

Prayer Update 1056

Wednesday 9 February 2022

God's Word for this week ... Proverbs 3:5-6. Psalm 37:3-5. Philippians 4:6-7.

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and feed on His faithfulness.

Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to the LORD, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass.

Do not be anxious for anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

TRUST IN THE LORD ... Some items for prayer:

- New covid rules – present, and in the future. Re-opening New Zealand's borders.
- Effects on vaccinated, and unvaccinated, people – especially restrictions.
- MIQ and home isolation. Hospitalisation of some cases.
- The effects on churches.
- Farmers and orchardists – the urgent need for workers to harvest the crops, fruit, etc.
- Businesses, industries, employers/employees, financial struggles, unemployed.
- Uncertainty – day-by-day, and the future. Supply of essential goods and services.

While the government and news media have held people's attention on Covid, Climate change and the Winter Olympics ...

1. The **Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Relationships Registration Bill** has already been passed. This allows people to 'choose their gender' and change their 'gender' as often as they like. Because other genders may arise later and would require an Amendment to the Act, genders are not defined. Also, parents can choose the genders of their new-borns – a boy may be raised as a girl, and vice versa. Later, the child could change their gender if they chose to.

2. The **Conversion Practices Prohibition Bill** is now in its Second Reading, making it illegal to counsel, pray for, or in any way discuss or persuade a person to change from their 'chosen gender' back to normal male or female – even if the person asks for it! But the discussion of the reverse conversion, changing from male/female to other chosen 'genders' is permitted! The Select Committee has now made its recommendation to Parliament. If it passes its Second Reading it is most unlikely to be changed before becoming Law.

3. The **Incitement of Hate Speech and Discrimination Bill** will probably be debated in the next few months. This is the third Bill in the series:

1. Choose your gender. 2. No-one can help you change your chosen gender. 3. Anything said, which is contrary to the above, could be called hate speech and/or discrimination. Probably the vast majority of New Zealanders are unaware of the above, or the content of these three Bills. There has been very little in the media about them, especially recently.

'PRAY FOR THE NATION' – THE FUTURE

Christians everywhere will always pray for their nation – for the Church, the sharing of the Gospel, for a God-sent Revival, for their Nation as a whole, their Government, and so on.

The time has come for our "*Pray for the Nation*", as an organisation, to pass on the baton and banner to other organisations which God has raised up over the past 50 years, since we started our monthly Prayer Letter in January 1972.

In the next few weeks, probably in March, our weekly *Prayer Updates* will cease, after 22 years (since February 2000). Soon, we will share about where it goes from there. God has called us to pray without ceasing, so *Prayer will continue!*