

Katoomba Baptist Church Bulletin

41 Waratah Street, Katoomba NSW 2780.

June 2020.

Restricted church services are resuming in compliance with the NSW Government rules.

10am Sunday service is also streamed on Katoomba Baptist Church's YouTube channel.

KBC website <https://katoombabaptist.org.au/>.

Bible Study: Second and Fourth Wednesday of the month, on Zoom

(email: [Grahame McCraw mowogmaca@gmail.com](mailto:GrahameMcCrawmowogmaca@gmail.com))

Prayer meeting: Each Saturday, 9am. Prayer for Israel: Third Friday of the month, 1.30pm.

From the editor

Has anyone given you a book as a gift that you would not have chosen to read ... but when you did get around to reading it you were surprisingly blessed? During the lockdown I finally read a book on the Greek myths that my brother had given me. I was drawn to it despite my reluctance and I can now understand why. Two reasons: one, I now appreciate the challenges the early evangelists faced when bringing the Gospel to the gentiles in the Greco-Roman world; two, the gods in the Greek myths could not be further from the God of the Bible by their character and the way they relate to human beings.

Apart from their supernatural powers, the Greek gods are representations of perhaps the worst of human nature. They are vain, besotted with their power, capricious, vengeful, and forever squabbling among themselves. They act more like a debauched aristocracy than "higher beings". Even Zeus, the ruler of Olympus and by extension the whole of creation, is particularly depraved, habitually given to acts of unfaithfulness to his goddess wife, Hera, and relentlessly cruel. Indeed, both Zeus and all the pantheon of gods have to be constantly placated by the mortals over whom they have reign.

As in all false religions and in all the gods that have been created by the imaginations of men, there is no concept of holiness, goodness, grace and love which are among the many glorious distinguishing attributes of the one true God, the living God, the triune God Who has revealed Himself in His creation and through His Word and manifested Himself in the Lord Jesus Christ. How markedly different to all the surrounding nations had been the religion of Israel that worshipped Yahweh and obeyed His Law. How radical must have been the Gospel to the people of the Greco-Roman world. How shocking the concept of God becoming a man to die for the sins of mankind. How inexplicable was the concept of a holy God of enduring mercy and grace. And how astonishing was the reality that the Spirit of God could dwell inside a man and change him utterly.

Another book I read recently concerns that last point — "Mr Eternity" by Roy Williams. What a joyful and inspiring read! To see a wretched existence such as Arthur Stace's, a man driven to despair by squalor and alcoholism, transformed into a life overflowing with abundant faithfulness and blessedness is a testimony to the salvation power of Christ and the sustaining presence of the Holy Spirit. In addition to his incredible one word ministry, writing "Eternity" many thousands of times on New South Wales streets, I learnt that Arthur Stace served his Lord and his fellow man in other ministries with a dedication that seemed inexhaustible. Through all this new life Stace remained humble, even when his identity as the mysterious Mr Eternity was revealed to the public. Stace remained ever thankful to the God Who had drawn a lost and broken man from darkness into the glorious light of Christ. How many souls were drawn to Christ by His light that shone through Arthur Stace?

There are myths and there are "cunningly devised fables" [2 Pet. 1:16]. And then there is the truth and majesty of the holy, living God. The God Who rules over all His creation with wisdom and justice. Who is "slow to anger and abounding in mercy" [Ps. 103:8]. Who sent His only begotten Son to save us from our sins [Jn. 3:16]. Who has given us the Spirit of truth, the Counselor [Jn. 14:16-17]. Whose Word has warned mankind that Jesus Christ is "the way, the truth, and the life" and the only means of salvation [Jn. 14:6]. Man has created 'gods' in his image but God created man in His image and through Christ restores him to that image. "For you, O LORD, are most high above all the earth; You are exalted far above all gods" [Ps. 97:9]. Amen.

To God be the glory. May our Saviour's name be exalted.

Your brother in Christ, Bill.

Please pray

- for the Lord to guide us through these times in which we live, and grant us strength and wisdom.
- for our leaders and authorities, for medical staff and indeed all those who are dealing with this crisis.
- that the Lord will minister to all who are undergoing trials and suffering, here and everywhere.
- for Israel, for the "Peace of Jerusalem" (Ps 122:6) and for the Gospel there "To the Jew first." (Rom 1:16).
- for our persecuted brothers and sisters in nations rich and poor and for those who persecute them.
- with thanks for the rain; for the Lord in His grace and mercy.
- for the people whose livelihoods have been impacted by the Coronavirus, the drought and fires.
- for revival in our community, state, nation, and throughout the world, and for our faith to increase.
- for the Church to wake up and be alert to the lateness of the hour and proclaim the Gospel.
- for the power of the Spirit in our lives, for discernment and wisdom as we live through these last days.
- that the Lord will help us to use our gifts for His glory and to share the Gospel with others.
- for missions, especially those we support as a church.
- that we continue to grow in Christian love as a church, serving the Lord and each other.
- Maranatha! ("Come, O Lord!")

**"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks:
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).**

Church announcements

- KBC Sunday service is available online. Google "Katoomba Baptist Church YouTube".
- KBC now has a website! (Thanks Daniel and Josh!). Visit <https://katoombabaptist.org.au>

"Love is a commitment that will be tested in the most vulnerable areas of spirituality, a commitment that will force you to make some very difficult choices. It is a commitment that demands that you deal with your lust, your greed, your pride, your power, your desire to control, your temper, your patience, and every area of temptation that the Bible clearly talks about. It demands the quality of commitment that Jesus demonstrates in His relationship to us." [Ravi Zacharias (1946-2020)]

From Stephen Downie of Redeemer Ministries

I am writing to let you (KBC) know that much progress in ministry is taking place in Pakistan. I had a phone from Arif in Pakistan to say the redeemed families have been weeping with thankfulness for the emergency food relief to carry them through this lockdown.

** The funds are direct*

** The help is immediate*

** Bulk purchase is made to stretch the funds*

** Local diet directed*

** No administration fees are taken out (a small fee to send the money was required)*

** The funds are given and received in the name of the Lord.*

Arif has explained to me that the government has given him and the Church authorisation to visit people in their homes for pastoral care and the gospel.

Other ministries:

13 Christian Schools in the Brick kilns; Mobile Medical Van in the Brick Kilns;

Missionary Couple Heidel and Sarah supported in Amazon Jungle; Bible College in Indonesia with Bible Teaching.

REDEEMER MINISTRIES

Westpac – Cessnock, BSB 032516, ACCOUNT 316029.

Temporary mailing address:

Redeemer Ministries, Stephen Downie, 9 Livingstone Street, LAWSON 2783 NSW.

Phone: 0400475921

Thank you for your interest and support.

June birthdays: Vickie T. 10th, Anna W. 23rd.

May the Lord bless you abundantly on your special day and in the year ahead in your walk with Him.

Spurgeon on being born again

... there is absolute necessity for regeneration, or the work of the Spirit. An absolute necessity, I say, because in no one single instance can it be dispensed with. You may educate a nature till it should attain the highest point, but you cannot educate an old nature into a new one. You may educate a horse, but you cannot educate it into a man. You shall train the bird that sits upon your finger but you cannot train a limpet into an eagle, nor is it possible for you to train by the best instruction the natural man into a spiritual man. Between the two there is still a great gulf fixed. But cannot the natural man, by great efforts long-continued at last come to be spiritual? No, he cannot. ... So you may by your own efforts make yourselves the best of natural men. You may become the most patriotic of statesmen, you may become the most sober and discreet of moralists, you may become the kindest and most benevolent of philanthropists, but into a spiritual man you cannot bring yourself. Do what you will, and still at your very best there is a division wide as eternity between you and the regenerate man. ... The Spirit of God must new make you, ye must be born again. "If a man be in Christ Jesus he is a new creature, old things have passed away, behold, all things have become new." The same power which raised Christ Jesus from the dead must be exerted in raising us from the dead, the very same omnipotence, without which angels or worms could not have had a being, must again step forth out of its chamber, and do as great a work as it did at the first creation in making us anew in Christ Jesus our Lord. [Charles Spurgeon, from the sermon, "Natural or Spiritual", 1 Corinthians 2:14.]

Friday June 19th — Prayer for Israel at Katoomba Baptist Church

"Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved." (Romans 10:1)

Contributions welcome: Our church bulletin is available on the first Sunday service of the month. Contributions of a missionary or devotional nature can be made to the editor, Bill Fewer (email: hillbillyfewer@gmail.com). Please contact Bill if you would prefer to receive the bulletin by email. The email version is much longer!

Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me.

[John 14:23-24]

Katoomba Baptist Church Bulletin Online Extra

** Please note that to access websites referred to in the Bulletin, please copy and paste the link into the address bar of your web browser.**

Exciting news!

KBC now has a website

<https://katoombabaptist.org.au>

The Thomas brothers, Daniel and Joshua, have done it again. Not only does KBC have a YouTube Channel, but our bold march into the 21st century continues with a church website. It is very professionally done, with a clearly set out statement of our beliefs, and with a mass of well-chosen resources, sermons, Bulletins, and so on. It is also very easy to find your way around, even for the most timid of internet users.

Let's pray that with this new online presence that the Lord will draw people to Him through our church. In all our ministries, individually and as a fellowship, may the Lord be blessed and glory be to Him.

Baptist Churches of NSW & ACT website

In response to the Covid-19 crisis, the Baptist Union has put together a very helpful page on their website which is an excellent guide for local churches and their fellowships:

<https://nswactbaptists.org.au/covid19/>

Plus, there is a national call to daily prayer at 7pm to seek the Lord about the crisis:

<https://www.baptist.org.au/covid-19-national-call-to-prayer/>

And there is also the previous disaster which is still affecting many people:

Bushfire Relief and Recovery Campaign

<https://nswactbaptists.org.au/bushfire-relief-and-recovery/>

And, finally, you can contact the Baptist Union website and request to be added to the prayer mailing list.

Recommended Resources for Covid-19 information

Please refer to the following websites for official information and guidelines:

NSW Ministry of Health:

- COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Homepage

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/diseases/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>

- COVID-19 – Frequently Asked Questions

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/alerts/Pages/coronavirus-faqs.aspx>

Australian Government Department of Health:

- Coronavirus (COVID-19) Health Alert

<https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert#how-to-protect-yourself-and-others>

- Coronavirus (COVID-19) Resources

<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-resources>

World Health Organisation:

- Q&A on Coronaviruses (COVID-19)

<https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/q-a-coronaviruses>

- Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) – Advise for the Public

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>

John Hopkins University, USA:

- Coronavirus COVID-19 Global Database

<https://gisanddata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6>

[Thank you Daniel for preparing this information]

Some of the ministries of Arthur Stace, 'Mr Eternity'

[Rev.] Judd ... was a hard taskmaster. Yet he came to regard Arthur as a 'trophy of grace'. By the late 1940s there was plenty of object evidence to justify that opinion. Let us count the ways.

First and foremost, there was Arthur's reverence for the Bible. Everywhere he went he carried in his pocket a well-thumbed copy of The New Testament. ... Many passages were underlined, and on the inside front cover Arthur kept a list of his favourite hymns.

... There was also his service at the (Burton Street) Tabernacle. Within the church's own circles, he was much admired.

Bruce Leghorn highlighted his spruce appearance ('when the Lord cleans up the inside of a man's life, he also cleans up the outside', Arthur once told him) and, more important, his passionate enthusiasm. 'During prayer time at the Wednesday night meetings,' Leghorn recalled, 'Arthur would invariably be the first on his feet and would always commence his prayers with the words, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name!"' (cf. Psalm 103). Leghorn also remembered Arthur's talk to the Young people's Bible Class in which he drew analogies between the salvation experience and the properties of coal. This is the talk in which Arthur utilised a lump of coal as a prop.

Edith Summergreene held up Arthur as a role model for her young husband, who returned from the war in 1946 with a serious drinking problem. '[He] was a 16-pint a day man. But my cry to the Lord was "Lord, you did it for Arthur in Jesus' name, do it for my Vincent."' In time, her prayer was answered.

Denis Padgett was a wide-eyed 17-year-old when he arrived at Burton street in 1946. 'I was very impressed with Arthur,' he recalled many years later,

hearing his testimony, hearing him pray at church prayer meetings, getting to know about his Christian witnessing, CBD open-air meetings and bright, joyful guest-speaking. Meeting him initially [he struck me] as a little, humble, fairly insignificant-looking man ... I soon realised he was a spiritual 'giant', always 'full of the Lord' and ready to talk about Him in ordinary conversation.

... Arthur's third main sphere of influence was by way of open-air missioning and other forms of oral evangelism.

He had developed an 'inimitable' style and was much sought-after as a guest speaker. And he was prepared to travel. For example, in July 1948 he preached by invitation at several events in central west New South Wales (at Dubbo, Yeovil, Bournewood and Wellington). One local paper heralded his arrival in florid terms — 'Domain "Deadbeat" to Preacher' — and was glowing in its praise a fortnight later. 'Splendid congregations,' it reported, 'listened with amazement to his telling testimony. His visit to the district will not be soon forgotten.'

... He was also effective in his Saturday night missioning in the Sydney CBD. One evening in 1948, a teenage lad named Les Nixon was in the city with his mates when one of them directed Nixon's gaze towards the corner of George and Goulburn Streets, near the old Anthony Hordern building. The centre of attention was a man pointing up at the sky. Nixon remembered them all walking over to investigate:

[Lo] and behold, it was a neat and wiry man in a hat warning the people. 'Look up, look up!' he cried. When a crowd gathered, he bravely announced, 'That's where the Lord Jesus will come again!' and proceeded to describe the dramatics of Jesus' return to Earth. I was hooked, and went out of my way to watch his street meetings ... from then on.

Nixon went on to become a prominent Baptist minister. He was the founder in 1961 of Australia's Outback Patrol, a Christian community service organisation dedicated to propagating the gospel in remote rural areas. After decades of experience, Nixon paid this tribute to Arthur Stace: 'I think I owe [him] a great deal of gratitude ... as he helped me understand the value of ... following the "Jesus" example — capture attention first, to relay the message of the gospel.'

A year or so later, Arthur began yet another missioning activity — this one conducted in broad daylight. From August 1949 he worked as a part-time cleaner and lift operator at the city offices of the Australian Red Cross. He was an exemplary employee, well-respected by other staff members. But he attracted attention each lunch time when he left the office carrying a briefcase. It was his practice to walk to the corner of Jamison and Clarence Streets. There he sat on the pavement with his back to the wall, the suitcase placed open beside him. On the inside lid he had inscribed an Old Testament verse: 'Be sure your sin will find you out' (Numbers 32:23).

Arthur kept this up for six years. According to one source, 'many fruitful conversations resulted.' He handed out a good number of tracts.

On top of all this, the Eternity mission continued every morning for at least a few hours. Always seeking God's guidance as to where to go, he visited some new suburbs in Sydney — Ashfield was one, Mosman another. But it was the 'battler' suburbs within a few miles of the CBD that he frequented most often.

... By then he had added two more slogans to his repertoire — 'Obey God' and 'God or Sin' — though neither ever captured the public's imagination like his original did. In due course, Arthur realised that Eternity had more impact and he reverted to that word alone.

There was, and still is, something gloriously evocative about that one word: Eternity. It has inspired to serious thinking many sorts of people, not just those of 'religious' bent.

[Sourced from Roy Williams with Elizabeth Meyers, *Mr Eternity: the story of Arthur Stace*, Sydney, Acorn Press, 2017, pp. 140-5]

A prayer by Michael Leunig

*Dear God,
Give comfort and peace to those who are separated from loved ones. May the ache in their hearts be the strengthening of their hearts. May their longing bring resolve to their lives, conviction and purity to their love. Teach them to embrace their sadness lest it turn to despair. Transform their yearning into wisdom. Let their hearts grow fonder.
Amen.*

[From Michael Leunig, *When I talk to You: a cartoonist talks to God*, Sydney, HarperCollins, 2004, n.p.]

From David Hocking of HFT Connect, May 17, 2020

... Our Torah, in Deuteronomy (Dvarim, in Hebrew), talks about the phenomenon of a "non-nation." Commentators wondered for centuries what that strange phrase might mean. Nowadays, we are no longer mystified. We hear daily and hourly about the "inalienable rights of the Palestinian people", "Palestinian right to self-determination" and "Palestinian statehood bid" — The "stateless Palestinians" are indeed a non-nation. Because 100% of them share their language, culture, religion, traditional dress and origin with the rest of the Arab nation. And the ancient Arab nation (Umma in Arabic) has more states at its disposal than any other nation in the world. There is only one China for the ancient Chinese people, one Spain for the Spaniards, one Italy for the Italians, one Great Britain for the British, and certainly only one tiny Israel for the ancient Jewish nation. But there are more than 20 spacious, uncrowded states in the Arab League.

Only by inventing a non-nation, has it become "rational" for the world to tell the land-deprived Jewish people that a couple of million Arabs in the Land of Israel "deserve" still another hostile Arab state to be cut right out of OUR tiny, barely viable even today, homeland.

And far too little — nothing in fact — is said about how crowded Israel already is, and will be — with huge Aliyah numbers and a high birth rate. Israel's population is already the size of Switzerland, and growing faster than any other crowded nation. Israel cannot afford to give an inch of land away, for the safety and well-being of all Israelis... the Israelis of today, and the Israelis of tomorrow...

[Sourced from the HFT Connect newsletter — Thank you Anne for this contribution!]

"The Corona Virus Experiment" by Phil Moore, Wednesday 18 March, 2020

[This blog from Phil Moore is sourced from The Editor, Canberra Declaration, *The Daily Declaration*, <https://blog.canberradeclaration.org.au/2020/04/05/the-corona-virus-experiment/>, viewed 31/5/20]

Christian leaders all across the world are facing two unprecedented problems as I write this blog. But the great missionary James Fraser faced those exact two problems before us, and we can learn a lot from how he responded. Maybe we will even look back on these days and thank God for the Western Church's great Corona Virus Experiment.

As I write this blog, Christian leaders all around the world are facing up to two great challenges that are unprecedented within their lifetimes.

First, due to government restrictions aimed at slowing down the spread of COVID-19, most church leaders find themselves unable to gather those they lead into church services for the next few Sundays. Second, for the same reason, most church leaders are looking at diaries that are full of cancelled meetings. For decades — even for centuries — the predictable answer from any Christian leader to the question "How are you doing?" has always been "I'm busy." Now, for the first time, Christian leaders actually have time on their hands. Stressed? Of course they are, for these are definitely troubling times. But busy? Not so much, to which I say wow – just wow! Take a moment to sit back and to savour this rarest of smells in Church History. A Church whose leaders have time on their hands. Enough time on their hands, in fact, for us to be able to run a little experiment together with the Lord.

The challenges that church leaders are facing for the next few weeks may be unprecedented for the Western Church, but it is not unprecedented in Church History. The great missionary James Fraser found himself in a very similar position when he began to preach the Gospel to the pagan Chinese villagers of Lisuland in the first half of the twentieth century. Lisuland lies several hundred miles west of Wuhan, in the foothills of the Himalayas, so James Fraser very often found himself unable to reach his converts in the most mountainous areas. Winter snowfalls made it too dangerous for him to gather them together in church services. At first he was frustrated and even angry with

God, who could easily have held back the snowfall to enable his church services to go ahead. But as he prayed, James Fraser became convicted that God was in the problem — it was a challenge of the Lord's own making. The Lord wanted him to conduct an experiment on behalf of the Body of Christ. I believe that God wants to turn us back to James Fraser's experiment right now.

James Fraser worked out that it would take him three to five days to conduct church services in the highland villages of Lisuland — one or two days of travel up into the mountains, a day of gathering together, and then one or two days of travel back down again. He therefore decided to find out: *What would happen if I decided to spend the time that I would have spent gathering with these Lisu people praying for them instead?*

For James Fraser, this was more than just a throwaway tweet on social media. It wasn't an oh-so-radical piece of church-leader virtue-signaling. Nobody knew, or much even cared, how a missionary chose to spend his time in the foothills of the Himalayas. It was between James Fraser and God alone, but he gave himself to his experiment completely. He prayed for three to five days for each of the highland villages instead of visiting them. Then, once the spring sun had melted the snow, he climbed the mountains to discover what had happened. No scientist can ever have been so eager to examine the petri dishes in his laboratory.

*James Fraser discovered that his converts in the highland villages had prospered during the winter months in which he had found himself unable to gather them together. In fact, as he met with them to hear about their winter Bible reading and their isolated prayer times, he came to the remarkable conclusion that his converts in the highlands of Lisuland had grown **far more** during the winter than his converts in the lowlands – the converts that he had been busy visiting and gathering all winter long. He recorded his conclusion: "If two things stand out clearly in my mind, they are firstly how 'foolish' and 'weak' our new converts are, and secondly that God has really chosen them." Thereafter, he was determined never to fret when he could not gather people, but always to seize it as a God-given invitation to pray for people instead. "If I were to think after the manner of men, I should be anxious about my Lisu converts — afraid for their falling back into demon worship. But God is enabling me to cast all my care upon Him. I am not anxious, not nervous. If I hugged my care to myself instead of casting it upon Him, I should never have persevered in the work so long — perhaps never even have started it. But if it has been begun in Him, it must be continued in Him."*

James Fraser never knew the full results of his prayer experiment. Many missiologists trace back the enormous revival that has swept through China in the past fifty years to the revival that began amongst the highlanders of Lisuland during the winters when he stayed at home and prayed.

*As a Christian leader, I feel a little stressed right now that I am not going to be able to gather together in person with the people that I lead for the next few Sundays. I'm busy pastoring many of them via email and social media, and I'm busy preparing online services so that I can serve them well over the next few Sundays. But I'm challenged that I can do far more to serve them than to take my pastoral overbusyness online. God isn't just encouraging me to transfer my face-to-face meetings into Skype and Zoom conference calls for a season instead. He is inviting Christian leaders all across the Western world right now to rethink the whole of their ministry and to trust him that their inability to **gather people to them** for a season is an opportunity for them to **gather themselves to God** on behalf of the people.*

Charles Spurgeon preached that "Prayer is the slender nerve which moves the muscle of omnipotence." By God's grace, let's therefore embrace the next few weeks as an opportunity to experiment together and discover how much this is true. Let's not fritter away these precious days of pastoral isolation. Let's use them in such a way that we can look back in days to come and recall the lessons of the Western Church's great Corona Virus Experiment in Prayer.

Quotes in this blog are taken from Eileen Crossman's biography of James Fraser, which is entitled "Mountain Rain" (1982) – pages 133 and 198.

[Thank you Elaine for this contribution]

The Jerusalem Prayer Breakfast, Canberra 25-26 February 2020

Taken from the JPB booklet, which awaits each attendee at their place at the Breakfast table.

The following one really impressed me. It reads:

"In my office in Jerusalem there's an ancient seal. It's a signet ring of a Jewish official from the time of the Bible. The seal was found right next to the Western Wall and it dates back 2700 years to the time of King Hezekiah. Now there's a name of the Jewish official on the ring in Hebrew. His name was 'Netanyahu'".

(Quote supplied by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu).

Text sourced from Judy Russell, *Israel and Christians Today*, April 2020, page 5.

[Thank you Rose for this contribution.]

Report from Brick Kiln Schools, Pakistan

We are grateful for our donors and supporters. Due to which we have opened schools in many places where people could not educate their children due to poverty, and today their children are getting free education. As you know, schools are closed because of corona virus. That is why our teachers are going door to door and giving homework to the children.

Students are studying in different classes and she teaches every student separately. After the lockdown, we will take the exams of these children, and will promote them to another classes.

We are so thankful for Pastor Stephen Downie and Mick Cory and all Redeemer Ministries team and their friends and partners who are praying for us and supporting us, through their kind support our brick kiln schools are going very well. Although in Pakistan there is lockdown but our teachers with great difficulties are going house to house and helping their students to do study while they stay in their houses.

God bless you all

Blessing

Pastor Arif Ashiq

Full Gospel Assemblies of Pakistan

[Thank you Stephen Downie for forwarding this and for your work with Redeemer Ministries]

“World Gone Crazy’ by Michael Woolley

** Please note that to access websites please copy and paste the link into the address bar of your web browser.**

Many have wondered: How could the Beacon to the Nations – that of American Democracy and it’s associated values – vanish from significance so as to not be a Defender an friend of Israel. We now have the answer: Controlled Demolition.

More than crazy – [totally anticipated](#) (by Martin Armstrong) – as The Lockdown and Police violence towards minorities wells up into outrage – and then violence, as opportunists ([yes, it’s pre-planned](#)) Rise To The Occasion.

Do they want to [Destabilise America](#)? Yes. Why? The [Same reason](#) for Democrat Governors wanting to [extend Lockdowns](#), the same reason [the Russian Hoax](#) was created and the same reason the Media [won’t mention Zinc, Obamagate](#) or [associated corruption](#)...: Trump ...and the [approaching election](#). Welcome to The Revolution.

They couldn’t get the proposed [Elector Voter Fraud](#) approved, so now it’s time for the [Rioters to be bussed-in](#). Will it be another [Soros-sponsored](#) group that’s [behind/funding](#) these and [other “events”](#)? Certainly The Democrats themselves will want a shield to deflect any financial-trail back to their coffers...

What about its inability to “project” Force Globally? Ask ScoMo. And learn Mandarin. I’m thinking of the attributes of man’s Last Kingdom: Proud, ruthless, [without moral compass](#), wanting to [Control](#) Everything, control [what you hear and think](#), it’s [Self-Importance](#) the Centre of its own Existence. The CCP comes to mind. Think how fast things are changing... and with increasing rapidity, like labour-pains. So, who would benefit from the collapse of Western Political and Military power, hmmm?

The Fed since March has been busy [printing money](#), buying up market-listed securities (shares, and Bonds) spending hundreds-of-Billions – the perverse outcome being that the Fed may yet become the [Creditor-in-Possession of now-insolvent](#) US Companies, companies who’s debt was not so long ago “Junk-Bonds” status - and [now extinct](#), following Covid-19. Time for you to re-read Ayn Rands “Atlas Shrugged”. And consider the outcome of a top-to-bottom State-Controlled society.

Where have we heard of [this](#) before... which aligns so well with [the plans of Bill Gates](#).

You can almost hear the footsteps of Messiah...

A Poem by Jemima Woolley

"Wild, windy winter"

*Whistling wind,
Numbing cold,
Creaking rooftop,
Slippery Road.*

*Bright red noses,
Frozen toes,
Great big jackets
Are on show.*

*Hid in buildings,
Keeping warm.
Low grey skies,
Face forlorn.*

*What makes winter?
Do I know?
Do I like it
Without snow?*

*Silence reigning
All the time,
Peace for thinking,
This is fine!*

[Thanks, Jemima, for these evocative lines. God created winter and there is much to rejoice about it!]

An interesting message on YouTube

An exciting message from an excitable J.D. Farag:

"What On Earth is Happening?" Bible Prophecy Update – May 31st, 2020

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LTuO78Tvd40&t=2856s>

What I find encouraging about Pastor JD is that he always concludes these updates with a presentation of the Gospel: "The ABC's of Salvation." Some prophecy teachers can become wildly speculative and the focus shifts away from the Lord and the Gospel to the multitude of things that are happening across the planet. There really is too much going.

This pastor, for all his enthusiasm which he admittedly struggles to contain at times, works from the Scriptures out to world events — and not from reading world events back into the Scriptures. These prophecy updates follow the morning service at his church and are separate from his regular preaching from the pulpit (which is also available online, as are his Bible studies and prayer meetings: Calvary Chapel Kaneohe, <https://calvarychapelkaneohe.com>).

[Thank you, Michael, for your insistence that I include a link to this message!]

YouTube video

Amir Tsarfati (Behold Israel)

"Bible Lands Unveiled: Turn the World Upside Down, Thessaloniki, Greece"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fVX-nafL0Pg>

Bible Lands Unveiled is a series of on-location Bible studies that will give you a look at the impact of the Gospel around the world. This teaching was filmed in Thessaloniki, Greece and is titled "Turn the World Upside Down."

Amir Tsarfati from Behold Israel Ministries presents a teaching on Paul's time in Thessalonica as recorded in Acts 17 and his epistles to the Thessalonian church he founded there.

Psalm 103

*Praise for the Lord's Mercies
A Psalm of David.*

Bless the Lord, O my soul;
And all that is within me, bless His holy name!
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
And forget not all His benefits:
Who forgives all your iniquities,
Who heals all your diseases,
Who redeems your life from destruction,
Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies,
Who satisfies your mouth with good things,
So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The Lord executes righteousness
And justice for all who are oppressed.
He made known His ways to Moses,
His acts to the children of Israel.
The Lord is merciful and gracious,
Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy.
He will not always strive with us,
Nor will He keep His anger forever.
He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
Nor punished us according to our iniquities.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him;
As far as the east is from the west,
So far has He removed our transgressions from us.
As a father pities his children,
So the Lord pities those who fear Him.
For He knows our frame;
He remembers that we are dust.

As for man, his days are like grass;
As a flower of the field, so he flourishes.
For the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
And its place remembers it no more.
But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting
On those who fear Him,
And His righteousness to children's children,
To such as keep His covenant,
And to those who remember His commandments to do them.

The Lord has established His throne in heaven,
And His kingdom rules over all.
Bless the Lord, you His angels,
Who excel in strength, who do His word,
Heeding the voice of His word.
Bless the Lord, all you His hosts,
You ministers of His, who do His pleasure.
Bless the Lord, all His works,
In all places of His dominion.

Bless the Lord, O my soul!