

May 2013

The Bible is right: God is doing a new thing!

Previous doubts that God will again revive our land are fading! We should only have confidence that spiritual renewal is on the way. This is clearly demonstrated by the prophetic picture of the cloud from God in the first "Prophetic Page" from the Call of the Watchmen. The cloud, filled with oil, glistens in colours of gold and silver, and descends over the land. Hands are stretched out longing for this manifestation of the presence of God. And wherever this is happening, whether in regional prayer gatherings or in times of personal prayer, God is moving. Hearts are being deeply transformed, a fresh love for Jesus and one's neighbour is being released, and slowly comes the realisation: we were destined to live in God's presence from the beginning. "Never have I been so excited to pray as right now", said a friend to me during a prayer meeting. He also had reached out for "more from God".

Long for God's presence and simply expect to be touched by his love. Above all we are intimate friends of God and because of his love we gladly commit ourselves to prayer.

-ME-

The Prophetic Page*

The first "Prophetic Page" from the Call of the Watchmen was issued in April. Markus Egli has been building a team of reliable and well-proven prophets in Germany who met together to hear what God is saying for our land. Along with the more politically oriented monthly prayer letter, the Call of the Watchmen wants to give you, our intercessors, the opportunity to be aware of God's heart for our land as he reveals it to prophetically gifted people. Prophetic words and pictures and words of knowledge will be collected and tested in prayer by this team of mature Christians with a prophetic and apostolic calling, and by way of the Prophetic Page made available to our intercessors and anyone else who is interested. These words should on the one hand encourage you in your prayers for Germany, and on the other hand confirm what you have already received or provide further revelation and insight.

Prayer:

- **That intercessors will be encouraged in their prayers for Germany by the Prophetic Page. (1 Cor. 14 v.3)**
- **For protection and wisdom for the entire team – and for an increase in prophetic insights for Germany. (1 Corinthians 14 v.1)**

-RS-

* *The Prophetic Page in German is posted on the website: www.waechterruf.de. An English version will come later.*

The "image of man" in the political parties

There is a fundamental difference within the spectrum of political parties (SPD (the left) - Greens - CDU/CSU - FDP) in their "image of man" and therefore in their political make-up. The "left block" stresses the collective and social

aspects of the nation and its responsibility for each individual, especially the weak. Politically speaking this means "more state control" – such as state-run day care centres for every child, state care for the poor and needy also internationally ("Eurobonds"), and extending to the nationalisation of services such as the railway. This view, which can definitely be connected with the Christian ethic ("love your neighbour"), is however increasingly moving away from the basic truths of Christianity, particularly with the Greens. They want the reference to God to be removed from the constitution; they want to replace religious education with general world-view studies and at the same time introduce Islamic education; they fight (!) for equality between marriage and homo-sexual partnership and want to forbid by law that professional help can be offered to young men who struggle with their homosexual orientation.

The "image of man" in the so-called "centre-right" parties is that the individual should be at the centre of politics. They want to give the freedom to the individual to take responsibility for himself or herself. They therefore promote individual responsibility by giving child care allowances, they only wish to support EU states in financial crises with strict conditions for budget reform, and want privatisation of state-run industries. The CDU/CSU takes this image of man from the Christian view of creation and the dignity that God has given to each individual. The FDP however detaches every concept of freedom from its Christian roots. With their definition of freedom they are in danger of having no boundaries and actually join forces with the Greens in many of their policies.

Prayer:

- **For forgiveness for the increasingly strong moves to exclude God from politics and society.**
- **Pray for the strengthening of political leaders who openly want to be guided by Christian principles.**
- **May God's will be done in the political parties and pray that there will be no ungodly power blocks or coalitions after the coming elections.**

(Matthew 6 v.13)

-OS-

National Socialist Underground (NSU) trial

When in 2011 it became known that the murder of nine people who were immigrants in Germany was carried out by the right-wing extremist NSU organisation, we began to pray for the continuing investigations. Much has happened since then: there is now a parliamentary investigation committee for this NSU case, the security forces in Germany are undergoing a process of reformation and their failures to act in connection with the investigations of these murders are still coming to light. The only witness, Beate Zschäpe, continues to remain silent. The trial against her has been postponed to

May 6th. This is an important political trial that has the attention of the whole world. Many feel that Manfred Goetzl, leading judge in the regional court in Munich, is out of his depth in this trial. It was only because of the findings of the constitutional court that he was led to allow equal access of journalists to the court, so that the Turkish media could also report on the trial.

Prayer:

- **That Beate Zschäpe will break her silence and the full truth will come to light. (Psalm 32 v.1-5)**
- **That judges, lawyers and witnesses will contribute with God's help to reveal the truth. (Psalm 51 v.6)**
- **For all family members of victims: that they will receive justice, support and comfort. (Isaiah 1 v.17)**

-RS-

Economic migration

The greater the difference in the living conditions within the EU, the more attractive Germany becomes for economic migration. On the one hand this offers an opportunity to address the problems of an ageing population with well trained young people from other EU countries – on the other hand there are new problems at the moment because of unlimited migration of Roma people from Romania and Bulgaria. Romania and Bulgaria are among the poorest countries in Europe and within these lands the Roma are the poorest. Therefore they now seek a better life, some in Germany. In the poorer cities in the Ruhr area and elsewhere they live in abandoned buildings in catastrophically unhygienic conditions. As these immigrants are not entitled to work permits, they get access to the welfare system under the guise of being self-employed. This is a highly charged social issue as integration can only be achieved through education and training which is painstakingly difficult for them. Schools are overstretched with the rising influx of Roma children. Many have never been to school before. The affected cities are facing new problems which they cannot solve within existing budgets. The German Towns and Cities Association is demanding support to provide for these needs: future activities and projects must be implemented with outside help and with EU or federal funds. The Spiegel newspaper recently reported on a successful project with Christian Roma in Berlin entitled "Paradies Neukoelln" (in German but you can download the article as a PDF file with some pictures!):

www.spiegel.de/spiegel/print/d-84631746.html

Prayer:

- **That the affected cities and municipalities will get the needed help with people and finances.**
- **For recognition of ways to help economic migrants and to enable social integration. (Leviticus 23 v.22)**
- **For the salvation of the Roma people who are often bound by witchcraft and idol worship. (Psalm 72 v.12-14)**

-RS-

Israel

A coalition of four parties under the leadership of Prime

Minister Netanyahu has now started work in Israel. The people are hoping that social issues will be given a higher priority by this government alongside security issues.

In previous years there have been severe tensions between Israel and the USA, especially between Prime Minister Netanyahu and US President Obama. Looking back on his first visit as US President to Israel, we can say that overall the atmosphere at the leadership level has become noticeably more relaxed.

The situation in Syria is now more unstable and dangerous than ever. Israel is worried that the opposition forces to the Assad regime are being increasingly infiltrated by Islamist and Al-Qaeda military groups and that chemical and biological weapons could fall into the hands of terrorists. Hezbollah in Lebanon is also getting dangerously involved in the Syrian civil war.

The planning by the "Christian Forum for Israel" for the "2nd Church-Israel Congress" in Berlin on November 7th-9th is in full swing. Following on from this on the 10th, there will be another Israel Congress in Berlin with an even wider audience. These two congresses – separately and together – can send out very strong signals to our churches and our society.

Prayer:

- **That the new government will identify measures that will strengthen peace both within and outside Israel. (Psalm 34 v.14b)**
- **Thanks for the improved relations between Israel and the USA and for the strengthening of the friendship.**
- **Protection of Israel from an unstable Syria – for an end to the war and protection for Syrian Christians. (Nehemiah 4 v.9)**
- **Blessings on all involved in the preparations for the Israel congresses. (Psalm 133)**

-HE-

European Union of Prayer

Intercessors from many European nations will meet again in Dublin, May 11th-18th, to pray for Europe and especially for Ireland. In the planning we made good contacts with the Evangelical Alliance and the Lydia prayer movement. A parliamentarian from Northern Ireland, who is a believer, will also visit us. Major issues in Ireland at this time are the campaign against the legitimisation of abortion and the economic recovery.

Prayer:

- **For good fellowship among participants.**
- **Fulfilment of many prophecies for a revival in Europe. (Habakkuk 2 v.3)**
- **God's mercy for Ireland and its needs.**

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Other events for prayer

01.-05.05 Protestant Church Conference in Hamburg

19.05 Global Day of Prayer

25.05 Global Outreach Day (G.O.D.)

*God's blessings from Ortwin Schweitzer,
Rosemarie Stresemann and Markus Egli*