

Minister's Message – January 2008

Inconvenient Truth

As I enter the New Year I turn to a new chapter in the book of 'inconvenient truth'. What a wonderful way to start the New Year! I am filled with joy and hope as I turn each page. Actually this is just the subtitle I give to the book called the Bible. God's word is full of truth, truth that is inconvenient to many in the world today.

Many are reading or viewing Al Gores version of the truth. Time magazine put this man forward as the second most influential person in the world for 2007. The most influential was Vladimir Putin, and third place was taken by J.K. Rowling. Such nominations speak volumes about what the world sees as important. Putin is of course a political leader, one who loves power and according to some is ready to do anything to cling to power. Why did Time not nominate Robert Mugabe?

But what of these two authors – if we can call Al Gore such. We have one who writes about witches and wizards, and another who supposedly writes truth, inconvenient truth. One author leads us into the land of fantasy and another calls us to follow him in a crusade to stop sea levels rising and plant earth from burning up.

The Bible is all truth and, inconvenient as it is to many people, it is the unchanging word of God. The Bible is much more fantastic than anything that J.K. Rowling has written. It tells of Jesus, the Son of God who healed the sick, cast out demons and even raised the dead. How fantastic is that! But it is not fantasy, it is truth. The Bible tells us the most wonderful truth of all, that God became man to save us from sin and death. Death is real but in the Bible we read of one who overcame death. Fantastic but true.

The Bible predicts a much greater catastrophe coming upon this world than Al Gore could ever imagine. If he really wants to put fear into the heart of men and women today he should take a page or two from the Bible. Rising sea levels and temperatures a few degrees higher are nothing compared to what Jesus says will soon happen to planet earth. One of his disciples wrote that when Jesus comes again the elements will 'melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up' (II Peter 3:10). It is interesting that people will believe Al Gore but not the word of God.

It is when we view the end, the catastrophic end of this world, in the light of the fantastic life of Jesus, that we find truth, and also peace. I find this truth most convenient and wonderful. Jesus made this planet and Jesus said it will one day pass away (Matthew 24:35). But I am not filled with fear because Jesus also said that those who believe in him belong to a new kingdom, a kingdom that will not pass away but will remain forever.

Despite what Time magazine writes, Jesus is the most influential person in the world – yes Jesus is alive! I hope he influences you. I hope you enter this New Year with the joy and peace of Jesus Christ in your heart, and that you will live each day looking to Jesus who has gone through the barrier of death to take his seat upon the throne in heaven.

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