

TOWNS AND CITIES AND THEIR RECEPTIVITY TO THE GOSPEL. PART I



WEEKLY
CHRISTIAN
FOCUS

Praise the Lord.

This is a topic to which there has to be some truth. In fact, it is a fact from scripture, that certain towns and cities and villages have received the Gospel 'better' than others!

I started to become aware of this strange truth when I was about 19 years old! At that time I frequently went with another evangelist and we visited towns across West Yorkshire in England. We gave out tracts in Bradford, Huddersfield, Halifax, Dewsbury and Pontefract. Probably unheard of places to many of you. I will get into the international side of this later in another edition, God willing.

Each time we went into Halifax, we found people very happy to receive the tracts, and people received the Lord. A few miles south was the slightly larger town of Huddersfield. Each time we went there, people didn't seem as receptive in general to our presence, and someone called the police to complain we were 'preaching the Gospel without a licence' or some such. We got stopped by the police twice in two visits and despite it being free and above the law to do this, finally on our third encounter with the nice policemen, they warned us: 'If we see you again here'

we will arrest you.' We never returned there.

Recently I read the history of 'Awakenings' and 'Revivals' in the USA and Great Britain, called 'The Second Evangelical Awakening' by J. Edwin Orr. It became clear from the statistics and cities and towns mentioned here that God has times and events some or perhaps much of it influenced by the earnest prayers for us!

Let's start with some scripture to share this unusual truth :

Mark 8: 22

And they came to Bethsaida. And [people] brought to Him a blind man and begged Him to touch him.

23 And He caught the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village; and when He had spit on his eyes and put His hands upon him, He asked



him, Do you possibly] see anything?

24 And he looked up and said, I see people, but [they look] like trees, walking.

25 Then He put His hands on his eyes again; and the man



looked intently [that is, fixed his eyes on definite objects], and he was restored and saw everything distinctly [even what was at a distance].

26 And He sent him away to his house, telling [him], Do not [even] enter the village or tell anyone there.

You will notice that Jesus led this blind man out of Bethsaida. Why do you think he did that? How come he could not have healed him right there? The answer is due a similar verse I will share with you shortly.

Bethsaida was a town in Galilee, where Jesus did many miracles, even the disciple Phillip came from there, as well as Andrew and Peter. Apparently though, the Bethsaida folk having seen the miracles and signs Jesus did, did not receive His message like other places. This is why Jesus in his closing days spoke of them like this:

Matthew 11:21

Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would long ago

have repented in sackcloth and ashes [and their hearts would have been changed].

Luke 10:13

Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the



mighty miracles performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes.

Jesus pronounced woe on them as a town.

So going back to the blind man, of Mark 8, Jesus took him out of the town and healed him there. Could this have been due to the demonic influence of evil spirits influencing that place? Very likely if we study more scriptures, or it could just as well have been the hardness of people's hearts, or their combined unbelief, like The Bible says about Jesus' home town of Nazareth.

Matthew 13:58

And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

Jesus obviously did not want to bless that town with another sign. He even told the blind man not to even go back in there and tell about the miracle.

So the blessings or cursing of God depended entirely on the reaction of the people to the Gospel. This has not changed. We should take note of this fact.

Here are a few valuable thoughts I feel about this subject:

For example if you are a person living in any town or city, it would be helpful to

read up about that town's history of the Gospel being given to the people, and this is researchable to some degree I feel. For example I now live in a town in England, near to a part of the country affectionately called; 'The Black country'. People in this area a hundred to two hundred years ago were especially open to the message of Jesus Christ through preachers. I see the influence of this receptivity all the time. Almost every person I have so far met from the Black country has been a deeply friendly and warm-hearted person. Undoubtedly, this area produced much fruit for God in the past, and perhaps even today.

If you find a town or city that has this unreceptive attitude, then we can do something about it, we can pray for it, we can in prayer bind up the evil influences of the enemy (devil and other demons) and his mindsets, which have people there in bondage. Of course, this is a very real thing. You would be foolish to try and share the gospel with a town without doing that on a regular basis, and to be ever mindful of the verse: 'My sheep hear My

voice, and I know them and they follow Me. John 10:27-29

and again:

Ephesians 6: 11

Put on God's whole armour [the armour of a heavy-armed soldier which God supplies], that you may be able successfully to stand up against [all] the strategies and the deceits of the devil.

12 For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood [contending only with physical opponents], but against the despotisms, against the powers, against [the master spirits who are] the world rulers of this



present darkness, against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) sphere.

Secondly, we should remember that some towns or cities are more open to the Word of God than others at certain times, and this scenario, can actually change over the years. Places that were hard before can become full with many true believers. Places that were once receptive, have likewise fallen into a state of true iniquity. The biggest example that comes to my mind is Geneva in Switzerland; once in history a famous city of true believers and later now a city where some of the Antichrist forces of this last world order have set up their 'empire'.

You will remember that The Spirit of God forbade Paul and Silas to go into Asia, (Bithynia) even though they tried to 'get in'. Acts 16:1-14 . so, being obedient they followed the Spirit and went to Macedonia. God knew that it was not the right time for 'Asia' as compared with Macedonia.

Always remember that areas, towns or cities that received Jesus Christ, were able to be receptive because God sent a man or numerous men and women to share the Gospel with them!

Romans 10:13

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?



15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

I hope to return to this

fascinating topic in a forthcoming issue. In the meantime, if you as a follower of Jesus Christ, you could ask yourself and the Lord: 'what about my suburb, my town or village and rural area? What has happened here in the past? How can I preach Jesus Christ to them. And win souls to Him? How can I pray effectively for these people that God wants to save? Should I actually 'witness' in this town or city, or is there another nearbyish town/city right now which is more open to God's Word, and if so where is that?

God bless and help us all to be more savvy, wise and effective to share Jesus with the world, amen?

Until next week,

Jerry for the WCF Team

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Matthew 10:11

And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, enquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence.

12 And when ye come into an house, salute it.

13 And if the house be worthy, let your peace come upon it: but if it be not worthy, let your peace return to you.

14 And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet.

15 Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgment, than for that city.

16 Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.

17 But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues;

18 And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles



Paul Before Felix

William Hogarth British

February 5, 1752



THIS IS AN EXCERPT FROM THE BOOK BRITISH CHRISTIANS AND THE COMING CIVIL WAR (LINK BELOW) . THIS WAS WRITTEN BETWEEN 2017-2018 and is now being fulfilled before our eyes in the United Kingdom.

I pray you are inspired by this genuine prophetic word and also view the original cover which I believe the Lord gave me in a vision at the same time.

THE COMING CIVIL WAR?

What does "Civil War" mean? The Civil War I am suggesting began in ideologies long before the Brexit vote long ago in the UK in June 2016. It's a war between Globalists, the Luciferian New World Order, and the counter reaction to them of those ever-growing European and British multitudes who wish to recover their identity as nation-states of their own ethnicity. Having been bamboozled and hoodwinked almost unknowingly by both British and other politicians for many years, these multitudes are simply reactionary forces who are currently fighting an uphill struggle.

With the international Establishment's embrace of Islam as the tool to change the western demographic, it is plain to see both Islam and its Patrons will be the root cause of this ever-intensifying planet-changing encounter.

These minority groups congealing against Islam will increasingly see the need for organised violence in the face of the European government's deliberate support for Islam over the original European populations, including the white British Anglo-Saxon.

The big question surely is: how many people in the UK and the West will wake up to what is really going on, and what tactics will they choose to use, how willing will they be to be as

extreme as we know Islam is prepared to be?

Another factor surely is, that in all this there will be significant choices to make for British Christians, which are: the UK will possibly plunge into intense violence across all areas, especially urban. Law and order is likely to break down possibly completely in some areas for an unknown period of time. What should the British Christian do? (See later.)

As this scenario plays out, it is interesting to think how much and how willing some of the white British (and other) police, military and other significant leaders are at this juncture to break ranks at the real crunch time, with the rule of law in the UK and side against Islamic/ist violence?

If that happens, even more division will occur and who could predict which way all that would unfold? Certainly, the earliest rumblings (2017) are already making their way onto social media as you will see in this heart-felt description of our multi-racial society by a man claiming to be a British police officer. Of course, I do not know for certain if he is or not, but I hope you will view this video before it is taken down, as I believe he at least represents some significant segment of British society. <https://bit.ly/2WoqwF0> (2018—no longer available)

Thank God we must say, God is ultimately in control; but it is entirely scriptural to think and believe that increased troubles, wars, invasions, societal breakdowns, etc frequently come upon societies who have turned away from God, the Biblical examples are beyond numerous. Why should we think our British society will be exempt? It certainly fits that description today.

The political class system together with Islam is going to cause this civil war, just like it will come in Europe, through its muzzling of free speech and vilifying any person(s) who just want to express an alternative opinion., some of which is already fulfilled as we speak.

Christians and all others in the UK should prepare now by assessing their own spiritual and physical positions and situations and prayerfully appropriating any advice and strategies of section four of this book, as they feel it applies.

LoVe IN JESUS,

JERRY FOR THE WCF TEAM

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