

July/August 2013

“...and will heal their land.” (2 Chronicles 7 v.14)

Healing is restoration, the return of a land from the wrong path into its divine calling. Healing is flourishing again out of a deep brokenness and a cleansing through forgiveness. Where this happens, it is the dawn of a new season in the land. We have now experienced this in Germany.

Since the beginning of the Call of the Watchmen we have always prayed for the healing of the German identity and the return of the land into its calling. After many repentance gatherings and intensive spiritual self-examination, after God answered us with the reunification of Germany as a sign of his forgiveness, we were experiencing a gradual healing of our national identity and had a sudden breakthrough during the Football World Cup in 2006. The presence of visitors from all over the world, their great appreciation for us and their gratitude released something in this land and set us free within ourselves.

Last month at the conference in Leipzig “A New Season” for Germany, Austria and Switzerland, it was again people from other lands who encouraged us Germans to take up our leadership role in Europe with their love and openly expressed confidence in us. As spokesperson for the many nationalities represented at the conference, Geri Keller, from Switzerland, asked in Jesus’ name: “Germany, do you truly love me?” “Yes, you know we love you.” “Take care of my sheep.” These were now the words for the restoration of the divine calling for Germany in the same way as they were for Peter. Then he continued: “As a sign of our trust in you Germans, I lay our Swiss national flag in your arms.” Many, many tears flowed. In this one act, years of prayer for healing of our land came to fruition. Let us praise God for this. -OS-

Answers to prayer

Journalists are beginning to seriously question the latest “gender ideology”. A long article recently appeared in “ZEITMAGAZIN Nr. 24” and there was also one in the “Cicero” magazine. Let us continue to pray that the media will expose the current delusion about gender.

In the NSU trial there were some new, unexpected statements from one of the accused. Keep praying! -RS-

Floods as a sign from God

When natural catastrophes happen, such as the recent floods in eastern Germany, we need revelation about how we should pray. In Amos 3 v.7 we read: “Surely the Sovereign Lord does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets.” Already in February, Stefan Driess, well-known for his prophetic teaching ministry, announced a new move of the Holy Spirit. He prophesied that there will be a great manifestation of the majesty, glory and greatness of God through the work of the Holy Spirit. It will not only affect our nation but also Poland and parts of Eastern Europe. The sign for this manifestation was revealed to Stefan Driess as follows: “You will see that *it will be confirmed* by the overflow of rivers that will

burst their banks and rise higher than ever before. We will hear of new records for the rise in river water levels in areas of Eastern Europe including Poland and this will likewise be *a sign ...*”

This can encourage us in that, while the floods in the natural realm have brought much loss and suffering to those affected and have exposed weaknesses in the planning of flood defences, at the same time they are a sign for blessings, even floods of blessings, that God is going to pour out on our land. If in the natural realm people stand together in solidarity to help one another, how much more will spiritual floods bring a unity that we have not seen before.

Prayer:

- **That those affected by the floods will receive all the necessary help and at the same time also experience the blessings of God. (Psalm 86 v.7)**
- **That the floods of the manifestation of the majesty and glory of God will flow into our land. (Isaiah 59 v.19)**
- **That those responsible for flood defences will realise that they must be improved and how to do it. -RS-**

Vacation – my times are in your hands

Everyone looks forward to these weeks of vacation: slowing down, no deadlines, doing what you like to do rather than what you must, taking time off, relaxing.

But how do we maintain the spiritual side of our lives at this time? It is important to think about this *ahead* of time. Then the Lord can spend vacation time with us. And that is real fulfilment.

Some will be busy serving the Lord in missions, camps and retreats. Others will remain at home. The blessing of the Lord is not dependent on location. Let us pray for Jesus to be glorified wherever we are and in whatever we are doing during our vacation time.

Let us as watchmen continue to call out in prayer when on vacation.

- **Pray** for protection for our land. Less prayer means less protection. Pray for protection against terrorist attacks.

- **Pray** for our national and local politicians, that they take time for themselves. Their profession compels them – especially in this election period – to speak “outwards”. May God give them the opportunity now to look “inwards”, to really think about their motives and actions and to seek God.

- Politicians and journalists talk about the summer recess as the “silly season” (Germans call it the “pickled gherkin season”!) when minor matters are played up, just to have something to talk about. The “Euro-Hawk” drone (unmanned surveillance airplane) is such a welcome subject for them. **Let us pray** for clarity in this issue, and that Thomas de Maizière does not have to resign, as he is a very able minister and also a sincere Christian.

- National elections take place on September 22nd. **Let us pray** for a fair campaign with no personal mud-slinging;

clear policy statements so that the voter can make an informed choice; that God-fearing men and women will be voted into our parliament, and that godless, unprincipled, egocentric, lazy, occultic and corruptible candidates must remain outside. -OS-

Support for the family and the rights of children

Children have a right to a father and a mother. They have a right to protection and a healthy development in their lives. Child protection is also a duty of the state. With the introduction of the law for same-sex partnerships, the state has opened the doors for the removal of the natural protection environment for a child – the union in marriage of a man and a woman. Full adoption rights for homosexual partners are now being required by all political parties, even from the ranks of the CDU (Frau von der Leyen). The national and local state justice ministers have also spoken out in favour. Who is protecting the children from the removal of their rights?

Also in the development of nursery care, the well-being of the child is not the prime consideration. Family support is today only measured by how easily and quickly the mother can return to the job market. The state has to take over the role of raising children and become a substitute for the family so that the economy is supported by enough workers. The required number of nursery places is prescribed by law. But who is protecting the children against the trauma of an all-too-early separation from the mother and the life threatening stress of all-too-large nursery classes? In the meantime, overcrowded classes with too few trained nursery workers are tolerated by the state in order to meet the legal requirements. The negative influence on child development is however not considered. The "Association for the Welfare of Workers" recently issued a statement about the seriously low level in the standards for building nursery day centres.

Prayer:

- **That adoption rights for same-sex couples will not passed into our law. (Matthew 6 v.13)**
- **Repent on behalf of those responsible for the current neglect of children's welfare and rights in order to satisfy the interests of certain lobby groups (homosexual groups, industrial associations, etc.) (Jeremiah 9 v.19-20)**
- **For God's mercy on our children and for his blessing and protection on them. (Numbers 6 v.22-27) -RS-**

The Syrian war

The situation in Syria is getting worse by the day. Russia has begun to deliver a highly developed missile defence system to the Syrian ruler Assad. If set into operation, Israel's fighter jets could no longer freely penetrate Syrian air space as they have been doing up until now. The defence missiles could also be used offensively and would threaten air traffic in Israel. This would be unacceptable for Israel. Danger is also growing from an alliance between Hezbollah and Assad's forces that are now fighting together. Hezbollah is supported and controlled by Iran. In this way Iran is gaining more influence in the war, even

as far as Israel's borders.

After the European Union arms embargo against Syria was not extended, France immediately declared that it was ready to deliver weapons to the Syrian opposition. A few days later US President Obama announced that the "red line" had been crossed with the use of chemical weapons. The USA is also now ready to support the opposition forces with deliveries of weapons. Germany will however not deliver weapons. There are important reasons for this: the opposition to the Syrian forces is fragmented and many militias are fighting for their own political interests to gain power. Weapon supplies can quickly fall into the hands of Islamic extremists who are closely linked with the Al-Qaida terrorist network. There is the danger that the enemy of the western world will be equipped by these weapon supplies and the security of Israel will come under even more pressure. On which side will Germany then stand when the conflict escalates?

Prayer:

- **For a political solution to the Syrian civil war. (Matthew 5 v.9)**
- **That German political leaders will make decisions that serve to maintain Israel's security. (Psalm 2 v.10-12)**
- **That this war does not lead to a much greater conflict in the Middle East. (Joel 2 v.12-14) -RS-**

30 Days of Prayer for the Muslim World

The "Islam Study Group" within the German Evangelical Alliance has again prepared a prayer booklet this year as a guide for Christians to pray for Muslims throughout the world during Ramadan – the Islamic month of fasting - from July 9th until August 7th.

In Germany reports are increasing of Muslims who have come to Christ. In Dusseldorf, 34 of them were recently baptised in an international church. Through prayer for Muslims, there has also clearly been an increase in miracles of healing.

The prayer booklet is available to order in many countries in the local language or it can be downloaded on-line. There is also an Arabic version. For further details visit: "30 Days Prayer Network" - <http://www.30-days.net/order/> .

Prayer:

- **That Muslims in Germany – and all over the world – will increasingly come to faith in Jesus. (Matthew 12 v.18-21; Isaiah 42 v.1-4)**
- **Strength, protection and wisdom for all who work among Muslims. (1 Corinthians 16 v.8-9) -RS-**

Note:

This prayer letter is a double issue for July/August. We ask you to pray for the countless evangelistic outreaches in Germany this summer. There will also be prayer walks in some regions as a continuation of the initiative "Pray and move together" about which we reported last year.

*God's blessings for a refreshing holiday season
from Ortwin Schweitzer, Rosemarie Stresemann
and Markus Egli*