Serving the nations....

JANUARY 2023 - NEWSLETTER

You shall not go out with haste,...for the Lord will go before you, and the God of Israel will be your rear guard. —Isaiah 52:12

Yesterday

Security from Yesterday. "...God requires an account of what is past" (Ecclesiastes 3:15). At the end of the year we turn with eagerness to all that God has for the future, and yet anxiety is apt to arise when we remember our yesterdays. Our present enjoyment of God's grace tends to be lessened by the memory of yesterday's sins and blunders.

But God is the God of our yesterdays, and He allows the memory of them to turn the past into a ministry of spiritual growth for our future. God reminds us of the past to protect us from a very shallow security in the present.

Security for Tomorrow. "...the Lord will go before you...." This is a gracious revelation— that God will send His forces out where we have failed to do so.

He will keep watch so that we will not be tripped up again by the same failures, as would undoubtedly happen if He were not our "rear guard." And God's hand reaches back to the past, settling all the claims against our conscience.

Security for Today. "You shall not go out with haste...." As we go forth into the coming year, let it not be in the haste of impetuous, forgetful delight, nor with the quickness of impulsive thoughtlessness.

But let us go out with the patient power of knowing that the God of Israel will go before us. Our yesterdays hold broken and irreversible things for us. It is true that we have lost opportunities that will never return, but God can transform this destructive anxiety into a constructive thoughtfulness for the future.

Let the past rest, but let it rest in the sweet embrace of Christ.

Leave the broken, irreversible past in His hands, and step out into the invincible future with Him.

By Oswald Chambers

Prayer Points

- Pray for the land & people of Israel; the Word of God commands us to do so
 (Psalm 122:6);
- Pray for Pastor Jaci & her family in these difficult times for strength;
- Pray for that there be spiritual growth in people;
- Pray for the government and Rishi Sunak to bring effective policy to tackle problems in 2023;
- Pray for churches to be filled with new and old souls a revival in 2023;
- Pray for the end to the Ukraine Russia war and peace in Europe;
- Praise God Always Be Thankful.

Date	Hanger Lane	Watford
December 4th	Revelation 21:5-6; Luke 22:54-62; Matthew 16:18; Acts 4:13; 2 Corinthians 10:5;	
December 11th		Jeremiah 29:11; 1 Peter 4:7; Ecclesiastes 3:11;
		Nehemiah 9:30;
December 18th		2 Thessalonians 3:16; Genesis 32:9
December 24th	Luke 2:6-18; Job 42:5-6; Isaiah 6:1-5; Matthew 1:21; 1 Timothy 1:15;	

Kevin Sorbo says new film 'Left Behind: Rise of the Antichrist' is timely amid chaos worldwide .

Christian actor Kevin Sorbo has reflected on the timeliness of his new film, "Left Behind: Rise of the Antichrist," and shared why he believes Jesus' return might be looming, it is the latest instalment in the "Left Behind" series, based on the bestselling books by Tim LaHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins.

In the film, which will hit theatres nationwide for a limited run beginning on Jan. 26, Sorbo stars as Rayford Steele, a role previously held by Nicolas Cage, who starred in the original 2014 film.

What is the New Apostolic Reformation and is it 'dangerous'?

Many Pentecostals and Charismatics are concerned about this movement, because these are not historic teachings. Read more — link below

https://www.christian post.com/church-ministries/what-is-the-new-apostolic-reformation-and-is-it-dangerous.html

Touring site where some believe the Virgin Mary spent her final days

It was built in an area believed to be where the Christian icon spent her final days. (The Christian Post)

IZMIR, Turkey — Among the most compelling Christian sites to visit in Turkey is a small shrine dedicated to the Virgin Mary just outside the ancient city of Ephesus on the slope of Bulbul Mountain in Izmir. It's believed by some to be where the mother of Jesus spent her final days.

Officially called the Ephesus House of Mary, the quaint building is popular among faithful travellers.

On the way to the shrine, not far from the entrance is a key hole shaped cistern. There's also a banner explaining why the site is believed to be where Mary spent her final days.

https://www.christianpost.com/lifestyle/where-the-virgin-mary-spent-her-final-days.html

Theology

The word 'theology' comes from two Greek words:

- 1. *theos* meaning 'God'
- 2. logos meaning 'word'

The word 'Trinity' is not in the Bible

- i. It is theological term not a *Biblical* word;
- ii. By theological we mean that it is a term which best expresses what we believe the Bible teaches;
- iii. By 'not biblical' we mean that the word itself is never used in the Bible.

Trinity: One God in three Persons: Father, Son and Spirit.

God is one in His Being but in this being there are three persons. Though there are three persons they do not compete with each other;

The three persons are self-distinctive in one true God.

The divine essence is wholly in each person;

This means the Father is wholly God, the Son is wholly God and the Spirit is wholly God;

The term *trinitas* (Latin) was first used by Tertullian (c 200 AD), who also coined the term *persona* (Latin), to describe the manifestation of the Father, Son and Spirit.

From a book by KT Kendall

What is Epiphany / Three Kings' Day?

Epiphany is an ancient church festival celebrating the magi's visit to the Christ Child (Matthew 2:1-12). It is kept on January 6. Epiphany is also called "Three Kings' Day" and "Twelfth Day"—the latter name because January 6 is twelve days after Christmas; the eve of Epiphany is called "Twelfth Night." It is celebrated mainly in Orthodox, Catholic, Anglican, and other liturgical churches.

The word epiphany means "manifestation" or "revelation." Thus, the holiday celebrates the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles, represented by the magi (see Simeon's prophecy in Luke 2:32). For some, Epiphany also commemorates the baptism of Jesus (Luke 3:21-22) and His turning water into wine (John 2:1-11)—manifestations of Christ's divinity to the world.

Many traditions surround Epiphany celebrations, which vary from culture to culture. Customs include the Star Singers (children dressed as kings and holding up a large star, singing carols from house to house); collecting money for charity; and the "plundering" and burning of Christmas trees. In the French Catholic culture, Epiphany marks the beginning of Mardi Gras, as "king cakes" are baked and served.

Other traditions include prayers (some offered to "Caspar," "Melchoir," and "Balthasar," the traditional names of the magi); the blessing of holy water; the burning of "blessed" herbs; and the offering of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. (Got Questions)

2023 questions will be on - 'The Rule of God' by Colin Dye.

The kingdom of God and Kingdom of heaven:

- 1. Refers to two different realities;
- 2. Refer respectively to the realm of God and to the realm of the angels;
- 3. Refers to the same realities;
- 4. Are two expressions used in Matthew and not in Luke and Mark;
- 5. Refer to two different eschatological (end times) realities. . (page 13)

Month of December the answer is 'harmless ecentricity';

HAPPY NEW YEAR HAVE A BLESSED MONTH &YEAR Jesus will not leave you nor forsake you