

February 2021

What song do you sing?

[And they] sang the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb: "Great and marvellous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are your ways, King of the ages. Who will not fear you, O Lord, and bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed." (Revelation 15:3,4)

We live in a world where we are surrounded by various sounds. We create many sounds ourselves and are constantly making a difference in the atmosphere - as when we start singing while we are cooking or driving the car. But prayer has a much deeper effect on our world, even though it is often not audible, but resounds within our hearts where it resides and is pleasing to God. (Psalm 19:14). It is there that we find **the song of Moses and the Lamb**, which proclaims the righteous acts of the Lord of both heaven and earth. We want to release this sound of the kingdom of God with our whole being - our soul, our heart, our mind, our character and our deeds. (2 Peter 1:4,5; John 7:38). "Just and true are your ways, King of the ages," that have been revealed to us and to the nations. **What a mighty song to sing!** Our world is experiencing a tremendous upheaval and at the same time is longing for redemption. This song is the sound of the glorious kingdom that creation awaits in eager expectation, as it will bring liberation from sin and decay, freedom and renewal. (Romans 8:19). We want to take some responsibility at this time and not to distance ourselves from the world. Rather, through our prayers, we want to be those who offer solutions that prepare ways to move forward.

We often think that we must first have understanding and good judgement before our prayers can be powerful. But we cannot be sure of having this assurance by our own efforts. We need to have the humility to lay our own thoughts and conclusions at Jesus' feet and to stay closely connected to one another as intercessors. And we can remind each other that God speaks and reveals his glory even through the mouths of children and infants. (Matthew 21:16; Psalm 8:1,2). His kingdom comes through spiritual renewal within our hearts and not just through understanding. **Let us sing the song of Moses and the Lamb and speak to Germany: You need to know Jesus! Open your eyes and ears, open your hearts, then you will be set free to live!**

-AS-

A new vision for our land

How can the future of our country be shaped politically, economically and socially? In the midst of the current crisis and massive upheavals, pragmatism and short-term decisions are not enough. Our country needs a vision for the future and a new social consensus that will release hope and courage in all areas of society. (At the same time we welcome the shakings that God intends for our good, because we want our land to find its way back to the Father). In order to overcome the lack of a sense of direction and purpose in our land at this time, creative ideas and a new vision for our society are required. We are facing burning issues concerning the economy and the environment which we can only answer with God's wisdom. More transparency and open political debate, rather than party political wrangling, should now be top priority. We want to find workable solutions which will benefit all the generations in our society.

We have long felt that capitalism and individualism, prosperity and increasing consumption should no longer be pursued as primary goals as they are not so meaningful today for the future of our land and people. A growing crisis of confidence in politics is leading to an increasing division in society.

In these wide areas of tension, seemingly spanning from light and darkness, and in the search to categorise the current state of the nation in a meaningful and accurate way, we must not get caught up in diverging, polarizing opinions, but rather work together and ask God for new vision and confidence for our prayers for politics and society.

Prayer:

- **Father, there is much that we do not yet understand and we view the political situation in different ways. But together we pray: Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. (Matthew 6:10)**
- **For vision and divine solutions for all issues in politics, society, business and the environment. (Proverbs 11:14)**
- **That God will place God-fearing women and men in all area of society. (Daniel 1:17)** -AS-

Measures to control the corona pandemic

We again would like to bring before God the various areas of tension that have arisen with the measures against the corona virus "without anger and disputing". (1 Timothy 2:8).

- Protection of health by restrictions on personal contact and the resulting effects on people who are lonely.
- Hygiene measures in old people's and nursing homes.
- Closure of schools and child day care centres.
- Vaccination.
- The economy (retail trade, art and entertainment, self-employed, restaurants, pubs, etc.).

Our prayer is especially needed here where lockdown has brought considerable hardship!

Let us pray for wise and just strategies in determining effective measures to control the corona pandemic, not forgetting to thank God for His help!

-AS-

Calls for mandatory vaccination

At the turn of the year, the corona vaccinations began in Germany and many other countries. Although up until now the federal government has spoken out against the introduction of mandatory vaccinations, this is often brought into question in the case of certain professions, such as doctors, care workers, nurses, police and soldiers in the armed forces. In mid-January, Heiko Maas spoke out in favour of those who have been vaccinated to be allowed to exercise their basic rights once again (and be free from restrictions) at an earlier stage than those who have not. The EU is considering privileges for those who have been vaccinated to make travel easier, while the World Health Organisation (WHO) is so far against a corona vaccination certificate as a condition for international travel. The freedom under contract law to set conditions allows companies in some way to require vaccination as a prerequisite for business deals and agreements. Some therefore speak of "indirect compulsory vaccination through the back door" and complain that the whole issue is still unclear under the law.

Many questions remain unanswered about the effectiveness, side-effects and long-term effects of the vaccines. The basic right to self-determination in health issues must be protected. Vaccinations therefore require the patient's consent. A limitation of this basic right under the constitution could still be possible through a legal ruling based on the Infection-Protection-Act, but certainly not without approval by the Constitutional Court in Germany.

We are in a challenging situation that needs (supernatural) wisdom. We find security alone in Jesus Christ, who brings peace to our souls and delivers us from evil.

Prayer:

- **For protection and support for doctors and care workers, and no additional pressure through the imposition of stipulations for mandatory vaccinations. (Psalm 91:1-6)**
- **For wisdom in dealing with the protection of basic rights. (Psalm 111:10)**
- **For a turning back to God in times of trouble. (Psalm 18:2-6)**

-TF-

Germany, USA and Israel

On January 20th, Joe Biden was sworn in as the new US President. While the Western world welcomes the return to the politics before Trump, his supporters are accusing the Democrats of electoral fraud. Federal Foreign Minister Maas presented Biden with the offer of a "Marshall Plan" for democracy, because "without democracy in the USA, there will be no democracy in Europe". Since the Mayflower Treaty 400 years ago, the USA has been a model for a free society under the authority of God.

Immediately after the transfer of power in the White House, Biden reversed several political decisions by Trump. Much of his US policy towards Israel is now also wide open for change. The relocation of the US embassy to Jerusalem, the withdrawal from the nuclear deal with Iran, the cancellation of payments to Hamas, the Palestinian Authority and UNRWA, the recognition of Israel's sovereignty over Judea, Samaria and the Golan Heights, and finally the mediation of the peace agreements with the UAE, Bahrain, Sudan and Morocco have ushered in a paradigm shift into Middle East politics. Even before Biden took office, Foreign Minister Maas had initiated a meeting with his official counterparts in France, Egypt and Jordan in order to revive the failed Middle East peace process with the aim of a two-state solution with borders on the pre-1967 armistice lines.

Prayer:

- **We join with our American brothers and sisters in prayer, that God's ways for their nation will come to pass in and through all political upheavals. (Isaiah 59:1-19)**
- **For German foreign policy to respect the sovereignty of the State of Israel over the territories assigned to it under international law, including Judea and Samaria, and for the renunciation of all plans to partition the country. (Isaiah 28:14-18)**
- **For God's protection over all developments bringing peace into the Middle East. (Isaiah 19:23-25)**

-KH-

Hebron Europe

It is a pleasure for me to tell you about the formation of a new association called "Hebron Europe" which took place in October 2020 in London, and it is an honour to be a member of the new board. After many trips with the *European Union of Prayer* to intercede for EU-member countries as they held the Presidency

of the Council of the European Union, and the growth of a prayer umbrella over Europe with the *Canopy of Prayer over Europe*, both of these initiatives are now united under *Hebron Europe* and will be involved with further prayer campaigns within Europe. This European prayer army emerged from the Call of the Watchmen (Wächterruf) prayer network in Germany under the leadership of Ortwin Schweitzer. We now warmly invite you to extend your prayer ministry beyond our land of Germany to include Europe. In the *Canopy of Prayer Letter No.100* which we are sending to you with this prayer letter, you can learn more about the history and the vision of Hebron Europe.

Prayer:

- **Thanks for Hebron Europe and for the intercessors who have paved the way for its formation through the European Union of Prayer and the Canopy of Prayer. (1 Chronicles 12:38)**
- **That we in Germany take up our call to intercede for the nations of Europe. (1 Timothy 2:1-6)**
- **For intercessors in all the nations of Europe to welcome Jesus as King of Europe. (Isaiah 60:1-3; Mark 11:9,10)**

-KH-

New elections in Israel

Parliamentary (Knesset) elections are planned to take place in Israel on March 23rd, for the fourth time within two years. After the last election, at the beginning of March 2020, Benjamin Netanyahu (Likud Party) and Benjamin Gantz (Blue and White Party) signed a coalition agreement that included the provision for the office of Prime Minister to be handed over from Netanyahu to Gantz after 18 months. Since this governing coalition could not come to an agreement on a new budget, the Knesset was prematurely dissolved at the end of December.

The party landscape in Israel is deeply divided. New parties have been formed, old alliances have been broken and the primary goal of the opposing parties is now to overthrow Netanyahu, whose Likud Party will, according to opinion polls, again win the most seats in this election, but will be far from having an absolute majority.

For the first time, Netanyahu is also facing competition from his own right-wing camp in this election, such as the former Likud politician Gideon Sa'ar, who formed the "New Hope" party at the beginning of December and is refusing to form a coalition government with Netanyahu. There is a lack of desire and vision in all the parties to look beyond their sole aim of making a change in the person or persons who will lead the country in the future. The outcome of the election is uncertain, and the chance of forming a sustainable government appears to be well-nigh hopeless. Israel needs direction and salvation to come out of Zion. (Psalm 53:6)

Prayer:

- **For strength for the Israeli people and for a return to God as a fortress of salvation. (Psalm 28:8,9)**
- **Protection for parties from making any wrong alliances. (2 Chronicles:20,37)**
- **Let us proclaim words of hope and a future over Israel! (Jeremiah 29:11-14)**

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*With warm greetings and blessings,
Alexander Schlueter and Team*