

TOGETHER WE CAN PUT THE 'GREAT' BACK INTO GREAT BRITAIN

# BRING THE NATION BACK TO GOD



DEC 2019

INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE  
"God With Us"  
Pastor Jon  
Colyer

INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE  
"THE JOY  
BEYOND THE  
CROSS"  
Pastor Wale

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# Welcome to the Christmas Edition



## The Reason for the Season

It is easy to get caught up in the craziness, uncertainty and, lately, tragedy that have defined 2019. With vote after vote on deals, Brexits that never happened, politicians changing party allegiances and the recent tragedy at Fisherman's Hall and London Bridge, the world can seem quite frustrating, uncertain, unfair and dark.

In this edition of the Bring the Nation Back to God Newsletter we have two articles from brilliant pastors Mary Momoh and Jon Colyer. Both have their own powerful message.

Mary explains that by letting Jesus into your heart you can rediscover the joy and the light this Christmas. Jesus is knocking on the door of your heart, will you let him in?

Jon explains that, at his birth, Jesus was God with us. At Calvary he became God for us. And, at Pentecost he became God in us. He did these things so that his spirit might live on inside us.

So perhaps Jesus is knocking on the doors of our hearts, but from the inside, and all we have to do is stop and listen to his voice? Perhaps we have all the stability and hope we need to overcome the outside uncertainty already?

This season we hope you find the time to remember what Christmas is truly about. Listen to your hearts and God's voice and remember the reason for the season.

We wish you a most blessed Christmas and New Year, and we look forward to praying with you in 2020.

## How can I help?

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# God With Us



## *Pastor Jon Colyer*

Matthew 1:23 The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means "God with us".

At Bethlehem He Became God with us

At Christmas time the whole world celebrates the birth of a baby named Jesus. The bible says it so beautifully as child is born but a son is given'. The staggering reality that the son of God, Emmanuel, the bright morning star was born in a stable amongst the lowest of the low; the shepherds.

Can you imagine being one of those shepherds that night? The hope, the validation....that God had come to be with someone like me! Outcast by man, but celebrated by God.

But then came highest of the high; the maggi. They were the wealthiest, the most elite, more revered of society. They were on the complete opposite end of the spectrum of society.

But even the mighty maggi were subservient to him because even as a tiny, new born baby, Jesus was still the king of kings. What a sacrifice that Jesus would be God with us.

Can you imagine the sense of purpose he gave them. Despite all their wealth they were clearly searching for meaning. Nothing else would cause you to travel hundreds and hundreds of miles on a camel in the hope that you might happen to meet a baby.

Shepherds and kings bowed down before Jesus because somehow they understood what we must all learn; when Jesus is in the room you bow your knee for He is the truth that will set you free and He will break every chain.

## BRING THE NATION BACK TO GOD

To do that however He had to be not only God with us, but to become God for us.

At Calvary He became God for us

Hanging naked on a cross, the sins of all the world on his shoulders was this same Jesus who had been so celebrated just a few short years ago. Little did they know in that humble manger that Jesus was 'born to die, rejected and alone'. That the stone that the builders had rejected would indeed become the chief cornerstone and that in His death, we would be saved.

What a sacrifice that Jesus would be God 'for us'. The bible says that it is by grace ye are saved, through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, not of our works lest any man should ever boast'.

.....now he can become God IN us

At Pentecost He became God in us

Acts 2:1-4 (NLT)

1 On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. 2 Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. 3 Then, what looked like flames of fire appeared and settled on each of them. 4 And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit...

Ultimately Jesus was God with us at Bethlehem, to be God for us at Calvary, that He might be God IN US at Pentecost.

The bible tells us of a mystery that was hid from ages and from generations, that had the devil known, he would never have crucified the Lord of glory, but the mystery is Christ IN us, the hope of glory.

All that Jesus did was so that he might come and live in us, and we in Him. What a gift, what a sacrifice, what a praise we owe him.

This Christmas season, lets remember all that Jesus has done for us and make sure that we take some time on our knees in worship to say the biggest thank you we've ever said.

# Christmas, the Season to Return to the LORD.



## MARY ALISON

It is coming to the end of the year, 2019! Some may look back at 2019 as a successful year while others may have misgivings about it. Regardless where you are, in Psalm 65:11 [NLT], God promises to crown the year with a bountiful harvest and cause the hard pathways to overflow with abundance. God is a God of abundance and liberally gives to all.

Christmas is a celebration that crowns the year. It is a time of giving and receiving, shopping, sharing, loving and rejoicing. Most importantly, it is the time we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:16). The God of abundance gave the world His best; His Son, so we mortal men can share eternity with Him. Such love, such selflessness has The Master shown us!

This Christmas season is one of returning to the LORD - returning to the very essence of the reason we celebrate - JESUS! The Gospel account of the birth of Jesus in Luke 2:7 records that Jesus was born and laid in a manger because there was no room for Mary and Joseph at the inn. All rooms in the inn had been taken because of the census that was taking place at the time, so everyone had returned to their place of birth to be registered. A manger is a long trough from which horses or cattle feed, meaning that Jesus was born in a stable. Medically, this is not the most hygienic place to give birth to a baby, let alone the Savior of the whole world. However, this is to show that no matter the state of your heart, Jesus is ready and willing to be born in

it. He says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and heavily burdened, and I will give you rest" (Mathew 11:28).

Like there was no room in the inn for Jesus to be born, many of our hearts are so full of the trappings and worries of this world that there is no place for the Saviour to be born. We are worried about the economy, social injustices, our health, what the future holds, to mention but a few. And in a season like Christmas, we get caught up with the food, gifts, arrangements, celebrations, holidays and the financial worries of how to pay for all the festivities. Like one preacher put it, "we get consumed with the packaging and forget the present which is, JESUS CHRIST".

It is a good thing to celebrate Christmas with family and loved ones but let us not forget the very reason for Christmas. Jesus is the reason for the season. Let Jesus have the center stage in all the merrymaking. You may be planning to attend Carol or Christmas service, but does Jesus have your heart? Christ longs to dwell in our hearts through faith in Him (Ephesians 3:17). In Revelations 3:20, He says, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come into him and dine with him, and he with me." This Christmas, Jesus is knocking at the door of your heart. He wants to come in and dine with you and dwell within you. Will you let Him in? Will you give Him room? Room to be born in your heart? I pray you will, and the God of peace will be with you throughout the Christmas season and always. Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift (2 Corinthians 9:5). I wish you a merry Christmas and prosperous new year.

