

PRAYER FOR PARLIAMENT

Notes of Meeting held on Tuesday 15th November 2016

The November Meeting of Prayer for Parliament and the Nation took the form of a Service of Praise and Thanksgiving in St Mary Undercroft (the 'Crypt' Chapel). Worship was led by Kenny Temowo. With around 100 or so present, the worship was enthusiastic and uplifting.

Sir Jeffrey Donaldson.

As host of the service Sir Jeffrey welcomed all to the meeting. He reminded us that God has called us to intercede for the nation and to stand in the Gap. We live in a changing world when the unexpected happens. Collectively we are the body of Christ. As we observe 2016, historians will have a lot to say. The stronger we are individually, the stronger we will be collectively. God is welcome in the Palace of Westminster - He is Sovereign. There are changes coming. As a result of Brexit there will be a return of power from Europe to Great Britain but power has never left the Kingdom of God. David Hathaway is a familiar voice in prayer; he speaks internationally and he is speaking here today.

David Hathaway.

David flew in from Prague the previous night where he had a unique opportunity to speak to people opposed to Christians. The Kingdom of God is not just words but power behind the Word. Considering the time of David's imprisonment 44 years ago, people there wanted to know why he came back. It was because of his experience in the hardship of a Czechoslovakian prison that people listened to him. He shared the love of God to forgive perpetrators of evil. In prison with every type of criminal, it seemed God did not answer his prayers. The heavens seemed like brass. Then David broke into praise and everything changed. In the midst of the darkness, God was there.

When Moses saw the burning bush, he recognised it was unique fire. He saw glory and the power of God in the fire. God had seen the affliction of the Children of Israel and came down to deliver. God allowed His Own Son to go into prison for us. If hell is half as bad as the prison he experienced, David determined that he would spend the rest of his life evangelising. It was the then Prime Minister, Harold Wilson, who went to bring David back to UK; Harold Wilson came in answer to prayer. David was determined not to stay there but to find deliverance. He prayed his way out of prison. When he revisited the prison, David sensed the power of God to deliver.

While we were a Bible believing, praying country, God blessed us - He delivered us. The challenge is what can God do when that need is presented by faith filled, believing people who reach through to the power of God? In Ukraine, David held a National day of Prayer. People were being killed in Ukraine. Politicians, diplomats and armies failed to bring peace. By God's grace, David brought together every Christian denomination in Ukraine. On 18 June this year, 6,000 people gathered together to pray. David did not tell them what to pray. Leaders knelt before God and they prayed that - If we believed; if we had prayed; we would have peace in the land.

Truly, let us remember God's word. ***If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14 INKJV***

When we recall the miracle milestone that was Dunkirk when 378,000 men were at risk there was little natural possibility of a safe return for the larger percentage of those men. The nation prayed; within 24 hours a great calm came on the sea and not the expected 30,000 men but 338,000 men were rescued. God can change the future of this nation. God had a plan before creation - even before sin.

The challenge that was presented to the men of God in Ukraine brought them to prayer. God wants to work a miracle here. Our God is greater than any problem or situation - We have a God of power. We must recognise that power. Today if you will search for Him, He is here waiting to be found.

Sir Jeffrey concluded.

He thanked David Hathaway for all he has done. The message is one of clarity and straight to the point. This nation is not beyond reach. The darkest moments come before the dawn of a new day. UK will one day be set apart from among the nations. We see a higher purpose than what we see in the media. Something bigger and greater is going on. What we want for Great Britain is greater than military power or diplomatic rights. Let us pray for those in authority. God wants to exalt the nation. Righteousness exalts the nation. We believe that salvation is the answer for the nation.

He reminded us that at the time of Queen Victoria, it is said that when asked by a diplomatic delegate how Britain had become powerful in the world, she is said to have handed him a beautifully bound copy of the Bible and said, 'This is the Secret of England's Greatness'.

Sir Jeffrey closed the meeting in prayer. Thanking God for His sovereignty and that He had plans for UK. He reminded us that we must pray - for guidance, for our Queen, for the Prime Minister, for Parliament and the Cabinet.