

February 2011

The Lord is high and lifted up

It was exactly 10 years ago during the night of February 2nd. I saw the Lord as an extremely bright figure with outstretched arms over Germany and I saw the words:

“The Lord is high and lifted up.

His right hand is outstretched

And his glory fills this land”

“When the Lord stands up, the entire cosmos raises itself up in awe . . .

When the Lord is high and lifted up, the children of God have faith and courage to witness to him in this world. It will be easy to come to faith in Germany. The Lord breaks the powers of darkness. The intercessors attack the strongholds of darkness and take the spoils . . .

The Lord says: “Enough! I am now standing up and my glory will be over this land!” There will be acts of God’s power that we have not yet seen in this land.

They will come from all directions to the Lord, running to the God of their salvation . . .”

If these words are confirmed in your heart, believe with me for the revival of our land. Spirit of God, raise the level of our faith! *(The book with the complete prophecy in German can be ordered from Ortwin Schweitzer.)* -OS-

Development of the Call of the Watchmen

In 2010 the Call of the Watchmen changed significantly in many areas. There was a new website with a new logo and an international page in English. A German flyer and information brochure (with CD) was produced and distributed in Germany. Our goal was to raise awareness of this prayer network in Germany. We are delighted to announce that many new intercessors have joined us through the website. At first there were only 6 to 10 joining each month, but in December the number had risen to more than 30.

It was particularly encouraging during the year to see how many of our prayers God had answered specifically. I just remember how our government worked closely together to attain unparalleled economic stability for our land during the financial crisis. Terrorist attacks and disease were warded off. Many times we were able to report answers to our prayers.

Prayer:

- **Thanks for every good thing that God has done in and through the Call of the Watchmen. (Psalm 103)** -RS-

2011 – a year of elections

The year 2011 is a special year for elections (“super-election-year” in German), as there will be elections for the state parliament in 7 of the 16 German states. In some states, there could be a change of government due to a swing to the “left”. The “Greens” are gaining very strongly at the moment. They even have a chance to fill the position of prime minister in Baden-Wuerttemberg. Also in Hamburg and Rhineland-Pfalz the SPD will need the Greens to form a government.

The election in Baden-Wuerttemberg seems to be the most dramatic, where the CDU has been in government since the war and the FDP has its roots. Right now there is a strong possibility that the CDU will lose power and the FDP will fail to pass the 5% hurdle. This would be the end of Guido Westerwelle as chairman of the party and as vice-chancellor.

What seems certain is that there will be a further loss of votes for the CDU-FDP national government in the States-Parliament (Upper House) in Berlin as the opposition gains a majority in the local state governments. Governing will be even more difficult from then on for Angela Merkel than in the past. One reason for the shift in the political centre of gravity is the disastrous start of the government because of Westerwelle and the protests of the people against the CDU government in Gorleben (nuclear waste storage) and Stuttgart (central station redevelopment). Germany is in a state of transition. But the Lord of history does not change. “Everything is possible” writes the Berlin press. And that is precisely why we must pray!

Prayer:

- **Proclaim the good and perfect will of God for the state elections and afterwards (!) for the negotiations to form coalition governments.**
- **Identificational repentance where mistakes/sins have clearly been committed.**
- **That God-fearing men and women will be elected to fill the responsible positions in government.**

Election Date	State	Government
20.02	Hamburg	CDU/Greens
20.03	Saxony-Anhalt	CDU/SPD
27.03	Baden-Wuerttemberg	CDU/FDP
27.03	Rhineland-Pfalz	SPD
22.05	Bremen	SPD/Greens
04.09	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	SPD/CDU
18.09	Berlin	SPD/Leftist

-OS-

Catastrophes on the increase

Massive earthquakes in Haiti and Chile, the extreme heat in Russia, the catastrophic floods in Pakistan, China, East Europe and now in eastern Australia – in 2010 there was an alarming and verifiable increase in natural disasters. Last year Germany was saved from such catastrophes. We cannot assume that things will continue in this way.

The Bible tells us that such events are like “birth-pains” which will happen before the return of Jesus (Matthew 24 v.3-31). There are two possible ways to prepare ourselves for these events:

1. Take natural protection measures such as earthquake resistant buildings, building flood dams, etc.
2. Take spiritual protection measures through prayer and repentance before God. Our example is Daniel who identified himself personally with the sins of his people and acknowledged them in tears. God answered and showed mercy.

Prayer:

- **Pray according to Daniel 9 v.3-5, 8-9, 16-19.**
- **That those responsible in national and local state governments will recognise which natural protection measures have to be taken.**
- **That the call of God to repentance will be heard through the voice of natural disasters.**
(Job 33 v.14-18) -RS-

Israel

In 2010 there was no major military conflict in Israel or in the Middle-East. This is cause for thankfulness. Many times we thought it might happen. Unfortunately there were other sad occurrences such as the fire disaster on Mount Carmel at the beginning of December with 43 victims and many casualties. But a major military escalation did not materialise. Thank the Lord!

As far as German-Israeli relations were concerned, 2010 was not a good year. The cross-party "Gaza Resolution" in July and the resignation of former Federal President Koehler – an outspoken good friend of Israel – were steps in the wrong direction. Foreign Minister Westerwelle also rather weakened the German-Israeli relationship. Here we need continuous prayer for our government, especially for Chancellor Angela Merkel. The next opportunity to deepen German-Israeli relations will be the yearly government consultations. They are planned for mid-February – this time again in Israel.

At the end of January we observed the Holocaust Remembrance Day. There are still 200,000 Holocaust survivors in Israel. Many of these people live in depression, loneliness and poverty. Information on how to help these people can be found on the European Coalition for Israel website at www.ec4i.org.

Prayer:

- **For an atmosphere of mutual trust at the German-Israeli governmental consultations – for decisions that serve the good of both states and peoples.**
- **For the Holocaust survivors and all those bringing help and comfort to these people. (Isaiah 40 v.1,9-11)**
- **For our Messianic Jewish brothers and sisters (believers in Jesus) in Germany and Israel (Ephesians 6 v.18-20).** -HE-

Release of new intercessors

The number of intercessors in the Call of the Watchmen could increase as never before in January and February. The background: At the end of last year "Campus Crusade for Christ" closed its own prayer network "Prayer for Germany" and informed their intercessors that they could not continue with this prayer information service. After some discussion, we were able to send our small flyer along with their invitation to the "40 Days of Prayer and Fasting" to the 4,800 intercessors on their list. We warmly invited them all to not give up praying for Germany, but to carry on by joining the Call of the Watchmen. In our prayers Rosemarie and I felt that the "enemy" will

try everything to prevent this enlargement of the prayer army. But then we saw how the angels of God were personally delivering the letters.

Prayer:

- **That those receiving the letter will hear the call of God and be very excited that they can now continue to pray as an intercessor in the Call of the Watchmen. (Ephesians 6 v.10-18)**
- **For the handling of logistical challenges in the sending of many brochures and the transfer of the address details into our database.**
- **Welcome all new intercessors!** -OS-

Marriages need support and encouragement

From February 7th to 14th the so-called "Marriage Week" will take place in Germany for the third time. (Translator's note: Visit www.marriage-weekinternational.com to watch a video in English that includes a report from Germany.) Christians, together with non-Christians, are initiating many local activities and opportunities to promote and celebrate marriage during this week. Today marriages are particularly under attack and need support in many ways. The fact that marriage needs special protection, as stated in the German Constitution Article 6, is being challenged more and more in the political arena. Homosexual groups want to see a change in this article in the constitution.

Prayer:

- **That the value of marriage and family will again be recognised in society and politics.**
- **For protection against sexual temptations and encouragement for all marriages, so that they will not break apart, even in difficult times.** -RS-

Keep praying

Eight former Protestant bishops have spoken out in an open letter against same sex civil partnerships in parsonages and rectories and warned that the church should be true to God's word. (See the January letter for background.) Let us pray that their voice will be heard.

Other events for prayer

- 14-17.02** Spring Plenary Session of the German Bishop's Conference in Paderborn
- 24-26.02** Christians in Management Congress in Nuremberg
- 09.03-24.04** "40 Days of Prayer and Fasting for our Land" during Lent. This year prayer topics are given on a prayer poster and on prayer cards

We would like to thank all those who have already sent a donation on the occasion of the 11th birthday of the Call of the Watchmen. For anyone still wanting to give, the bank information is shown in the page footer.

Warmest greetings from

Ortwin Schweitzer and Rosemarie Stresemann