

Prayer Update 1053

Wednesday 19 January 2022

WELCOME TO 2022

God's word for this year ...

King George VI's Christmas message, 1939 (the beginning of World War 2)

Christmas is a time of light and celebration. But darkness was all around on December 25, 1939, as citizens of the British Empire faced another world war. Amid the gloom, King George VI resurrects a tradition his father launched – an annual Christmas message to all inhabitants of the Empire. In this excerpt from his speech, the King says the Empire shall remain undaunted in the face of war. The speech would go on to be famous. King George VI, not usually a compelling speaker, inspires and reassures his people by quoting a poem:

I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year, "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied, "**Go out into the darkness, and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be better than light, and safer than a known way.**"

These profound words, spoken 83 years ago, are still *very relevant* to the world we live in today! Climate Change effects haven't gone away. Covid hasn't gone away. Worldwide famines, and other disasters, haven't gone away. An increasingly Godless, immoral, unrighteous world, hasn't gone away. In fact, all of these are increasing year by year. But the counsel to: "Go out into [this] darkness and put your hand into the hand of God – this shall be better than light, and safer than a known way", is wisdom for all the time that we are on earth.

The Bible doesn't say that the last days will be good, kind, loving times. On the contrary, we are warned of the testing times the world will increasingly face in the years to come.

PUT YOUR HAND INTO THE HAND OF GOD! Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life!

The gate is narrow, and the road is hard, but He is with us, and He leads the way! And His Way leads to eternal life!

PRAY FOR TONGA

We are all aware of the ravages that volcanic eruptions, on one of Tonga's islands, have caused. Tsunamis have reached New Zealand and other very distant countries, including South America. The sound of the explosion was heard in Alaska. Tonga had waves of up to 15 metres. Three people have lost their lives. Volcanic ash has covered some islands and was 2 cm thick on the airport. The air has been contaminated and water polluted, etc. Communications have been down. There has been huge damage to homes, churches, and other places.

Pray that we, and the Tongan people, and people in other countries, will cry out to the Lord for His help in restoring the islands of Tonga.

Pray that fear will be turned to faith in God for His protection from further disaster.

Tonga has been covid free – **Pray** that this will continue, and that aid workers from other countries will not bring covid into the country.

Pray for New Zealand's help, and the help of other countries, including financial aid.

Pray for wisdom and the abilities of its leaders, advisors, helpers, etc., to do what is best, and be able to do this as soon as possible.

Pray for Tongans who live in New Zealand and who have families and friends in Tonga, and their concern for their welfare.