



THE Living TESTAMENT

ONLY
20P

The countdown continues...

'... the disciples came to Jesus saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?' Jesus answered ... ye shall bear of wars and rumours of wars ... and there shall be pestilences and earthquakes in diverse places' (Matt 24:3-7).

The latest facts are startling. Take a look –

'WARS & RUMOURS OF WARS'

- 20m people have died in conflicts since 1945.
- There were 44 armed conflicts in 39 countries in 1995. 40 in 34 countries in 1996. 37 in 32 countries in 1997 and 36 armed conflicts in 31 countries in 1998.
- However, after three years of steady decline, the number of wars fought worldwide increased significantly in 1999, to 40 armed conflicts in 36 countries.

'PESTILENCE'

- January 1 1996: Global AIDS Policy Coalition estimated that 22.2m people worldwide had been infected with HIV since 1980.
- The number of HIV infected people in Southeast Asia now exceeds the total of infected people in the entire industrial world.

- Worldwide: Based on estimates from the United Nations AIDS Programme (UNAIDS), approx 47m people have been infected with HIV since the start of the global epidemic.
- Presently, an estimated 21.8m people have died and an estimated 36.1m are living with HIV infection or AIDS.
- UNAIDS estimates 5.3m new HIV infections occurred in 2000. This represents almost 16,000 new cases per day. An estimated 3m adults and children died of HIV/AIDS in 2000.

'EARTHQUAKES IN DIVERS PLACES'

- Since 1997, a total of 1206 earthquakes have been registered.
- 527 have already occurred only in this year.
- The average number of earthquakes, above 5.4 in magnitude since 1997 is 0.660 per day.
- This has increased to 1.444 per day in 2001.
- Websites detailing statistics on earthquakes are updated every hour! Even recently between the 21st and 23rd Feb, there had been 21 earthquakes worldwide, with a ranging magnitude of between 3-7 on the Richter Scale.

'Take heed that no man deceive you' and 'Watch therefore: for ye know what hour your Lord doth come' – Jesus in Matthew 24:4,42.

Without faith it is impossible

Hebrews 11 – this is what I call ‘The Bible’s Hall of Fame’ for within this chapter is noted the extraordinary examples of people who showed faith in God. Take a look at verse 6. There are three ‘natural breaks’ that is within this verse, here it is outlined below –

(1) ‘But without faith it is impossible to please Him: (2) for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, (3) and that He is a rewarder of them who diligently seek Him’.

Section 1 is obviously an outright statement. Section 2 and 3 then seek to explain what has already been stated. It is very easy to see that God can and will only reward those who have faith. So, when we pray, we must approach our Father knowing and understanding His very nature – which at all times is faithful, loving and compassionate. We cannot afford to approach the Father with less than this attitude. However, many in this world do – they pray with cynicism, fear and doubt in their hearts and to experience these emotions in our prayer life is to believe that God is much less than what He says He is. Is it therefore any wonder why their prayers – and sometimes ours – are not answered?

Now consider the following statements in Matthew 9 : Jairus to Jesus, ‘My daughter is even now dead: but come and lay thy hand upon her, and she shall live’. The woman with an issue of blood for 12 years said about

Jesus, ‘If I may but touch his garment I shall be whole’. Two blind men said ‘Yea, Lord’ in reply to Jesus asking them did they believe that He could heal them. Also, take a look at Mark 2 (as this account is more detailed than the same one in the beginning of Matthew 9) where four friends tore the roof off the house where Jesus was preaching so that their friend – a man sick with the palsy – could be healed. It is written that Jesus ‘saw their faith’ (v5), He saw it because of their actions. They must of been absolutely convinced, because they had already showed an incredible amount of commitment by tearing the roof off someone’s house! Would you do this if you weren’t sure He could heal? Not one of them approached Jesus with cynicism, fear and doubt, instead, every one believed in His very nature – ‘Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning’ (James 1:17). He is unchangeable (Hebrews 13:8) and always desiring us to have the complete and utter victory (Deuteronomy 28:13). After all, if we know how to give good gifts unto our children, how much more shall your heavenly Father know? (Ref: Luke 11:13). Consider their faith, for these people not only diligently sought the Lord but also approached Him knowing that He truly was the Lord and that He was able to perform the things which He spoke.

Lee Finney, Exeter RE, UK

‘Faith is like a muscle. The more you exercise it, the stronger it gets’



Wisdom is the principal thing

*'The shortest distance between
a problem and a solution
is the distance between
your knees and the floor'*



Church Chuckles

Notice in the kitchen of a church hall :
*'Ladies : when you have emptied the teapot
please stand upside down in the sink.'* To
which has been added : *'No hot bottoms on
the formica.'*

Outside a Canadian Baptist Church : *'Church
parking only. Violators will be baptised.'*

Seen outside a Birmingham Church on
November 18th : *'Come this Sunday and
avoid the Christmas rush.'*

Notice outside a North London Church :
*'WANTED – Workers for God. Plenty of
overtime.'*

One vicar from the pulpit :
*'I would be grateful if the member of the
congregation who keeps calling out 'Praise
the Lord,' would kindly cease and
remember that this is a house of God.'*

Submitted by Kim Waldron, Exeter RF

The Alphabet Poem

Although things are not perfect
Because of trial or pain
Continue in thanksgiving
Do not begin to blame
Even when the times are hard
Fierce winds are bound to blow
God is forever able
Hold on to what you know
Imagine life without His love
Joy would cease to be
Keep thanking Him for all the things
Love imparts to thee
Move out of 'Camp Complaining'
No weapon that is known
On earth can yield the power
Praise can do alone
Quit looking at the future
Redeem the time at hand
Start every day with worship
To 'thank' is a command
Until we see Him coming
Victorious in the sky
We'll run the race with gratitude
Xalting God most high
Yes, there will be good times and yes
some will be bad, but ...
Zion waits in glory ... where none are
ever sad!

**Submitted by Chris & Sue Trigwell,
Perth RF, Western Australia**

'The one who kneels to the Lord can stand up to anything'



All scripture is given by inspiration of

REPENTANCE & WATER BAPTISM

Demanded of all followers

MATTHEW 3:13-17

- Christ's baptism, to fulfill all righteousness

MATTHEW 28:19

- Baptism to be taught everywhere

MARK 16:16

- Christ's explanation of a true believer

JOHN 3:5,22-23

- Christ preached it and expected it from all

ACTS 2:38

- In answer to 'What shall we do?'

ACTS 8:12-13,35-38

- Integral part of the early Christian church

ACTS 10:47-48

- Baptism not to be forbidden

ACTS 18:8

- Those who believed followed the pattern

ACTS 19:3-5

- With a view to receiving the Holy Spirit

ACTS 22:16

- Baptism with a sense of urgency

ROMANS 6:3,4

- Part of the plan and purpose of God

1 CORINTHIANS 10:1,2

- Arises from an Old Testament example

COLOSSIANS 2:12

- After which, we walk as new creatures

1 PETER 3:21

- Shows a good conscience toward God

THE HOLY SPIRIT & THE SIGN OF TONGUES

Given to those who obey Him

MATTHEW 3:11

- Foretold by John the Baptist

MARK 16:17

- The sign of tongues for all believers

LUKE 11:9-13

- Given to those who ask in prayer

JOHN 3:5-8

- Needed to enter the Kingdom of God

JOHN 14:16,26

- Given for comfort and guidance

ACTS 2:2-4

- The very first outpouring of the Holy Spirit

ACTS 2:37-40

- A command and a promise to all

ACTS 5:32

- Only given to those who obey God

ACTS 8:5-20

- Miracles followed all those who received

ACTS 10:44-46

- Exactly the same happens to everyone

ACTS 15:8,9

- Common to all believers

ACTS 19:1-7

- Those who believe should receive it

ROMANS 8:9,11,14

- Without it, we cannot truly be a Christian

EPHESIANS 1:13

- A seal from God and a sign of all believers

'Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not



God and is profitable for doctrine ...

THE PROMISES OF HEALING FROM A FAITHFUL GOD

His promises are Yea & Amen

EXODUS 15:26; 23:25

– Happened in the Old Testament too

PSALM 103:2-3; 107:19-21

– A gift from a caring and loving Father

MATTHEW 4:23

– Healing for all and no exceptions

MATTHEW 8:2-3

– One of many healings; Christ heals a leper

MARK 6:12-13

– A doctrine with the power to save

MARK 16:15-18

– A signs following ministry for believers

LUKE 10:19

– God's ability conquers any enemy

JOHN 6:2

– People saw healing for themselves

ACTS 8:5-8

– Peace and joy comes through deliverance

ACTS 19:11,12

– Paul was used by God to heal

ACTS 28:8-9

– Healing by the laying on of Paul's hands

HEBREWS 13:8

– A God who never, ever changes

JAMES 5:14-16

– Healing by fervent prayer of the faithful

3 JOHN:2

– Healing for mind, body and soul

CHRIST'S RETURN & THE END OF THE WORLD

The signs to watch out for

EZEKIEL 38

– The nations involved in WWII

JOEL 2:30,31

– The effect of nuclear war on the environment

JOEL 3:9-16

– A world-wide race to re-arm

ZECHARIAH 14:12

– The effect of nuclear war on mankind

MALACHI 4:1

– Nuclear war precedes the return of Christ

MATTHEW 24

– The signs are given by Christ himself

LUKE 21:25-28

– The state of the world at Christ's return

ACTS 2:17-21

– Latter day revival and nuclear fallout

1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18

– The comfort and reward for all believers

1 THESSALONIANS 5:2-3

– False promises of peace and safety

2 TIMOTHY 3:1-7

– An evil society and powerless religion

JAMES 5:1-3

– Riches will be useless at the end of days

2 PETER 3:9-14

– God's expectation of all mankind

REVELATION 3:15-19

– Lukewarm and compromising churches

to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth' – 2 Timothy 2:15

The law of the Lord is perfect

**The following was an email submitted
by Diana Poh, Singapore RF**

An atheist was taking a walk through the woods, admiring all that the 'accident of evolution' had created. 'What majestic trees! What powerful rivers! What beautiful animals!' he said to himself. As he was walking alongside the river he heard a rustling in the bushes behind him. He turned to look. He saw a 7 foot grizzly charge towards him. He ran as fast as he could up the path. He looked over his shoulder and saw that the bear was closing. He ran even faster, so scared that tears were coming to his eyes. He looked over his shoulder again, and the bear was even closer. His heart was pumping frantically and he tried to run even faster. He tripped and fell on the ground. He rolled over to pick himself up but saw the bear; right on top of him; reaching for him with his left paw and raising his right paw to strike him. At that instant the Atheist cried out 'Oh my God!' Time stopped. The bear froze. The forest was silent. Even the river stopped moving.

As a bright light shone upon the man, a voice came out of the sky, 'You deny my existence for all these years; teach others I don't exist; and even credit creation to a cosmic accident. Do you expect me to help you out of this predicament? Am I to count you as a believer?' The atheist looked directly into the light 'It would be hypocritical of me to suddenly ask You to treat me as Christian

now, but perhaps could you make the bear a Christian?' 'Very well,' said the voice. The light went out. The river ran again. And the sounds of the forest resumed. And then the bear dropped his right paw brought both paws together bowed his head and spoke : 'Lord, for this food which I am about to receive, I am truly thankful'.

The hidden message from the lineage of Adam to Noah

Adam – means 'Man'
Seth – means 'Appointed'
Enosh – means 'Mortal'
Kenal – means 'Sorrow'
Mahalalel – means 'The Blessed God'
Jared – means 'Shall come down'
Enoch – means 'Teaching'
Methuselah – means 'His death shall bring'
Lamech – means 'The despairing'
Noah – means 'Rest'

So, 'Man (is) appointed mortal sorrow, (but) The Blessed God shall come down, teaching (that) His death shall bring (the) despairing, rest'.

**By Pastor Graeme Hazeldine
Elizabeth RF, Adelaide, Sth Australia**
*Submitted by Martin Gladdish,
North London RF, UK*



A testimony from Exeter

I heard the word of the Lord faithfully preached just over five years ago, when my sister and her husband came to visit us from Darwin. They told me about the Lord's plan for the world, and how I could obtain salvation. I was convicted by what they told me and showed me in the Bible, and was baptised by full immersion and then received the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues.

Since that time, the Lord has kept His hand upon my family and me and I praise Him for His unending patience. Two years ago I wanted to become a blood donor and went along to give blood. I was told that I could not donate because my haemoglobin levels were too low and that I should seek advice from my doctor. I did so and was advised to go for another blood test. In the meantime, I had prayer for the situation and then put it out of my mind. When I got the results of the second blood test, the doctor told me there must have been some kind of mistake as my haemoglobin levels were perfectly normal – Praise the Lord!

Last year we had an assembly camping weekend in our local area. One morning, I was alone in our tent preparing breakfast. I picked up the metal teapot from above the grill on which I was making toast. The handle was very hot and I burnt my finger quite badly. As I ran around in a panic, I heard the voice of one of the brothers calling 'Good

Morning'. He could see I was in distress and immediately offered to have prayer with me. He prayed that the pain would be taken away from the sight of the burn. From that moment, the throbbing left my finger and, even though the finger blistered badly and took some weeks to heal, I never had any pain in it at all and it healed completely without any trace of a scar. I can really praise the Lord for that healing because I know how painful burns can be.

The greatest gift that the Lord has given me is peace of mind. Before I came to the Lord I always worried about everything. Since I have been walking with Him, I can see the world for what it is. I know that I cannot change the world, but with the Lord at my side, I can live within it knowing that He will always be there for me, and I can turn to Him in every time of need: He will never let me down.

Carolyn Waldron, Exeter RF, UK

Testimony :

1 a declaration of truth or fact. **2** *Law* evidence given by a witness, esp. in court under oath. **3** evidence proving or supporting something.

From the Collins Concise Dictionary

'...the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning' – Peter in Acts 11



Forsake not the Fellowship

MARCH

- Fri 02 – Prayer Eve
Sat 03 – **OUTREACH & CRAFT DAY**
Meet 3pm/Welch's
Sat 10 – **FREE**
Fri 16 – Prayer Eve
Sat 17 – **OUTREACH & SLIDE EVE**
Meet at The Welch's
Sun 18 – SLIDES : Neb's Dream
Sat 24 – **CORFE CAMP WEEKEND**
Sun 28 – BASICS : Sign of Tongues
Sat 31 – **FREE (YP's NLR)**
Sun 01 – Ask the Pastor Evening

APRIL

- Fri 06 – Prayer Eve
Sat 07 – **OUTREACH & FELLOWSHIP**
Thu 12 – **UK EASTER CAMP**
Cefn-Lea, Wales
Sat 21 – **FREE**
Sun 22 – SLIDES : Aswan High Dam
Fri 27 – Prayer Eve
Sat 28 – **OUTREACH & VIDEO EVE**
Sun 21 – BASICS : The Crucifixion

Revival Meetings in the South West (UK)

SUNDAYS at 2.00PM & 5.00PM

Clyst St. George Village Hall, Clyst St. George, Exeter, Devon.

(Nearest Bus Route : No.57. Alight at the roundabout of Bridge Hill and A376 Exmouth Road)

WEDNESDAYS at 7.45PM

In your local area.

PASTOR RAY WELCH (Exeter, Devon) **Tel/Fax : (01395) 446496**

MARC WALDRON (Poole, Dorset) **Tel : (01202) 744263**

www.revivalfellowship.org

Please contribute all articles to the Editors

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