



Revival

EVANGELISM • MEDIA • PRAYER

297

December 2009 - January 2010

The Messiah for Jews and Muslims – Day 6

Africa: Aim to Plant 200,000 Churches – Day 13

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**“Did you notice God’s
work in China?”**

Days 23-24

International Daily Prayer Bulletin

Revival Radio Ministry

Revival does not own radio stations - we produce many different programme formats aired on both Christian-owned and secular radio stations, for which we must pay substantial airtime fees. We thus target the non-Christians with the Gospel message, whilst still providing a teaching ministry for Christians.

(For a full Radio Broadcast Schedule please contact Revival)

UK & Europe

Best Seller

Premier Radio, London
UCB Talk
Trans World Radio (TWER)

Christmas

Many different 'pop Stations

Broadcasts Overseas

Abundant Life

TWR Swaziland
TWR Guam
TWR Sri Lanka
TWR Malawi

Living Hope

Christian Voice, Zambia
Impact Radio, Uganda

Revival Prayer Ministry

We believe that the evangelisation of the lost, in fulfilment of the Great Commission, can only be achieved by revived Christians - Christians who take prayer and obedience to Christ seriously. Prayer is a vital part of our ministry and a necessary support to the radio Gospel outreach.

- Regular Days of Prayer for unsaved loved ones
- Radio request prayer ministry
- Website Prayer Message Board
- E-Mail prayer alerts to registered supporters
- Eastbourne Prayer Centre

The Eastbourne Prayer Centre's vision is to pray for a God-sent revival for the town, the nation and the world, inspired by the words of Isaiah 62:6-7:

*"I have posted watchmen on your walls,
O Jerusalem; they will never be silent day or night.
You who call on the Lord, give yourselves
no rest, and give him no rest till he establishes
Jerusalem and makes her the praise of the Earth"*

Dearly Beloved Prayer Partners,

"There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off. Listen, my son, and be wise, and keep your heart on the right path."

(Proverbs 23:18-19)

"Let your light shine before men, that the may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven"

(Matthew 5:16)

A Generation in Desperate Need – What are we Doing?

Former *Spice Girls*' pop singer, "Mel-B", tells how she recently spent a week on a run-down Council Estate for an ITV programme. She had to live with a family of five headed by a single mum, on £264 weekly Benefits. The house and area were vermin-infested, but what most struck her was the lack of any hope that she observed among these people. The 18-year-old son was so uninterested that he didn't want to get out of bed in the morning even to sign on at the Jobcentre. She called the place, *Apathy city*, and recalls the time when she grew up in an area close by:

"My younger sister Danielle and I were given chores, such as setting the table at meal-times, and we did them. There was also a real sense of community where we lived - we all looked out for each other... My father Martin went to work every day and, at one stage, my mother held down three jobs. Danielle and I learned from watching them that we could have better lives by earning our own money... When I was younger I was a Girl Guide and attended Sunday school. I looked forward to going every week..."

A strong work ethic, Guides, Scouts and Sunday School used to be a key component of growing-up in Britain. Today these are replaced, among vast swathes of our population, by the kind of apathy and indifference described by Mel-B. The tragic spiral of family break-down has added further fuel to this apathy, especially among young boys. As Shadow Home Secretary, Chris Grayling, put it: "Family breakdown and the devaluation of marriage produce a generation of children with no concept of right and wrong."

What should we, as Christ's Church, do about this tragic and shameful situation in our nation? Jesus commanded us to be "salt" and "light." In the past our forbears created the Sunday School movement precisely to reach out to generations of children who had no hope in life - it became a part of the 19th-century transformation of our nation! How can we, the Ambassadors of Christ today, respond to the need of our generation?

With loving greetings from all the Revival team,



Ian Milmine

Iran Drops Charge Against Women

BIBLE STUDY: Acts 16:25-30

Day 1

Iran has dropped a major charge of conducting activities against the state against two Christian women who have been detained since March because of their faith. 27-year-old Maryam Rustampoor, and 30-year old Marzieh Amirzadeh Esmaeilabad were told by a court to renounce their new-found Christian faith and return to Islam. But they have refused.

They were arrested on three charges: anti-state activity, propagating the Christian faith, and apostasy – leaving Islam. According to Middle East Concern a judge at the Revolutionary Court has now dropped the charge of carrying out activities against the state.

Their case will now be transferred to a general court, where the other two charges will be considered. In Iran it is illegal for Muslims to change their faith. And legislators are considering mandating the death penalty for Muslim men who change their religion - the penalty for women would be life imprisonment.

Maryam and Marzieh are now back in prison, awaiting their next hearing. Both are said to be in poor health.

'This is good news that Iran has dropped the unfounded charge of carrying out activities against the state,' says Release CEO Andy Dipper. 'What it indicates is how Iran confuses personal matters of faith with national security.'

'Christians are wrongly regarded as being anti-government in Iran and are heavily persecuted. The state must move to grant full freedom of religion to its citizens.'

Release International

PRAISE: God for this important breakthrough, and the faithfulness of Maryam and Marzieh. Pray that they will know the Lord's comfort each day, and stand firm despite pressure to renounce their faith.

Christians Can Help Middle East Peace

BIBLE STUDY: Ephesians 2:14-18

Day 2

Nashat Filmon, Head of the *Palestinian Bible Society* claims Christians can help foster peace by acting as a bridge between Palestinians and Israelis. "On the ground it is a very hard, devastating situation. Palestinian Christians are between a rock and a hard place. They can easily be crushed by both sides. But we have the opportunity to build bridges to bring both sides together. It's our task to be true peacemakers between people and between people and God." Meanwhile, Tass Saada, Yasser Arafat's converted former driver (see story, Days 17 & 18) spends much of his time in the West Bank and Gaza, helping Palestinians through his charitable organization, *Seeds of Hope*. He says Muslims in the Middle East are turning to Christ in record numbers. That's why he is confident that peace will one day come to the region - the kind of peace that politicians can never bring.

CBN.com; Christian Post

PRAY: That Christians may indeed be the peace-giving salt and light that this region needs.

Iranian Church Unites Under Pressure

BIBLE STUDY: John 17:22-24

Day 3

The recent violent protests in Iran have only made the church there more united, says Joseph Hovsepian, whose father Bishop Haik Hovsepian was martyred in Iran in 1994. He said the regime was planning a "very hard and merciless" response to the protests. "People live in fear. The danger could be more for Christians. They have already been persecuted for years."

Hovsepian remains optimistic, however.

"I believe the regime cannot be the same anymore... as a result of these protests. That means change for the church too." Christians, Hovsepian says, are gathering together and praying "that the Lord would make something good come out of this", especially with regards to the many young people curious to know about a religion other than the Islam that has been imposed on them until now.

"They see a window of opportunity to share the Gospel with the new generation which is very tired of the dictatorship and the forcing of the Islamic religion on people. There is definitely a mixture of excitement, hope and tension. Yeghnazar added that Iranian Christians are "crying out to God against all violence and for deliverance and healing for the whole nation".

Christian Post

PRAISE: God that Iranian Christians are seeking God together. Pray that many Iranians, especially young people, will find the truth in Christ.

Turkey Promises Better for Christians

BIBLE STUDY: Romans 15:4-6

Day 4

"It is now for us essential to embrace all 71.5 million of this nation's people in respect and love," said Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan after a recent lunch meeting with Christian and Jewish leaders. Still, doubts remain over whether the predominantly Muslim country can protect its religious minorities. Even though Turkey is a secular State, authorities often report students who attend Christian meetings to their families to prevent possible conversions, and proselytisers are detained.

Of Turkey's 70 million people, some 65,000 are Armenian Orthodox Christians, 20,000 are Roman Catholic, and 3,500 are Protestant, mostly converts from Islam. Another 2,000 are Greek Orthodox and 23,000 are Jewish.

Erdogan's Islamic-rooted government has taken some steps toward change, amending laws to allow religious minorities to recover some property. The government has also indicated willingness to reopen the minority seminaries.

Christian Today

PRAISE: God that this is a start in the right direction. Pray that God's people may have grace and wisdom.

'I am Second', Puts Jesus First

BIBLE STUDY: Luke 10:26-28

Day 5

A new movement called "*I Am Second*" is ministering to people struggling with destructive lifestyles by teaching them about the purpose and focus of their life. People with issues ranging from substance abuse and sexual addiction to abuse and trauma are being invited to talk to someone who has overcome the same problem through the website iamsecond.com. The aim of the site is to connect people with similar life stories – one who has overcome the difficulty and can share authentic insights, and one who is still struggling with the problem.

Mentors are teaching participants the importance of making Jesus Christ the first focus of their life and making themselves second. In doing so, participants are taught how they will be lifted up and be co-heirs with Christ. People are also taught about the second chance offered by Christ. They learn that God still loves them even though they've made mistakes.

Anyone can log onto the site to connect with a live person either by phone, chat or e-mail 24-hours a day. Some of the struggles that are dealt with include affluence, divorce, fatherlessness, meaning, purpose in life, racism, satisfaction, pride, handicaps, selfishness, success, and war.

Christian Post

PRAISE: God for this initiative that responds so clearly to our "me-centred" culture. Pray that many people may find the joy of putting Jesus first.

The Messiah for Jews & Muslims

BIBLE STUDY: Isaiah 42:5-9

Day 6

Adverts offering a copy of Handel's *Messiah* are being included in newspapers and magazines reaching the Jewish and Muslim communities of the UK, up to mid December. The package includes 2 audio CD's with the full recording by the London Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Sir Colin Davis, with the Tanebrae Choir, about which *The Guardian* remarked that their singing is "jaw-droppingly beautiful."

This represents another of Revival's outreaches to show Christian love to these communities at Christmas, in the expectation that the text accompanying *Messiah*, and the exceptional music, will point many to the true Messiah, Jesus Christ.

Beginning in the Prophets and Psalms, and culminating with texts from the Book of Revelation, Handel's *Messiah* presents a picture of Jesus (Y'shua for Jews or Isa Masih for Muslims) that shows Him to be God's Messiah, the Saviour of the world and the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.

Revival Media

PRAISE: God the Revival has been able to reach out to these people in their own media. Pray for many to be profoundly touched in their souls by the music and text, that they may yearn to know the Messiah.

Christian Youth Needs Guidance

BIBLE STUDY: Malachi 4:5-6

Day 7 & 8

We must challenge and care for Christian young people growing up in a culture of consumerism - that was the message to Christian leaders at the *Evangelical Alliance* council. The Alliance revealed the results of a survey - taken of 800 young people at *Soul Survivor's* 'Momentum' event for students and 20-somethings - as part of an Alliance council symposium on 'The 18-30s Mission: a Missing Generation?' According to the survey, young adults are most attracted to a church by the resources it provides to support their own personal faith. Relevant preaching was ranked as the characteristic that would most attract them to church, followed by excellent worship and with people they can relate to coming third. The least attractive characteristics were the church being mission-orientated or a safe place to invite friends.

***Soul Survivor* leader Mike Pilavachi, addressing the council, said a culture of consumerism, individualism and entitlement has "eaten into the psyche of 20-somethings. What that mitigates against completely is commitment to community," he said, explaining that 20-somethings are always in a futile search for perfection, are afraid of going into the real world and show a great deal of pain in ministry times. "We've got to help them," he said. "We've got to love them, we've got to listen to them, but also we've got to find ways of gently, lovingly but definitely challenging some of the things that come from a culture of consumerism, individualism and entitlement."**

Jason Lane, Executive Director of young persons' ministry *Innovista*, said: "In our experience, people from this age group feel they have to make a choice between a church that's for me and a church that's about mission. For them, it's actually a choice between surviving as a Christian or not. "We need to give them both, where church can support you as a Christian and helping you live for Jesus, which involves and includes mission." Steve Clifford, General Director of the *Evangelical Alliance*, said: "The survey findings, and the personal experiences shared at the symposium, are a wake-up call to the church. As an Alliance, we are committed to provoking conversation and all of us, across all ages, are ready to respond to this challenge." **These findings seem to indicate the level to which many young people in our churches have been affected by the "me" culture of the world, comments the editor of *The International Daily Prayer Bulletin*. A youth that goes to church largely because it serves "my wants" is in danger of not hearing the challenge of Jesus to "deny yourself, and take up your cross and follow Me"** The *Evangelical Alliance* plans to prepare a report on the discussions and make recommendations for further action.

Evangelical Alliance; Christian Post; Revival Media

Day 7 – PRAY: That we may teach our young people to be prepared to follow Jesus and put Him first.

Day 8 – PRAISE: God that there is a growing awareness of the need to properly train our young.

Open Air Campaigners - Just Gone 30!

BIBLE STUDY: James 5:10-11

Day 9

It all began in the 1960s with a gifted evangelist Korky Davey and team members travelling in a van from the West Country to the continent where their innovative approach to reaching people with the Gospel facilitated local outreach. Since then *Open Air Campaigners Britain* has been responsible for opening up ministries in 12 European countries.

At a European Zone Conference in September, OAC Britain was asked to assume oversight of evangelism in Greece, Italy and Spain. Field representative in Spain, Chris Mathieson explains: "This is a welcome development as it brings work initially established through OAC Britain back under one roof." Today Europe is the only part of the world where the church is actually shrinking. OAC wants to firmly put the focus on this need.

In November, *Time for Europe* highlighted 30 years of ministry and showed how the vision for evangelism is being achieved. There was opportunity to meet national leaders at these rallies, including one of the first to come to faith through OAC evangelism in Europe. Countries as diverse as Romania and Austria were included. Mathieson sums up: "Europe needs the Gospel! It is a time to take our commitment a step further." OAC offers specialist training in effective open air evangelism and its evangelists attract substantial numbers of people on every continent.

Open Air Campaigners; Christian Post

PRAISE: God for OAC that has trained evangelists to take the Gospel to the people for 30 years.

Pastoring the Party Streets of Ibiza

BIBLE STUDY: Romans 13:11-14

Day 10

Around San Antonio, on the Mediterranean party island of Ibiza, a place once described by the *Daily Mail* as 'Sodom & Gomorrah,' the Bible is powerfully impacting lives. Visitors to the 24-7prayer Ibiza Centre all receive *The Message* version of the New Testament. "The response of the last few months has been phenomenal," reports team leader Brian Heasley. "One of our bouncer friends keeps his Bible tucked behind the door of the establishment where he works. We also spotted him and his colleague reading the Bible outside the club one night, having an in-depth discussion about what it meant. Our night time street work continues to throw up interesting conversations and fantastic opportunities to pray with people. We also pick up a great deal of drunk or drugged people to take home, which can be very messy. These situations can lead us to despair at times. It makes us sad. Amidst this, God is at work and young people are encountering Jesus."

The 24-7prayer team prays each night that they are out on the streets, and 4-5 hours of prayer takes place simultaneously in the prayer room, calling out to God for Ibiza.

24-7 News; Revival Media

PRAISE: God for this Christian presence on Ibiza's streets. Pray that many will find true joy in Jesus

Salvation for Many Russians with HIV

BIBLE STUDY: 2 Kings 20:1-6

Day 11

Russia has an epidemic of HIV, with 940,000 people living with the disease, mainly drug users. *Tearfund* is working to stop the spread of HIV and bring spiritual and material transformation by joining forces with local Christian partners. Among them is *Radio Teos*, which broadcasts weekly across Russia about HIV issues such as prevention and healthcare.

Evgeniya, 28, divorced her husband because he was diagnosed as living with HIV. Later she began listening to Radio Teos and became more knowledgeable and less afraid of HIV. She contacted her husband and learned he had been infected during a blood transfusion. Eventually they were reunited. Valeria, 50, from Moscow, said, "My son Sergey used to be a drug addict living with HIV. After listening to testimonies of people who quit drugs and began their HIV treatment through church-sponsored programmes, he accepted Christ and decided to quit drugs. He entered rehab and is now free from drugs."

Tearfund's Veena O'Sullivan says, "I've recently returned from Russia. Our partners there are inspirational. I've not seen churches run with a vision that fast. I have never seen churches grow so quickly with so many lives transformed."

Tear Fund; Christian Post

PRAISE: God for the positive example of service given by the Russian churches and for the young people who are coming to Christ because of it.

Britain's Youth Need Moral Compass

BIBLE STUDY: Psalm 119:9-10

Day 12

Writing recently in the *Daily Mail* newspaper, Britain's Archbishop John Sentamu chided the nation for allowing our young people to grow up with no "moral compass."

Meanwhile, the report by The Centre for Social Justice, entitled Every Family Matters, called upon Parliament to recognise that healthy marriages build healthy families, and healthy families build a healthy society. It highlighted that while approximately half of all cohabiting couples with children will split by the time the child is five, the equivalent figure for married couples is only one in 12.

The Archbishop highlighted the example of Naomi Cumming, a 15 year old involved with a youth club at a church in a deprived area of Leeds. She describes her area as one 'where kids as young as ten are on the streets drinking alcohol and getting into trouble'. She didn't take the path of joining gangs or getting involved in criminality but instead gave something back: she volunteered to run a weekly drop-in centre for five to 11-year-olds where she is involved in feeding children, providing activities and ensuring they have a safe place to be.

Daily Mail; Revival Media

PRAISE: God for sound evidence in favour of stable relationships and a moral compass for children as they grow up. Pray that the Church may give a lead.

Africa: Aim to Plant 200,000 Churches

BIBLE STUDY: Isaiah 54:2-3

Day 13

More than 1,200 African Christian leaders gathered in Kampala, Uganda, between September 6th and 8th 2009, for a church planting summit that aims to help reach the collective goal of planting more than 200,000 churches in the next decade.

At the Billion Soul Leadership Summit, Christian leaders from Kenya, Sudan, Somalia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania are learning from successful church planting leaders how to duplicate their strategies in Africa.

Dr. Alex Mitala, chairman of the *New Birth Fellowship* and one of the speakers, reported that over the last ten months more than 1,200 new churches have been planted in the bush areas of Uganda.

Joel News International

PRAISE: God that African leaders are not satisfied with the present rate of growth, but want to see the Kingdom of Christ advance all over the continent. Pray that they may seek God's plans and be blessed.

A Beacon of Light in a Kenyan Dump

BIBLE STUDY: 2 Corinthians 4:5-7

Day 14

The municipal dump at Dandora, just south of Nairobi, stretches over 30 acres of smoking, untreated waste, through public housing and shantytowns where some 600,000 people live - a witch's brew of chemicals, poison and pollution seep into the surrounding soil, air and water, spreading disease and dangers. Several thousand Dandora residents survive by selling anything of value they can find in the dump.

Billy Oyugi, associate pastor of Dandora Baptist Church shares hope with the neighbours. The church, which sits on a dusty square in the area, is a beacon of light in the smoky miasma of Dandora. It operates a medical clinic, helps HIV/AIDS patients, teaches job skills to young people and heads of households, sponsors a school and child development centre for hundreds of needy children. "Our teachers are missionaries," Oyugi stresses. The congregation also sponsors home churches in each district of Dandora and runs a "Jesus Training Centre" that offers a six-month course for believers.

"Our purpose is not just to reach the lost but to teach our members to do evangelism and discipleship. We rejoice when we see one of them discovering what God intends for them to do and just getting on with it."

Baptist Press; Christian Telegraph

PRAISE: God for this clear witness amongst the misery of the dump. Pray for a great move of God, and for the dump to be removed by the authorities.

Biblical Pattern of Revival: Solomon's Dedication of the Temple

Reading: 2 Chronicles 5 & 7 v 1-12a

One of the highlights of the Old Testament is the dedication of the temple when Solomon was King, as we have it recorded in 2 Chronicles. It illustrates for us how much God wants to dwell among His people, and what a transformation takes place in people's lives when His presence is so real and evident. We see some key points that led to God's glory being revealed:

God's presence placed at the centre – 2 Chronicles 5

In Chronicles Chapter 5 we read that Solomon brought the Ark of the Covenant and the Tent of Meeting from Zion to the Temple (v 2-6). We know that the Ark represented the very presence of God Himself, and by moving the Ark they were inviting God's presence into the centre of their corporate life. This physical move represented a spiritual move and commitment towards God. Moses himself had pleaded with God for His presence and he recognized that without His presence he was powerless (Exodus 33 v 15-16).

Making a sacrifice to please God – 2 Chronicles 5 v 6

We read in this passage that Solomon and the whole assembly made a great sacrifice to God in recognition of His worth and glory. So many animals were sacrificed that no-one could number them! In all stories of Revival we always find someone has made a sacrifice in serving God. Paul makes the same plea in Romans Chapter 12 v1.

Consecrating their lives to God - 2 Chronicles 5 v 11

We read that the priests had consecrated themselves to God as part of this process; this follows on from the sacrifice where the people had laid down their lives, to consecration which is giving service to God. It's rather like baptism – dying to self, and then rising to new life in serving the Lord. A constant theme in revival is that of consecration.

God sends the fire of His presence - 2 Chronicles 7 v 1-4

After Solomon's prayer of dedication (Chapter 6), the fire of God fell on the burnt offerings and the sacrifices, and God's Glory filled the temple. The sense of God's presence was so great that the priests could not enter the Temple (v 2) and the effect on the people was one of humility - they knelt with their faces to the ground, and they worshipped Him, giving thanks and saying: "He is good: His love endures forever"
Later the people returned home joyful and glad. They had tasted revival and experienced the love of God for themselves.

Examples from History: The Jeffery Brothers

The Jeffrey brothers, Stephen, George and William, came out of the Welsh revival; they were born in Maesteg and worked in or at the local mines. George and Stephen started to work together in Wales in 1913 and gave themselves to open air witnessing in the villages. God accompanied the preaching of the Word with signs and wonders and their work grew rapidly. George became concerned with making sure that new converts were properly followed-up, and so he provided places for them to gather and form themselves into churches.

The Revival spreads to Northern Ireland.

Their work soon moved to Ireland and with a group of men from Monaghan formed the *Elim Evangelistic Band*, later called the *Elim Pentecostal Alliance*. They worked with two leading men in Monaghan, Alan Kerr and George Allen, and led their first crusade in 1915. Out of this work came the *Four Square Gospel Alliance* and they purchased their first church in Hunter Street in Belfast. The work in Ireland grew significantly, mainly in the north, but later in the south also. The outreach became known as the *Four Square Gospel* campaign because George Jeffreys concentrated his message on four fundamental truths:

Jesus Christ - the Saviour
 Jesus Christ - the Healer
 Jesus Christ - the baptiser in the Holy Spirit
 Jesus Christ - the coming King

In 1916 the work centred on Ballymena and God worked amongst the people in great power. On one occasion God's presence was so great that 60 people were sent prostrate on the ground, and the ministry had to stop, so strong was God's glory in the meeting. During 1917-1919 the work grew in all the centres and more evangelists joined the work. As E.C.W. Boulton writes, "Everywhere George Jeffreys campaigned large crowds assembled, some of the biggest halls in the North of Ireland being packed to suffocation."

The new work of God in Wales and England

In Wales Stephen Jeffreys had seen God work in a wonderful way in Merthyr Tydfil - hundreds of souls had been saved, and God had moved powerfully in the community. George came over from Ireland to help with the new move of God in Wales. Soon God was leading George on to England. Work was started in Leigh-On-Sea in Essex, and then in Clapham. A press report mentions many being healed and the whole area stirred by the meetings.

Between 1925 and 1934 George was engaged in evangelistic work all around Britain and everywhere he went, large crowds attended the meetings, many, many people were healed and there were thousands of converts. This movement often started with little or no help from the local churches, relying on a very small number of helpers, and yet as a result of his ministry, many new churches were planted which went on to thrive and grow. In Birmingham there were astonishing results. It is estimated that 10,000 people were converted and 1000 people baptised and over 1,000 received healing. Within 6 years there were 11 new Elim churches in Birmingham.

A Bible College is established

In 1925 a Bible College was started to train and equip new leaders and evangelists to help with the ever-expanding work across England, Wales and Ireland. George also travelled to other countries including Sweden, Italy and North America.

Meetings were held all over the country in places like Liverpool, Plymouth, Bournemouth, Carlisle, Leeds and, in 1927, at the Royal Albert Hall. Very large crowds were drawn to all these venues and, invariably, many were saved, healed and whole communities deeply impacted. In fact a number of meetings were held in the Royal Albert Hall several years running with powerful testimonies of God's healing and restoring. This local report sums up the event:

"Remarkable scenes took place at the Royal Albert Hall yesterday... The demonstration was held in two parts - the first starting at 3 o'clock in the afternoon and the second at 6 o'clock in the evening. Hours before the doors were opened thousands of people queued up seeking admission, and spent the waiting hours singing religious songs taught them previously by the pastor. They stormed the great hall soon after 2 o'clock and soon every seat from the top of the Albert Hall to the bottom was occupied"

Revival fires spreading in Hastings

Whilst in Hastings (1927) a report was sent to the headquarters in London that said: "Crowds flock to the big tent daily. Souls are coming in at every meeting. Remarkable cases of healing are taking place. The largest hall in the district is now booked. Pray and believe." There were remarkable scenes too in places like Portsmouth, Southampton and Brighton.

George and Stephen Jeffrey were ordinary people called by God to preach the Gospel; they believed in God's powerful ability to save and do miracles. God's presence was very evident wherever they went and enormous crowds were drawn to hear the Gospel. They may not be the most well known revivalists, but they are well known in heaven!

(Acknowledgement: E.C.W. Boulton - "George Jeffreys" published by Sovereign World)

Prayers

Concerning Revival

A Hymn of Albert Midlane (1825-1909)

Revive Thy work, O Lord,
Thy mighty arm make bare;
Speak with the voice that wakes the dead
And make thy people hear.

Revive Thy work, O Lord,
Disturb this sleep of death;
Quicken the smouldering embers now
By Thine almighty breath.

Revive Thy work, O Lord,
Create soul-thirst for Thee;
And hungering for the Bread of Life
O may our spirits be!

Revive Thy work, O Lord,
Exalt Thy precious Name;
And by the Holy Ghost, our love
For The and Thine inflame.

Revive Thy work, O Lord,
Give Pentecostal showers;
The glory shall be all Thine own,
The blessing, Lord, be ours.

*"The depth of Revival will be determined exactly
by the depth of the spirit of repentance.*

And this will hold true for all people at all times."

Frank Bartleman.

*"One of the outstanding features of the (Welsh)
revival was the confession of sin, not among
the unsaved alone, but among the saved. All
were broken and melted down before the Cross
of Christ."*

James A. Stewart

Burundi President Calls Nation to God

BIBLE STUDY: Isaiah 2:4

Day 15

Some 300,000 Burundians perished during the conflict between Tutsis and Hutus that spanned almost 12 years, and hundreds of thousands were displaced. A new constitution, established in 2005, elected a government under the leadership of born-again Christian President Pierre Nkurunziza.

Under Nkurunziza, a programme to build free primary schools to promote equality in a country long divided by ethnic conflict has been put in motion: several hundred schools have been built so far without aid from external governments. The Burundi government provided the materials, with some assistance from Christian ministries such as *Aid for the World*.

"All Burundians had to engage in community work," Nkurunziza said. "Every Saturday they came together to help build these schools." In addition to expanding access to education, Nkurunziza's government offers free medical care for pregnant women and children under age 5 to help reduce the nation's child and infant mortality rate.

Nkurunziza said he became born-again in 1997 after receiving a Bible from a rural minister. "I started reading the Bible from beginning to end," he said. "When I finished, I got saved! ...In our political party until now, God occupies the first place. Everything we do we start by praying and end by praying because we have to remember to put God before everything." Nkurunziza plans to run for re-election in 2010 and wants to provide free secondary schooling and build more health clinics.

Each August the president holds a large national rally to thank God for sparing his life and developing the nation. He said he wants the Burundian people "to think about what God has done for our nation, what God has done during the whole year so that as [we] praise God, He can be with us the next year."

Charisma Magazine; CIA Factbook

PRAISE: God for the peaceful four years and the improvements that Nkurunziza has brought to this once divided nation. Pray for a real revival.

Audio Old Testament for Hausas

BIBLE STUDY: Psalm 119:103-104

Day 16

Audio Scripture Ministries' Tom Dudenhofer says they will soon begin producing audio recordings of the Hausa Old Testament. "We began to realize that very few Old Testament audio recordings have been made," he says. The New Testament is fully understood in the context of the events, characters, laws, sacrificial system, covenants, and promises of the Old Testament. So, for believers who are wanting to grow, their desire to have the Old Testament in audio is a natural. "It's a key part of the picture of Jesus Christ that's missing in a culture where literacy is low," says Dudenhofer.

Mission Network News

PRAY: That this venture may soon begin and that the Hausa people of West Africa may be blessed.

Arafat's Former Driver Trusts Jesus

BIBLE STUDY: 2 Corinthians 3:17-18

Day 17 & 18

Palestinian Tass Saada ran away from home and joined Fatah when he was just 17. He was soon drawn to the militant views of Fatah founder Yasser Arafat. "I used to sit right across from him and just stare at him, mesmerized," said Saada. "He was such a charismatic character." Saada believed the Jews had stolen Palestinian land. He was determined to help Arafat push Israel into the sea. "Our training was specialized in intense, marine-type fighting skills," he recalled. "We used to call ourselves guerrilla fighters, commando fighters."

Saada became a Fatah sniper, picking off and killing Israeli soldiers. His nickname was "Butcher." "My job was to knock off whoever was the commander of the unit," he said. Saada took part in bloody battles against the Israeli army. He even attempted to assassinate the Crown Prince of Jordan, who he saw as unfriendly to Palestinians. But his most prestigious job was as a personal driver for his hero: Arafat. "Everybody knows I was a fierce driver," said Saada. "And so when it came a time and need for Arafat to be transported from one area of Jordan to the other, they called me to do that."

Saada eventually made his way to the United States to attend school. By that point, he had given up on waging violent jihad, but he still hated Jews. He became a successful restaurant manager, married an American woman and had two children. But he was miserable - living a fast lifestyle of mistresses and booze - until a long-time friend told him about Jesus Christ.

"He put the Bible in the middle, between the two of us. And I just got scared and I jumped away from the Bible," Saada recounted. "I said, 'I cannot touch that! It's got the name of God, the word of God in it!' He said, 'So you believe this is the word of God?' I said, 'Yes.' "Why did I say 'yes,' when we as Muslims don't really believe that the Bible is valid as the word of God?" Saada says he momentarily lost consciousness at that point. "The next thing I know, I'm on my knees with my hands lifted up, inviting Jesus. And the rest is history."

His Christian friend challenged him again. He said "Tass, to have the peace that I have, you must love the Jew." Saada said, "Charlie knew how much I hated Jews." But he soon got past that lifelong hatred. He developed close friendships with Jews and began to look at Israel in a brand new light. His book, *Once an Arafat Man* recounts his transformation. "I don't believe in the two-state solution, because I believe that land belongs to the Jews. It doesn't belong to us. But, on the other hand I believe that we have the right to live in that land, as is recorded in the Book of Ezekiel, where the Lord re-divided the land among the Israelites and told them to give the foreigners living among them an equal share of the land," Saada said.

Seeds of Hope; CBN News

Day 17 – PRAISE: God for this total transformation, changing hatred into love for the "enemy."

Day 18 – PRAY: For more Saada's who can be peacemakers through the power of Jesus.

Jesus is Most Influential in Australia

BIBLE STUDY: John 21:24-25

Day 19

Bible Society NSW has announced that its "Jesus. All about life" campaign will now cover all of New South Wales, the oldest and most populous Australian state, reports Dan Wooding, founder of *ASSIST Ministries*. "Jesus. All about life" is a non-denominational, advertising-based, mass-media campaign which aims to increase the general public's awareness of the person of Jesus, and what he said "about life." A spokesperson for the campaign told ANS, "This media campaign is supported by local churches, who will run community, cultural, and arts events that connect with the message of the campaign. **"Jesus. All about life" has already run successfully in Adelaide, Canberra and Tasmania. "I have seen how country churches sometimes struggle to make an impact in their community. Being a part of the "Jesus. All about life" campaign, means they will join with hundreds of other churches and thousands of Christians as together we present the person of Jesus and what He said into our society," said Bible Society NSW CEO, Daniel Willis.**

Recent research commissioned by *All About Life* - polling both believers and un-believers - found that 54% of Australians ranked Jesus as the number one most influential person in history, beating Albert Einstein who came in at second place (16%) and Charles Darwin who was ranked third (9%). Other statistics reveal that 2 in 5 Australians say they practice their religion and only 27% do not believe in God or a universal power of any sort.

Christian Telegraph; Prayer Alert

PRAISE: God for this novel way of making people aware of who Jesus is. Pray that it may continue to impact all over Australia and beyond.

Graham Preaches to 10,000 in China

BIBLE STUDY: Luke 19:4-6

Day 20

Shortly after China celebrated sixty years of the foundation of the People's Republic, US evangelist Franklin Graham preached at the second largest church in China, proclaiming to around 10,000 people the story of the salvation of tax collector Zacchaeus recorded in Luke 19. Before the overflowing crowd at *Bethel Church of Baoding*, located about 120 miles south of Beijing, Graham stressed that each person there was not just one figure in China's 1.3 billion population, nor too insignificant to meet God. To Almighty God, each of them is as important as Zacchaeus, who was given the choice to accept or reject Jesus' invitation to come down and meet him. "I'm here today to tell you that not only does God know who you are, He loves you," the evangelist said. Graham's visit to China follows a three-day trip to North Korea, where the evangelist met high-level government officials.

Christian Telegraph; BGEA

PRAISE: God for the growing openings for the Gospel in China and even in North Korea.

Tell the World: Jesus, No Greater Love

BIBLE STUDY: Luke 7:16-18

Day 21

Fifteen years ago, Bruce Marchiano was hired to play Jesus in the word-for-word dramatization of *The Gospel According to Matthew*. Marchiano's portrayal shattered every stereotype. Reviewers often refer to him as "the happy Jesus," whose passion, affection and love were a breath of fresh air. Yet, during the making of the film, Marchiano witnessed first hand the influence of investors' visions for commercial success on the integrity of the Gospel. He vowed that if he were ever calling the shots, he would make a Jesus film free from the conflict of the for-profit system.

Fifteen years later, Marchiano's God-given vision is being realized. *Jesus...No Greater Love* will be a word-by-word depiction of John's gospel. Marchiano's vision is to make *Jesus...No Greater Love* a world-class film for the next generation. The movie's \$45 million budget will come from millions of Christians all over the. Marchiano wants 4.5 million producers to give a tax deductible donation of \$10 apiece in time for the scheduled beginning of production in March 2010.

Throughout the production process, producers will be invited to interact with Marchiano and the filmmakers, and they will play a crucial role in spreading the word about the new film. "This isn't about the box office. It is about souls coming to Christ," says Marchiano. "I envision millions of American youth watching this movie on iPods, cell phones, the internet, etc. But I also see this movie projected on an old bed sheet in an Indian leper colony. This is a movie produced by the body of Christ to reach the entire world for Christ." For more information, visit www.NewJesusMovie.com.

Christian News Wire

PRAISE: God for this vision. Pray that the film may powerfully bring Jesus to this generation.

Young People are Deeply Religious

BIBLE STUDY: Amos 8:11

Day 22

The majority of teenagers and young adults in most parts of the world are religious, according to a massive 21-country study conducted by the German think-tank *Bertelsmann Stiftung* (BS). More than four out of five young adults (85 percent) are religious, and almost half (44 percent) are deeply religious. Only 13 percent say they are not interested in God or faith in general. "The perception that young people are less religious than their parents and grandparents is typically Western European and does not correspond to the reality worldwide," organizers of the study commented. Dr. Martin Rieger, project leader of BS's *Religion Monitor* concluded: "The assumption that religious belief is dwindling continuously from generation to generation is clearly refuted by our worldwide surveys – even in many industrialized nations."

Christian Post

PRAISE: God – what an opportunity we have to present Jesus to a generation hungry for reality!

Did You Notice God's Work in China?

BIBLE STUDY: Isaiah 55:8-10

Day 23 & 24

60 years ago, Mao Zedong announced the inauguration of the People's Republic of China. Although praised by left-wing Western intellectuals, the entire Maoist experiment had led - by the 1960s - to great hardship and deprivation. For the small Chinese Church, fragmented into numerous denominations and missions, this period was one of terrible persecution. The enforced unity of all Protestant churches under the Three Self Patriotic Movement (TSPM) in 1958 led to the increasing control of the Church by the State. The expulsion or withdrawal of the entire Protestant missionary force was regarded at the time as an unmitigated disaster.

But, in the providence of God, the stage was set for the great revival and growth that was to follow. In fact, the total withdrawal of Western denominations has proved to be a great blessing to the Chinese Church. It no longer relied on Western financial aid or control. The 'registered' church, however much a political move at the time, emerged from the shadows in 1979 and has thrived ever since, no longer as a series of fragmented denominations, but as a post-denominational organism seen by the Chinese people simply as 'the Christian Church.'

Simultaneously by the early 1970s, when the Maoist Cultural Revolution was seen to have spectacularly failed, house churches sprang up everywhere. Centred on Bible study, prayer and intense fellowship, these house churches have been seed-beds for unimaginable revival and church growth. When, in 1979, Deng Xiaoping rose to supreme power and China opened her doors to Western free market economic transformation, it also saw limited but real religious freedom. By 1980, the *China Christian Council* (CCC) was set up to supervise not only the reopening of churches, but the building of huge numbers of new churches, seminaries and Bible Colleges and the publishing of Bibles and Christian literature.

Today China boasts the largest Bible printing press in the world. Since 1979 Chinese Christianity has developed largely in two streams: the registered TSPM/CCC churches, accounting for some 20 million believers, and the house churches, with an estimated 50 million souls. China probably now has the largest evangelical church in the world. Businessmen, university academics, students and even politicians now form part of China's churches.

As China's economic and political role increases in the world, the Chinese Church is preparing to take up its responsibility as a worldwide missionary force for the 21st century. As secular humanism seeks to choke the Gospel in the West, God has been preparing the Chinese Church, through decades of fiery trials, for such a time as this. He is on the Throne and in complete control of history!

OMF – Praying for China; Revival Media

Day 23 – PRAISE: God for turning what long seemed a crisis into victory to the glory of His Name.

Day 24 – PRAY: That the Chinese church may know its hour and be ready for the work God has for it.

Many Converts on 'Darwin's Island'

BIBLE STUDY: Psalm 100:3

Day 25

The Galapagos Islands are an archipelago of volcanic islands in the Pacific Ocean, 972 km west of continental Ecuador. With a current Spanish-speaking population of 40,000, they became famous after a visit by Charles Darwin in 1835. Darwin believed the islands' unusual collection of plant and animal species supported his theory of evolution.

Yet, on the very islands where God's existence was put in doubt, there's now a growing move toward God. For Galapagos resident and tour guide Felix Reyes, the islands provide evidence for a different story to evolution.

Reyes is one of many islanders who've recently come to faith in God. Missionary Bill McDonald started church planting 15 years ago. "We began evangelizing Isabella Island's 2,000 people," he recalled. "Then we went to San Cristobal island, the capital of Galapagos, inhabited by some 5,000 people," he added. "We now have a lovely church established there. Now we're trying to raise a work in Floreana."

The missionary focus hasn't been lost on Galapagos believers, who would like to make their islands famous for something besides evolution. "We are together in heart and will, so that this mission can expand to the whole world," said resident Manuel Cardenas. McDonald's next building project includes six classrooms, to be used by children during the day and for training future pastors and missionaries by night.

CBN News: Revival Media

PRAISE: God for the fruit of the Gospel. Pray that tourists may be amazed at the work of God's hand.

New Bible Revision for Peru's Indians

BIBLE STUDY: Nehemiah 8:8-12

Day 26

The Quechua Indians of Ayacucho suffered enormously under the tyranny of the *Shining Path* guerrillas 20 years ago. Homes and churches were destroyed, thousands were murdered, Bibles were burned, and tens of thousands of people were displaced. Pastor Efrain Navarro says that it was the Bible that sustained the community, "Our faith in the Lord was firm even in those difficult times..." With so many Quechua people displaced into Spanish-speaking areas, the language has adopted many Spanish terms, and the old Quechua Bible translation is out of date. *Bible Society* and other partners are working on a new, revised translation in the Quechua language. "This Bible is very important for us," says Efrain. "In this Bible we can know God."

Bible Society – Word in Action

PRAISE: God Quechua Christians have remained faithful in adversity. Pray for the Bible revision.

Latin America Trains Missionaries

BIBLE STUDY: Isaiah 52:7-8

Day 27

The goal of *HCJB Global* for the Latin American region is to equip and mobilize the church to reach out with the Gospel in their region and to overseas cultures. Speaking from Ecuador, President of *HCJB Global* Wayne Pederson says Latin American Christians are uniquely positioned. "Latinos can get in to areas of the world that North Americans can't. The Latin American church is a huge army of believers that if equipped and mobilized can be very effective in sharing the Gospel around the world, in addition to reaching unreached people in their own country."

***HCJB Global* has already been involved in sending Latin Americans cross-culturally. "We are already training people in health care that have gone to Africa, India, and South East Asia, that are going to some of the most unreachable places on the earth because Latinos are accepted there."**

"The Christian movement has sufficiently matured in Latin America so that we can prepare our own peoples as missionaries," says Pastor Narciso Zamora, founder of the Inter-American Missiology Ministerial School (IMMS). Thanks to the support and direction of developed countries over the last two centuries, many thousands of evangelical churches with professional ministers and lay persons now exist. Prior to 1950, evangelical Christians were scarce in Latin America. Today, 20 percent of Latin Americans are born-again Christians and almost every country is experiencing phenomenal growth year after year.

Mission Network News; Revival Media

PRAISE: God for the growing calling of the 'Latinos' to missionary service overseas. Pray that they may receive the training and ongoing support they need.

Students Counter Uruguay Secularism

BIBLE STUDY: Romans 1:11-13

Day 28

Romina is a 20-year old Uruguayan university student. In 2008 she took on the leadership of one of the four Christian student groups in Montevideo, the capital. Ricardo Borges, the staff worker writes: "Our efforts might feel like a drop in the ocean in the midst of the 100,000 university students in Montevideo. And yet it is such an encouragement to see a real sense of initiative, responsibility and creativity within the group of Christian Uruguayan student leaders..." Uruguay is the most secular country of Latin America. No more than 4% of its population would call themselves evangelical Christians. "To be known as a Christian in the university is a great challenge... we believe this challenge is faced through mission, as we live out our faith publicly," said Borges.

International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES)

PRAISE: God for faithful witness in the universities. Pray for a growing Christian university fellowship.

UK: Stop the Gagging of Christians!

BIBLE STUDY: Exodus 10:2-4

Day 29

Speaking at the recent UK Conservative Party Conference, Baroness Sayeeda Warsi, herself a Muslim, made a spirited defence of Britain's Christian culture and criticised the present equality legislation that has led to a marginalisation of belief in God. Andrea Minichiello Williams, Director of CCFON and *The Christian Legal Centre*, commented: "We applaud Baroness Warsi's comments condemning rising secularism within our culture... The challenge for a Conservative Government is to be willing to reverse the so called anti-discrimination legislation that has led to this marginalisation of Christianity."

Christian Concern for our Nation; Revival Media

PRAY: That we may see a reversal of the attitude and legislation that has sought to gag Christians.

Pastors Bring Peace to UK Streets

BIBLE STUDY: Isaiah 43:1-3

Day 30

Street Pastors is a Church response to urban problems, engaging with people on the streets to care, listen and dialogue. It was pioneered in London in January 2003 by the Rev. Les Isaac, Director of the *Ascension Trust*. There are now over 100 teams around the United Kingdom.

Having Christians on the streets at night has brought real benefits to the areas where *Street Pastors* have been operating, a fact recognized by the Police, Local Authorities and the media.

"Street Pastors is about Christians rolling up their sleeves and getting involved in practically... They are like beacons on our streets and I want to see them shining brightly in every constituency," said David Burrowes, the MP for Enfield, Southgate.

Individual street pastors have many opportunities to share the Gospel of Jesus with young people while 'on the beat.'

Streetpastors.co.uk

PRAISE: God that Christians are going out to meet young people at their point of need. Pray for them.

Pakistan: Christians are Witnessing!

BIBLE STUDY: Psalm 44:20-22

Day 31

"I belong to a Muslim family", says Irfan L: "In 1998 I accepted Jesus Christ and became a believer. After Salvation I attended Bible seminary at FGA Bible College, Lahore, in 2006. Now I'm working for God as FGA Church Pastor in Abbottabad, (NWFP), Pakistan. God is using me for His work and Glory especially among Afghan Refugees. I do Evangelism among Muslims and distribute Bibles and Christian Literature to them. Running two Evening Schools for 25 Afghan Refugees children, who work in day time and get education in evening."

Short Notes-mailing

PRAISE: God His work progresses in spite of trials.

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The International Daily Prayer Bulletin is
Published by

Revival

13 Lismore Road,

Eastbourne, E. Sussex, BN21 3AY, UK

Tel: 01323 725231 Fax: 01323 412650

E-mail: info@revivalmedia.org

U.K. Registered Charity No.: 232509

Editor: Ian Milmine Manager: Carley Faith

For online edition, go to: www.revivalmedia.org

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