

# CHRISTIAN WATCH

Issue 58

A Protestant Biblical Witness

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**'And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.'**

Mark 13:37



**“Thy will be done”**

Matthew 6:10; Luke 11:2

While Jesus whispers peace,  
And unctuously displays  
The matchless beauties of His grace,  
Our hearts approve His ways.

But when the Lord withdraws  
The unction of His love,  
His Will we wickedly oppose,  
His judgments disapprove.

So fickle, false and blind,  
Are these unstable hearts,  
We only are to God resigned,  
As He the grace imparts.

Father, Thy Will be done,  
In words we oft express,  
When in our hearts we want our own,  
And wish our sufferings less.

Dear God, our guilt forgive,  
Thy pardoning love display  
And may we to Thy glory live,  
Thy righteous Will obey.

Thy presence let us view,  
And give our conscience rest,  
The visits of Thy love renew,  
Then do what Thou think'st best.

***William Gadsby***

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(Some articles may not necessarily reflect the opinions and beliefs of Christian Watch but are included for information only and not as an endorsement.)

*Dear Friends,*

**Jeremiah 7:28 – “*This is a nation that obeyeth not the voice of the Lord their God, nor receiveth correction: truth is perished, and is cut off from their mouth.*”**

Following our recent Parliamentary debacle when politicians – on a free vote – supported the decriminalisation of abortion for women and the legalising of ‘assisted’ dying for the terminally ill, the Mother of Parliaments has chosen to normalise the ending of life at both ends of the spectrum. Yet the Church of England has remained silent. There are 106 Bishops and 2 Archbishops in the Church of England – their silence is galling when contrasted with their vocal activism on change, inequality, refugees and so on. The Lords Spiritual (26 of them) will have their opportunity to speak when these Bills reach their next stage, but will any voice be heard? The silence to date reveals something much deeper than political cowardice; it exposes their wish for respectability rather than for defending truth.

One vital subject has been absent from the ‘assisted dying’ debate. Where is the one, ‘assisted’ in the ending of their life, going to? Sadly it is not a feature of modern religion to preach that there is a Hell awaiting those who die without personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible is very clear when the Saviour stated: “*He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life: but the wrath of God abideth on him*” (John 3:36). If only people were aware today of the reality, the most terrible reality of Hell, they would not use the time that remains to them to murder themselves but, rather, like the thief on the cross, they would seek pardon and saving mercy from the Saviour.



Interestingly enough, the abortion debate is not a new development. John Calvin – Pastor and Protestant Reformer in Geneva during the Protestant Reformation stated – “The foetus, though enclosed in the womb of its mother, is already a human being and it is almost a monstrous crime to rob it of the life which it has not yet begun to enjoy. If it seems more horrible to kill a man in his own house than in a field, because a man’s house is his place of most secure refuge, it ought surely to be deemed more atrocious to destroy a foetus in the womb before it has come to light.”

Martin Bucer – a German Protestant Reformer based in Strasbourg – stated – “Abortion is profoundly contrary to the Divine institution of marriage.”

Martin Luther – probably the most well-known of the Reformers at the time of the Protestant Reformation stated – “A rational soul animated the foetus right from conception.”

2025 is a year of Anniversaries and I will mention just two that come to mind. William Tyndale was an English Bible scholar who became a leading figure in the Protestant Reformation. He spent much of his life on the run, but 500 years ago – in 1525 – he completed the task of translating the Bible into English. Much of his work formed the basis of the 1611 Authorised Version of the Scriptures, which is under such constant attack in our day.

Secondly, this summer is the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the birth of John Newton – the slave ship captain who experienced a spiritual awakening and who, in 1772, wrote the hymn “Amazing Grace”, which reflected his own personal testimony of sin, redemption and God’s grace. John Newton became a preacher in the Anglican Church and the first thing to be noticed about his sermons is that they were all Scriptural – expounding Bible texts. Secondly his sermons

were theological – preached with passion and that passion was for the truth of God – and thirdly, his sermons were Christ-centred. Christ is all and in all. The Church of England today could learn so much from a man such as John Newton who once graced their pulpits!

Apology – in our last Newsletter, the article by J.C. Philpot entitled “Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord” was only half-produced as a result of confusion in the proof-reading and printing process. The full article has therefore been reproduced in this current issue.

Yours in His service,

*Ian Henderson*

Ian R. Henderson  
(Chairman)



# A SOLEMN WORD TO THE CHURCH AND NATION

by **Pastor Pooyan Mershani**

(Minister of Providence Baptist Chapel, Cheltenham)

***“The wicked shall be turned into Hell, and all the nations that forget God”***  
– Psalm 9:17.

***“Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people”*** –  
Proverbs 14:34.

Recently returning from open-air preaching and seeing so many souls filled with apathy and ignorance, my heart was stirred. I was made very conscious once again of the lateness of the hour here in the West.

The signs of the times are written plainly across the face of our nation and the Western world. A deep spiritual sickness has settled over the land – a judgment, I do not doubt, from the hand of Almighty God.



For many years, the United Kingdom – once the home of Protestant truth and Gospel light – has despised her spiritual heritage. She has cast off the authority of the Bible, silenced the voice of conscience and chosen to walk in the broad way of rebellion and self-will – and now, we are reaping the bitter fruits of our national apostasy.

## **The Flooding of the West**

Our borders have been thrown wide open. With the stroke of a pen and the shrug of a feeble and ungodly Parliament, multitudes of men, strangers to the Gospel, hostile to Christ and zealous for a false religion, have been welcomed without discretion. Many of these are not lawful refugees, but illegal immigrants – recipients of State Welfare, benefactors of a broken system and promoters of a religious ideology that rejects the very foundation of our nation's laws and liberties.

If these individuals truly seek peace, why do they not flee to the many Islamic nations which share their beliefs? Why must they come to the West – to nations built historically upon the Bible, only to despise it? The answer is plain. They see that the West is spiritually dead, morally bankrupt and ripe for conquest – not by violence alone, but by numbers, silence and the slow drip of cultural submission.

In a recent video now making the rounds, Muslim teachers speak plainly of their intentions. There is no hiding it. Their goal is to spread Islam, re-shape our lands and see Sharia rule where once the Gospel ruled. They boast of this plan – while the Church generally sleeps and the State looks on with fear and silence.

## **A Nation Under Judgment**

This is no accident, my brethren. This is a judgment. God is giving us over to the fruit of our own choices. As in ancient Israel, when the

people worshipped Baal and turned from the living God, the Lord brought in the Assyrians and the Babylonians to chastise them. So too now, the Lord is using our enemies to awaken us – if we will but open our eyes.

Have we not passed wicked laws? Have we not legalised the murder of unborn children in the womb, under the banner of ‘choice’? Have we not enshrined unnatural marriage between man and man, woman and woman, as if God were mocked? Have we not filled our streets with pride, licentiousness, drunkenness and blasphemy? Have not our Parliaments forsaken every shred of reverence for Scripture? And what of the Church in general? The Church sadly has not stood as a faithful watchman – even the Churches claiming to be Evangelical. The pulpits are filled with soft speech and powerless sermons. Entertainment has replaced the expounding of God’s Word and direct Gospel preaching. Worldliness has crept into our worship. The cross is no longer central. Holiness is forgotten. Christ is barely preached.

## **The Solemn Duty of the Church**

What then is the remedy?

I speak plainly! The answer is repentance. Let the Church of Christ fall on her knees. Let us return to the old paths. Let Ministers preach as dying men to dying men. Let the Word of God thunder once again from our pulpits, untrimmed, undiluted and uncompromising.

Let evangelism be restored to its rightful place. Let us go out into the streets, the towns, the estates and the cities and call sinners – Muslims, atheists or nominal Christians alike – to repentance and faith in Christ. Let us speak to our Government as Elijah and John the Baptist once did and declare: “Thus saith the Lord.” The State must be reminded



that it answers to the God of Scripture.

Let us cry aloud against sin. Let us plead with men to flee from the wrath to come. Let us call our fellow citizens to bow before the Lord Jesus Christ, the only Saviour of sinners. Let us say with boldness – “Repent ye, and believe the Gospel.”

In addition, let us not forget that the Church herself must be reformed. Let shallow, showy, consumer-driven worship be cast out. Let reverence return. Let truth, not trend, be our standard. Let Christ be all.

## **Conclusion**

The days are evil. The trumpet must be blown. The alarm must be sounded. The Church must awake. Time is short. The Judge stands at the door.

Be not afraid, Christian. The Lord reigns. Let the earth tremble. Preach Christ. Live holy. Contend for the faith. We must pay a price. Remember that, even in wrath, our God remembers mercy.

***“When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him” – Isaiah 59:19.***

May God have mercy upon the United Kingdom once again.

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***What then if the Lord grants us Princes who either through apparent cruelty or through crass ignorance combat the reign of Christ? First of all, the Church should take refuge in prayers and tears and correct its life. For these are the arms of the faithful for overcoming the rages of the world.***

*Theodore Beza*

# **“Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me.”**

John 14:1

**John Newton**

We are commissioned to say to the righteous - *“It shall be well with him”* (Is. 3:10). The Saviour to whom you have fled for refuge has all power in Heaven and earth. He will keep you as the apple of His eye and hide you under the shadow of His wings. He can screen you from evil, though thousands and ten thousands should suffer and fall around you: or, if He appoints you a share in suffering, He will be with you to support and comfort you and to sanctify all your troubles. His word to you is - *“When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, see that ye be not troubled - (Matt. 24:6). Fear not them who, at the most, can but kill the body. The light of His countenance is sufficient to cheer you in the darkest hour and your best interest, your everlasting inheritance, is safe beyond the reach of enemies, in a Kingdom (how unlike the Kingdoms of the earth!) which cannot be shaken. Your life is hid with Christ in God; and “when Christ, who is your life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in glory” (Col. 3:3-4). Thither neither sin nor sorrow shall be able to follow you. Then your sun shall go down no more and the days of your mourning shall be ended. In patience, therefore, possess your souls. Be not moved by appearances, but remember all your concerns are in the hands of Him who loved you and gave Himself for you.*

Let those who know Him not tremble when He ariseth to judgment and to shake terribly the earth; but do you sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, make Him your fear and your dread – and He shall be to you for a sanctuary; and in a little time He will come to receive you to Himself and to wipe all tears from your eyes.

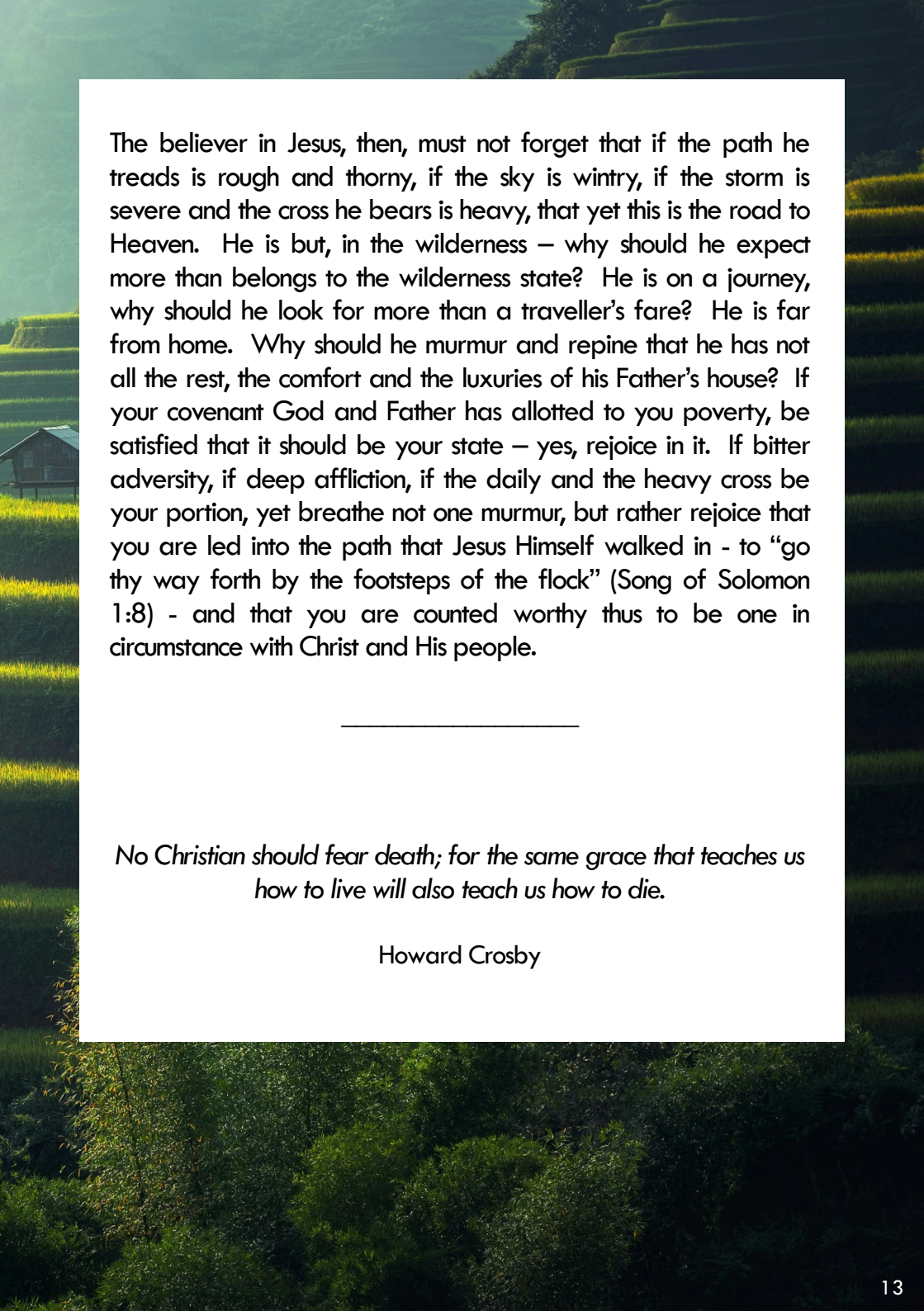
# A MEDITATION

**Octavius Winslow**

*“Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season” (Hebrews 11:25).*

The believer should never fail to remember that the present is, by the appointment of God, an afflicted state to him. It is God's ordained, revealed Will that His covenant children here should be in an afflicted condition. When called by grace, they should never take into their account any other state. They become the disciples of the religion of the cross; they become the followers of a crucified Lord; they put on a yoke and assume a burden; they must, then, expect the cross inward and the cross outward. To escape it is impossible. To pass to glory without it is to go by another way than God's ordering and, in the end, to fail of arriving there. The gate is strait - and the way is narrow which leads unto life - and a man must become nothing if he would enter and be saved.

He must deny himself; he must become a fool that he may be wise; he must receive the sentence of death in himself, that he should not trust in himself. The wise man must cease to glory in his wisdom, the mighty man must cease to glory in his might, the rich man must cease to glory in his riches - and their only ground of glory in themselves must be their insufficiency, infirmity, poverty and weakness - and their only ground of glory out of themselves must be that “for God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).



The believer in Jesus, then, must not forget that if the path he treads is rough and thorny, if the sky is wintry, if the storm is severe and the cross he bears is heavy, that yet this is the road to Heaven. He is but, in the wilderness – why should he expect more than belongs to the wilderness state? He is on a journey, why should he look for more than a traveller's fare? He is far from home. Why should he murmur and repine that he has not all the rest, the comfort and the luxuries of his Father's house? If your covenant God and Father has allotted to you poverty, be satisfied that it should be your state – yes, rejoice in it. If bitter adversity, if deep affliction, if the daily and the heavy cross be your portion, yet breathe not one murmur, but rather rejoice that you are led into the path that Jesus Himself walked in - to “go thy way forth by the footsteps of the flock” (Song of Solomon 1:8) - and that you are counted worthy thus to be one in circumstance with Christ and His people.

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*No Christian should fear death; for the same grace that teaches us  
how to live will also teach us how to die.*

Howard Crosby



# THE TRUE SECRET OF PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY

C. H. Mackintosh

Extracted from 'Notes on Deuteronomy'

The following passage is so beautifully illustrative of Divine thoughtfulness: ***“When thou buildest a new house, then thou shalt make a battlement for thy roof, that thou bring not blood upon thine house, if any man fall from thence”*** (Deuteronomy 22:8). The Lord would have His people thoughtful and considerate of others; and hence, in building their houses, they were not merely to think of themselves and their convenience, but also of others and their safety.

Cannot Christians learn something from this? How prone we are to think only of ourselves, our own interests, our own comfort and convenience! How rarely it happens that in the building or furnishing of our houses we bestow a thought upon other people! We build and furnish for ourselves. Alas! Self is too much our object and motive-spring in all our undertakings; nor can it be





otherwise unless the heart be kept under the governing power of those motives and objects which belong to Christianity. We must live in the pure and Heavenly atmosphere of the new creation in order to get above and beyond the base selfishness which characterises fallen humanity. Every unconverted man, woman and child on the face of the earth is governed simply by self in some shape or another. Self is the centre, the object, the motive-spring of every action.

True, some are more amiable, more affectionate, more benevolent, more unselfish, more disinterested, more agreeable, than others; but it is utterly impossible that “the natural man” can be governed by spiritual motives, or an earthly man be animated by Heavenly objects. Alas! We have to confess, with shame and sorrow, that we who profess to be Heavenly and spiritual are so prone to live for ourselves, to seek our own things, to maintain our own interests, to consult our own ease and convenience. We are all alive and on the alert when *self*, in any shape or form, is concerned.

All this is most sad and deeply humbling. It really ought not to be – and it would not be if we were looking more simply and earnestly to Christ as our great Exemplar and model in all things. Earnest and constant occupation of heart with Christ is the true secret of all practical Christianity. It is not rules and regulations that will ever make us Christ-like in our spirit, manner and ways. We must drink into His Spirit, walk in His footsteps, dwell more profoundly upon His moral glories and then we shall, of blessed necessity, be conformed to His image. ***“We all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord”*** (2 Corinthians 3:18).

*Previously appeared in:  
Words of Peace & Truth, May-August, 2025*



### **A Letter to His Majesty The King**

Protestant Truth Magazine, May/June, 2025

On Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March, at the invitation of the King, an Islamic *iftar* (call to prayer) was held in St. George's Hall, Windsor Castle. It was the first such event to be held openly in the Castle's history. The Protestant Truth society responded with the following letter:

Sir,

I am writing on behalf of the Council of the Protestant Truth Society to express our grief at your decision to permit an act of Muslim worship in Windsor Castle. We are at least grateful that this act did not take place in St. George's Chapel.

At your Coronation, Your Majesty made a promise before God to maintain the Protestant Reformed Religion. This is the Christian faith as revealed in the Bible, which is God's inspired Word. In that Word God speaks to mankind and tells us who He is and how we may know Him. The Bible was written thousands of years ago, but it remains



“the lively (living) oracles of God”. God’s Word is the living Word of the living God and therefore speaks to us all today. It tells us that Jesus Christ is “The way, the truth and the life” (John 14:6). It also commands us that “Thou shalt have no other gods before me” (Exodus 20:3). There is only one true God and He is not revealed in the Koran. There is only one Saviour and He is not Mohammed; He is Jesus Christ. While this country upholds the freedom of religion within the law, it is, historically and constitutionally, a Christian country. Therefore, the Scriptures are the foundation not only of the Church, but also of our Parliament and Monarchy; and the teaching of Islam is clearly contrary to the teaching of Scripture.

We would urge Your Majesty not to hold any further Muslim events in Windsor Castle or indeed in any other Royal palace. We would also urge Your Majesty to stand up for those Christians who are currently suffering terrible persecution at the hand of Muslims. The most egregious current example of this is Syria, where thousands of Christians have been murdered by Muslim militias. Another terrible example is the beheading in February of this year of seventy Congolese Christians by jihadists, with proven ties to ISIS. There are many others.

We pray that Your Majesty will be faithful to the promises you made at your Coronation to uphold the Protestant faith. We pray that God may bless both you and our nation and we pray, not only that you would act as the Defender of the Faith, but also as the defender of those Christians around the world who are suffering terrible persecution and would value the protection that could be offered to them by this country. They need a voice to plead their cause.

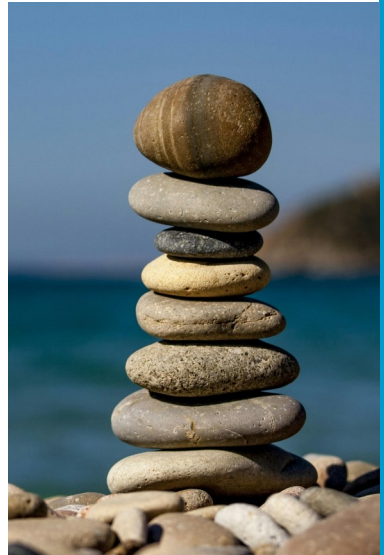
I have the honour to be, Sir, Your Majesty’s humble and obedient servant.

Rt. Rev. Dominic Stockford, Chairman, Protestant Truth Society

**Newly Formed Rocks** – The Free Presbyterian Magazine, July, 2025  
– article in ‘Notes and Comments’ by Rev. D.W.B. Somerset

Researchers at Glasgow University have found rock on the beach at Derwent Howe, on the Cumbrian coast, which has been formed by natural processes during the last century. In one place, the rock has been formed in the last 35 years because it contains an aluminium tab from a drinks can made after 1989. Other items in the rock include a George V coin, a car tyre and an electric cable. The rock is ‘clastic sedimentary’ – it consists of fragments or ‘clasts’ of older rocks and other materials (such as bits of rubbish) held together by a cementing material or ‘matrix’. Much of the material comes from an old iron and steel slag heap that borders on the beach and is being eroded by the sea.

The interesting point is that the fragments broken off from the slag heap are being deposited on the beach by the tide and the waves, along with other pebbles and whatever and the assorted shingle on the beach is then being incorporated into new rock. The slag is rich in calcium, magnesium, iron and manganese and it is thought that the presence of these elements facilitates the rapid ‘lithification’ or formation of the new rock. The rock-forming process itself, however, is entirely natural and the shingle beach is rapidly turning into a sloping platform of rock.



The paper describing this is published in the prestigious ‘Geology’ journal and it takes good care to emphasise the ‘anthropogenic’, or human, origin of the slag. The question which must be on everybody’s

mind, however – but which is studiously avoided in all the discussion – is whether some similarly rapid natural process may have been responsible for other sedimentary rocks round the world. The implications of this for geology and evolutionary theory would be enormous. Geologists have long dismissed the early chapters of Genesis as fabulous and boasted of confining themselves to the hard facts of science. This latest research threatens to expose one of their own ‘hard facts’ – that sedimentary rock requires ‘thousands to millions of years’ to form – as a modern fable. Indeed, scientists may soon be observing the formation of sedimentary rock in the laboratory.

### **C of E “wrong” to pay £100 million to black-led businesses**

Professor Tombs – British Church Newspaper, 30 June, 2025

News in Brief

Professor Robert Tombs, Emeritus Professor of History at Cambridge University, has hit out at the Church of England’s (C of E) decision to allocate a £100 million ‘Impact Investment Fund’ (over nine years) to applications from black businessmen – to help start their businesses, or develop them. The C of E plans to increase that fund over nine years to £1 billion.

Professor Tombs said - “The Church’s investments were not directly tied to the slave trade. The proposed reparations amount is excessive. They are making a monumental error, after erroneously concluding that the church ‘benefited’ from slavery. The Church Commission should devote its £100 million to help the struggling parishes it is duty bound to support.”

Tombs and his colleague, Lawrence Goldman, recently published research on *History Reclaimed*, suggesting that the Church may have misinterpreted its historical records.



# TWO ARMIES

**Peter L. Meney**

The new man in every believer is formed by God and inseparably united to Christ. We are “created in righteousness and true holiness.” The new man is a perfect work of grace whereby the Holy Ghost, in regeneration, makes all things new. He quickens, converts and creates a new heart and spirit in those born again. It is a transformative change. The old man represents the corruption of our fallen state in Adam. The new man is our new, Holy state in Christ.

Mankind is totally passive in this new work of creation. The Lord tells us - “I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.” Paul adds - “So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy” (Romans 9:15-16). Putting off the old man and putting on the new man is not man’s work, but God’s. We are as surely passive in the act of regeneration and the new creation as in our natural birth and original creation.

The new creation does not mean the old man is dead and gone. He is dying, but not dead. He is crucified, but not yet buried. For the duration of the time between a believer’s new birth and physical death, the old man and the new man co-exist within. We have an old nature and a new nature. There is no end of the old man until death. He does not improve or reform. He may alter his strategies and disguise his tactics to conceal his more flagrant excesses, but he is the same old man of sin, wholly evil and totally depraved.

It is important to distinguish the old man; unrepentant and unchanged and the new man which is Christ in us, Holy and undefiled. Peter calls this “the hidden man of the heart” which is not corruptible (1 Peter 3:4). We feel our sin in the old man, yet we believe by faith that we are righteous in the new man; pure and perfect in Christ to whom we are now joined. This is our actual standing before God. In the new man we are justified and sanctified to the fullest extent possible in and by the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 1:30).

The old man and the new man strive together in every believer like two armies. “The flesh lusteth against the Spirit and the Spirit against the flesh,” says Paul, “and these are contrary the one to the other.” The experience of the children of God in this world is one of contention between the flesh and the Spirit of Christ in our soul. We are upheld only by grace. We are strengthened and kept only through Christ.

The Lord’s people continue to feel the ravages of sin in this body, yet we are “sealed unto the day of redemption.” Satan will always desire to disturb our peace and steal our joy, but faith brings us peace and our joy is complete through our unbreakable union with Christ who is in us, the hope of glory.

From: **‘New Focus’ website**  
**<https://go-newfocus.co.uk/>**

# **“THEN SHALL WE KNOW, IF WE FOLLOW ON TO KNOW THE LORD”**

(Hosea 6:3).

**J. C. Philpot**

We gather from these words that there is such a thing in soul experience as “following on to know the Lord;” and indeed there is no obtaining the blessings which are laid up for the righteous, unless there is this following on. “To know the Lord” is the desire of every living soul; that is, to know Him by His own Divine manifestations, by the gracious revelation of His grace, His love, His presence and His glory.

But the expression, “follow on,” implies that there are many difficulties, obstacles and hindrances in a man’s way, which keep him back from “knowing the Lord.” Now the work of the Spirit in his soul is to carry him on in spite of all these obstacles. Nature – and all the work of nature and all the power of Satan working on nature – is to draw the man back; but the work of the Spirit on the soul is to lead him forward, to keep alive in him the fear of God, to strengthen him from time to time with strength in his inner man, to give him those enlargements, to drop in those hopes, to communicate that inward grace and to gird up the loins of his mind, so that in spite of sense, reason and nature, he is compelled to follow on. Sometimes he seems driven and sometimes drawn, sometimes led, and sometimes carried, but in one way or another the Spirit of God so works upon him, that though he scarce knows how, he still “follows on.” His very burdens make him groan for deliverance; his very temptations cause him to cry for help; the very difficulty and ruggedness of

the road make him want to be carried every step; the very intricacy of the path compels him to cry out for a guide; so that the Lord the Spirit working in the midst of, and under, and through every difficulty and discouragement, still bears him through and carries him on; and thus brings him through every trial and trouble and temptation and obstacle, till he sets him before the Lord in glory.

It is astonishing to me how our souls are kept alive. I believe a living man is a marvel to himself. Carried on and yet so secretly; worked upon and yet so mysteriously; and yet led on, guided and supported through so many difficulties and obstacles, that he is a miracle of mercy and – as the Apostle says – “a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men;” the world wondering, the angels admiring, and men standing astonished, how the quickened soul is carried on amidst all its difficulties, obstacles, trials and temptations; and yet in spite of all “following on.”

But “following on” for what? “To know the Lord,” as the sum and substance of all religion, as the very marrow of vital godliness; to know Jesus, so as by faith to enter into His beauty and loveliness and feel ourselves one spirit with Him, according to those words - “He that is joined to the Lord is one spirit.”

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**‘GRACE’** - The influence of God in our hearts and its effects and fruits in our lives.

*A Greek dictionary definition of ‘Grace’*



# WEAK FAITH, YET SINCERE

*Archibald Hall*

Since there are various degrees of faith, it must be false and dangerous reasoning for people to conclude that they are not believers, because they are not strong in faith; but “if the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body, is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body?” If a child should say, Because I have not the strength or stature of a grown person, I am not of the human race; is it therefore not of the human race? Similarly, if a weak believer should say, Because I am not strong in faith, I have no part in Christ; is he therefore without any part in Christ?

This sort of reasoning is false, because there are many members of the body and yet but one body. There are different degrees of strength and stature in different stages of human life -and there are both strong and weak believers in the body of Christ. It is true that the foot is not the hand, the ear is not the eye, a child has neither the stature nor strength of a grown person and a Christian of little faith is not strong in faith; but as the foot and the hand, the ear and the eye, belong to one body, as childhood and manhood are different stages of the same life and nature of man, so the strength and weakness of faith are characteristics of the same faith of the operation of God. Therefore, it must be unreasonable to allow that there are different degrees in the faith of believers - and yet to suppose that there is no real faith unless it is great. Our Lord speaks of having faith as a grain of mustard seed, which implies that it may be little where it is real and sincere.

*Edited extract from Hall's  
‘Treatise on the Faith and Influence of the Gospel’*



# CHRIST IS ALL

Edward Carr

In many precious ways the grace of our Lord Jesus is exercised towards His people as their “All and in all” (Col. 3:11).

His **power** defends them from all harm and from all foes. His **wisdom** directs them in every path in which they are enabled to commit their way unto Him. His **hand** upholds them and leads them on. His **eye** watches over them. His **ear** attends their cry. His **mouth** is most sweet as it speaks the promises to their hearts. His **grace** suffices for every trial. His **providence** supplies every need. His **love** comforts in every distress. His **blood** cleanses from all sin. His **righteousness** clothes the sinner and gives him acceptance with God. His **intercession** prevails to bring every blessing down. His **Spirit** continually teaches and sanctifies. His **fulness** is the saints’ never-failing treasury. His **goodness** is inexhaustible. His **patience** is manifested in long-suffering. His **mercy** is the remedy for every misery. His **faithfulness** is such that He never leaves nor forsakes His own. His **pity** extends to all our woes. His **compassion** flows in increasing streams. His **wounds** are our refuge and health. His **character** is holiness to the Lord. His **work** perfectly finished is our salvation. His **peace** bestowed as a free gift is our satisfying portion. His **greatness** is unsearchable and yet to be revealed in its extent and glory. His **pre-eminence** as Lord of all secures every blessing. His **victory** is final both for His Church and in His Church.

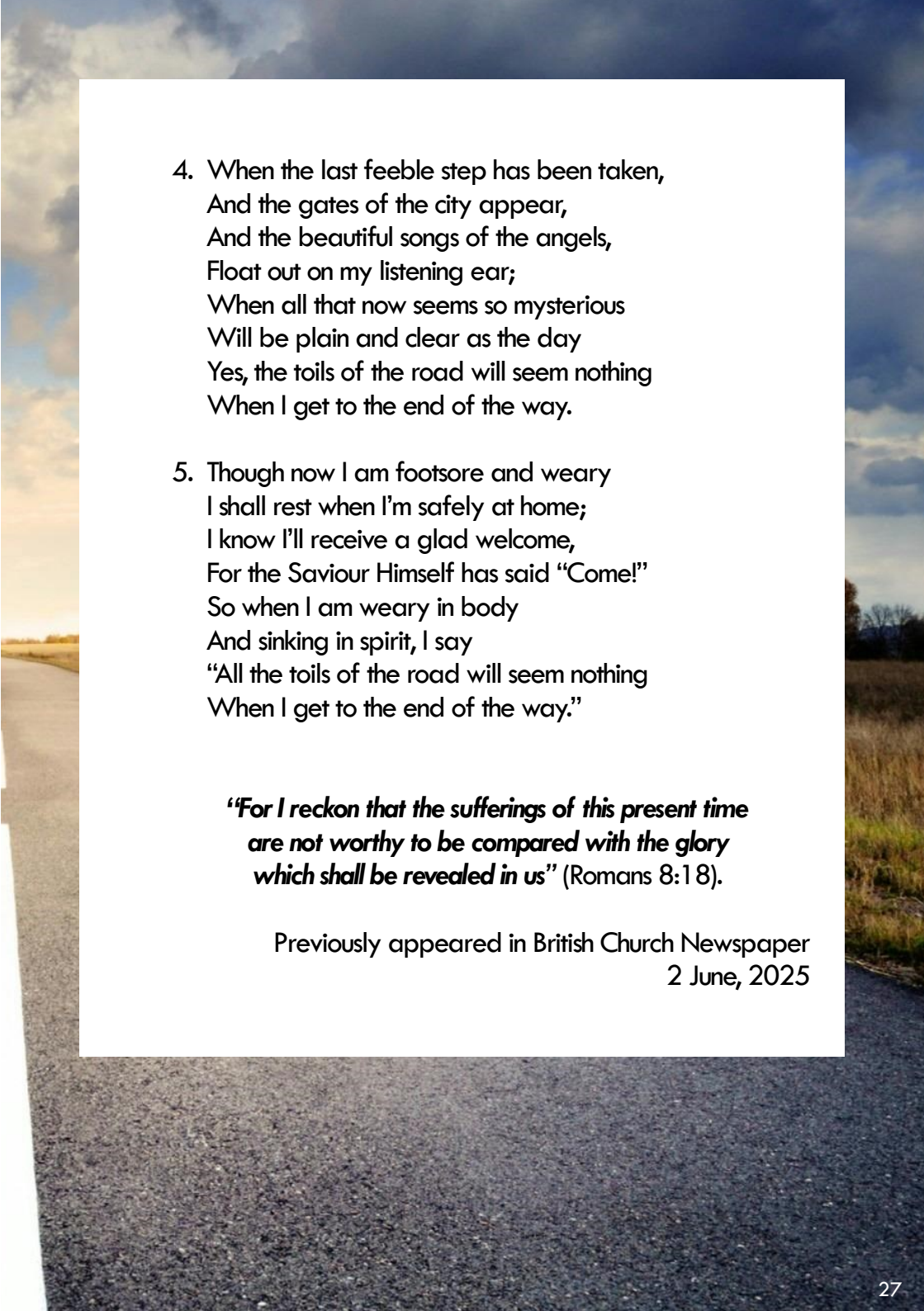
In short: **the Lord Jesus is altogether lovely in His person, almighty in power and all-sufficient in grace.**

From: ‘**Biblical Notes** – Short Meditations on Scriptural Subjects’

## THE END OF THE WAY

*Written by a young woman in Nova Scotia, an invalid for many years with spinal disease. She was a great sufferer, but the grace of God was most wonderfully manifested in her.*

1. My life is a wearisome journey,  
I'm sick with the dust and the heat,  
The rays of the sun beat upon me,  
The briars are wounding my feet;  
But the city to which I am journeying  
Will more than my trials repay,  
All the toils of the road will seem nothing,  
When I get to the end of the way.
2. There are so many hills to climb upwards,  
I often am longing for rest,  
But He who appoints me my pathway  
Knows just what is needful and best;  
I know in His Word He has promised  
That my strength shall be as my day,  
And the toils of the road will seem nothing  
When I get to the end of the way.
3. He loves me too well to forsake me,  
Or give me one trial too much;  
All His people have been dearly purchased,  
And Satan can never claim such.  
By and by I shall see Him and praise Him  
In the city of unending day,  
And the toils of the road will seem nothing  
When I get to the end of the way.

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4. When the last feeble step has been taken,  
And the gates of the city appear,  
And the beautiful songs of the angels,  
Float out on my listening ear;  
When all that now seems so mysterious  
Will be plain and clear as the day  
Yes, the toils of the road will seem nothing  
When I get to the end of the way.
5. Though now I am footsore and weary  
I shall rest when I'm safely at home;  
I know I'll receive a glad welcome,  
For the Saviour Himself has said "Come!"  
So when I am weary in body  
And sinking in spirit, I say  
"All the toils of the road will seem nothing  
When I get to the end of the way."

***"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time  
are not worthy to be compared with the glory  
which shall be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18).***

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