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July - 2014

Dear Friends,

WHY (On Earth) DOESN'T GOD DO SOMETHING?

*I want for you to be blessed this month, with some words of wisdom from a dear brother in Christ, **Mr Neville Lister**. He has laboured long and hard for the Lord in full time ministry, and just because he may have reached the twilight years of his earthly walk, his interpretation of God's Word, has not! It remains alive and well; **Living and Active**; penetrating right to the very centre of our spirit, to encourage and enlighten us, today and always; just as Jesus said in **Matt 24:35** "**Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.**"*

*So, enjoy this message, sent to you in love from the Lord, penned by Neville, and recycled by JBM! Hallelujah!! I believe you will find a very real **relevance** (a relation between things or events) in the world of today, as we know it and experience it, on a daily basis. Amen!*

*When the New Millennium arrived, for most of the world's population, it was not with joyful anticipation, or hopeful expectation, but with anxious foreboding and fearful apprehension. Men, women, and even boys and girls, have within them a fearful dread, and because of the violence, corruption, perversion and uncertainty, **people are asking, "What on earth is the world coming to; and why on earth doesn't God do something?"** It is not only world events, tragedies, and calamities that are so frightening, but the bashings, murders, rapes, and robberies, in our very own towns, neighbourhoods, and streets, that cause us to cringe with fear.*

***Science**; (that has been so wonderfully helpful in so many ways to we human beings), has created and developed weapons of such massive power and destruction, that no one remains safe anymore, no matter where they live. While they wonderfully enough, can transplant a human heart, the only thing they can do to deter the person 'gone wrong' is to place them in a jail cell, and the country doesn't have sufficient jails to cope with the demand.*

Religion has become a laughing-stock, and a talking-point of ridicule and scorn. After reading in the press of the behaviour of some pastors, priests and ministers of religion, the public have lost all confidence in these religious leaders. Some TV Evangelists have become so corrupted by the mighty dollar that they have degenerated into mere religious entrepreneurs, and glorified film stars.

Cults and religious cranks are prevalent everywhere, brain-washing, manipulating and controlling people's minds and life-styles, in a mind-boggling way; turning people into slaves of mere religious, and superstitious ideas, because of their gullibility.

Television, has taught recent generations how to murder, rape, bash, rob and steal; plus how to effectively conceal the evidence. It has, by its entertaining programmes, reduced adultery to 'having an affair' – turned drunkenness, debauchery and crime into 'having a ball' – and portrayed perversion and wickedness as merely 'an alternate life-style'. Its catch-cry is, 'if it feels good, do it,' never mind about the fearful consequences of tragic broken hearts, broken marriages, or even wrecked lives, which result from the so called pleasures.

Prophecies and Predictions, by weirdos, witches and profit-making forecasters, are all making headline news-items that lead to confusion, doubt, and terrifying anxiety.

Forms of Escapism vary from such innocent practises as - keeping too busy to think about things; or, to the endless involvement in sport, music or entertainment; or to alcohol and drugs that numb the mind into oblivion. We just want to be like the proverbial ostrich and bury our heads in the sand, and thus pretend we don't want to know about it, and sadly, so many resort to suicide, in a state of hopelessness, depression and desperation.

The World Awakes. Up until - around the commencement of the nineteenth century, the world appears to have been like some great sleeping giant, but then with James Watt and his steam engine invention, and the other great inventors such as Emerson, Bell, Marconi, Simpson, and others, **the giant awoke**, stirred into life, and now satellites beam their information from outer space, to all parts of our globe. Sending men in space-ships to circle the earth, is now so common-place, that we more or less take it for granted. Our planes, submarines, and weapons can be remote-controlled, laser-guided and nuclear-powered, nation destroying machines; some even fired by the pressing of a button, by one man, who - one day, could 'lose the plot' in a moment of impatience - and press it.

My Purpose; my real purpose in this article is to urge you to - **obtain a Bible and read it for yourself.** You don't need a great education to read it, and if you will ask God, He will help you to understand it; **for surely it does have the answers for life, as well as for death.**

The Relevance of the Bible Today!

Recently (October 2001), at a crowded mayoral breakfast at Caboolture, a very prominent Australian Rugby League football referee, told those gathered, how he had spent his earlier adult days as an avowed atheist. Eventually, one of his cronies (also an atheist) did an about face, **accrediting his new-found joyful change, to an encounter with Jesus Christ, through reading and believing the Bible.** This referee found this event to be mind-boggling, and decided to simply sit back and watch to see - if it was real enough to last the

distance?? **So convincing was the change-for-the-better**, which he observed in his former atheist friend - **he set out to search the Bible for himself, and he too experienced the radical life-change**, which began to take place throughout every aspect of his life. He continues in his work as a top football referee, but has joined himself to an organisation which exists to promote **interest in Scripture-reading**, since it was **by that simple exercise**, that he and his friend became **transformed**. Hallelujah!

Daniel 12:1 – Speaking of ‘**the time of the end**’ (of this age) says; ‘...there will be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation...’ And the end of verse 4 says ‘...many will run to and fro and knowledge will increase.’ **These things are now happening before our very eyes** and Daniel was told about them over 500 years before the birth of Jesus Christ.

The Answer: - The answer to my original question, ‘**Why on earth doesn’t God do something?**’...is answered in the back section of the Bible, known as, The New Testament!

God Did Do Something! (Read – The Gospel According to Saint Matthew, commencing at chapter 1 verse 18, and right on through to the end). There we read that **God sent His Son to redeem us** and to make us His children. He won’t force anyone, but Revelation 3:20 says that He stands at our hearts door and knocks, waiting for us to invite Him in, to give real purpose in life, and to make us righteous in His sight. **1 John 5:10-13, gives us the source of real life.**

God is Doing Something! He’s **warning us** by the signs, and world events now in progress, that **time is running out, and He’s waiting for us to turn to Him**, as our “**only hope**”.

God Has A Plan! His plan is to have a New Heaven; a New Earth and a New Jerusalem; **where sin is excluded and where righteousness will be the order of everything**. Read Isaiah 65:17-19; and 66:22; 2 Peter 3:1-14; Revelation chapters 21 and 22, and John 14:1-6.

God Will Do Something! Read the Acts of the Apostles chapter 1:9-11; Mark 13:21-37 and 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and 5:1-11. **Jesus Christ will return, and He plans to make all things anew**. When you see the TV news or read the newspapers, and observe that they mainly talk about war, floods, hunger, poverty, wretchedness and misery; remember there is another side to all of this. **God gave a great promise, that to all who will receive His Son, Jesus Christ, and will live to please Him – He will send His Son to take them to be... where there will be no more death, sorrow, crying or pain.** Read Revelation 21:1-8.

Today is the most important day of your life. Yesterday has gone; tomorrow is not here; but we still have today, so let us make it count by making the most important decision of our life, and that is to receive Jesus Christ, God’s Son, as our only hope. We can be a Mohammedan without Mohammed; or a Buddhist without Buddha, **but we cannot be a real Christian without Jesus Christ**. Jesus did not die to make us “religious”. He died to make us “righteous”, (i.e. ‘in right-relationship’ with God), and it is **that**, that brings an **inner peace and joy** that the world cannot give, and the world cannot take away. There have been many people who have been martyred or have died for some noble cause, but this **Jesus of Nazareth** rose from

the dead, and is now seated as Lord and Christ with God in Heaven, until He comes to take His people home. Read Acts 2:22-41; Matthew 16:27; John 14:1-6 and 2 Peter 3:1-14.

God's Universal Invitations! *In Isaiah 55:1-3 and 6-7...God's Old Testament invitation says, 'Ho, everyone that thirsts – come' ...and '...Why are you spending your money on things that don't satisfy...?' In Revelation 22:17 ...God's New Testament invitation says, 'let him that is thirsty – come. And, whoever wants to, come and receive the water of life, (Jesus Christ), for FREE!!'*

*To God be the glory, great things He hath done,
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life our redemption to win,
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.*

*Oh, perfect redemption, the purchase, of blood!
To every believer the promise of God
The vilest offender who truly believes
That moment - from Jesus a pardon receives.*

*Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport when Jesus we see!*

*I pray you have been blessed by your sharing with us, these Words of Wisdom from our Father God, via His obedient servant, Mr Neville Lister. Thank You God and thank you Neville!
Amen!*

Till next month

From my house to yours

Blessings of the abundant kind!

Leila Nord.

