

# speaking in Tongues: of God or the Devil?



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World Wide Witness

## What we believe

We believe in the infallibility of the Bible. We believe Jesus Christ is the son of God.

We believe the Gospel of His death, resurrection, and directive to repent, be baptised and receive the Holy Spirit.

We believe we are baptised into the Body of Christ (the Church) through the Holy Spirit, with the Bible evidence of speaking in tongues.

We believe in the miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit in the Church.

We believe in prayer for the sick and healing by the power of God.

We believe the Bible identifies the Anglo-Saxon people with the Old Testament nation of Israel, describes modern nations, and gives signs of the imminent return of Jesus Christ.



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# Truth or fiction - your choice

God has granted us a free will choice to either enter in to His Kingdom or not, to obey Him or not, to know and believe the truth or not. He counsels us to make the right choices, but He does not force us to do so.

On the other hand, the world, including its religions, tries to undermine the confidence that we, Christians filled with God's Holy Spirit, have. When we quote Mark 16:16-20 about the signs following believers and Galatians 5:22,23 about walking in the Spirit as a "must" to be right with God, people become very agitated.

They claim the right to think the way they want and try to deny us our right to be certain about doing what God wants.

The following story illustrates the way in which people permit themselves to be deceived. Two physicists named Alan Sokal and Jean Bricmont wrote an article "Transgressing the boundaries: towards a transformative hermeneutics of quantum gravity." The whole article was complete nonsense, even its title was totally meaningless but it was written with many long and difficult words, and was full of references from other famous philosophical publications.

The article was presented to one of the leading magazines about post modern thinking called "Social Text." Nobody asked any questions and it was promptly published. Subsequently these two practical jokers went to some of the leading newspapers.

Both the New York Times and Le Monde (France) published the fact that this article was written to illustrate that people who think this way can easily be fooled and impressed with a lot of nothing. This whole affair caused many red faces, especially in France where post modern thinking has many followers.

This story demonstrates some of the issues that confront us. God is precise and deals in facts whereas the majority of mankind does not want exact answers. Many great and wonderful things established by God have been wrecked because the people involved lacked the faith to do what God says is right. Concepts like; Saved or Not saved, Backslider or Overcomer, Right or Wrong, Hot or Cold, have lost their Scriptural meaning and application.

However, as usual, the testimonies in this issue of "Revival Times" are given by people who have experienced the power of God. They, like all members of the world wide Revival Fellowship, truly lay claim to being "born again", for they are all baptised (fully immersed in water) and Spirit-filled with the evidence of speaking in tongues. (John 3; Mark 16; Acts 2).

The results speak for themselves. They demonstrate that facts do exist and what is right or wrong. Facts not gobbledygook. God does fill people with His Spirit, He does turn losers into victors, He does heal people and He does change lives.

The facts of the gospel can end all uncertainties and give the best possible answers to many perplexing questions.

"Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain (useless) deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." (Colossians 2:8).



*Pastor Pieter Visser  
Holland.*

# Frequently asked questions

For many people, “speaking in tongues” is an intriguing and controversial subject. This article gives answers to the frequently asked questions (FAQ) about tongues.

## **Isn't it the case that speaking in tongues is not around any more?**

The Bible first prophesied that believers would speak in tongues in Isaiah 28:9-13, a Scripture Paul referred to in his writings on the subject (1 Corinthians 14:21).

Jesus commenced His ministry by telling Nicodemus that being born of the Spirit, accompanied by a “sound” or “voice” was essential for salvation (John 3:5-8). His parting words in Mark 16:15-20 included the mention of speaking in tongues.

If the message were to be different at some other later date then it would make the Word of God into a lie when it says, “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.” (Hebrews 13:8). Therefore, speaking in tongues is definitely for today.

## **But didn't Paul say, “Tongues shall cease”?**

Yes, Paul did say that in 1 Corinthians 13:8. However, this quotation is commonly taken completely out of context. What Paul said was that tongues, prophecies and knowledge would all cease when “that which is perfect is come...” - the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 13:10).

That appointed time according to the Bible was to be when we would see the Lord: “face to face”, that is, when He has returned (1 Corinthians 13:12).

We know that we are now in the last days when “knowledge shall increase”, and many prophecies are being fulfilled. Clearly, as knowledge and prophecy have not ceased, neither have tongues. Thus, tongues shall cease but not until the Lord returns.

## **Well, even if tongues are available, surely tongues can only come by the laying on of apostles' hands?**

We see various accounts in the book of Acts where people received the Spirit with the Bible evidence of speaking in tongues. In Acts 2:4, 120 people, including the apostles themselves, received the Holy Spirit/Tongues, on the day of Pentecost, without the laying on of hands of any other human.

Later, as recorded in Acts 9:17, Paul the Apostle received the Spirit when Ananias laid his hands on him. Yet, Ananias was not an apostle, simply a disciple. Subsequently, in Acts 10:44 Cornelius and his household were converted as Peter spoke the words of salvation. No “laying on of hands” occurred here.

## **Don't you just speak a babble when you speak in tongues?**

On the day of Pentecost, the disciples were speaking some recognisable languages and God went so far as to ratify this by having many witnesses there on that day to testify to the fact that they were speaking identifiable languages.

We are told however, that the languages given by God may not necessarily be identifiable by man since He said that there would be tongues of men and of angels (1 Corinthians 13:1). Since angels and men and women of all nations and languages are not available to ratify whether the tongues are of men or of angels, or not, it is not possible to prove whether a tongue is a known language on every occasion.

There is no basis however, for concluding that because there is no one there to understand a tongue that it must be a babble.

## speaking in tongues

“For with stammering lips and  
another tongue will he speak to this people.  
To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause  
the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet  
they would not hear.”  
*Isaiah 28:11,12*

### **Isn't speaking in tongues for preaching?**

It is sometimes proposed by those who are not filled with the Holy Spirit, that tongues was a tool given by God to preach His word to those visitors to the region at the time of Pentecost. Superficially, this argument appears plausible.

However, the story told in the first two chapters of Acts demonstrates that the disciples were not preaching but rather initially, praying for the Holy Ghost and later, praying in the Holy Ghost. (Acts 2:1-4).

Although the visitors overheard the Galileans speaking miraculously in foreign languages, they were not being directly spoken to and were certainly not being preached to.

Indeed, if tongues were being used for preaching there would not have been a need for Peter to have stood up and explained to the crowd in his own understanding what had just happened. (Acts 2:14-40).

Paul tells us that it is with an understanding language, and not a tongue of the Spirit that is to be used for preaching. “...I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in a unknown tongue.” (1Corinthians 14:19).

The apostle had earlier said, “For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him...” (1 Corinthians 14:2).

There are no accounts in the Bible of tongues being used for preaching. Speaking in tongues is not for preaching but for prayer to God (Jude 20,21).

### **But won't I become a barbarian when I speak in tongues?**

Those who would wish to deny others the experience of receiving the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues often quote 1 Corinthians 14:11 which says (in relation to speaking in tongues), “Therefore if I know not the meaning of the voice, I shall be unto him that speaketh a barbarian, and he that speaketh shall be a barbarian unto me.”

Here Paul is not criticising the use of tongues but rather expressing concerns about the misuse of tongues. He explains that speaking in tongues is not for preaching as no one will understand it, and if nobody understands it why speak to them in tongues?

Speaking in tongues in private communication with God does not make you a barbarian. In any event, to say that attempting to preach in tongues would make you a barbarian adds weight to the argument that tongues is not for preaching.

### **Why didn't Jesus speak in tongues?**

Jesus lived under the Old Testament Law, of which tongues was not a part (although it was prophesied in it, in Isaiah 28:11). He came to usher in the New Testament. In Mark 16, Jesus indicated that tongues would be one of the signs that would follow New Testament believers.

Hence, speaking in tongues was neither a part of the law nor of Jesus' personal ministry. The New Testament and tongues could only come into force after the death of the testator, Jesus himself. (Hebrews 9:15-17). Thus, tongues could not be in force while Jesus was alive.

Jesus did not speak in tongues because he was not supposed to nor did he have any need to. Jesus did not need to be converted nor did he require any assistance in His communion with the Father. He was and is one with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

Jesus did not say He would speak in tongues, He said we would. (Mark 16:17).

*continued page 10*

# North London



Snowbound in the hills of mid-Wales at Easter Camp, but a lot of excellent fellowship. A Spring retreat at Hall's Green in Kent for the UK Young Peoples.

Concerts, "Millennium" evenings and slide shows, prophecy board and craft bazaar outreaches, advertising campaigns, street witnessing, assembly and house meeting dinner evenings.

Basic nights, a London walk, football matches, an outing to a Premier League game, museum visits, picnic in the park outreaches, formal dinner nights, an exciting National Outreach Week, and an excellent Summer Camp in Shropshire.

1998 was a busy and productive year. The exciting testimonies of healings, deliverance, protection and provision continue to encourage us all.

*Pastor Warren Sharrock*

## Gladys Waceke

A sister in the Lord who is a great friend of mine, invited me to a Revival Fellowship meeting early in 1997, emphasising that I had to be Spirit-filled and be baptised by full immersion. I ignored her, comforting myself with the thought that "I was a Christian and that was enough."

At the end of February 1998, I reluctantly accompanied my friend to the meeting. During Pastor Warren's talk, he spoke of the same message of receiving the Holy Spirit and baptism by full immersion. I felt the Spirit urging me to repent and be baptised.

The Lord humbled me and on the 8th March 1998, I agreed to give my life to Jesus totally, letting him be in control and I was baptised by full immersion. A week later, the Lord filled me with the Holy Spirit, I spoke in tongues and since then my life completely changed.

My daughter Sarah desired the same experience, and was also filled with the Spirit, with the evidence of speaking in tongues. She also was baptised by full immersion.

Ever since, we have been walking in the Spirit, seeing the hand of God in every aspect of our lives. The Lord has continually answered every petition.

The power of the Lord within me enables me to overcome the world. Praise the Lord. Life in the Revival Fellowship is a blessing to us.



## England

### Patrick Ward

All my life I have believed in God. However, due to the attractions of the world, it was not until the very end of the 1980's that I really wanted to know God personally and to be saved. I knew from my Sunday School that Jesus had died for me, but I never really knew how to be saved.

With my very limited knowledge, I knew that Christians "went to church", so I joined a local "charismatic" Church of England. I attended a number of their meetings, which with hindsight, I now realise were "out of order".

I heard about what they called the "optional extra" or "added bonus" of receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues.

I really wanted this, and one evening after about three months of seeking I received God's wonderful gift whilst being prayed for by one of the assistant pastors of the church.

I have long since realised that this experience was certainly not an "optional extra" but rather a fundamental part of salvation.

The Church of England I attended never taught that full immersion baptism was mandatory. Although I knew that it was a good thing to do, it was almost four years until I finally obeyed the Lord's command to be baptised. I did this at one of my first meetings with the Revival Fellowship in 1994.

I am so grateful that I have been blessed with the simple revelation on how we can be saved and stay saved. In the time that I have been with the Fellowship I have learned a lot and the Lord has answered all my prayers and shown that He is faithful and true.



### Joyce Maina

I was brought up to believe in God and taken along by my parents to the Anglican Church, but I was never taught about God's Holy Spirit.

When I left Kenya and came to England, I continued going to church but after a short time I decided I would never go to any church at all because none seemed to be right. I continued praying to God asking Him to show me the right place to worship Him.

In April 1997, I met someone who opened the Bible and showed me that unless I was born again of water and the Spirit I would not enter the kingdom of God.

He invited me to a Revival Fellowship meeting where after listening to the talk I decided I wanted the Holy Spirit experience in my life. So, I was baptised by full immersion and started to seek for God's Holy Spirit.

I prayed seriously and after two days I was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues. It was a wonderful experience. A promise from the Bible actually happened to me.

Since then, my life has changed miraculously. I am a different person altogether and worries about my life, my family, work, fear, friends, my past and my future have all gone.

The Lord showed me that I am hopeless without Him and that I should commit my life to Him and believe that He will protect and take care of me just as He did with the children of Israel.



# South London

Greetings from the South London Revival Fellowship, a small group of about twenty Spirit-filled. The assembly is based in two main areas – South London itself where we hold our Sunday meetings and Maidstone/Grafty Green about an hour or so away.

We face another year with great confidence knowing the Lord has brought us this far by His grace. We rejoice in the message we preach, seeing the wonderful testimonies it produces. We must continue to contend for this most glorious and precious gospel as the rewards are great! We praise the Lord we are part of His great and exciting work.

*Pastor Steve Murphy*

## Peter Frondigoun

I have been in the Lord now about thirteen years. I was baptised in a cold English Channel in the summer of 1987 by my son Joe, and received the Holy Spirit. It completely and wonderfully changed my life.

Before that time, I lived a worldly way of life, doing the usual things of smoking, drinking, swearing, and so on. I didn't consider myself particularly wicked. In the eyes of the world, I was considered an upright successful citizen.

I was in my fifties and my family was all grown up, I had it made. I did suffer a lot of pain from osteoarthritis of the knee, took pain-killers in order to sleep some nights, and had developed a limp.



*Peter and Heather Frondigoun*

The specialist told me that it would get worse and eventually require surgery and a replacement joint.

We were a Roman Catholic family, although I can not say that it meant a lot to me. Religion was more of a duty that had to be done, but I believed in God from my childhood. When my son showed me Scriptures to support full immersion baptism, and signs following, I was intrigued, and even impressed, but not ready at that time to give up my way of life.

After five years of watching the remarkable changes in the lives of Joe and his wife Marion, and being constantly spoken to, I eventually realised that I needed to get myself right with God.

Since being baptised and filled with the Holy Spirit, I no longer smoke or drink. The greatest miracle occurred immediately, in the waters of baptism, when my osteoarthritis was healed. No more pains or stiffness, no pills, no surgery required, and no limp. Now sixty-eight years old, I'm perfectly fit and mobile, and with the Lord's help, I'm going to overcome to the end.

## Heather Frondigoun

I was born a Roman Catholic, and I believed I belonged to the one true church. When my son and his wife told me they had been baptised by full immersion, and expected to receive the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues, I was angry and afraid. I thought that they had joined a sect, but I tried to be calm, and told them I'd give them six months and they would tire of it.

We watched for five years as they continued to witness to us. My son Joe had an accident and broke his wrist badly. However, two weeks later, after prayer, he got his wife to take the plaster off. I was horrified, but the broken wrist was healed. He was doing heavy work in his kitchen when I next saw him. Therefore, we had to be impressed.

Peter worked with Joe and when he came home we looked up in our Catholic Bible the Scriptures that Joe had mentioned during the day. Gradually, the Lord began to affect my life. We started to go to house meetings and I decided to be baptised. I asked God to guide me, and not desert me, to please let me receive the Holy Spirit.

When I was baptised, I immediately spoke in tongues. My husband was astonished, because he knew how cynical I had been about it all. From then on, I was in a place of peace and joy.

The certain knowledge that the Lord is with us, remains a daily blessing.



## England



### John and Jill Mayger

We were both confirmed in the Church of England during our early teens, but we had no experience with God. In 1993, we heard the gospel, faithfully preached by our son Stephen who had joined the Revival Fellowship.

We were very sceptical at the time when he mentioned about speaking in tongues, and we were worried that he had joined a cult. However, we did notice a change in Stephen for the better in that he had given up smoking and drinking, but we felt that we had to investigate it further to put our minds at rest.

When Stephen invited us to a barbecue, we thought it was a very good opportunity to see what it was all about. We very quickly realised that we were in the presence of happy and contented people. We were relieved for Stephen's sake, and it made us think about our own salvation.

About six months later, we attended our son's wedding at the Belfast Revival Fellowship and again we felt the presence of peace and heard the salvation message. On returning home, we decided to attend the weekly Revival meetings and on a May evening in 1994, we were both baptised.

We both received the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues shortly afterwards. We too, through the grace of God, now have the peace and joy in our lives.

We praise the Lord for the blessings he has bestowed on us.



### Tina Wonnacott

In May 1997, my nephew George was born. He was put in an incubator because he wasn't breathing properly. Later, I learned that he had actually died for six minutes and was resuscitated.

Sometime later, a consultant confirmed that George had a syndrome, a hole in the heart and a shadow on one lung. I thought about that little boy constantly.

One day his problems came up in a conversation with my friend Sally and she asked me if I would like her to pray for him. It had been a long time since I had thought about God. I had always maintained a belief that there was a God, but never a belief in one religion. I accepted my friend's offer of prayer with the attitude that anything might help.

About a year later, trouble started up again in the Middle East, and it gave me nightmares. One afternoon, I blurted out all my fears to Sally. When I got home, I felt quite silly, really sheepish, because it wasn't like me at all, but also I felt something had changed.

The only way I can describe it is to say that I felt that I was sitting at the bottom of a black hole and calling out to anybody and finally somebody had been listening.

Sally invited me to a meeting, but it was several weeks before I went. My first impression was that everything was so normal, nothing freaky, even when I heard speaking in tongues it felt good. I left that night feeling that "this was it." Sub-consciously, I had been seeking, and now I had found.

After a few weeks of going to the Wednesday night meetings, I said to Sally that I wanted to be baptised. I didn't receive the Holy Spirit until three months later.

George is now about two years old; the hole in the heart has healed and his lungs are stronger.

There has been a lot of evidence of the Lord in my life but the one that stands out the most is when I heard that Saddam Hussein had been bombed. I was waiting for the usual fear to arise in my throat but it didn't happen.



Pr Reg and Hilda Wilds, Worthing



New South Wales Rally



Baptisms at PNG Rally, Port Moresby



Pr Ray Welch, Exeter



Pastors at Far North Queensland Rally, Townsville



Eric and Ben, Exeter, at English Summer Camp



Holland Christmas Camp



Esteves, Vera, Lucas and Ruth, Brazil



PNG Rally, Port Moresby



Brazil Rally

Far North Queensland Rally



Pr Eliardo, his wife Monica, son Nathanao, Brazil, and Pr Simon Pearce from Perth, Australia

## speaking in tongues

### Why speak in tongues if you do not know what you are saying?

As previously discussed, speaking in tongues is designed by God for speaking to Him and to no other (1 Corinthians 14:2). In the book of James, we are told that the tongue is an unruly member that no man can tame – at one time we can praise God with it and the next, we can curse our brother. (James 3:3-13).

It is not surprising that God has chosen to tame and take control of the most unruly member of our body and uses it to create a new language, pure and undefiled with which we might speak to Him.

Paul writes, “Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.” (Romans 8:26,27). Jude tells us that praying “in the Spirit” edifies (builds us up) spiritually (Jude 20).

“If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?” *Luke 11:13*

### Isn't it possible for tongues to be of the devil?

No! In Luke 11, Jesus teaches the disciples to pray, particularly so that they might receive the Holy Spirit (Luke 11:13) and He encourages and reassures them by stating that their heavenly Father would only give good gifts. While people were seeking God, He certainly would not allow them to receive something spurious.

Interestingly, the next story in Luke relates to Jesus casting a demon out of a dumb man and being accused of having done so by the power of the devil. Jesus Christ, who was perfect, blameless and without sin, had an impeccable testimony. He demonstrated all of the fruit of the Spirit. He loved, forgave, uplifted, helped and healed. He demonstrated mercy, kindness, temperance, gentleness, faith and miracles. Finally, he gave his life for mankind.

He was the epitome of love and yet for all of His righteousness, the religious leaders of the day said that he was of the devil. Jesus said in Matthew 10:25, “...If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household?”

In fact, when a person receives the Holy Spirit, that is, when they speak in tongues, it is common that then or shortly after, ungodly practices and influences such as alcohol, drugs, cigarettes, bad language, gambling, immorality and so on leave them. In other words, the conversion is to a Godly life, not the opposite.

### Isn't speaking in tongues the least of the gifts?

There are people who quote the list in 1 Corinthians 12:28 and make the assumption that because “diversities of tongues” is the last mentioned that it must be the least important. (Note that it is not the last mentioned in 1 Corinthians 12:8-10.) Some even go so far as to say that it is therefore not necessary at all.

There is no evidence to suggest that the order in which items appear in Scripture signify the greatest to least importance. For example, consider the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Can we say that the 4th commandment (“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.”) was more important than the 6th commandment (“Thou shalt not kill.”)?

Consider also the list of the works of the flesh in Galatians 5:19-21. Would one then say that “murders” which appears 15th down the list is less a work of the flesh than say “wrath” which appears at position 10?

Rather than attaching various levels of importance to the blessings of God and then perhaps even eliminating those we think less significant, surely we should happily embrace and appreciate all that God offers.

## speaking in tongues

### So, do you have to speak in tongues to be saved?

The very short answer to this question is "yes!" The Bible says quite clearly that a person must have the Holy Spirit to be saved. For example, "...Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his." (Romans 8:9), and "...Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." (John 3:5).

As we have said before, "...these signs shall follow them that believe ... they shall speak with new tongues..." (Mark 16:15-20). Further, the literal translation of Jesus' comments to Nicodemus in John 3:8 reads: "The Spirit breathes where he chooses, and you hear his voice, but you do not know where he comes from or where he goes to. So is everyone born of the Spirit."

This text clearly demonstrates that everyone born of the Spirit will have the voice of the Spirit. Jesus spoke these words and as such we can correctly and confidently say that the infilling of the Spirit does include a voice.

If there is any doubt to what this sound or voice or language might be, we have complete clarification in Acts 2:4 when the Spirit was first poured out, where they spoke with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

"The Spirit  
breathes where he  
chooses, and you hear  
his voice, but you do  
not know where he  
comes from or where  
he goes to. So is  
everyone born of  
the Spirit."

### *Literal translation of John 3:8*

An inspection of the story of Cornelius tells us that he possessed at least seven fine qualities in the eyes of God. He was a devout man, feared God, gave alms to the poor, prayed to God always, saw visions from God, a just man of good report, who prayed and fasted. However, Cornelius was not saved (Acts 11:14) until he heard the words of salvation. As the words of salvation were preached, he and his household spoke in tongues (Acts 10:46).

Jesus said, "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in Spirit and in truth." (John 4:24). The only Bible clarification for this is given in 1 Corinthians 14:14 where Paul identified that praying in the Spirit was praying in tongues. "For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful."

### But didn't Paul indicate that not all speak in tongues?

In 1 Corinthians 12:30, the apostle Paul asks, "...do all speak with tongues?" The key to correctly understanding this question requires recognising the distinction between the initial experience of speaking in tongues (as evidence of receiving the Holy Spirit) and the public use of tongues (with the corresponding gift of interpretation) in a church meeting.

Paul's question relates specifically to the context of a church meeting (1 Corinthians 12:28, 14:23,26) and therefore, the answer is in the negative. The exercise of this gift is to be limited to two or at the most three in any one meeting (1 Corinthians 14:27) and these tongues should be interpreted.

Nevertheless, all do speak in tongues when they receive the Holy Spirit and all should continue to pray to God, in private, in the Spirit (speaking in tongues).

# Worthing



Although the Worthing assembly is only a small section of the vineyard, we rejoice to be part of the whole Body of Christ (the church).

It is great joy for us to hear of the considerable number of people all around the world turning to the Lord and being mightily blessed by Him.

Over many years we have tried and tested the word of God and proved it to be true and perfect.

Therefore, we stand firm in these “perilous times” (I Timothy 3:1), “not soon shaken in mind, or troubled” (2 Thessalonians 2:2), having our complete trust in God and His word and to use the gift He gave us, the Holy Spirit.

We continue faithfully to preach the gospel of God’s kingdom and His soon return to earth.

“Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.” (Revelation 22:20).

*Pastor Reg Wilds*



## Mary McConaghie

About eight years ago, I was invited by a friend to go to a Revival meeting in Worthing. She kept on telling me about the people who attended these meetings and how friendly and happy they were. I soon found this to be true and it is still the same today.

On the 14th June 1990, I repented of my sins and was baptised by full immersion.

Two weeks later, I knew at once that I had received the Holy Spirit, when I began to speak in tongues. I had found the Lord and felt like a different person.

I thank him daily for the many blessings and healings he has given me. I feel very close to the Lord and I pray that I shall be faithful to Him until He returns. Praise the Lord.



## Daphne Thetford

Over 18 years ago, I was spoken to about the things of God. I was shown from the Bible that I had to be baptised by full immersion, and that I would receive the Holy Spirit and speak in a new tongue. So I did.

I have had many healings and blessings from the Lord and I know I can pray to Him anytime for He is always there. I give the Lord all the praise and glory, and hope that I am still walking in His ways when He returns.

## England

### Rita Offen

Four years ago, I met a woman from the Revival Fellowship at a mother and baby group. At the time, I was talking to the Jehovah's Witnesses. I wanted to believe there was more to life than what I was seeing in the world around me with its wars, corruption in high places, famines and so on.

The person I had met invited me to her church and I attended a meeting, where I saw something quite different to my previous experiences in the Church of England.

### Peter Offen

Four years ago my wife Rita was invited to a Revival meeting, and I agreed to go along to support her. At that meeting, I was surprised to hear the speaker using the Bible as his source. To hear about the Holy Ghost and tongues was something new to me. I was nearly convinced but had to prove it to myself, so I decided to be baptised.

Some weeks later, I received the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. I then knew that what I had heard was true and the Bible was a true testimony of the living God.

No one dressed in robes, the talk came directly from the Bible, and the people had a genuine excitement about them.

I was told the Bible message, of repentance, baptism by full immersion, and receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit, with the evidence of speaking in tongues.

I had never heard of speaking in tongues before, and I thought, "This must be the proof of God that I have been looking for." I was baptised two weeks later, and six weeks after that, I received the Holy Spirit, and spoke in a new tongue.

Since that day, my eyes have been opened and confusion has been removed from my life. Every circumstance has been corrected and improved.

My work and financial situation has changed beyond recognition. My relationship with my family has improved as we now have the Holy Spirit directing our lives.

I have found that praying to and asking God for help works in every situation. For example, when our daughter was a young baby and had problems with her skin, we prayed and she was healed overnight.

From that moment, the happenings in the world no longer perplexed me. I now understood that the Bible was speaking to me, whereas before I had received the Spirit the Bible seemed to be in a different language.

I now feel contentment in my life, knowing that God is alive and that he has a straight path for us to travel, no matter what is happening in the world.

When I wanted to change jobs I called on the Lord and He sorted that out too. He made it possible for me to be the only employee to leave the company early and with a redundancy so that I could go on to train for the job I wanted and now enjoy.

There is much more that is amazing and I do indeed thank and praise the Lord!



# Exeter



Greetings to all the brethren world wide.

“We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers; Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father; knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God.”  
(1 Thessalonians 1:2-4)

We had an exciting year filled with meetings, camps, fellowship days, outreaches (including the UK tent crusade), the wedding of Lee Finney and Yarni Welch and six baptisms.

We continue to preach the gospel exactly as it was presented to me almost 17 years ago. Just as the Word of God says, “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to-day, and for ever.” (Hebrews 13:8)

We greatly appreciate the support that we receive from the other UK assemblies. It has been of tremendous encouragement to our small but keen fellowship.

We would also like to thank the many pastors that have given us great support over the years. We love to have visitors so if you are planning a trip, please, do not miss a visit to Exeter.

*Pastor Ray Welch*

## Yarni Finney

About eight years ago, I was baptised and filled with the Holy Spirit, with the evidence of speaking in tongues as the Bible says in Act 2:38 and Mark 16:15-20. It is amazing that Moses saw the back of God but we can have Him inside us!

Last year I was married to Lee. It is a real blessing, being married to someone who has had the same experience with the Lord. God has always blessed everything we do and always provides. As we give thanks for the little things, there is always enough.

The Lord protects us; for example, we were kept safe when the brakes failed on the car when we were travelling down a steep hill at 60 miles per hour.

My trip to Australia was great, I was made so welcome. It's good to know we have a Fellowship around the world where people are of the same mind and experience of the Holy Ghost which brings such love and harmony through Jesus Christ.

The Lord has really kept His hand upon my life. He helps me through everything, including passing exams to get me into University.

I can truly thank the Lord for all He has done for me. I hope that as I walk in His ways, I shall be seen in a spotless garment when He returns and be risen with Him to rule and reign on high. Praise the Lord.



## testimonies from Darwin, Australia



### Daniel Lee

I was brought up in Malaysia where all my friends were of different religions. Even though I was encouraged by my parents to believe in Jesus, I found it hard. I used to read the Bible but considered it to be a book of fairy tales. The miracles in it that I read about, never happened to me.

I came to Australia when I was twelve and had a great desire to know if God existed and if He did, which would be the right church. I studied evolution and science and watched weekly religious programs on television. I wanted evidence.

One Friday night, I called out to God to give me proof and to show me a miracle that I may believe in Him. The next morning in the Mall, two people from the Revival Fellowship in Darwin approached me and told me how that God would prove His existence and that I could have a personal experience with Him. I was a bit sceptical, yet everything they said to me were answers to the prayers I had the night before.

I thought the only way I could be sure was to go to their meetings and see for myself. When I went to a meeting the people seemed sincere and happy. They claimed it was the Holy Spirit experience.

It was on a Friday night that I received the Holy Spirit. I knew I received the Spirit as I was speaking in unknown tongues as did the apostles in the Bible. It was so convincing that I got baptised as commanded by the Lord.

Since that day, the miracles in the Bible are evident in my life. I had received the proof and evidence that I had always wanted.



### Stavoula Richards

I can remember as a 9-year-old sitting in the Greek Orthodox Church wondering "since the Lord created us and the earth and all living things, why are we made to think that God is up there and we're down here?" Wasn't there something closer?

It was not long after this that my aunty came from Melbourne and told my parents about a personal experience that they could have with God. She invited my family to a barbecue the Revival Fellowship was having, and we decided to attend.

The first thing I noticed was how all different nationalities were mixing together and also how happy everyone was.

I decided that I would like to have what they had, not knowing at this stage that my parents were impressed by all their questions being answered from the Bible.

Seven months later, my father told us to get ready as we were going to a Sunday meeting. Over the next few months I watched as my parents, followed by my older brother, received the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues and were baptised by full immersion.

Not long after this, I received the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues and was baptised also - for the simple reason that this is what the Lord has told us to do so we could be with him forever.

This wonderful experience happened to me in April 1981, and since that time I have been married and have two wonderful children.

I thank the Lord that he called me and I now have a wonderful life filled with love, joy and peace. Praise the Lord!

# World Wide Witness



The Internet is a global interconnected network of computers that reaches into almost every country, and into the workplaces and homes of millions of people. Researchers believe that there will be around 1 billion users by 2005.

In July 1996, construction of our Fellowship's Internet web-site began in earnest. Our aims were to see the gospel spread even further abroad and also to provide a place where members of our fellowship from around the world could share in the rich ministry that we have available to us. Today, our web-site is providing just such a service.

The web-site features articles on salvation, British Israel, Bible Numerics; includes many personal testimonies of salvation and healing; and articles from pastors around the assemblies on various subjects.

Since the web-site officially went "on-line", it has distributed over 170,000 copies of articles to over 40,000 people from 82 different countries.

In any one month we can have around 2000 individual visitors to the web-site, and combined they read an average of over 7000 articles. Questions and requests for more information arrive every day, from people worldwide who want to know more about our ministry and the gospel.

The constant demand for more information has become so great that we are now providing an on-line bookshop service to allow people to obtain more information on the subject that they are interested in.

Another of our very popular on-line resources is a comprehensive on-line Bible study facility that has proved to be world class in standard. The on-line Bible allows you to read and compare verses from nine different Bible versions, including ancient Greek and Latin texts.

Various Bible study aides make it easy to find out much more on any Bible topic of interest.

“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.” *Mark 16:15*

In addition, several interactive Bible maps are linked to the Bible study aides. You simply click on the place of interest, it generates a detailed account of the place selected, and where it occurs in Scripture.

The distribution and reach of our fellowship magazine, “Revival Times”, has been dramatically increased by the web-site, publishing each edition in rich web format that remains true to the original publication. Back issues of the magazine are also retained on-line for the reading pleasure of both new visitors and assembly members alike.

The web-site is a great place to refer people to if they are interested in finding out more information about our fellowship.

# Revival Fellowship

Meetings are held three or four times a week in all our assemblies.

The scriptures are expounded and people testify to being blessed by God and being revived by the Holy Spirit.

New people are always welcome, and encouraged to receive God's Spirit as well.

## AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Canberra - Pastor Bob Beverley (02) 6297-7243  
Canberra Nth - Pastor Nick Allan (02) 6241-5021  
Canberra Sth - Pastor Bob Crockford (02) 6297-9793  
Queanbeyan - Pastor Bob Crockford (02) 6297-9793

## NEW SOUTH WALES

Armidale - Pastor Alex McLeod (02) 6772-9071  
Bathurst - Pastor Nick Bewick (02) 6331-8694  
Bega/Cooma - Pastor Carmelo Rubio (02) 6494-5777  
Central Coast - Pastor Joe Abel (02) 4325-0297  
Coffs Harbour - Pastor Lyle Willis (02) 6658-4774  
Eurobodalla - Pastor Stephen Atkin (02) 4474-3950  
Goulburn - Pastor Jeff Luck (02) 4822-1445  
Lismore - Pastor Gary Wigmore (02) 6686-6779  
Newcastle - Pastor Mark Hall (02) 4955-1774  
Shoalhaven - Peter Popp (02) 4443-8052  
Sydney - Pastor Garry Hall (02) 9868-2242  
Tumut - Pastor Bede Richards (02) 6949-1711  
Wagga Wagga - Pastor Henry Smit (02) 6922-4889  
Wollongong - Pastor Steven Matthews (02) 4271-5384  
Young - Peter Miller (02) 6382-1197

## NORTHERN TERRITORY

Alice Springs - Pastor Nigel Rick (08) 8953-2744  
Darwin - Pastor Ivan Tester (08) 8927-5079

## QUEENSLAND

Brisbane - Pastor Brad Smith (07) 3866-3856  
Bundaberg - Pastor Bill Walsh (07) 4153-1740  
Cairns - Pastor Neil Jenner (07) 4054-6239  
Gold Coast - Pastor Hedley Joske (07) 5527-5202  
Mackay - Pastor Arthur Marshman (07) 4954-3569  
Maranoa - Pastor Thomas Krahenbring (07) 4622-2876  
Rockhampton - Pastor Bill Allen (07) 4927-4603  
Sunshine Coast - Pastor Brian Smith (07) 5492-8448  
Toowoomba - Pastor Russell Gay (07) 4638-3177  
Townsville - Pastor Chris Thomasson (07) 4779-7061

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Adelaide - Pastor John Kuhlmann (08) 8293-1301  
Kingswood (Vogue) - Pr Darryl Williams (08) 8374-3848  
Elizabeth Vale - Pr Graeme Hazledine (08) 8281-1309  
Woodcroft - Pr Rex Haese (08) 8325-0236  
Cooper Pedy - Pastor Deane Clee (08) 8672-5777  
Mount Gambier - Pastor Brian Allen (08) 8725-4117  
Port Pirie - Greg Drage (08) 8633-1660  
Whyalla - Pastor Roland Rocchi (08) 8645-0850

## TASMANIA

Hobart - Craig Hoskins (03) 6278-3230  
Launceston - Pastor Brian Pennington (03) 6334-7879

## VICTORIA

Geelong - Pastor Daryl Treloar (03) 5244-2633  
Melbourne - Pastor Matt Gage (03) 9439-7108  
Warrnambool - Pastor Brian Lyons (03) 5561-5510

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Bunbury - Pastor Russell Walton (08) 9725-0208  
Perth - Pastor Kevin Quirk (08) 9457-0201

## BRAZIL

Aust contact - Pastor Kevin Quirk (08) 9457-0201

## EUROPE

European contact - Pastor Pieter Visser (078) 614-6173  
Aust contact - Pastor John Kuhlmann (08) 8293-1301

## CZECH REPUBLIC

Vlcice - Pastor Jaroslav Prouza

## FRANCE

Misse - Alain Artus (05) 4996-3195

## GERMANY

Zirndorf - Matthias Thiel (0911) 69-5258

## HOLLAND

Dordrecht - Pastor Pieter Visser (078) 614-6173

## HUNGARY

Budapest - Pastor Chris Kaye (01) 200-7316

## FIJI

Pastor Ilaijiah Rokoua 36-1682  
Aust contact - Trevor Brown (02) 6299-9298

## INDONESIA

Aust contact - Pastor Rex Haese (08) 8325-0236

## JAPAN

Aust contact - Pastor Kevin Quirk (08) 9457-0201

## KENYA

Kitui - Pastor Samuel Mwanzia (0141) 22-521  
Aust contact - Pastor Brian Allen (08) 8725-4117

## NEW ZEALAND

Auckland - Pastor Lawrence Bills (09) 419-1785  
Bay Of Plenty - Pastor Laurie Nankivell (07) 573-6010  
Christchurch - Pastor Mark Wattchow (03) 385-8784  
New Plymouth - Pastor Bryan Smith (06) 757-5792  
Wellington - Pastor Royden Mayfield (04) 476-3890

## PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Pastor Godfrey Wippon 856-2109  
Aust contact - Pastor Matt Gage (03) 9439-7108

## SINGAPORE

Pastor Colin Tan 584-7408  
Aust contact - Pastor Graeme Hazledine (08) 8281-1309

## SOUTH AFRICA

Capetown - Pastor Ron Carslake (021) 788-5709  
Aust contact - Pastor Brian Allen (08) 8725-4117

## UNITED KINGDOM

Belfast - Pastor Joe Frondigoun (013967) 70-885  
Exeter - Pastor Ray Welch (01395) 44-6496  
Liverpool, Manchester - Pastor Steve Gillespie (0151) 608-0335  
London North - Pastor Warren Sharrock (0181) 241-0298  
London South - Pastor Steve Murphy (0181) 659-1741  
Worthing - Pastor Reg Wilds (01403) 25-6895  
York - Pastor Steve Gillespie (0151) 608-0335  
Aust contact - Pastor John Kuhlmann (08) 8293-1301

## UNITED STATES AND CANADA

Aust contact - Pastor Darryl Williams (08) 8374-3848

## CALIFORNIA

Fresno - Pastor David Elliott (209) 229-6126  
San Pedro - Jim Seixas (310) 519-7560

## TEXAS

Angleton - Mike McLendon (409) 849-9377

## BRITISH COLUMBIA

Victoria - contact Pastor David Elliott (209) 229-6126

## ZIMBABWE

Harare - Pastor George Mthunzi  
Aust contact - Pastor Brian Allen (08) 8725-4117

All area codes are local - add country codes etc. where needed.



See,

I have set before thee  
this day life and good,  
and death and evil...

blessing and cursing:  
therefore choose life...