# PRAYING ALWAYS

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**Roz Addington,** MET's Prayer Secretary

'Tell my people to prepare for coming turmoil at the centre of government' are words which keep returning to my mind. This was part of a word the Lord gave to me back in September and I believe it to be a warning from God, that bad as things are, they are about to get much worse. God is shaking the nation to bring us back to our Christian roots. He is warning us because he wants us to be prepared for what lies ahead. We need more than ever to be rooted and grounded in God's word, praying, and listening for his voice speaking. Keeping our focus fixed on God is essential for he is our only hope. He is with us and will never leave us. We do not know exactly what God is going to do, but when that time of turmoil hits us, we need to be ready to reach out to a hurting and bewildered population. We can only do that by studying God's word diligently so we can act when the shaking happens. When the Israelites began returning to Jerusalem after the exile, Ezra, a scribe skilled in the law of Moses, was able to guide the people spiritually because he had set his heart on studying the Scriptures. (Ezra 7:10). He was ready. Are we ready to reach out to a hurting nation? A question I believe God is asking of each one of us.

If you would like to read the whole word God gave me, please E-mail me at: roz.addington1@btinternet.com

#### WEEK 1 | THE CHURCH

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- Repentance: The acknowledgement of sin and the need for repentance - repentance for moving away from biblical truth and holiness, for denial of the Holy Spirit's power, for not seeking God's vision for the church. (Isaiah 1:16-20; James 4:4-10).
- Church Leaders: The President and Vice President of Conference, the Revd Gill Newton and Ms. Kerry Scarlett; Secretary of Conference, the Revd Dr Jonathan Hustler; all in positions of leadership. (Proverbs 16:3; Philippians 4:6-7).
- **3. Scriptural Holiness:** The wind of the Holy Spirit to fall, bringing a restoration and a fresh understanding of holiness and grace; the centrality of prayer; a passion for Biblically based preaching and for searching Scripture. (James 1:5-8; 2 Timothy 4:1-5).
- **4. Mission and evangelism:** Those serving overseas as Mission Partners especially in the light of the decision of Conference to cut funding; for God's power to fall, bringing about vision and a boldness to reach out to communities with the Gospel message in creative and dynamic ways. (Ephesians 2:4-10; 2 Timothy 1:6-8).
- 5. The work of MET: The 3R's: re-kindling of the Wesleyan vision, renewing the Wesleyan mission and raising up of a new generation of Wesleys'; God's provision, vision and guidance for the future; for David Hull as chair and Chris Briggs as he prepares to take on the role of chair; the Trustees and Executive; MET SW Conference, Torquay: 26th-28th January. (Colossians 1:9-11; Hebrews 13:20-21).
- 6. Cliff College: The Principal, Ashley Cooper, and the staff; mission opportunities; the uptake of students on both residential and on-line courses; protection over all of Cliff's work. (Psalm 127:1; Romans 10:13-15).
- 7. Children and Young people: Nathan Veall, seeking to reach out to the younger generation; inspiration and guidance of the Holy Spirit for all youth and children's workers connexionally; clear biblical teaching; protection from erroneous teaching and false doctrine. (Proverbs 2:6-10; Titus 2:6-8).

#### WEEK 2 | GREAT BRITAIN

- National Leaders: Integrity and justice, wisdom and strength for the Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak and all cabinet members; a return to God at the centre of Government and the formulating of godly policies; the Royal family; artificial intelligence. (Deuteronomy 28:1-2; Philippians 2:1-5).
- 2. Christian MPs: A coming together across the political parties: courage and boldness to speak out against injustices; discernment to hear God's voice amidst the clamour of many voices; their integrity to shine out, in the coming turmoil at the centre of government; their protection. (Joshua 1:7-9; 2 Thessalonians 3: 1-3)
- **3. Economic Situation:** the continuing economic crisis; councils under pressure to meet the financial demands placed upon them; those struggling with increasing debt, particularly mortgages; adequate funding for charities seeking to help, particularly Christian's against poverty. (1 John 3:17-18; Deuteronomy 15:9-11).
- 4. NHS & Social Care: The backlog of those awaiting treatment, exacerbated by strikes; better communication between the various departments - children's services, social services & mental health; care packages for the vulnerable, adequate funding. (Zechariah 7:8-10; Proverbs 3:5-8)
- **5. Revival:** A recognition across the country of the need for God, and an awareness that only he holds answers to our needs; for the Holy Spirit to convict people of corporate selfishness, pride, greed, arrogance, self-righteousness, and egotism. (Acts 3:19; James 4:7-10).
- 6. Anti-Semitism: Protection of relationships between Muslims and Jews in Britain; protection for the Jewish population in Britain; those intent upon violence towards Jews to find the peace of the Lord; Ephraim Mirvis Chief UK Rabbi, Tzipi Hotovely Israeli Ambassador to UK, Zara Mohammed leader of British Muslim Council. (Romans 10:12-13; Acts 10:34-35)
- **7. Christians in the workplace:** Those struggling to stand up for Christian values in workplaces, especially in media and education; for their integrity to shine out; courage and boldness to speak out against injustices; protection against false accusations and lies. (2 Timothy 1:7; Ephesians 6:10-12 & 18).

### WEEK 3 | WORLD ISSUES

- 1. The Persecuted Church: Islamic controlled countries; dictatorships and oppressive regimes; justice and upholding of basic human rights; exposure of discrimination and inequalities; strength and resilience for those suffering. (1 Peter 5: 6-11; 2 Thessalonians 3:3-5).
- 2. Israel: The Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, the Resilience Party leader in the Knesset Benny Ganz; those in opposition, Yahya Sinwar, Hamas leader in Gaza; Sayyed Nasrallah, leader of Hezbollah, Mahmoud Abbas, leader of PLO & Fatah; those trying to broker peace; adequate aid to reach civilians in Gaza; for all living in Israel and the Palestinian Territories to come to a living faith in Christ Jesus; God's will to be done. (I Timothy 2:1-4; Micah 6:8).
- **3.** Russia/Ukrainian War: For de-escalation of the conflict; The Russian people detained for speaking out against the invasion; exposure of Putin's lies and a continued weakening of his grip on the Russian population; strength and resolve for Ukrainian troops and people. (Psalm 33:13-16 & 18-22; Romans 1:18).
- 4. War Torn Areas of the World: Refugee camps; adequate resources for relief and aid agencies to tackle famine and disease; safe access to areas of greatest devastation; those affected to find their hope through the redemptive love of Jesus. (Psalm 121; Psalm 55:22).
- **5. Natural Disasters:** Climate refugees, especially those who have lost their land owing to rising sea levels; aid agencies working to alleviate the suffering caused by natural disasters, in both financial and mental health support; the will of world leaders to tackle underlying causes. (Nahum 1:7; Romans 12:12-13).
- **6. World Poverty:** People living in poverty; compassion and aid from the richer nations; provision for those facing starvation; adequate sanitation and housing and health care; support and resources for those charities tackling the situation. (Matthew 25:34-45; Psalm 140:12).
- 7. Terrorism: Perpetrators of terror to encounter God; victims to find the peace of the Lord; change to regimes across the world encouraging acts of terror; cyber-attacks and international espionage. (Galatians 6:7-8; Colossians 3:25;).



## WEEK 4 | THE NATURAL WORLD & CLIMATE CHANGE

- **1. Repentance:** Forgiveness for our abuse of the planet; our ravaging of its resources; destruction of ecosystems; pollution of the land and sea; reduction in biodiversity. (Isaiah 24:4-6; Revelation 4:11).
- 2. Give Thanks: For initiatives tackling our exploitation of the planet; the planting of new areas of rainforest; the great green wall across Africa, bringing life back to degraded landscapes; conservation areas on both land and sea; projects supported by A Rocha; pray for other such initiatives. (Psalm 33:6-8; Psalm 19:1-4).
- **3. Britain:** Realistic targets for the reduction of carbon emissions; our 'throw away' society recycling & upcycling; legislation to prevent sewage being dumped in rivers; public resolve to halt the littering of the environment; strategies to increase biodiversity. (Genesis 2:15; Psalm 104:24-25 & 30).
- 4. Carbon Emissions: A worldwide commitment to reduce carbon emissions; the pioneering of new technologies to reduce emissions and the political will to make it happen; financial guarantees from wealthier nations to enable poorer nations to make greener and more sustainable choices. (Hebrews 11:3; 1 Timothy 6:17-19).
- 5. Despoiling of the Earth: Illegal logging; rising sea levels and those living with the consequences; loss of habitats and extinction of wildlife; destruction of ecosystems; pollution of land and sea. (Nehemiah 9:6; Jeremiah 12:4).
- **6. Plastics:** Worldwide commitment to reduce all plastics; funding of initiatives to discover environmentally friendly alternatives; the clearing up of polluted habitats. (1 Timothy 4:4-5; Jeremiah 32:17-19).
- 7. Changing Weather Patterns: Areas affected by extremes of weather - soaring temperatures & flooding; resources to combat the underlying causes; new strains of crops to stand extremes of weather; farmers coping with these extremes of weather. Cry to the Lord for mercy. (2 Chronicles 7:13-14; Jeremiah 10:12-13).