



Dear friends,

State of the Nation Facilitating Group update

The Facilitating Group, comprising representatives from some 12 ministries, has met on two occasions this month and we now need to share with those who have responded to the call to prayer, repentance and seeking of God's heart at this time of severe shaking in the nation.

Following the meeting in the House of Lords on 11th December last year, we called a Day of Prayer and Repentance at Emmanuel Centre in London on 28th February, to which over 700 came. This was accompanied by a number of similar gatherings in various parts of the country. Feedback from these meetings has been weighed by the Facilitating Group.

At the meeting of the Group on the 27th of last month, the Lord's presence was very real and we were clearly led, not to any further immediate action as many had anticipated, but rather to a time of waiting, of standing and of watching. Through scriptures and a picture given, the Lord made it clear that those who have responded to the call thus far are those whom He has prepared to use as He demonstrates His anger in the nation.

Scriptures that were shared include:

1 Samuel 12.16 - "Stand still and see this great thing the Lord is about to do . . ."

Jeremiah 6.16-18 - "Stand at the crossroads and look . . ."

Ezekiel chs.7 through 9, in particular 8.12, sensing God's anger at what is happening in His temple (the Church).

Joshua 24 - the assembly of the elders, the challenge to serve the Lord and the renewal of covenant.

The increase in persecution of Christians is of concern (such as in the Indian State of Orissa) and there is an expectation that there will be increasing persecution here in the UK. God is preparing us for persecution and there is wisdom in being hidden, particularly for leaders, until the Lord calls for pronounced action. In this regard, it was noted that the contemplative stream of the Church understands that there is urgency in silent waiting before the Lord in prayer. Abraham had to come out of his tent and stand looking at the stars in order to receive his promise. The Group was made very aware that it must not act presumptuously; being careful not to produce Ishmaels, but Isaacs.

In the meantime we are prayerfully considering the words of knowledge, wisdom and prophecy which have been received. We will endeavour to discern what God is saying to us and will pass our conclusions to you in due course.

The Facilitating Group is planning to meet again within the next month but, at present, is not being called to organise anything; rather to encourage all to "stand still" for "the revelation waits an appointed time" (Hab. 2.1 & 3) being aware that we "...have never been this way before."(Josh.3.4).

Please join us as we stand, watch, pray and wait upon the Lord. He is about to act and we need to be prepared and ready for whatever He calls us to. Please continue to share with us as you feel able, pending further communication from us.

In His love and grace, as ever -

The Facilitating Group.