

July/August 2017

**Stay alert**

Last year there were several terrorist attacks in Germany during the summer break. Could it be that during the holiday period our land was less protected through lack of prayer? This must not happen again! "Be self-controlled and alert." Peter warns us. "Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith..." (1 Peter 5:8ff). It is good that God gives us times to rest – we need recreation and times in which we can come before God without our normal daily workload. But the monthly Call of the Watchmen prayer watch can also be held at your remote holiday destination – it only needs you to decide to do it!

The enemy does not take a holiday – so let's stay alert! -RS-

**German national elections in September**

In recent months we have seen clearly how political opinion in Europe and in Germany can fluctuate and change in a very short time. Therefore it is so important, just two months before the national elections, to stay alert and to keep the elections in our prayers. A clear majority in the government for the next four years will empower it to rule more effectively and enable it to realise its political goals. So what governmental coalitions of parties are conceivable at this stage? Now that the Leftist party has called in their manifesto for the dissolution of NATO and the abolishment of security services, a Centrist-Left-Alliance of the SPD, the Leftists and Greens is unlikely. At the moment a coalition of CDU and FDP with or without the Greens according to their share of the votes seems the most likely. The last, and the least favoured option by all, would be to form a grand coalition (CDU/SPD) once again. Let us pray that the election will result in a political majority, such that the future government can be effective in making decisions according to God's will and purpose for our land, without having to settle for bad compromises.

**Prayer:**

- **Let us ask for God's good purposes and his protection in the coming months before the elections. (2 Chronicles 7:14)**
- **For a clear political majority and the formation of a government according to God's will, so that the political process in Germany can be exercised with responsibility before God and for the good of our people.**
- **For politicians who fear God and who allow themselves to be used by him. (Proverbs 8:13-17)** -AS-

**German Prayer Conference – focal points for prayer**

During the Pentecost weekend, 40 leaders from all over Germany were invited by the Call of the Watchmen to a "pre-conference" in Berlin in preparation for the German Prayer Conference in September. Together we wanted to hear from the Holy Spirit what he wanted us to set as focal points for prayer. At this pre-conference meeting, the "68 Movement" (see June prayer letter) in post-war Germany and the Western world was specifically addressed, as it had

a strong influence on our society today (abortion issues, gender policies, etc.). It became clear that in September we must go into the roots of "Marxism". Marxism was the most powerful and influential attempt in history to put into effect the redemption of mankind without God. While the politics of the '68 movement were developing in West Germany out of the neo-Marxism of the "Frankfurt School" [seeking an alternative social theory and philosophy], in East Germany there was at the same time the rise of state socialism. Both had their source in the godless ideology of Marxism. They also opposed the divine election of Israel and hence in September we want to be concerned with the anti-Semitism coming from the political Left and its consequences.

Issues which call for confession and repentance will be prepared for the conference – this will be a prayer challenge for all of us in East and West. In both regions the relationship of children with their parents has broken down and the spiritual inheritance that should flow from this relationship has been lost. At our prayer conference we want to do our part in prayer to enable the next generation to receive a pure and clean inheritance so that they can be used by God for a "revolution of love".

**Prayer:**

- **For unity within the team preparing for the conference (Philippians 2:1-3) and clear leading by the Holy Spirit.**
- **For many intercessors to come from both the East and the West of Germany. (Joel 2:16-17)**
- **For identificational repentance as well as for authority to remove every obstacle of Marxism that stands in the way for the fulfilment of God's purposes in Germany, in both East and West. (Isaiah 57:14ff)** -KH/RS-

**Foreign policy of Germany**

The role of Germany in foreign affairs is becoming more comprehensive and the related expectations are growing. The recent past has clearly shown how quickly alliances between nations can become weak and uncertain. We have experienced this within the EU as well as in Germany's long standing friendship with the USA, and especially now with the deteriorating relationship with Turkey. Nations often enter into alliances mainly for economic reasons. With every agreement and negotiation with another nation come (spiritual) consequences for Germany. Therefore much wisdom is required, especially for alliances and agreements with Iran, Saudi Arabia, China and Africa. The relationship with Israel must have the highest priority and must be continually "watched over" in prayer. Foreign Minister Gabriel has settled quickly into his new office. As the representative of Germany he especially needs our prayers.

**Prayer:**

- **For economic agreements and alliances that are pleasing to God and that Germany is a blessing to other nations with a servant spirit. (1 Timothy 2:1-2)**
- **That God will guide our Foreign Minister in word and deed. (Psalm 23:3b; Psalm 49:3)** -AS-

### **The call of the watchmen for Jerusalem**

For us to be able to understand the ever increasing political and spiritual tensions and disputes over Jerusalem, we need to take a look into the heart of God. Within the election of the land of Israel there is also a special election by God of the city of Jerusalem. In fact: "He has set his foundation on the holy mountain; the Lord loves the gates of Zion **more** than all the dwellings of Jacob. Glorious things are said of you, O city of God." (Psalm 87:1-3). Not London, Paris, Rome – no, God has chosen Jerusalem, because he will put his Name in Jerusalem for *ever*. (2 Chronicles 33:7b). One day Jesus will take the earthly throne of his father David. Jerusalem is the "City of the Great King" and God's chosen seat of government on the earth. Jesus will reign from there when he returns. (Jeremiah 3:16ff). For this reason Jerusalem is the most fought over city.

On the occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem in 1992, Jewish communities the world over entered into "The Jerusalem Covenant".

(See: <http://www.jerusalemofpeace.com/page3.asp> )

Because of their steadfast love for the city chosen by God, they gathered together to declare that their home will for ever be there. Politically this covenant of theirs is contested. The Palestinians claim Jerusalem as their capital city, and when they cannot get the whole of Jerusalem, then they claim East Jerusalem with the Temple Mount as a minimum. But God's "call of the watchmen" goes out to prayer watchmen who have his heart for Jerusalem and who "give him no rest till he establishes Jerusalem and makes her the praise of the earth." (Isaiah 62:6-7).

#### **Prayer**

- **Thanks for God's election of Jerusalem and his governmental purposes to bless all people. (Psalm 87)**
- **That many more intercessors in Germany are called to the ministry of prayer as watchmen on the walls of Jerusalem. (Isaiah 62:1-7)**
- **That our government does not stand in the way of God's purposes for Jerusalem. (Zechariah 12:3)** -RS-

### **Europe under God's grace and favour**

Something has now changed in Europe. In the past years there was only one trend: a return to nation states, away from "Europe" and the EU, but now in a few months we are experiencing a reversal of this trend. There is again boldness, even a feeling of joy, in unity of nations. And correspondingly the political parties who favoured the return to nation states have not achieved their desired majorities. Wilders in Holland was relegated to second place; in France Le Pen lost resoundingly to Macron as well as losing an enormous number of votes in the parliamentary elections; Austria also distanced itself from the right-wing; in Germany in the last three state elections the AfD went into a free-fall; and the UKIP in Great Britain is no longer in the race.

In France Macron, who had campaigned for unity within Europe, won an absolute majority for his party in the first round of the parliamentary elections. In Germany citizens are going out onto the streets to identify themselves with

unity in Europe! And in Britain Theresa May with her "hard Brexit" line experienced a crashing defeat and is now dependent on the voters in Northern Ireland who want to see a "soft Brexit" line with the EU. This is all very surprising and unexpected!

It is as if an invisible hand has taken over control and is steering towards a renewal of unity. But the form of this renewed unity after Brexit is still unclear and needs our prayer. It is like a promise that many are hearing as they intercede for Europe: "Europe shall be saved". Let us pray therefore with confidence and with this promise in mind!

#### **Prayer:**

- **Thanks that God is showing his mercy once again over Europe. (Psalm 103:9ff)**
- **Ask for an amazingly great revival. (Joel 2:28-29)**
- **Pray for leading politicians to sense and follow God's ways even when they themselves do not yet know him. (Isaiah 45:5-6)** -OS-

### **Rediscovering the inheritance of mission**

From a global perspective we are living today in the greatest revival period in the entire history of mankind. Just since 1970 the number of born-again Christians has grown by a factor of five, from 160 million to nearly 900 million in 2010! Christianity is today the fastest growing religion, and the growth is not due to the natural birth rate, but rather to conscious and free-will decisions to live a life as a disciple of Jesus. The spread of Christianity in countries like Nigeria, Uganda, the Philippines, China, etc. is enormous. However Europe is the exception! In Germany the percentage of the population who acknowledge Jesus as their Saviour today lies under 2%. If Jesus were to return now, more than 95% of the people in Europe could enter into an eternity without God. And this is the situation despite the fact that, within the history of the modern mission movement (starting in the 16<sup>th</sup> century), the concern and consequent efforts to spread the Christian gospel came almost exclusively out of Europe and were very strong also in Germany (for example the Moravian missionary movement from 1732). Here lies an inheritance and on this foundation we can now pray, and also a seed, from which we can ask for much fruit to come again.

#### **Prayer:**

- **That the message of the gospel will once again be proclaimed with clarity in Germany and also again go out into the nations. (Matthew 28:18ff)**
- **For the many evangelistic outreaches and summer camps during the summer holidays: for much fruit and also for protection. (Luke 10:2ff)** -TF-

### **Dates for your diary**

**29.06-02.07** "Awakening Europe" – worship in Tipsport Arena in Prague and evangelistic outreach.

*Blessings from Rosemarie Stresemann,  
Alexander Schlueter and Team*

Note: This is a double edition for July and August.