

Prayer for Parliament

THE RT. HON SIR JEFFREY DONALDSON, MP
HOUSE OF COMMONS, LONDON SW1A 0AA

Notes of Prayer Meeting held on Tuesday, 13th March 2018

Opening Comments: Rev June Freudenberg opened the meeting with thanks to God that Bill Nelson was much improved in health and able to lead the meeting this day. As Deputy Leaders for PfP, June expressed appreciation for the support and encouragement that she and Lady Carol Baker had received during the time they stood in for Bill Nelson. They expressed their pleasure in being able to hand back the 'baton' of leadership they had been carrying pro tem. Bill Nelson then took up the leadership of the meeting, and mentioned that his medical situation was one where he seems to be under constant attack but God's sustaining grace was seeing him through.

Bill read Romans 5:1-5 reminding us of the Peace and Hope we have in Christ.

Sir Jeffrey Donaldson brought a number of matters for prayer.

- At the time of speaking, debating in the Chamber was focused on the financial provision for **Child Care and School Meals Statutory Instruments** which often produces tensions on both sides. The DUP were meeting before the vote to discuss how to proceed. Before leaving for the meeting, prayer was made that the DUP would know God's guidance with decisions that needed to be made.
- **BREXIT.** Here confusion continues to reign and there is still a need for strong visionary leadership. Negotiations are proceeding apace and prayer needs to be focused on this subject particularly to ask for God's wisdom and clear direction for those presenting UK's case that they will know how to proceed.
- **EU Withdrawal Bill** is being presented in the House of Lords. There are likely to be amendments. There may well be a constitutional battle between the House of Lord and the House of Commons. The destiny of the UK will be affected by leaving the EU in March 2019. The need to get it right is paramount. The church has been pushed to the sidelines.
- **Northern Ireland.** There is a political vacuum and communities are polarised. Without a solution to this stalemate, Home Rule from Westminster is likely to accelerate the possibility of Abortion and Same Sex Marriage being legalized in NI due to 131 Westminster MP's who favour such a change. During the following week a budget needs to be set for NI.
- **Irish Republic.** Removal of the 8th Amendment is being attempted and also to make abortion permitted up to 12 weeks. This possibility is likely to influence and gather momentum in Northern Ireland. The possibility that IR could come out of the EU was mentioned. There is a sense that the Lord has a destiny and a purpose for Ireland that is yet to be seen.
- **National Day of Prayer.** This possibility is being considered but, to date, there is no Parliamentary support.
Comment: Past National Days of Prayer in UK have had a significant effect. Probably the best known is the National Day of Prayer preceding evacuation of Dunkirk.
- The **DUP** visited Brussels especially as the EU proposals on borders are not acceptable.

There was a brief time of prayer. Verses given were Gal 6:9 and Psalm 146.

Christian Concern highlighted a pregnancy helpline they are establishing and encouraged support for this.

Fiona Bruce encouraged people to read the The Religious Freedom Debate at Westminster Hall, led by Jim Shannon MP on 1 March 2018. This was an encouraging debate, well received by all. Thanks to all who prayed for this debate. Refer to [Hansard](#).

- The **Strengthening Families Manifesto** has had some good support and needs continuing prayer and God-given favour to carry it through. Pray for Civil Servants who may not be keen on this bill. They are often long standing appointments and can become set in their ways. Remember also David Burrows who is helping this with subject.
- A question was raised regarding the chaplaincy of **Paul Song**'s removal from Brixton Prison by the new Chaplain who is an Imam. Such action was questionable since a 1952 Act of Parliament states that a Prison Chaplain must be licenced by the Church of England. Fiona Bruce asked for confirmation of this particular Act in order to help Paul Song at Brixton Prison.

Prayer for MPs. Let us continue to pray for MP's that God would protect and guide them. Also pray for their families as matters that affect them have a knock-on effect on MP's. Particularly remember those who come to contribute at PFP as they are able to share with us the strategic way God is using them.

David Hathaway was invited to share with the group his thoughts regarding the Special Day of Prayer at Emmanuel Centre on 23rd March 2018; other groups who have similar interest and purpose are gathering throughout UK. David mentioned his continuing hope that a National Day of Prayer will be called for UK.

The points for prayer are as follows:-

- Deliver us through Brexit and protect us from evil powers.
- Raise up men like Wesley, Spurgeon, Moody and Billy Graham in our nation and in this generation.
- Give new power and faith to our Spiritual Leaders and revive us by the Holy Spirit.
- For a 2nd Reformation which will bring us back to the Bible and restore the spirit of intercession.
- For Israel and Netanyahu and their recognition of the Returning Messiah.
- Use Britain to deal with the Russian threat and once again take her position as Spiritual Leaders.
- Strengthen persecuted Christians worldwide and give us freedom of speech.
- Bill Nelson reminded all that Billy Graham died last month – In 1966 at the Earls Court Arena for 30 nights, over a million people attended, 40,000 gave their lives to the Lord! Let's pray that David Hathaway's initiative will reap the same results!

Comment: The fulfilment of these prayers would have an obvious effect on UK and also on Parliament. Let us pray that the Lord will so move that His Name may be uplifted and glorified.

Bill Nelson drew the meeting to a close with Psalm 67.

The result will be joy, not only as a response to God's love, but also His justice.

The meeting was attended by 55 people with 6 apologies.

Card: A card for Amber Rudd MP was circulated for signing by the group assuring her of our prayerful support in her role as Home Secretary, especially at this time with the events in Salisbury.

Collection: This was made for the police families affected by the terrorist attack on Westminster a year ago.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 17 April: 3.00 to 4.30 pm – Committee Room 18