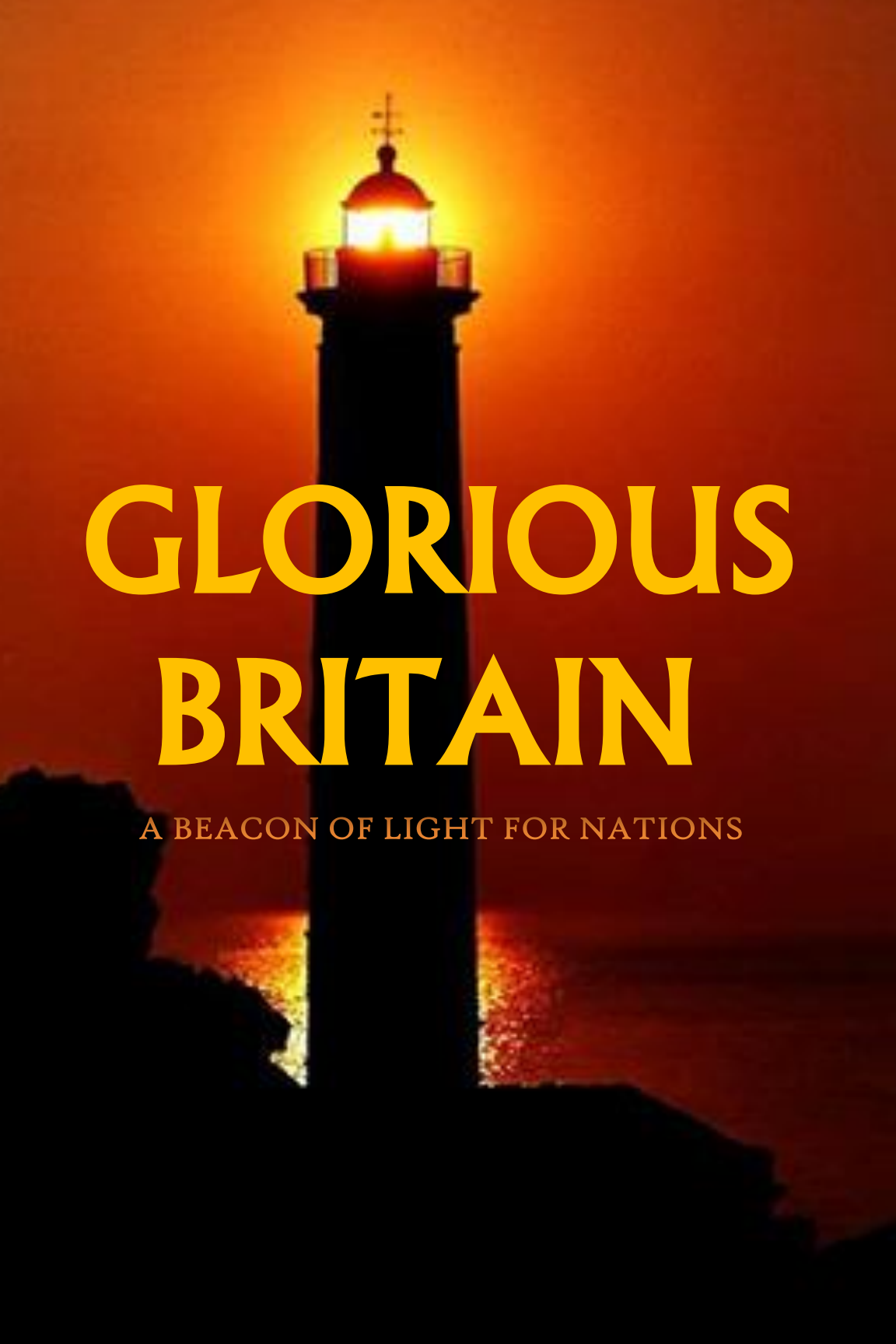

GLORIOUS
BRITAIN
A BEACON OF LIGHT FOR NATIONS

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PREMALATHA BATHULA

Glorious Britain – A Beacon of Light for Nations
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PREFACE

* * *

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance –Psalms 33-12.

Righteousness exalts a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people – Proverbs 14:34

Britain is God's own country known for its great Christian heritage: the revivals and mighty moves of God that have transformed the nations and shaped the global Church. A nation blessed immensely as it has birthed many Martyrs and Missionaries, whose passion for the 'Truth' was such that they gladly laid their life for it, sacrificed their family life and denied the comforts of the West to risk it all to spread the Gospel to nations. They encountered hostile environments, faced death threats, went through extreme persecution, were imprisoned, tortured and

burned to death but they considered their suffering worthy for the cause of the Gospel (Philippians 1:29). Such is the legacy of this nation: the Martyrs, the Missionaries and faithful ministers of God who responded to God's call in their life in such a way that it has revived nations bringing millions of souls to Christ; and it continues to still inspire and shape the present day Church. The blood of the Martyrs is the seed of the Church; and their cries are still interceding for this nation.

It is marvelous how God has used this nation as a beacon of light time and again to fulfil Bible prophecies and key milestones in the Church Age:

- The impact of **16thCentury Protestant reformation** in this nation that cut the ties with the papacy - the Roman Catholic Church and re-established the sovereignty of the Word of God in the Church (Sola Scriptura).

- The **18th Century Evangelical Revival** in this nation that continued well into the 19th Century resulted in a period marked with spiritual explosion, rise in evangelism and missionary movement.

- The **20th Century Holy Spirit revivals** that took place in this nation and the rest of the world shaped the global church by bringing an understanding of the ministry of Holy Spirit through spirit led worship, validity of the Spiritual gifts, relevance of spiritual warfare and importance of leading a spirit filled life.

- British Government in 1917 issued the **Balfour Declaration** that showed their support for the establishment of a 'National home for the Jewish people' which was instrumental in the formation of the nation of Israel in 1948.

The above events have shaped the maturity and understanding of the global church and its impact continues even today. The frequency of the occurrence of such events in this nation indicate that we must not overlook at them as a mere coincidence but that God has appointed this nation to be a beacon of light for nations: a 'Glorious Britain' where His wonders are revealed, a nation that stands for the 'Truth' and defends the 'Truth' by fighting against the darkness in these end times.

A nation appointed to prepare the way for the imminent return of our Lord Jesus Christ: King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

It is of great significance to especially discern this fact in our times, failing which we might not have an insight of what God is doing and wants to do through this nation and work alongside that vision to fulfill it.

Brexit is Britain leaving the European Union after joining it in 1973 and being a part of the 28 member state. Although Brexit is a political and a historic event, as believers we can easily get carried away by all the hype, commotion, and uncertainty surrounding it. God's timing is impeccable and as believers our focus should be on the spiritual significance of this event in order to watch and pray (Matthew 26:41). By drawing a parallel to what happened to this nation during the 16th Century Protestant Reformation will help us gain a deeper insight on the spiritual significance of Brexit. When the papacy-Roman Catholic Church was in control of this nation, it was in darkness. The papacy practiced many false doctrines like salvation by works, penance, purgatory and indulgences representing antichrist

establishment. It restricted people from reading the Bible as it believed only clergymen were divinely ordained to read and interpret the Bible. It was forbidden to translate the Bible to common language (English) and since it was available in Latin it meant only scholars had access to it and not the laymen. The nation was in deep darkness as true liberty was denied when people had no access to the Gospel **(John 8:32)**. This changed with the impact of the Protestant reformation in this nation that opened mighty doors for the Gospel. Key changes that occurred were:

- It broke the nation ties with the papacy –the Roman Catholic Church that represented the antichrist establishment.

- Reinstated the sovereignty of the 'Word of God' in the Church.

- Bible was translated to English the common language and laymen had access to it. The advent of printing press made it possible for Bible to be mass produced.

- This in turn made the Bible the most widely read book that spiritually revived people and paved the way for evangelism and missionary movement in the later centuries. As people prospered so did the nation.

What has this to do with what is happening in this nation through Brexit? Brexit involves breaking away (exiting) from the European Union, symbolic of an antichrist government in the same way as Reformation broke its ties from an antichrist religious establishment (false doctrines). The antichrist government will use wealth, authority and resources in these last days to come against the plans and purposes of the Kingdom of God. The technological advancement has made it possible to understand some of the Bible prophecies which would otherwise not have been understood. For instance the stage is being set with the advent of Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, Holograms, Digital Currency, Digital ID, RFID chips, AI Weaponising and emerging technologies to fulfill the scriptures in Revelation 13: 15-17.

And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should

both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name – Revelation 13:15-17

As long as this nation is tied up to the European Union the light of the Gospel shall be hindered in this nation and hence breaking free from it shall open new doors for the Gospel. Brexit is an important gateway to usher this nation into that time of reformation and revivals **(Habakkuk 2:14; Haggai 2:9)** and restore the sovereignty of God in this nation. The wealth of the unjust shall shift to the hands of righteous as this nation regains complete control over its economy and borders.

And as we are drawing closer to that time of Brexit the birth pangs are increasing; with fear and uncertainty looming over the country as predictions of an economic crash, trade and border problems, healthcare meltdown seem to

take our focus. But as children of God let us look at it with a spiritual perspective and not be troubled by the uncertainty of Brexit. The Bible says that the things of the Spirit can only be spiritually discerned-**1 Corinthians 2:14**.

Today the state of this nation is such that majority of the people do not have faith. The Church attendance is declining rapidly while secularization is on the rise. The British Social Attitudes survey reported that 53% of Britons have no religious faith. This has serious consequences on the society further worsened by the fact that Christian influence in education, health and social services has declined. The rising influence of secularization in the British culture can be seen in couples who find no difference between cohabiting and marriage. Bible based values are now regarded as radical beliefs and vices described in scriptures are openly practiced. Secularization has covered this nation in darkness because the light of the Gospel that once illuminated it has been stripped off from its foundations. The Word of God that was once the moral compass for the nation's constitution to steer it in the right direction has

been deserted. My children are lost because of the lack of knowledge – Hosea 4:6. Historically we have seen that a period of moral decline preceded most of the revivals; it was in such times of despair that prayers were answered. May the Lord use this Brexit season to refine and sanctify the Church and the nation so that which is unshakable remains and glory of the Lord is revealed:

"This is what the LORD Almighty says: 'In a little while I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land.- Haggai 2:6

The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,' says the LORD Almighty. 'And in this place I will grant peace,' declares the LORD Almighty. - Haggai 2:9

Although many are speaking doom and gloom over this nation we as Children of the living God ought to believe for a Glorious Britain knowing that we serve a great God through whom all things are possible **(Matthew 19:26; Zechariah 4:6)** and fervently pray for the restoration of this

nation to its former glory according to **2 Chronicles 7:14** remembering its profound Christian heritage. **"Jesus is the hope of our Glory"**.

For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope- **Jeremiah 29:11**

VISION OF GLORIOUS BRITAIN

- Brexit to be fulfilled in its season to bring back the sovereignty of God over this nation as it cuts off its ties completely with European Union.

- This season to open mighty doors for the Gospel to usher reformation and revivals that marked the 16th to 20th Century to restore this nation to its former Glory.

- A time of great awakening (refining and sanctification) to restore the intimacy and first love in the Church .God's Glory to be

revealed through signs and wonders **(Habakkuk 2:14; Haggai 2:9)**.

- For this nation to become a missionary sending nation again. A new generation of Martyrs and missionaries to arise in this nation.

- A season when the treasures of darkness **(Isaiah 45:3)** - the wealth of the unjust shall shift into the righteous hands for missions, planting churches and spreading the Gospel with a great momentum.

- A time of deep awakening as hidden riches in the secret places (Mysteries, deeper truths and revelations from the Word of God) are imparted to the Church preparing the Bride of Christ.

During the Battle of Britain when this nation stood against Hitler's regime even as the rest of Europe succumbed to his rule Churchill said 'Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few' referring to the efforts of the Royal Air Force against Germany's Luftwaffe. We are in a similar

situation with this being a spiritual battle and the remnant of God's army called for battling on their knees.

It is urgent for the remnant of God's people to unite together and rise above any denominational, cultural, language barriers to come together into the upper room for the greater cause of advancing the Kingdom of God and pray for the fulfillment of the vision of a 'Glorious Britain', for a mighty move of God to revive and restore this nation to its former Glory.

God has placed this responsibility upon the Church during this crucial hour of Brexit to steer this nation towards its divine destiny of a Glorious Britain.

You have not gone up to the breaches in the wall to repair it for the people of Israel so that it will stand firm in the battle on the day of the LORD – Ezekiel 13:5

Lord let this vision of a Glorious Britain be made plain and written in the tablets of our hearts that whoever is reading it is able to run for it - Habakkuk 2:1.

It's time to pray without ceasing for this cause - **(Acts 1:14 and Acts 2:1; Isaiah 60:1-3)**.

Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. – Isaiah 60:1-3

PROPHETIC TIMELINE

* * *

An insight into the prophetic timeline of the events that occurred through the 16th Century to 20th Century that will prepare our hearts with an expectation of what God is going to do in the 21st Century. God works in mysterious ways, His ways are above our ways, and His thoughts are above our thoughts **(Isaiah 55:8-9)**. Just when nations were in a steep moral decline (corruption, adultery, alcoholism and crime on the rise) and it seemed as if there was no chance or any hope for restoration, God who controls the times and seasons has revived the nations with an outpouring of His Spirit revealing His Glory with signs and wonders. The 16th, 18th and 20th Century periods are known for the mighty moves of God that had a worldwide impact. While some of its origins have been in Britain the main focus would be to look at the role this nation played during these periods. The 16th Century Reformation had its origins in

Germany but it had a great impact on this nation and further fueled the 18th Century Evangelical Revival in this nation that resulted in 19th Century worldwide missionary movement and the 20th Century Holy Spirit revivals.

We can also see how men and women of great faith have been powerfully used by God during these periods. They had such a hunger and passion for God that they gave their all to seek Him, their thirst growing with an increasing revelation of Him **(Isaiah 44:3)**. And God used such vessels to bring revival which started as a spark and spread as a flame (fire) that lit nations. Such was its effect that it continues to set ablaze generations, even the ones to come. It changed the Church dynamics steering it into a new deeper understanding of God and His mighty power. The reformation and revival periods have continued to define the modern Church age.

For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: Isaiah 44:3

- 16th Century Protestant Reformation

The protestant reformation started by Martin Luther during 16 AD had a lasting effect on this nation

and was followed by leading figures like William Tyndale in England; it defied the Roman Catholic doctrines by establishing that Bible – Word of God was the only sole and final authority and salvation was a free gift of God not earned by works but by justification of faith in Jesus Christ as the redeemer from sin. As a result the reformation that took place in England opened the doors for the Gospel like never before and the advent of the printing press during this period meant that the English translated Bible could be published in masses giving people access to the Scriptures for the first time in their common language. Another major influence the Protestant reformation had was that it resulted in the Church of England breaking away from the authority of the Pope and Roman Catholic Church.

The Reformation exposed the false doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church that taught the Bible was a sacred book only to be accessed by clergymen for divine interpretation; it was further fueled by the fact that the Scriptures were available only in Latin and limited laymen from reading it. It was during this period that William Tyndale translated the Bible into English, an act that was strictly forbidden and one that cost him his life. His dying prayer was that the King of England's

eyes would be opened and this was fulfilled three years later when Henry VIII authorized the Great Bible for the Church of England, which contained large portions from Tyndale's works. It was his passion for truth and the advent of printing press that paved a way for the Bible to eventually reach the layman. The Tyndale translation formed the model for subsequent translations with King James Version drawing 80% of New Testament and 70% of Old Testament from it.

Tyndale in his own words said: "I defy the Pope, and all his laws; and if God spares my life, ere many years, I will cause the boy that drives the plow to know more of the Scriptures than thou dost!"

The impact of the Reformation of the 16th Century was a movement that made the Bible the most widely read book but its affects were not fully felt until the 17th Century. Having access to the Bible meant that people were spiritually renewed and inspired to share the Gospel. It became central to the rise of Evangelism and missionary work in the 18th & 19th Century thus carrying the Gospel to the nations to fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew28:19-20).

- 18th Century Evangelical Revival

In the beginning of the 18th Century this nation was on a moral decline crime, lawlessness, adultery and drunkenness were the foremost characteristics in all ranks of society and Christianity seemed to be on a downhill with church attendance on its lowest. Just when everything looked bleak the Evangelical Revival broke out as a series of continuous revivals that changed the entire outlook of the nation. It gave rise to an army of formidable preachers who began itinerant ministries- George Whitefield and John Wesley in England; Howell Harris in Wales and James Haldane in Scotland. The preaching went out from the confines of Church to open air fields. As quoted by John Wesley 'The world is my parish'. When George Whitefield began to preach there were tens of thousands in the open air to hear him. And when local vicars banned him from using their facilities he preached in the pub, the street, room, yard and entry of the house such was his passion for the Gospel and he deeply cared about the people. Multitudes turned to God during this period. Another powerful preacher of this period John Wesley wrote in his journal about his open air preaching that "the Word of God ran as fire among the stubble; it was glorified more and more; multitudes crying out, 'What must I do to be saved?' and afterwards

witnessing, 'By grace we are saved through faith.'" The outcome of these revivals affected not only the Church but the society as a whole as the Gospel was applied to the social issues of their day. John Wesley, Charles Wesley and George Whitefield are considered as founders of the Methodism movement which resulted in being a separate denomination after Wesley's death. The movement spread across the British empire, United States and beyond because of their missionary work. The Pentecostal movement that started off in the 20th Century has its roots in Methodism. The Evangelical Revival resulted in a wave of organized missions in the 18th century and continued to increase in the 19th century. Missionaries travelled to nations where Gospel had not yet been preached and countless souls came into the Kingdom.

- 20th Century Revival

This is a period when great outpouring of the Spirit was seen, the Holy Spirit revival. The Welsh Revival of the 1904-1905 is truly remarkable as its farthest reaching affects can be seen in the Evangelical cause in India, China, Korea, Africa and other countries. During the 20th Century such outpourings could be seen around the world, and the outpouring of the Spirit starting with

the Azusa street revival in Los Angeles in America resulted in the Great Awakening – Pentecostal movement.

The Welsh revival began with a few intercessors praying for revival that experienced powerful manifestations of the Holy Spirit. Evan Roberts who devoted himself to pray for the revival attended one of these meetings held by Seth Joshua in Blaenannerch where they were crying out to God -Lord bend us lower. Evan cried out to God- Lord bend me and it was a turning point in his life as he was praying for revival for more than ten years. After this meeting by Seth Joshua he returned home to gather young people to pray for revival. The Spirit of God convicted people as Evan Roberts insisted on obedience to the Spirit, publicly confess the Lord Jesus and put away any unconfessed sin or doubtful habit. And the revival broke on one of those prayer watches. The Welsh revival which set its sparks in Wales spread across to the world. Evangelists, missionaries and people who came from the other countries to this revival after hearing about it carried the flame back to their nations. Such was the mighty move of God that people came to the knowledge of the Glory of God and the heart of the nation was transformed. The revival ushered in the spirit of repentance as many people confessed their sins publicly

and their love for their redeemer Lord Jesus. A great hunger and thirst for God was seen among masses. People that never opened their mouths to praise God cried and wept in His presence. Praise and worship sessions would continue till late evenings running into early mornings. People were caught up in the presence of God, with praise, worship and testimonies with periods of quietness to be only broken by a song of praise or a testimony. The lame walked, blind saw, sick were healed as the atmosphere was charged with the presence of God. As a result football stadium were empty, crime rate was on the low, and pubs were empty. Coal mines once filled with filthy language and gossip were echoing with praises and worship. Churches, families and communities were transformed.

Psalm 22:27 - All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD. All the families of the nations will bow down before Him.

Zechariah 14:9 - On that day the LORD will become King over all the earth--the LORD alone, and His name alone.

Once again he measured off a thousand cubits, but now it was a river that I could not cross, because the water

had risen and was deep enough for swimming--a river that could not be crossed on foot- Ezekiel 47:5

For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ – 2 Corinthians 4:6

The revival ushered in times of divine revelation of the knowledge of the Glory of God. The outpouring of the Spirit upon masses opened up their hearts for an insatiable hunger and desire for God.

The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts. Haggai 2:9

The first revival that started in the upper room (Acts 2:41) adding three thousand souls is still continuing and multiplying where we are seeing revivals that are adding millions of souls to the Kingdom of God. The revivals we have seen in the past so far are only a glimpse of what is yet to come; and to see the fullness of that promise in our times we have to pray for the latter rain and hunger for His presence to cover the earth **(Habakkuk 2:14).**

Although on one hand deception and lawlessness are accelerating in these end times, but on the other hand through these powerful moves of God the Bride of Christ is being prepared through deep refining to withstand these troubled times as the scriptures reveal:

He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.

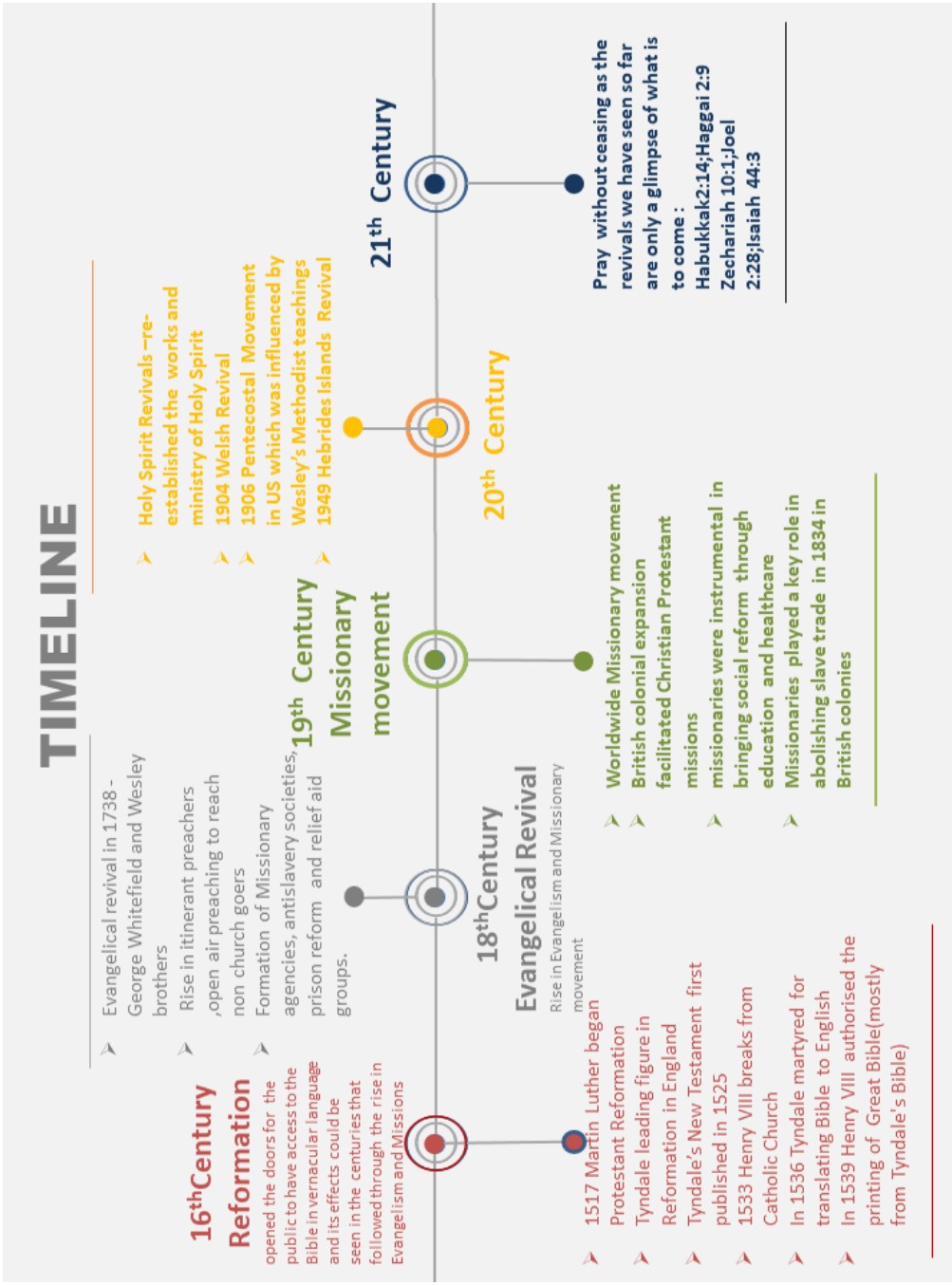
The revival in Hebrides, Scotland in 1949 began as two sisters (84 and 82 years old) were greatly burdened of the appalling state of their parish where not one single young person attended public worship or went to the church. They were so burdened that both of them were on their knees praying from evening to early mornings. And one of them had a vision that revival was near and shared this vision with their parish asking them to gather the elders and pray for it. And as they continued praying for it for month and a half, in one of those meetings a young deacon read Psalms 24 "Who shall ascend the hill of God? Who shall stand in His holy place? He that has clean hands and a pure heart who has not lifted up his soul unto vanity or sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing (not a blessing, but THE blessing) of the Lord." And he began praying "God, are

my hands clean? Is my heart pure?" But he got no further. That young man fell to his knees and then fell into a trance. The revival broke with a deep awareness of God that swept over the parish and the community. Duncan Campbell was invited to lead these meetings in the parish of Barvas. A wave of holy awe of God fell upon people, those who had gone to attend dance suddenly left the dance floor to make it to the church, falling prostrate and crying out for God's mercy. The parish was totally packed with meetings continuing until midnight to early mornings. It continued for almost three years, a mighty move of God that swept the whole island.

An excerpt from Duncan Campbell, the preacher in the revival: "Revival is something altogether different from evangelism on its highest level. Revival is a moving of God in the community and suddenly the community becomes God conscious before a word is said by any man representing any special effort".

Such were the great periods of reformation and revivals bringing a deep awakening of God over the world that it makes our heart yearn to see it in our times especially when we see the steep moral decline in the society and its utter lack of giving Glory and Honor that

God deserves**(Hosea 4:6).** But when we earnestly pray and thirst **(Isaiah 44:3)** for the latter rain (Zechariah 10:1) and the out pouring of the Spirit **(Joel 2:28)** knowing that our God is a covenant maker and a covenant keeper **(Psalms 89:34)** we will certainly see such great outpourings of the Spirit in our times where the whole earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Glory of God **(Habakkuk 2:14)**; the glory of the latter house shall be greater than the former **(Haggai 2:9)**.


TIMELINE
16thCentury Reformation
opened the doors for the public to have access to the Bible in vernacular language and its effects could be seen in the centuries that followed through the rise in Evangelism and Missions
Evangelical revival in 1738 - George Whitefield and Wesley brothers
Rise in itinerant preachers ,open air preaching to reach non church goers
Formation of Missionary agencies, antislavery societies, prison reform and relief aid groups.
1517 Martin Luther began Protestant Reformation
Tyndale leading figure in Reformation in England
Tyndale's New Testament first published in 1525
1533 Henry VIII breaks from Catholic Church
In 1536 Tyndale martyred for translating Bible to English
In 1539 Henry VIII authorised the printing of Great Bible(mostly from Tyndale's Bible)
18thCentury Evangelical Revival
Rise in Evangelism and Missionary movement
19th Century Missionary movement
Worldwide Missionary movement
British colonial expansion facilitated Christian Protestant missions
missionaries were instrumental in bringing social reform through education and healthcare
Missionaries played a key role in abolishing slave trade in 1834 in British colonies
20th Century
Holy Spirit Revivals –re-established the works and ministry of Holy Spirit
1904 Welsh Revival
1906 Pentecostal Movement in US which was influenced by Wesley's Methodist teachings
1949 Hebrides Islands Revival
21th Century
Pray without ceasing as the revivals we have seen so far are only a glimpse of what is to come : Habukkak2:14;Haggai 2:9 Zechariah 10:1;Joel 2:28;Isaiah 44:3

THE PROMISE

Ask ye of the LORD rain in the time of the latter rain; so the LORD shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field – **Zechariah 10:1**

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions – **Joel 2:28**

SCRIPTURE POWER:
2 CHRONICLES 7:14
ISAIAH 44:3
JAMES 5:16
MARK 11:24

THE OUTCOME OF FERVENT PRAYERS

For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea – **Habakkuk 2:14**

The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts – **Haggai 2:9**

MARTYRS AND MISSIONARIES

* * *

Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God – William Carey

The profound Christian heritage of this nation reflects the heroic lives of the faithful martyrs, zealous missionaries and powerful ministers of God, whose lives continue to inspire us to answer God's call, have an intimate walk with God and stand for the Gospel even in the face of adversity. Furthermore as the saying aptly goes 'the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church'. During the 16th Century Protestant Reformation William Tyndale martyrdom was the seed of revival sown in this nation that opened the doors making the Scriptures available to the layman in the common language of the people. The advent of the printing press during these

times made it possible to print Bible in masses and as such made it the most widely read book, spiritually renewing people and stirring them to spread the Gospel that it fueled the 18th and 19th Century Evangelical Revival and worldwide missionary movement.

The pioneering missionaries travelled to continent/countries where the Gospel was not preached. It was their unshakable faith in God and undeterred perseverance for the Gospel that helped them overcome hostile environments, loss of loved ones, torture, death threats, disease, and starvation to rise against all these odds to fulfill the Great Commission(Matthew 28:16-20). They are truly in every sense the heroes of Faith mentioned in Hebrews 11. They withheld nothing, having used all their talents, resources, influence to spread the Gospel. Their talents and their professions became a gateway to reach out to the community as their background included physicians, linguists, translators, scholars, publishers and explorers… Another great virtue these heroes of faith possessed was their genuine love for people and their welfare through the Gospel reflecting the love of Jesus. They presented the **'Truth with love'** and this had the most profound effect bringing social reformation in the heathen society that was ridden with pagan practices, cannibalism, superstitions, occultism and witchcraft; as the

scriptures say the people in the darkness had seen a great light, on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned(Isaiah 9:2).

In our generation where people are constantly facing an information overload recounting the courageous stories of these martyrs and missionaries- their invaluable sacrifices and exploits, the blood and toil for the Gospel gives us a deeper insight on the liberty we enjoy at present to freely read the Bible and to practice faith in Jesus knowing that there will come a time when there will be a famine for the Word of God (Amos 8:11). It encourages us to take the mantles and operate with courage and boldness to spread the Gospel. It also places a responsibility upon our generation to fervently pray that this legacy of martyrs and missionaries continues in this nation.

William Carey was a British missionary to India. His famous lines 'Expect great things from God and attempt to do great things continues to still inspire believers of this day to attempt great things for God. He is known as the Father of missions because of his 40 years field experience and his exemplary literary work

on missions that provided a holistic approach on evangelism, translation and other ministries that contribute to human flourishing.

As a teenager he apprenticed at a cobbler's shop and self-educated himself into learning various languages, the skills that would later help him in Bible translations to the indigenous people. As a young Pastor he firmly believed that the Great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20 was a mandate for every believer. But he was publicly rebuked when he discussed this in a Pastors meeting. But this did not offset him and in May 1792 published a manifesto on calling Baptists to engage in foreign missions. This opened the door for the formation of the Baptist Missionary Society and he himself became the first missionary.

Carey set sail to India along with his family. In 1800 Carey moved to Danish colony of Serampore, where he remained until his death in 1834. His early years were miserable and full of trials but his hope was always in God. He wrote "I am in a strange land," he wrote, "no Christian friend, a large family, and nothing to supply their wants." But he also retained hope: "Well, I have God, and his word is sure." When Carey contracted Malaria, his five year old son died of dysentery and his

wife mental condition rapidly deteriorated under that stress and later succumbed to it. "This is indeed the valley of the shadow of death to me," Carey wrote, though characteristically added, "But I rejoice that I am here notwithstanding; and God is here."

He continued to expect great things from God and after seven years of labor Carey finally had a convert Krishna Pal who then went on to become an evangelist. Two months later he published his first Bengali New Testament with the help of the pundits. He along with two other trusted missionary friends often called the 'Serampore Trio' established the Serampore College to promote education. They also labored hard for social reform specially burdened seeing the 'Sati' practice where the widow was burned on the funeral pyre of her dead husband.

His groundbreaking work included the translation of the Bible in all major languages in India and the role he played in bringing social reform, education and healthcare for the betterment of the society. His legacy continued to inspire the worldwide missionary movement in 19th Century causing the next generation of missionaries like Adoniram Judson, Hudson Taylor, and David Livingstone to take God's call.

David Livingstone, a British physician was born in the 19th Century, a British martyr and missionary whose exemplary work made him a national hero. For thirty years his life was dedicated in an effort to evangelize the native races and as a crusader to abolish slave trade. He committed his life to Christ at the age of 20. The Truth had taken hold of him as at the age of 25 so he was training to be a medical missionary and serve in China. But God had other plans for him as doors to enter Africa were opened when veteran missionary Robert Moffat described it as a place where no missionary had been before. When he arrived in Africa he immersed himself to learn the ways of the native people. He preached the Gospel with great zeal knowing that it is the Power of God. He was genuinely interested in the welfare of those people and to see their lives transformed in Christ. He was an explorer at heart and was not content staying in one location. So he was able to find new locations and native communities where no western civilization had reached. He was tenacious as the living conditions were far from good and on one of such journeys his wife succumbed to death, he was on sickbed many times and often his supplies were so depleted that he nearly starved to death. His aim was that through his well-documented journeys and maps he could open the eyes

of the Western world to this continent in turn highlighting the evils of slave trade. Livingstone was part of an evangelical movement in Britain which during the 19th century helped change the national mindset from the notion of a divine right to rule 'lesser races', to more modernly ethical ideas in foreign policy. One of his expeditions was to find the source of Nile but at the heart of it was to expose the evils of the slave trade. For six years he disappeared completely with no contact with the outside world and was ill for most of the last four years of his life until he was found by the American journalist Henry Stanley. On his final journey Stanley travelled with him for four months and although he was an atheist but living with Livingstone he came to confess his faith in Christ, not so much by the missionary's preaching as by the quality of his life. Later Livingstone died trying to find the source of Nile. Through his missionary work he exposed the horrors of slavery which led to it being finally outlawed.

In his journals he wrote "I place no value on anything I have or may possess, except in relation to the Kingdom of Christ. If anything will advance the interests of the Kingdom, it shall be given away or kept, only as by giving or keeping it I shall promote the glory of Him to whom I owe all my hopes in time and eternity."

Livingstone through his missionary and expedition work opened the doors for the Gospel in Africa, a continent rich in wild life but also known for its pagan practices, witchcraft and cruelty. The passion for truth kept him strong by enduring failures, sickness, starvation and loss of family. He inspired missionaries and explorers to step into Africa who initiated trade, healthcare and education for the native people.

Hudson Taylor, travelled as a missionary to China in the 19th Century when it was little known about the Gospel in this country. He is the founder of the China Inland Missions known to have traveled to the most interior and remote parts in China where the people had not heard about the Gospel. He had a great zeal for evangelism for which he took on to dress in Chinese clothes, learnt the native language to be able to reach more people.

"China is not to be won for Christ by quiet, ease-loving men and women ... The stamp of men and women we need is such as will put Jesus, China, [and] souls first

and foremost in everything and at every time—even life itself must be secondary."

He faced many trials and suffered critical illness for which he had to return to England to recover. In England he was troubled to see the little interest people had in China and continued to raise awareness, recruiting missionaries and continued translating Bible to Chinese.

He said "Can all the Christians in England sit still with folded arms while these multitudes [in China] are perishing—perishing for lack of knowledge—for lack of that knowledge which England possesses so richly?"

He was despair as he thought about the millions in China who were dying without the hope of the Gospel. This led him to build the China Inland Mission, recruit missionaries to reach the inland provinces of China. Although under great trials this missionary organization flourished and constituted one fifth of missionary force in China. The journey for the fulfillment of this vision had an enormous cost both personally as he went through a mental breakdown as well on his family. But the mission continued to flourish as he inspired thousands to forsake the comforts of the West to bring

the Gospel to the millions living in the vast interiors of China, people who had never heard about it.

Such are the stories of these Martyrs and missionaries whose journeys of faith, sacrifice and devotion to Lord Jesus continues to inspire believers to take the calling of God. Their walk with God helps us to examine ourselves and is a benchmark as it challenges us to do more for the Gospel and for the advancement of the Kingdom of God.

Lord, revive your work in this land **(Habakkuk 3:2)** *we pray that our nation becomes a missionary sending nation once again; the zeal for the Gospel returns to our nation* **(Isaiah 44:3)** *and raise amidst us a new generation of martyrs and missionaries.*

WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE

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Nations are constantly in a race to arm themselves with extremely powerful weapons to defend themselves from their enemies. A vast portion of nation's budget is spent on research and development of new weapons. The arms race is such that the power and strength of a nation is determined by its armaments. Millions are invested to get the best of talents, technology to bring forth future ready weapons. In our times we see the weapons that existed a decade ago are already outdated or obsolete and a new breed of weapons have arrived in its place that contain far more superior technology, materials and speed like never seen before. What's amazing is that the understanding of what constitutes a weapon has itself changed in our times. For instance nations today are facing another great threat: the rise of

biological weapons where deadly viral strains can be used to unleash epidemic to destroy nations. Another new league of weapons is the media wars and fake news birthed through the advent of social media like Facebook, WhatsApp, and twitter. They are capable of swaying election outcome in a nation and spread evil propaganda. It was also extensively used to radicalize and recruit many ISIS agents. Another potent grade of weapons is 'technology' itself that has made it possible to hasten the production of new weapons and has introduced cyber-attacks that are capable of locking down major power grids, banking and health care system. And with the gap between the time taken to invent and deploy new technology decreasing rapidly; by the time society absorbs one new technology features the next one has already arrived. Drone & cyber technology has changed how the military approaches its enemies. Artificial Intelligence has taken the weapons industry by a storm. The missile or nuclear weapons technology when coupled with Artificial Intelligence can cause mayhem like never experienced in the history of mankind.

As we are living in the end times it becomes all the more vital to discern these signs as we draw closer to the end. The Bible tells us we cannot tell the time of the

Lord's coming however we are called to understand the seasons **(Matthew 24:32).** The end time prophecies that pave a way for Lord's coming are being rapidly fulfilled. The technology antichrist will use to create a new world order or control buying and selling is already present in our times: RFID Chips, Artificial Intelligence, Digital Currency, AI driven Robotics, GPS Tracking etc. As believers in Christ we not only have to be aware of what the times and seasons are pointing to but we are called to have a deep knowledge and understanding about the divine weapons of warfare to protect and empower us in these times.

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds; - 2 Corinthians 10:4

Imagine in a battlefield if the frontline soldiers are armed with swords and cannons against an enemy who is equipped with missiles and drone technology then defeat is certain for there is no chance of surviving. This holds true for believers too if we don't discern the times and seasons we are in and understand the authority and the weapons given to empower us and stand against the vile of the enemy. The 'Word of God' is our greatest weapon with the Holy Spirit, who is the power of God, makes that information from the Bible a revelation.

Prayer is another powerful weapon, a 24/7, 365 days open communication channel between God and us. Praising God is a stealth weapon for believers, as locking into the power of truly praising God is a place where heaven meets earth. It is this 'Word – Prayer – Praise' walk that deepens our intimacy with Christ taking us from Faith to Faith, Glory to Glory and Revelation to Revelation.

WORD OF GOD

The Bible reveals that in the last days perilous times shall come **(2 Timothy 3:1-5)** and deception will be on the rise **(Matthew 24:4)**. In an ever changing world where society, cultures, and people are constantly evolving there is one thing we can hold onto: the eternal unchanging 'Word of God' which is ageless and timeless. There is no greater spiritual weapon than God's Word. We can see this when Jesus was tempted by Satan in the wilderness and He cited scriptures to defeat him **(Matthew 4:3-10)**. And we have the Holy Spirit who is the power of God who helps us to interpret the 'Word of God' according to our times and situations. The Bible says that the heaven and earth may pass away but the 'Word of God' shall not. Jesus Christ who is the 'Word of God' is unchanging, the same yesterday today and forever. Discerning the times and seasons and the

events occurring around us by looking through biblical lens is our weapon against the deception and enemy strategies in these end times. When we look at the prophets of the Old Testament time they did not have an understanding of the many end time mysteries and prophecies written by them, as we can read this in the book of Daniel where he was asked to seal the book for the time had not yet come. However these end time Bible prophecies have been revealed to us giving us a deeper understanding and preparing us for the soon return of our Lord Jesus. The formation of the nation of Israel is one such miracle, a bible prophecy that has been fulfilled in our times, enabling us to understand other Bible prophecies pertaining to Israel and the Church that would not have been understood 100 years back. Another Bible prophecy is that the Gospel will be preached to the ends of the earth which is being fulfilled with advent of satellite communication, Internet, Media and technology feats where it is able to reach the remotest corners of the earth like never before. The Church is being prepared in the knowledge of the times to come and equipped with the powers to sustain during this period. This is essentially the preparation of the Bride of Christ.

PRAYER

As we discern the times we are living in we understand that prayer is not a choice but the need of the hour. It is a time not to just pray for oneself, or our families but to pray for Churches and nations. Prayer changes nations **(2 Chronicles 7:14)**. Prayer is in essence a two way communication between God and us: one way our prayer goes to God and the other way we receive heavenly downloads. It's a 24/7, 365 days communication channel between God and us. While the wireless networks may go down, phone lines can have interruptions but the prayer channel is always open where we can approach the Throne of Grace any time, any situation or any place. We can understand the prominence of prayer looking at what Lord Jesus did when the hour arrived for crucifixion; he first went into prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane to find strength to do the Father's will. We also read how the angel Gabriel was sent to give understanding of the scriptures to Daniel when he sought God in prayer concerning the exile of Israel. Nehemiah got favor in King's eyes to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem when he fervently prayed to God. Esther got the boldness to face the King to save the Jews and reveal Haman's plot when she went into prayer.

The key to all the revivals or mighty outpourings of the Spirit of God was the outcome of the fervent prayers of saints. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective – James 5:16.

Lord we pray the spirit of grace and supplication falls upon the nation to rise up in prayer to seek the throne of grace to help us in this time of need- **Zechariah 12:10**

Lord we pray the heart of this nation is opened unto you, the King of Glory to come in. When you stand at the door and knock they hear your voice and open the door and let you in –Revelation 3:20.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in – Psalms 24:7

SHEKINAH PRAISE AND WORSHIP

God revealed to the people of Israel the secret of the supernatural weapon of praise that demolished walls of Jericho standing as a barrier to reach the Promised Land. When the priests blew the trumpets and the people gave a great shout the walls of Jericho fell –Joshua 6:20. The

power of praise and worship in the spirit is a potent weapon to bring down the enemy walls that stand against us. When we open our mouth and shout out in faith, sing or praise it tears down those walls that hinder us from being what God has called us to be. When we praise the atmosphere that is filled with fear, anxiety, worry, unbelief, confusion, bottlenecks starts shifting; the supernatural takes control of the natural overflowing with the presence of God. This is truly the power of praise when we sense hope in a hopeless situation, joy when there is anguish and peace in a restless situation. There are circumstances when we are in a difficult situation where we are unable to Praise God but as we continue to fix our eyes upon Jesus and continue to declare his divine attributes (His unfailing love, faithfulness, compassion, mercy, grace…) His presence starts filling us.

We learn from Joshua and his army mainly:

- Faith - as they believed God's word that he had given Jericho into their hands. As believers we need to put our trust in God knowing that he is greater than the problem we face.
- Obedience is better than sacrifice - Joshua and his army did as God commanded for they went around the walls of Jericho, trumpets were blown and there was a great shout. When we open our mouth

to shout out our problems more than we open it to confess His goodness and declare His promises it makes the problem greater than God. But when we shout in faith the promises of God we are speaking life into every dead situation and the atmosphere is charged for breakthroughs, signs and wonders.

Then the Lord said to Joshua, "See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men. March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have the whole army give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the army will go up, everyone straight in – Joshua 6:2-5

Praising God is not a mundane Church ritual but it is a journey of developing deeper intimacy with God, experiencing the Glory of God and understanding the triune person of God. It is an exhilarating experience of rejoicing in the goodness of God, being in awe of him and an expression of our love towards Him. As we

develop the habit of constantly praising God it strengthens our walk with God. It is a journey of worshipping God in Spirit and Truth (John 4:23-24) that deepens with time and takes us from faith to faith, glory to glory and revelation to revelation. When we are built up in worshipping God, the presence of God becomes more real that our surroundings and it sustains us with His Word to overcome every obstacle. As we grow in this praise journey we can draw into His awesome presence even in a crowded place, at work, in a meeting, while doing daily chores or in a difficult situation.

The scriptures in the book of revelation tell us that the living creatures rest not day and night in worshipping the Lord saying :

'Holy Holy Holy is the Lord God Almighty who was, who is and who is to come'- Revelation 4:8-11.

With each utterance they are constantly moving into a new revelation of God, captivating them to exalt and worship Him. When our praise and worship takes us constantly into a deeper revelation of God, an encounter revealing His Glory that's when we receive miracles, healing and breakthroughs.

But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel - Psalms 22:3

David, the psalmist was a man after God's own heart. Even at young age he had learned to worship the Lord that drew from deep intimacy and revelation of God; the expression of his worship released through his psalms and music. When Saul was tormented by the demons the young shepherd boy David was called to play his harp that soothed his Saul soul and let him sleep. The presence of God drove away the demons that were tormenting Saul and calming him down to be able to sleep.

There is great power when we worship together. We read in the Bible of such a heavenly worship that opened the floodgates of heaven during the consecration of the temple by King Solomon. When the musicians, singers all united and became one in praising, thanking and adulating God the Glory of God came down in such a way that even the ministers could not stand under the heavy presence of God.

It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the Lord; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the Lord, saying, For he is good; for

his mercy endureth for ever: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the Lord;

So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the Lord had filled the house of God – **2 Chronicles 5:13, 14**

We are a generation living in the last days, who are under the new covenant bought by the Blood of the Jesus and the scriptures reveal the glory of the latter house shall be greater than the former(Haggai 2:19). When we gather to praise God and worship Him with all our heart and mind in one accord, come with a heart of gratitude and expectation thanking Him for his faithfulness, declaring in unity that he is worthy the floodgates of heaven shall be opened to experience His glory.

Our bodies have become a temple of God through the new covenant, the Holy Spirit dwelling in us (1 Corinthians 6:19) and when we completely surrender ourselves (body, soul and spirit) to the move of the Spirit we will experience His presence and see His Glory. And when a group of believers worship God together by surrendering themselves and move with the Spirit of God in such a way where the praise, music all becomes one voice and then heavens open up to reveal the Glory of God. He is a God of revelation and when we as

believers come with an expectant heart to see him, desire to hear from Him, He will certainly reveal himself to us.

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name - Psalms 100:4

PRAYERS

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RELEASING POWER OF PRAYER BY DECLARING SCRIPTURES:

Declaring and confessing the scriptures while praying is the most effective way to release the power in prayer and creates an atmosphere charged for breakthroughs. Praying in tongues helps us pray in the Spirit. If during the prayer time the Holy Spirit brings to remembrance specific Scriptures, confess and declare them for they have power to demolish strongholds and fulfill the purpose it is sent out **(Isaiah 55:11)**. Thou shall decree and it shall be established **(Job 22:28).**

The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective - James 5:16

What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them - Mark 11:24

You who answer prayer, to you all people will come - Psalms65:2

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people - Ephesians 6:18

Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak - Matthew 26:41

Do not be anxious about anything but in everything through prayer and supplication let your request be made known to Go and the God of peace that surpasses all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus - Philippians 4:6

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us - 1 John 5:14

Pray without ceasing - 1 Thessalonians 5:17

This can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting - Mark 9:29

The LORD is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayer of the righteous - Proverbs 15:29

May my prayer be set before you like incense; may the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice - Psalms 141:2

Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you - Jeremiah 29:12

POWER IN PRAYING TOGETHER

2 Chronicles 7:14 - 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 I will forgive their sin and will heal their land

Five of you will chase a hundred, and a hundred of you will chase ten thousand, and your enemies will fall by the sword before you. - Leviticus 26:8

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places - Ephesians 6:12

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds - 2 Corinthians 10:4

These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication (to receive the promised Holy Ghost - Acts 1:14

That if two or three agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven - Matthew 18:29

Therefore I want the men everywhere to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or disputing -1 Timothy 2:8

Please join in praying for the vision of a Glorious Britain:

Dear Gracious Lord,

- ✓ We pray for unity in the Church to urgently arise to intercede for this nation during this crucial Brexit season for God to restore it back to its glory - a glorious Britain.**(Psalms 122:1 Psalms 133:1).**
- ✓ We pray that you open new doors (Isaiah 43:19) to bring a wave of reformation and revivals that marked the 16th to 20th Century and this nation to turn back to you**(praying according to Zechariah 10:1 and Joel 2:28)**
- ✓ We pray Lord that you reveal your glory in this nation with great signs and wonders where the deaf will hear, the blind will see, the lame will walk and the dead will rise **(praying according to Scriptures in Habakkuk 2:14 and Haggai 2:9)**
- ✓ We pray Lord you cause the Church to return back to its first love and restore the intimacy**(Revelation 2:5 ; Haggai 1:14)**
- ✓ We pray for a mighty outpouring of the Spirit of God over the people; for a birthing

of a new generation of martyrs and missionaries in these end times to prepare the way for your soon return **(Psalms 69:9).**

- ✓ We thank you for bringing this vision to fruition for your Kingdom advancement, and your name alone Lord Jesus which is above all names be glorified **(Revelation 5:13).**

We declare the scriptures on this nation:

Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean.

Shake thyself from the dust; arise, and sit down, O Jerusalem: loose thyself from the bands of thy neck, O captive daughter of Zion.

In Jesus mighty name we pray. Amen.

PRAYING FOR THOSE IN AUTHORITY

We are to pray for our leaders and all who are in authority **(1 Timothy 2:1-3; 1 Peter 2:17)**

We are to pray with the clear understanding that government authority is established by God. **(Romans 13:1)**

Dear Gracious Lord,

- ✓ With all humility and confidence in your mercy, we approach you our Lord and master!
- ✓ In this time of division during Brexit we pray for your peace, righteousness and unity to prevail in this nation.
- ✓ Lord gives our leaders a spiritual insight of how to lead this nation into Godliness and truth. Reveal to them your plans and purposes and give them the strength to fulfill it**(Proverbs 3:6 ; Proverbs 21:1)**
- ✓ Lord like you gave Joseph the divine wisdom to interpret the dream and a Godly solution during the time of famine, impart into the hearts of our leaders divine wisdom to deal

with Brexit and come up with Godly solutions for the impediments they face(back stop, borders, single market). Every enemy plot coming as second referendum and reelection be cancelled in Jesus name**(Genesis 41:25-36)**

- ✓ We pray for Brexit to be fulfilled in its appointed time and season.
- ✓ Lord in your mercy, open the heart of <Leader> to hear and respond to the Gospel message if they do not know you **(Joshua 24:15)**
- ✓ Lord, please help to know that you have granted this position/office to serve people without any prejudice, creed or cultural differences **(Daniel 2:20-22)**
- ✓ Grant them a humble heart to accept the counsel of wise **(Proverbs 11:14)**
- ✓ Let them be cautious and protect them from the influence of the evil one.
- ✓ May your grace cover them and deliver from any false accusations or opinions. Help them to guard their words and deeds against the things that are contrary to Your Word.

- ✓ Enable them to make decisions according to God's truth that will make a good and gracious impact on many generations to come **(Proverbs 2:10-11)**
- ✓ Protect their family from any harm, and bless and protect their reputation **(Ezra 6:10)**
- ✓ Give them the courage to do the right thing even when urged to do the wrong thing.
- ✓ Keep them fulfilled so that they will guard their ways against any corruption.
- ✓ Let them have obedient subordinates who will understand their needs and cooperate with the leader.
- ✓ Anoint them with compassion that they are mindful of poor, needy and vulnerable people.
- ✓ Pray that they will respect their peers and do what is right in the eyes of the Lord.
- ✓ Let them have clear conscience and walk faithfully to the nation.

In Jesus mighty name we pray. Amen.