

CALL OF THE WATCHMEN

December 2015

God's Word for us at this time

There is much anxiety and uncertainty in our land at this time. The flood of refugees appears to be uncontrollable, there is so much tension within the government coalition, our European neighbours are refusing to share the responsibility – where is all this leading (us)?

God is speaking his Word into our situation: **“For God did not give us a spirit of timidity (fear), but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline (a sound mind).”** (2 Tim. 1:7)

There is only *one* kind of fear that comes from the Spirit – the fear, deep respect and awe before the living God.

Fear of earthly things *never* comes from the Spirit of God! We must command the spirit of timidity to leave us!

We recognise the Spirit of God because it clearly gives us power (dynamis), love (agape) and a sound mind (wisdom and self-discipline). We need all three as we face the refugee situation: power and strength to stay the course, love to be there and to support them, both physically and mentally. We can however also expect God to give us the wisdom and presence of mind to deal with the situation and to know what action to take. So let us stand firm in this Spirit of God, pray earnestly, and then get on with the task before us! Amen. -OS-

Answer to prayer

The Global Gathering, for which we prayed, was richly blessed in every way. Thank you for your prayers. -RS-

God is in the process of cleansing Germany

It is quite clear: God has put his hand upon this land in order to cleanse it. We are falling into disgrace in areas of our traditional core competence for which the world has long admired us.

“Made in Germany” - legendary mark of quality and reliability, especially for the German automobile. Now this systematic fraudulent action by of all things the largest car maker in the country – Volkswagen (VW).

“World Champions in Football” – German players are idolised by young people around the world. After the scandals in FIFA, the German Football Association (DFB) is under investigation by the public prosecutor's office for bribery and tax evasion. The fairy tale experience of summer 2006 is over. Votes were bought.

The **Deutsche Bank (DB)** – the flagship among German banks which was preparing to become one of the major world banks has now been overtaken by court cases for fraud. The top manager has been dismissed. No dividends for two years and 9,000 job losses world-wide.

Angela Merkel, “the most powerful woman in the world”, has lost her long-held first place on the scale of most admired political leaders within Germany over the refugee drama and has fallen to fourth place. She often has to face rebellion in her CDU party. In Europe almost no-one now follows her lead.

God has called Germany to a leadership position in Europe. Over the last two years Germany has slowly begun to accept this role. But no-one can be a good leader who has

not been broken at some time. Only such people can lead well. This is also true for a country. Also for us as Germany. What is happening at this time is good and from God.

Prayer:

- **Thanks for all the current crises that are shaking our land and preparing us for our leadership calling. (John 15:2; Hebrews 12:8-11)**
- **Intercession for all those involved in top leadership positions. (Psalm 119:67,71,75f)**
- **Pray that there will be radical changes and cleansing in all the affected areas. (Ephesians 5:10-13)** -OS-

Israel: instead of hate - reconciliation

At the Global Gathering in Munich we witnessed a moving reconciliation between the descendants of Ishmael (Arabs) and of Isaac (Jews). A Messianic leader confessed the guilt of the Jewish people for rejecting their Arab brothers and sisters from the family of Abraham. This request for forgiveness is an essential step in the restoration of the complete family of Abraham. The deep reconciliation of the divided family of Abraham in Christ is the only answer to the problem of the hostility of the Palestinians and other Arabs towards Israel for which there is no political solution. The seed of hate is continuously being sown into Palestinians by their leaders. Children are raised to hate Israel, television is saturated with hate for Israel and the treacherous murder of Jews is considered as a heroic act.

When Christian Arabs and Messianic Jews are being deeply reconciled in Christ in this way, they need constant protection through prayer. There are many initiatives in the land of Israel that are working for a lasting reconciliation between Arabs and Jews. The enemy is desperately trying to thwart any such reconciliation in making every Arab on the street to be seen as a potential murderer in the mind of Jews by inciting terrorist attacks on random individuals.

Prayer:

- **Thanks for the steps that the Christian Arabs and Messianic Jews have already made towards reconciliation. (Ephesians 2:14-18)**
- **Protection for Jews and Arabs who believe in Jesus and for their congregations – and for increasing reconciliation despite the hostility all around them. (2 Corinthians 5:18-19)**
- **For protection for all in Israel and for the revelation of the Messiah. (Romans 11:15-16)** -RS-

Terrorist attacks in France

The second serious terrorist attack this year in France was clearly planned by the Islamic State (IS). This is the fifth attack that has been attributed to this Islamic organisation. The so-called Islamic State has a clear strategy by which it wants to destabilise Western communities through terrorist activities. In connection with the attacks at the “Stade de France” where the national football teams of France and Germany played a friendly match, they also described Germany as a “Crusader” nation. This declaration also

implied a threat of further such attacks. We thank God for all answers to prayers for the protection of our land which cannot be explained in any other way by security experts. Our Interior Minister often encourages people to pray and says: "That is what I do also."

Prayer:

- **Thanks for God's protection until now. (Psalm 94:20-22)**
- **For the early detection of plans for further terrorist attacks. (1 John 1:5)**
- **That God himself would raise up a prayer army in Europe. (Zechariah 4:6)**

-RS-

Germany - with no borders?

God has set limits for everything that he has created. Limits give form and structure to the creation. Limits and borders provide the protection for life to develop as God intended. Likewise God's commands serve as protective borders for our lives. People without God identify themselves in many ways but specifically by the way they reject the borders and limits that God sets, saying they are not relevant and can be ignored. Following the civil rights movements of 1968, such "security fences" are increasing being taken away in our land: from the unborn child, from marriage, from gender, from the end of life ... – too many such things no longer have any limits. In the refugee crisis we are experiencing a new form of setting aside limits. After the Chancellor opened our borders for the Syrian refugees and the influx of people seeking asylum here continued to grow, the country was suddenly no longer in a position to protect itself. Angela Merkel declared: "We cannot close our borders." Germany – with no borders?

The policy of opening borders without a clear recognition that we in Germany in many ways actually have our limits is fundamentally unrealistic. Unfortunately we do not yet have a statement from our Chancellor concerning the limits to the number we can absorb, the limits to the financial resources of our communes and their capability to integrate migrants, etc. The population has a right to protection from borders. God himself has determined the times and boundaries of nations. (Acts 17:26). It takes humility to recognise one's own limitations – but also the limitations on the larger scale. But God gives grace to the humble! We urgently need God's help and protection because the policy of "no borders" is currently causing growing political unrest and great uncertainty in our land.

Prayer:

- **Identificational repentance for rebellion in our society against God's good protective boundaries. (Psalm 2)**
- **That the government has the courage to set limits and takes action to protect our borders. (Psalm 74:17)**
- **For a limit on the flow of refugees and for the peace and security of our land. (Psalm 127:1)**

-RS-

Polarisation of society in our land

Europe's Judeo-Christian foundation and world view have been overtaken in the last century by ideologies which have selectively adopted or rejected, re-interpreted or replaced basic Biblical truths. Under the totalitarian regimes of

National Socialism and Communist Socialism, these ideologies were dominant in Germany. 70 years after the end of National Socialism and 25 years after the end of Communist Socialism, the right-left polarisation in our society is dangerously coming to a head in Germany. Neo-Marxist doctrine and the propaganda methods of socialism, under which East Germany suffered until just one generation ago, is actually being promoted by the state and supported by the media. This is provoking angry frustration to the point of radicalisation – especially in the east of the country. As a result, a rift between east and west is growing and our society is being divided once again.

Radical right-wingers are attacking refugee homes and promoters of open borders as well as those who are providing help for refugees. Left-wing radical views were recently openly presented on the stage in Berlin in a play entitled "Fear". This led to personal attacks on Beatrix von Storch (MEP from the AfD Party) and Hedwig von Beverfoerde ("Demonstration for All" organiser).

A country that is divided against itself cannot stand. (Matthew 12:25). And how can a divided society integrate millions of refugees?

Prayer:

- **That the eternal Word of God in Jesus Christ will again reign in Germany, break the power of humanistic ideologies and unite the nation. (Isaiah 45:21-24)**
- **"Prepare the way for the Lord!" during this Advent season. (Isaiah 40:2-5)**
- **For prevention and protection from all attacks by right-wing and left-wing radicals and for effective prosecution of the perpetrators. (Ephesians 6:12)** -KH-

Thanks and a request

The Call of the Watchmen lives by the prayers of each one of you. This is so precious! You have also blessed us richly with your donations this year. Thank you! We are amazed that your generosity increases in line with our commitments. We have been able to cover the costs of mailing the prayer letter, maintaining and improving our website, of our personnel and for the professional recording of our monthly "Kraft-clip". Our tithe goes to other prayer ministries. We now kindly ask you again for your 10 Euro contribution for the continuation of our work in 2016.

Prayer:

- **Thanks for the strong feeling of "togetherness" that we all sense in the Call of the Watchmen.**
- **Pray that all donations will be a blessing to the giver and to the Call of the Watchmen as receiver. (2 Corinthians 8:13-15)**

-RS-

Note:

Next year there will be a Call of the Watchmen prayer conference in Bingen on the Rhine, May 27–29, 2016. Details to follow.

*God's blessings for the
Advent Season, Christmas and the New Year
from Rosemarie Stresemann and Ortwin Schweitzer*