (Matt. 22:36) – '*Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind*' (Matt. 22:37).

This was not a mere wish or desire but the greatest command of God Almighty. This was a command to exhibit, pursue and act out a love so complete and all-encompassing that it requires every human faculty – heart - soul – mind and bodily strength (Matt. 22:37-40, Deut. 6:5). The Lord then continues with the second part of His answer which we will consider now. He said '*And the second [command] is like unto it [the first command], Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.*'

Who Should Love?

Every true 'born again' (John 3:3) believer should love their neighbour as themselves because it is an evidence of salvation and a fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22, Col 1:8).

Why Love?

This is a statement that could take an eternity to cover, but you love your neighbour because God commands it (1 John 4:12, Matt. 22:39) and because God Himself loves in this way (1 John 4:11). You love your neighbour – out of gratitude that the blameless, spotless Lamb of God, upon whom you depend for your every breath, willingly took upon Himself the wrath of God you deserved. You love your neighbour - because the Just was sacrificed for the unjust. The Pure and the Blameless died for the sinful and defiled. You love your neighbour - because God condescended from the glories of Heaven to do what you could NEVER do; namely reconcile you with a Holy and just God. However, no matter how kind, generous or compassionate you may be to your neighbour, you must realise that you still have nothing to boast of (James 1:17, 1John 4:19), as you can only ever love because your precious Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ loved you first (1 John 4:19). So, as a believer, you should *want* to love your neighbour *voluntarily* and *willingly* because this is what the thrice Holy God has done for you.

Who to love - ?

All men (Gal 6:10) with a special love for the Lord's ministers (1 Thess. 5:13) and people (1 John 3:11; 3:14; 4:21). Hard as it is to understand for a wicked and deceitful heart, this means loving even strangers, your sworn enemies and those that hate you, revile you and persecute you (Matt. 5:43,44). The Lord tells us to '*Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you. Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you.*' (Luke 6:27,28). This means, believer, you are not to simply tolerate those that hate and persecute you but you are to *actively* do them 'good' and pray for them and bless them; because if you do not, you are just like the ungodly – '*for sinners also love those that love them*' (Luke 6:32). So, dear believer, how are you doing on this matter? Do you love and serve only those you like or those who you feel 'deserve' it, or is your love 'like unto' the love of the Lord who loved you, an undeserving sinner, with an everlasting love (Jer 31:1)?

Who Not To Love?

In short, love not yourself, sin and the world. The Psalmist warns first of what to avoid, before exhorting what to seek, when he writes '*walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful*' (Psalm 1:1). Learning to love as God loves also means learning to hate what God hates – namely sin. It means you must endeavour, with the Lord's help, not only to do what is good for your neighbour, but also to restrain your neighbour from pursuing evil.

How To Love?

You cannot escape the fact that the love of God and the love of your neighbour are as dependant on each other as breath is to life, because TOGETHER, they are the *complete* fulfilment of God's perfect law (Rom 13:8-10, Gal. 5:14, Jas. 2:8, Matt. 22:40). There is nothing that can be taken from it or added to it. **Love reigns in the kingdom of God.** So how are you to love your neighbour?

Sincerely

Oh how the world loves to put on appearances. To the world, it is enough to be 'seen' to be doing good, whereas the Scriptures teach *'My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth'* (1 John 3:18). Your love of neighbour is to be sincere with **only** their profit and gain in view.

Sacrificially

We read in the Scriptures that the greatest evidence of love is to obey God's commands (John 14:15, 21) and be willing to lay down your life for your friends (John 15:13). This is it, dear reader! As our American friends would say – 'this is where the rubber meets the road'. Love for God and others is to be the driving force of your life, not your personal ambitions or even your ease and comfort, but rather – **what can I do for the benefit of my fellow man?**

Fervently

This love is not to be a lukewarm love but a fervent love willing to sacrifice all for the benefit of others. Indeed, so fervent is this love and compassion for your neighbour that you are willing to even face the mockery and scorn of the very people you are trying to help – but still persist.

Compassionately

Dear reader, you should follow the Lord Jesus Christ's example and have compassion for the less well off, but this love and compassion for your neighbour should never be isolated or separated from the greatest need of all - to point Hell-bound sinners to the only refuge and hiding place from the wrath to come – the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Most have a mouth to speak of the unsearchable riches of Jesus Christ. Most have hands to minister and comfort the forsaken and downtrodden. Most have feet to take the message of salvation to the world. If only there were more workers (Luke 10:2, Matt. 9:27) with the compassion to use what the Lord has graciously provided.

When to love?

Look what the Apostle Paul asks - *'Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword'* (Rom 8:35)? Here is his answer, *'For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord'* (Rom 8:38,39). Believer, you have a God who never sleeps (Psalm 121:4) and from whose love you can never be separated. Though you are a stranger passing through an alien land, surely you also should seek to be like the Lord and never sleep or slumber whilst your neighbour has need?

Please Consider

The love of God and your neighbour is a subject eternity itself cannot adequately describe, so may I exhort you to seriously and honestly reflect on what we are considering in this series of articles to get a greater knowledge and understanding of this matter. Dear reader, there is no hiding from God. He alone can read the very thoughts of your heart and no amount of 'putting on appearances' will impress Him. So please take this opportunity to thoroughly and honestly look at your life before the Lord. Is it a life exhibiting spiritual fruit – *'love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance'* (Gal 5:22)? Is it a life full of the love of God and your neighbour? Does it reflect in some small way the life of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ with a love of (and for) God, His Word and His people? Is it a life dedicated to the glory of God and the sacrificial service of others?

Oh, how easy it is to be taken up with the 'activities' of the world and for the deceitful heart to lose its way and succumb to the world and its ungodly counsel. It is **only** through much heartfelt prayer, time mining the treasures of God's Word and regular honest appraisals of your life that you can begin to live this life as a worthy follower of Jesus Christ. I pray the Lord will use and bless this short message to your soul's good and we will continue with more specific responsibilities next time, should the Lord will.

Yours in Christ's service,

Andy Clarke

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