

There is always enough

Recently I had a very memorable encounter with Jesus. In almost every encounter with Jesus, he first calls me into his peace. "Just rest a little, Alexander!" Then we sit together and look at one another. Few words are necessary, rather I tarry with him - in his heart, in his love, in the fragrance of his presence! And then I am aware of being in heaven - the actual place in which we are now meeting together. In heaven there is no sense that something is lacking, not quite right or incomplete. Everything is perfect. Provision has been made for everything. Nothing is missing. On this day Jesus tells me that he created the earth without a fault. "You often regard everything as lacking what is expected", he says, "I see abundance when I look at the earth and the people." "You see what is missing when you look at one another - I always see richness and perfection in the way I think about things, and I have instilled the ability to think and act in this way in every human being."

In the last few weeks, I have noticed Jesus' hand-writing in creation in our world more and more clearly. He wants to open our eyes to see Him and His nature in ourselves, in others and in all circumstances. "I am a creator - and so are you!", he whispers to me in a friendly manner. "Let's create something new together! I want to renew and widen your way of thinking, your awareness. There is no shortage of resources, ideas, or solutions. There is always enough because I laid down my life for this!" Jesus takes pride in his creation. Everything is filled with his might and glory. Animals, mountains, seas, but also our cities were created for his pleasure and honour. "Jesus, where does our wrong thinking come from?", I ask him. He replies: "Because you look at what appears to have failed and not at what I have created to succeed." And I can guess what he means. For a long time, we have developed a view that problems and what is not possible are facts of life – we are fixated on the negative! Now may our eyes be open to see God's plans for salvation and healing. (Luke 2:30). There is so much more to discover about the amazing mind and purposes of God. Created in His image, we are called to be co-creators with Him. "... what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is." (1 John 3:2) Wow, we are so much more than we realise. We have access to His kingdom, to the river of life, and the eternal sources of salvation and the supply of all we need. Heaven is open. Provision has been made for the future. He has already placed within us all that we will ever need.

There is always enough, because Jesus died and lives in us. (Colossians 1:27)!

Alexander Schlüter

Ukraine – Escalation and the yearning for freedom

Wars always bring unimaginable misery. In our hearts and minds, we suffer together with the people of Ukraine. Every war pursues (geo-)political interests, which often only come to light to their full extent in a later analysis. War is also waged with various ways of communication and rhetoric between the warring parties and their populations, especially with targeted disinformation. We, as intercessors, are in a battle for our hearts and minds and must not be misled by a sense of moral superiority. Growing tensions between the U.S.A. and Russia, but also with China, make it clear that we are in a global crisis and raise questions concerning the right foreign policy. Is there still a political relationship between Germany and Russia that could lead to peace? Since Germany, in immediate response to Russia's attack, supported Ukraine with weapons for its defence (leading to the demand for the supply of more weapons), it becomes clear that we also need to have a response to the impending danger of geo-political escalation and a widening of the war in Europe and into the world. God has control over the actions of nations and determines their history and future. Above all is the Kingdom of God, which rules over every national state. Let us seek God with an open, pure, and impartial heart. We want to learn to pray together with heaven and with God's counsel be united for this time. (Psalm 33:10-11).

Alexander Schlüter

Ministry of Economics and Climate Protection

A "green" network of relatives and confidants has recently been uncovered around the Federal Minister of Economics and Climate Protection, Robert Habeck. The connections from

the Ministry are to foundations and think-tanks close to the Greens, to business, and to international investors. These prepare studies on behalf of the Ministry, make policy recommendations, and finance climate activists. State Secretary Patrick Graichen, the head of the energy transition policy, had to vacate his post, and a confidant of his was prevented from becoming the new head of the German Energy Agency. Other secretaries of state, lobbyists and company holdings are being checked.

A ministry needs consultants and institutions to establish a good technical foundation for its policies. Compliance rules apply to all of this, which are intended to prevent nepotism and conflicts that lead to interest-based politics. The "green" network was set up before 2020 and came with Habeck to the control centres of the Ministry of Economics and Climate Protection. Uncovering of the network of relationships follows questionable decisions such as the gas levy and the shutdown of the last nuclear power plants despite the energy crisis, and now comes at the same time as the discussion about the new building energy law which is to ban new gas and oil heating systems from 2024. And this means that millions of homeowners, businesses, and administrations will have to spend many times over the previous investments in new heating systems. This is not about some simple mistakes by the Minister, but is about a political agenda that is to be enforced nationally and internationally, over people's heads and without democratic transparency.

Prayer:

- **Thanksgiving for God's good plans with His creation and with Germany, for His justice and truth. (Jeremiah 27:4-5)**

- **Let us hold the Ministry with all its complexities up to the Lord so that it can be cleansed. (Deuteronomy 30:6)**
- **That already approved bills and new bills are tested against reality and made to serve all those living now and in the future. (Luke 8:17)**

Karen Heepen

Sexual abuse of children in Germany

Child prostitution is usually associated with sex-tourism in Asia. But it also exists in Germany. The victims are not only brought to Germany by human trafficking from Eastern Europe and Africa. There are also many German agents among them. The global commercial sexual exploitation of children is a billion-Dollar business. The United Nations estimates that, every year, around 150 million girls and 73 million boys under the age of 18 are forced to have sex. Human trafficking is taking place everywhere. The boundaries between pure abuse and commercial exploitation are fluid. It is very hard to even imagine the horrific violence that is perpetrated against (small) children and even to babies. But it takes place every day, not only in the "milieu", (where it is known to be commonly practiced), but in all social classes. Many children who fall into prostitution have already been through a martyrdom of sexual violence in their own family environment. Child prostitution often takes place in secret, where nobody suspects it. Some children have a very regulated everyday life and must prostitute themselves between school and their evening meal.

Children are increasingly being sexually exploited by way of the Internet. Sex offenders pay to watch livestream sexual abuse of boys and girls. Ritual violence is an extremely brutal form of abuse. Through severe physical and psychological violence in the context of an ideological/ritual superstructure, the perpetrators will deliberately force "the expression of completely separate personalities" (spinning off from their own natural personality) in the victim. Dissociation (withdrawal from the acknowledgement of what has happened) is the natural reaction to traumatic experiences. To protect against the victim being totally overwhelmed, the horrors are divided between several personalities. In this way, the victims become "controllable" for perpetrators and, in adulthood, they often no longer have any conscious memory of the abusive acts. The experience is so cruel that they are often not believed, which is why criminal charges are rare.

Let us ask the Holy Spirit to pray together with us for the children. (Romans 8:26). In darkness let light come. (Luke 8:17). We call forth experts who summarise the research data and thus ensure better awareness among aid organisations and authorities. And we call the affected children to the father heart of God.

Alexander Schlüter

Cultivating gratitude

The Bible tells us that gratitude prepares the way to recognise God's healing power, his salvation, and to receive it for our lives. (Psalm 50:23). In psychology, gratitude is seen as the root for health and well-being and the antidote to negative feelings. The practice of an optimistic attitude is considered an effective factor in strengthening personal resilience, which helps to withstand the adversities of life, to master stress/crises in a good way or even to emerge stronger from them. Cultivating gratitude is a key to all of this. It can be exercised like

a muscle. Brain scans of test volunteers confirm its neurobiological effects. Practicing a new behaviour once a day for 66 days is enough to make it a habit. Our brain is malleable into old age. Science speaks here about neuroplasticity, while the Bible speaks of our ability to renew our thinking. In cooperation with the work of the Holy Spirit, we as Christians have a clear benefit that we should use more than ever!

Our society needs resilient Christians who can withstand the storms and bring with them solutions for a life of strength and confidence. Society needs us as bearers of hope and bringers of salvation. We can no longer afford to be conformed to the world's way of thinking with its grumbling and complaining, its ingratitude and hopelessness, but we are called to renew our minds (Romans 12:1ff) in order to be salt and light in our society.

Prayer for you personally and the body of Jesus:

- **For the transformation of attitudes/thoughts that are common to the world and for willingness and strategies to cultivate a new sense of gratitude, perhaps keeping a diary of your times of being thankful and accountable for building relationships or similar. (Psalm 139:23-24)**
- **To be a positive and solution-oriented witness and for taking a lead in society. (Matthew 5:13ff)**

Tanja Frank

Rediscovering nature and connecting our lives with creation

God wants to reconnect us with his creation. Heaven and earth "overlap" each other. God's presence and heart is to be found in creation, and he reveals himself through it. With the start of the scientific revolution around 500 years ago, a new world view was formed. Since then, much awareness of our connection to nature and the stewardship of nature has been lost. Newton, Galileo, and Kepler helped us to see nature and the environment from a scientific point of view. In doing so, we have lost the deeper understanding of our relationship to the environment as we have reduced nature to an environment following a scientific formula and process. Now with the technological revolution, nature and the environment have become what we can apparently use and control for our benefit without limit. And so we no longer hear the voice and cry of creation (Romans 8:19). But there should be no conflict between our use of science and technology and our (spiritual) relationship with creation. As enlightened people we tend to smile at Francis of Assisi, who spoke of "Brother Sun", meaning that one cannot walk through the grass on the earth without meeting an angel from heaven. We no longer regard the earth with wonder beyond our understanding and imagination, but in doing so we have also lost the awareness that this is where God does reveal himself to us.

The challenging environmental issues of our time call us back into a relationship with nature. The wind and the sea obeyed Jesus (Mark 4:39). As sons of God, we will only be able to take such effective control over what we really know, fully appreciate, and sincerely love. Let us ask the Father to bring us back into a close and effective relationship with creation

Alexander Schlüter

Joined with one another together in prayer

Alexander Schlüter and team

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