

Followers of the Way

Touching the heart of the Nation

Heather Scammell 23/11/2025

Good Morning Everyone.

Welcome to the last in our series 'Good News For Our Times.' Over the past weeks we have looked at the Reality of Sin and the need to guard ourselves against the influence of a secularised culture. Alice reminded us of the call to be a 'peculiar people' separate from the World and we learnt so much about the symbolism of the Priestly robes. Helen encouraged us with the foolishness of a God who chose the weak, the low and the despised to shame the wise and the strong. Lynn enthused us with the challenge to be "Turbo-charged Gossips and Beaming Lights" as we learn to share the Gospel with the dynamism of the Early Church. Irene-Maria drew our attention to the need to Speak the Truth in Love and Lynda cautioned us to Recognise the Times as we shift seasons (spiritually) and to have courage and stand firm. Having kicked the series off many weeks ago, it falls to me to bring it to a close, so I asked the Lord what He wanted me to talk about and He said, "Touching the Heart of the Nation?" Seriously? I'm at the back of beyond - if I go much further west, I will fall into the sea and be swimming across to Steve and Irene-Maria! I have no interaction with the Corridors of power, how can I speak on Touching the heart of the Nation? But then I realised that perhaps that's the point - remember how Helen highlighted the Foolishness of God? How He chooses the weak, the low and despised? Jesus took a group of misfit fishermen from Galilee, a despised tax collector, a revolutionary (Simon the Zealot) and transformed the world to such an extent that 2000 years later, we are meeting in His name worshipping our risen Lord. So when He says talk on touching the heart of the nation, the first question must surely be, "What **is** 'the heart of the Nation?'"

For a long time, it has been apparent that there is a disconnect between those in authority and the people they are supposed to serve. It is easy to see why the electorate has become disillusioned; Manifestos are treated as wish lists to be ignored once the votes have been counted. Promises to curb immigration - to reduce it to tens of thousands, stop the boats and smash the gangs have resulted in virtually every community receiving its quota of 'diversity' with mosques springing up across the land and a huge upswing in sexual assaults (I believe we are now officially the Rape Capital of Europe,) yet local protests lead to accusations of 'far right bigotry' and the "Church" denounces those who rally behind the cross. The vote to leave the EU was taken as proof positive that we are ill-educated and didn't know what we were doing. The Welsh Government has decided to increase its numbers by more than half and changed the electoral system, openly acknowledging that it is an attempt to ensure the continuation of its progressive agenda, but with no mandate from the electorate. We have MPs elected for their stance on Gaza making blatantly Anti-Semitic remarks, whilst the handful of Jewish supporters at a football match were caged 'for their own protection.' Our Government decided to recognise Palestine as a State despite polls clearly showing that the vast majority of our population is against this; Palestinian and Ukrainian flags proliferate, but the cross of St George apparently makes people feel 'unsafe.' There is a now demonstrable effort to suppress the Christian underpinnings of our Society, Islam is being used by those who see it as a useful tool to destroy our value system, not understanding that Islam is also using them and is likely to come back

and bite them as has happened in other countries - whatever the 1970s Iranian equivalent of Queers for Palestine was, it didn't last long after the revolution.

We have had decades of the hollowing out of Society; a concerted attack on the family, a basic building block of a stable society, masquerading as the 'empowerment' of suppressed women, who cannot now 'choose' to work, but 'must' to keep a roof over their heads and food on the table, so they are obliged to farm their children out, often to do some mundane and unfulfilling task and popping prozac to numb the pain. The alternative is the benefits trap, which keeps swathes of the population dependent on the state because it doesn't pay to work. 'Free' breakfast clubs promote poor quality, tax payer funded food and deny family time round an often mythical breakfast table - how many households even have a dining space, preferring the ease of the tv dinner? John F Kennedy famously said, 'ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country,' but today we live in a Society that promotes self interest above all else, many have lost a connection with 'place' and there is a rootlessness that unsettles any sense of belonging - globalists would have us accept as normal the mass relocation of people from any culture at whim and if we don't readily adapt to the values of those newcomers, then we are to blame. There is an insidious 'mission creep' to subvert and control us; the normalisation of perversion and the marginalisation of Christian values, the 'tolerance' of foreign gods (we know what the Bible says about that!) The rewriting of our History and 'colour blind' casting, which only seems to work one way. Islamic mayors preside over many cities and prayers to Allah precede too many council meetings, whilst Christianity is increasingly marginalised. We are encouraged to be 'our authentic selves' and follow 'our Truth' because there are apparently no absolutes (other than everything that made us 'Great' Britain is inherently bad.) Our hard won Freedoms are increasingly under threat as the Government seek to micromanage every aspect of our lives, including our thoughts.

And then we wake up and wonder where it all went so badly wrong? How has such a massive inversion of all our values been permitted to wreak such havoc in our society? The constraints railed against in the 1960s, suddenly don't seem so awful - the gentle regularity of the village community where everyone belonged and had roots going back for generations is perhaps more attractive than a Government imposed dystopian model. We saw it in Covid - the Church, which has for decades ceded to the State areas which it should have retained, betrayed its weakness by enforcing strictures greater than those requested by Government. It effectively told the nation that we should fear death more than our Lord who conquered death; that preserving our lives was more important than tending the genuinely needy regardless of personal cost and that an ersatz, sterile, dehumanised 'lockdown' existence was just as good as all the personal interactions it so readily overthrew (& never mind those often elderly people who could not access the digital platform, or those of us on our own who got a bit tired of all the couples enthusing about the 'quality' time they were spending together, this was a 'new way of doing Church' and it was so good some preferred to remain closed - 'for our own safety.') You might think, "That's a bit rich when we are part of an online platform, but there is a world of difference between meeting digitally when we are many miles apart and cannot physically come together in the same way and the closure of local places of Worship, sometimes for a year or more. Indeed it is a measure of our God, who really does 'work together for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose,' that He used such a testing time to propel many of us out of Churches that had at best been coasting for many years and given us this community. But the World saw a Church that did not have the courage of its convictions and declared itself irrelevant. In many ways, Covid was just the underlining of a trajectory that had been going on for many years. The values of an increasingly liberal and louche society have seeped into our Churches, the Gospel has been redefined to suit the 'itching ears' of those who want validation of their own proclivities rather than an encounter with the Living God. The

hypnotic beat of the Me, Me Me Society aggrandises self, demands acceptance, tolerance, then celebration of the perverse and finally the censure of those who dare challenge their 'rights' - this is perhaps where we are today.

And yet in the midst of it all God is at work, touching the heart of the Nation. The response to Covid with all its authoritarianism and the fast tracking of agendas that would have been subject to intense scrutiny and resistance in any other circumstances caused people who had not set foot in a Church for years to realise that a very real Evil is afoot in our land. They bought Bibles and started reading them. They started attending Church, often travelling many miles in search of clear Biblical preaching, they don't want a church that regurgitates the bland platitudes of the BBC or the mainstream media, they want the life changing, set the world on fire Christianity of the New Testament, their souls thirst for the Living God. And alongside this we have the cry, "I want my Country back!" The progressives go into meltdown and hiss accusations of 'Christian Nationalism' and 'Racism,' ignoring the variety of skin tones involved, because they are completely in thrall to their progressive ideology, but the truth is that the progressive ideology, beloved in the corridors of power, doesn't work and we can see it. If you are relatively affluent and mass immigration means that you can access cheap workers (no questions asked), give you an affordable Nanny or Au pair and you only meet socially with people who share your political views, then Brexit probably was incomprehensible and multiculturalism is not a challenge. But if you have been displaced because other cultures have replaced your own to the extent that not only do you not belong, but you no longer feel welcome in the place in which you grew up (are there any true cockneys 'born within the sound of Bow Bells' today? Does the Great Bell of Bow even ring, or has it been drowned out by the Islamic call to prayer?) If your child is the only first language English speaker in a primary class, or your teenage daughter scared to walk to school past a migrant hotel; if you can't get a job because you are underpriced by recent arrivals from overseas who are somehow cushioned from the overheads that you have to pay (& that's without going down the modern day slavery and exploitation routes that are also a factor.) If you are stuck in substandard accommodation, but constantly see those who have never contributed to the common purse prioritised for new housing, then you will have a different outlook.

Now please don't take this as a rallying cry against all immigration, there are those fleeing genuine persecution, victims of people trafficking and modern day slavery and many who have been duped into thinking that the UK is a modern day land of milk and honey, only to find themselves stuck in a system that cannot deliver what they have been promised, but we also import those who openly profess the desire to conquer us. Remember that ultimately it is God who controls our borders and wouldn't it be wonderful if those who have come heard the Gospel and came to fulness in Christ, as the Jews gathered in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost? But when a Nation consistently tells its citizens that our culture, our values and our history are so awful they should be subsumed by myriad of conflicting values that are counter to everything we stood for, then we have a real problem. Yet something is stirring in the British psyche, not the corridors of power, but across the land - the streets and alleys, the 'poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame' are responding and where some have predicted riots and civil war, we are seeing prayer and Bibles being handed out and read. We see huge rallies fronted by clergymen with hardly any arrests, but the Lord's Prayer recited and people turning to Christ. We hear of a drive to put Christ back into Christmas. Something is happening and we need to see what God is doing. You may be aware that the Prayer Group has had a bit of a thing going about God of The Breakthroughs; one of the images we had was of a brick wall, with people pushing hard at a solid part, but being directed to where the mortar was weakest because that is where the wall can be brought down. So when we see signs that God is moving, where the mortar is thin, we had better sit up and take notice.

When we think back to the Exodus, it is easy to fast track the story because we know the outcome. But the reality is that all the time that Moses was being rescued from the bullrushes, growing up in privilege and taking refuge in Midian, 'the people of Israel groaned because of their slavery and cried out for help. And God heard their groaning and God remembered His Covenant with Abraham, with Isaac and Jacob. God saw the people of Israel - and God knew.' (Exodus 2:23-24) But that verse comes when Moses is already a man and married to Zipporah, just before his encounter with the burning bush. What struck me when I read that recently was that whilst the people of Israel were crying out, God was already at work, preparing Moses for the role he had for him. The children of Israel, weighted down by their increasing yoke of slavery, could not possibly have known that God was already preparing the means of their freedom; but even as they toiled away, He was working in Moses' life to prepare him for the task ahead. That surely resonates with those of us who have been taking part in the Operation Sovereign Friday Fast to pray for a new Churchill to lead this Country. God has our back, even when we cannot see what He is doing. I find that enormously encouraging. Because the worse things get in this Country, the more people are stirred to cry out to the Living God.

So when God says, speak on 'Touching the Heart of the Nation,' I don't look to the self-appointed, self-aggrandising elites who want to micromanage us. I look to the sort of people I met when I was steward at my local football club. The working people who want to be proud of 'King and Country' and of the God whose precepts underpin our society. Even if they haven't regularly attended Church, many are of an era where Christian values permeated education, although it is interesting that young men, who have no Christian input now seem to be coming to the Lord. Increasingly, people want to know the farmer who produces the food, to acknowledge their labour, their toil and enjoy their fruits within season, not over processed factory produced mush & insect protein. They want to see the rewards of their own labours, whilst supporting the genuinely needy, not a welfare state that disincentivises work.

And they want to recognise our basic humanity - made in the image of God. Not all are God's children unless they have consciously bowed the knee and accepted Him as Lord and Saviour - we are guilty of letting people assume they are OK. A true work-Life balance puts God first, then family, then job.

THIS is where God is moving - the wealthy can still heat their houses, and may raise an eyebrow at the price, but still purchase their Lurpack at over £5 a packet. The poor increasingly try to balance heating or eating. And there comes a point when they can no longer hide the fact that we live in a ghettoised Society, with conflicting values that seek to destroy our Christian identity shouting the loudest. Denying Children in Irish Primary Schools their right to their Christian heritage.

But God is touching the heart of OUR nation.

We 'tolerated' - and our children were abused. We were told that turning the other cheek meant passive acquiescence and it led to a devaluing of our own culture. We 'spared the rod' and children were given too much autonomy, they lacked the maturity to act without boundaries and we all suffer the consequences.

But increasingly we cry, "Enough is enough" and there is a realisation not just that this is a Spiritual battle, but that our God walks amongst us.

Remember John the Baptist - the Voice Crying in the Wilderness, 'prepare the way of the Lord? He baptised Jesus and saw the Spirit descend like a dove, but still he sent word from prison to ask Jesus, "Are you the one to come, or shall we look for another? (Matthew 11.) It isn't wrong

to test any apparent move of God - indeed we are told to 'test everything; hold fast to what is good' (1 Thessalonians 5:21) and Jesus warned against false Messiahs, particularly in the Last Days. But we also don't want to miss out on a genuine move of the Spirit, even if it is a 'dirty, white man van revival' (to quote Chris Wickland.) So we need to be open to the promptings of the Spirit and to be where the 'fields are ripe for the harvest.' There are some translations of the Beatitudes - Jesus' wonderful Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5 which instead of 'Blessed are the poor in Spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven' say 'happy', or 'blessed are those who know that they are Spiritually poor', or 'spiritually in need, for God's Kingdom belongs to people like that.' Perhaps that is a clue to what is going on;

Two thousand years ago, our God reached down to His broken people, not with Royal fanfare, but in the lowliest of circumstances. Today, as we have become arrogant and lost our National identity in Christ, He has given us leaders who have driven the country to its knees. But this itself is an act of love - because Love cannot be programmed, or we would be automatons with no free will. For too long we have been beguiled by a great evil masquerading as an angel of light, but that cloak is slipping - and the heart of the nation is becoming aware that God, in His infinite mercy is revealing Himself to people for whom life may always have been grim, but they didn't know they were under a yoke. We have people who worked hard to obtain UK citizenship - jumping through many hoops to attain the prize - absolutely aghast at the influx of those who openly profess the intention to do us harm

BUT God

In His infinite wisdom uses this to put the spotlight on where we are

He is Touching the Heart of this Nation.

People begin to recognise that for all the appearance of affluence, our Nation is Spiritually poor and morally bankrupt.

Young men are independently buying Bibles, being Baptised, Believing - one Evangelical Church in Manchester has been giving out free Bibles at a street stall for many months & recently reported 44 being taken in one day- pray God that they are read!

So what of US? Are we experiencing this first hand? Are we passive onlookers?

God has called us for 'such a time as this'

That old Chinese curse, 'May you live in interesting times' is suddenly not right - we live in exciting times, exciting because God is on the move - Hallelujah!

Maybe we are weary - we may have prayed for years, yet not seen the answers we want, the soul not saved, the sickness not healed. We have seen once ardent Christians backslide, Churches wedded to the Spirit of The Age reluctant to stand firm in the Faith. We have had our comfort blankets snatched away and are learning to do 'Church' differently (& its not always easy)

We are hungry for solid teaching & the realisation that we are not alone (as with Elijah after Mt Carmel)

But God has called US for 'such a time as this.'

You are where you are now because that is where He wants you to be - unless He is prompting you to move on?

I can't tell you why

I can't speak into your circumstances

But God can

You may be housebound, or restricted by other circumstances - but we are fighting a Spiritual war against “principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this age, and spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places” and you can pray

What contacts do you have? Anna somehow managed to witness to the workmen who came to her house, to service the boiler, to fix her TV. Another godly elderly lady I knew prayed assiduously for every carer who came to tend for her sick husband.

Life is messy - relationships, even Christian ones fail. we grapple with ill health whilst others are healed (but the sick come into contact with myriad health care professionals.) I always try to use manned checkouts, so try to cultivate the art of conversation as a first step towards Gossiping the Gospel, being the turbo charged gossip Lynn urged us to be.

Then there is the challenge of praying in tongues, if you have that gift - two people independently spoke of the challenge of praying in tongues for 15 minutes a day and beginning to see those ‘God incidences’ happen.

And it’s OK to admit that sometimes life IS a struggle - life in all its fulness isn’t necessarily a bed of roses (& the gardeners amongst you will know what helps them to grow!) Because others WILL notice how you handle things, they may feel able to talk to you because they know that you have been through precisely what they are currently experiencing and you can tell them how Christ sustained you. Christ Himself gave up all the Glory of Heaven and dwelt amongst us - ‘He was little, weak and helpless, tears and smiles like us He knew.’ But He came down to touch the heart of our humanity, to open the way for us to enter fully into relationship with God

And now He is touching the heart of this nation - a heart that has been comatose, on life support, is now stirring - a ‘dirty, white man van revival’ is going to shake to the core the propriety of a bloated and self satisfied society - we see it as the levels of corruption are peeled back (look at the exposure of BBC malpractice and rejoice, even as they double down and try to justify so much bias.) There is much to be exposed across our disintegrating way of life as layer upon layer is peeled back - it’s a very large onion, and many will be unsettled, peeling onions makes people cry

but we offer Hope

The Hope of a baby born at a time of political oppression in the most ignominious of circumstances

A Hope heralded by Heaven, but largely unnoticed by the masses, just the outcasts and foreign mystics

A Hope exiled to Egypt whilst children were slaughtered

Hope, growing up away from the seat of Power in far off Galilee

But God was working,

God Is Working

He is touching the heart of THIS Nation, NOW, Today

And He wants YOU to be part of it.

Are you ready?