

Revival Centres Church – What We Believe



Our personal experience, and its context in the Bible story is much bigger than we can get across in just a few words.

The Bible is the story of God's dealings with Israel; of preachers, teachers, prophets and kings. It is the story of Jesus, the gospel and the Church. It is a story of miracles, direct insights and transformed lives. Everything covered in its pages is important.

This statement of belief is merely a starting point for the story.

We believe:

- **in the infallibility of the Word of God**
- **Jesus Christ is the Son of God**
- **the Gospel of His death, resurrection, and**
 - **directive to repent, be baptised, and receive the Holy Spirit**
- **we are baptised into the Body of Christ (the Church) through the Holy Spirit, with the**
 - **Bible evidence of speaking in tongues**
- **in the miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit in the Church**
- **in prayer for the sick and healing by the power of God**
- **the Bible instructs the Spirit-filled believer on how to live an overcomer's life**
- **the Bible describes God's plan for this world and gives signs of the soon return of Jesus Christ**



We believe in the infallibility of the Word of God

God's written revelation of Himself to mankind is shown in the Bible.

Human beings wrote the Bible under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit: "holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit".

...surely the Lord God does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets – Amos 3:7

The Bible tells us of:

- God's plans for individuals and for nations
- God's people Israel and God's Son Jesus, the Christ
- The need to repent, and outlines how we are to make our approach to God
- How the church should be run and gives instruction in every important aspect of our lives
- Where we came from and importantly, why we exist, and where we are going
- The history of God's dealing with mankind and foretells events before they become history

Often referred to as the 'Scriptures', or 'Word of God', it consists of the Old Testament (39 books or writings) and the New Testament (27 books or writings and letters).

Is the Bible really the Word of God?

The book says of itself:

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16)

But without meeting the Author, this claim sounds circular.

In the Revival Centres Church we have a great respect for the Bible. We know it to be true because the coming of the Holy Spirit promised in its pages is the personal and real experience of every one of our members. While there are many other 'proofs' of the Bible, it is this personal revelation of the working of God that first makes it so real.

Studying the Bible

There are thousands of religions, all claiming that the Bible is their foundation, yet all saying different things to each other. Even major religions with their own armies of theologians come up with opposing views to each other on what is right.

An academic approach is not sufficient on its own.

The Bible tells us that the gospel must be mixed with faith to be effective. Its study, then the Old Testament only, as an end in itself was not useful to the Scribes and Pharisees of Jesus' day. Their study of the Scriptures did not lead them to Christ – despite the fact that Jesus said the Scriptures (Old Testament) clearly spoke of Him.

The guiding of the Holy Spirit enlivens the study of the Bible. Faith in God makes the Scriptures effective in our lives. The apostle Paul encouraged Timothy to give diligence to his study of the word of truth that he may rightly divide its meaning.

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15)

Jesus reminded His disciples that when the Holy Spirit comes, "He will guide you into all truth".

Being filled with the Holy Spirit makes the Scriptures come alive.



We believe Jesus is the Son of God

The Bible calls Him King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He called Himself Son of God, and Son of Man. He lived on earth around 2000 years ago. Millions believe He lives still. So who is Jesus?

He lived, He died

His mission was to His own people but He was rejected by them. The religious leaders of His day plotted to have Him killed, and succeeded in their plans. Jesus healed people and even raised them from the dead.

He taught people about the Kingdom of God. Jesus showed love, compassion and forgiveness, but also authority and zeal. He rejected the religious hypocrisy of His day and made many enemies.

People left Him in droves at certain points of His ministry. Eventually, even His closest disciples all fled, leaving Him to die completely alone on the cross at Calvary.

He rose again

Unlike every other prophet, He was raised from the dead to live evermore. The angel told the two women at the empty tomb "He is risen"! This phrase reverberates down the centuries and sets Christianity apart from all the philosophies of men and claims of other religions. It vindicates the claims Jesus made about His own divinity – claims for which He was crucified. The claim of His resurrection has been debated for almost 20 centuries, yet is an absolute reality for millions of people today.

He has been paid homage by kings, argued over by theologians and worshipped by millions. His sinless life and atoning death paid the just consequence of our sins. Jesus is the Saviour – the one who saves us.

He sends the Holy Spirit

The very last thing that Jesus told His disciples to do while He was on earth was to wait in Jerusalem for the “promise of the Father”. In the Bible we read of the coming of the Holy Spirit. Peter told the crowd that gathered that it was Jesus who had filled the disciples with the Holy Spirit, pouring out what they could now “see and hear” (Acts 2).



We believe in the gospel of His death and resurrection

‘The Gospel’ simply means the ‘good message’. In the four gospels in the Bible (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) the good news of the birth, life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is told.

He died for you

He knew He was to die. The prophets had foreshadowed the sacrifice He was to make.

When John the Baptist met Jesus for the first time he said: “Behold the Lamb of God, which takes away the sin of the world.” This description had a specific meaning. In the Old Testament of the Bible God had used animal sacrifice as a means of teaching people about the consequence of sin. The Bible tells us that we have all sinned (Romans 3:23). Sin always results in death (Romans 6:23). In the Old Testament, God allowed the death of animals to be a temporary substitute for this death.

Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! – John the Baptist (John 1:29)

However, this animal sacrifice did not solve the underlying problem. Paul the Apostle explained (Hebrews 10) that animal sacrifice was not sufficient to take away sin. God had ordained a perfect sacrifice, one that would be sufficient for all mankind for those that accepted it. That sacrifice was Jesus Himself.

Because all have sinned, and sin always leads to death, we have a great need for a Saviour. Jesus is that Saviour. He died on behalf every human being, including you.

He rose from the dead

The empty tomb of Jesus is the pivotal fact of Christianity. All the claims Jesus made were vindicated in this one fact that sets Christianity apart from all religions. He is risen...

The Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit raised Jesus from the dead (Romans 8:11).

This same Spirit must also live in each one of us (Romans 8:9).



We believe the directive to repent, be baptised, and receive the Holy Spirit

Peter the Apostle told the crowd clearly what must be done for Salvation. Peter specified the response they should have to their newly-found knowledge that Jesus had died for them and was risen from the dead.

Repent ...be baptised... receive the gift of the Holy Spirit

He told them to:

*...Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
(Acts 2:38)*

Repent

To repent is to think again, to reconsider; to change your mind. Accept that Jesus died on your behalf and recognise His love for you. Determine that, no matter what others think, you will do what He requires.

Many people never get to this point. They don't take a moment to consider: what if there is a God? What if His Son really did die for me? Should I do something about that? And some don't get past this point. However, there is a definite next step.

Be baptised

Baptism means to be fully immersed in water. This is a step of faith. It is the result of your "good conscience" towards God (you wanting to do what is right). Paul the Apostle likens baptism to a symbolic burial of your old life; and you coming up out of the water as symbolic of rising from the 'dead', into your new life.

Christening is not baptism. Jesus was baptised in the river Jordan. All baptisms in the Bible were by full immersion in water. No babies were baptised in the Bible – baptism is for people old enough to make up their own minds.

You can be baptised by full immersion at a Revival Centres meeting.

Receive the Holy Spirit

The Bible (Acts 2) tells us that it is Jesus who sends the Holy Spirit. In the Bible, when people received the Holy Spirit, they spoke in new tongues (languages they had not learned). It was this that drew the crowd to whom Peter spoke on the day of Pentecost.

Receiving the Holy Spirit is something definite and unmistakable, and nothing has changed since the Holy Spirit was first poured out. As happened on the day of Pentecost, you too will speak in tongues. God will provide confirmation to you through this supernatural experience. The tiny spark of belief (and hope) you had at repentance is now overwhelmingly strengthened as you receive your personal "Pentecost".

Why do I have to be saved?

Salvation means 'rescue'. In our unsaved state we are dying, but maybe don't recognise it.

We learn to accept that we will die one day, and many of us just hope for the best about what comes next.

But God's answer is clear: accept God's rescue now – not just for a future life, but for a blessed life now.



We believe we are baptised into the Body of Christ (the Church) through the Holy Spirit

In the Bible we read:

For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free – and have all been made to drink into one Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:13)

Receiving the Holy Spirit is essential to join the church. Without this experience, we are not yet in the "one body".

Different terms, same experience

There are several terms used interchangeably in the Bible; all speaking of the same definite experience:

- "filled with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:4)
- "baptised with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 1:5)
- "Holy Spirit comes on you" (Acts 1:8)
- "receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38)
- Holy Spirit to fall on them (Acts 8:15-17)

The coming of the Holy Spirit foretold by Jesus

Jesus prepared His disciples for the coming of the Holy Spirit. He first told them He would be going away, but then gave this encouragement:

*... I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth **with** you, and shall be **in** you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. (John 14:16-18, KJV emphasis added)*

Jesus was speaking of the Holy Spirit. He makes this absolutely clear a few verses later:

*But the **Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost**, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things...* (John 14:26 KJV emphasis added)

The Holy Spirit had been **with** them, but a new phase was about to begin; He would now be **in** them. This happened for the first time on the day of Pentecost. We can read about what happened in Acts chapter 2:

When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place ... And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. (Acts 2:1, 4)

Is being filled with the Holy Spirit automatic after believing?

Some preach that the receiving of the Holy Spirit is automatic upon believing and that therefore whether or not there is an accompanying sign is irrelevant. But in Acts 8 we read of those in Samaria who had “*received the word of God*” but still needed prayer “*that they might receive the Holy Spirit. For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus*”).

Although they had believed and were baptised, they had not yet received the Holy Spirit. Philip, and then the apostles in Jerusalem, were aware of this (meaning it was clear that they had not yet received the Holy Spirit, and also clear that whether the Spirit had been received was something that could be determined by an observer).

When they eventually did receive the Holy Spirit, the occasion was so dramatic that the con-man Simon offered money for a similar ‘power’.



Revival Centres Church meeting

In the Revival Centres Church, everyone has received the Holy Spirit with a definite experience

The receiving of the Holy Spirit should be the confident expectation of all who repent and are baptised. But if you do not speak in other tongues, you do not yet have God’s confirmation on your steps of faith.

Do not settle for any less than the full Bible experience. The apostles thought it necessary to come down and pray to ensure that the Samaritan believers received the Holy Spirit.

We read in the Bible:

But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His” (Romans 8:9)



We believe in the Bible evidence of speaking in tongues

Speaking in tongues is to speak in a new unlearned language miraculously.

The gift of tongues is spoken of prophetically in the Old Testament: *“For then I will restore to the peoples a pure language, that they all may call on the name of the Lord, to serve Him with one accord”, (Zephaniah 3:9).*

Jesus said believers would speak with new tongues (Mark 16:17). Sure enough, when the day of Pentecost came, that’s exactly what happened.

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance (Acts 2:4)

When did it start?

Speaking in tongues first happened on the day of Pentecost, 50 days after the death of Jesus, at the moment the Church began.

Speaking in tongues was the very first utterance made by the Church. It was the first crowd-gatherer at what became the first outreach of the Church. It was the subject matter of the first question asked of the Church. It was also the cause of the first sermon of the Church.

He that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God (1 Corinthians 14:2 KJV)

On the day the Church began, the Apostle Peter explained that speaking in tongues was the sign of the coming of the promised Holy Spirit. He said that Jesus, who had died at their hands and was now risen from the dead, was the One who was sending the Holy Spirit with this accompanying sign.

Is it important?

Speaking in tongues was prominent at the birth of the Church and its use is not diminished by the passage of time.

The gift of tongues has a described role in Church meetings, and its significance for the individual believer is amply demonstrated by the momentous timing of its introduction. Indeed, Paul the apostle, in the midst of instruction to a church that had ‘gone overboard’ in its use of speaking in tongues in public meetings, nevertheless made this statement:

*I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all – Paul the Apostle
(1 Corinthians 14:18)*

The same experience

Receiving the Holy Spirit today is the same as it was then. It is a personal experience. And the same clear and unmistakable 'receipt' is given to all who have received God's Holy Spirit. In the Bible we read of those in the Church having been "*sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise*" (Ephesians 1:13). The Holy Spirit Himself is the seal we are given. Speaking in tongues is the outward manifestation of this inner reality.

Is this for today? Some say that speaking in tongues passed away during the time of the Bible. This is clearly wrong. The Holy Spirit is still being sent to people today, with the same outcome as in Bible days. They speak in tongues.

Is it for you?

Why speak in tongues? Apart from being the unmistakeable and personal evidence of having received the Holy Spirit, and apart from its use in meetings of the Church, speaking in tongues has further personal benefits.

Paul the Apostle spoke of his personal prayer life in this way: "*I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding...*" (1 Corinthians 14:15). The context makes it clear that "praying with the spirit" is him speaking in tongues in his prayer life.

In the last of the letters to the early church in the Bible, Jude, having opened his letter with talk of the "*common salvation*" they enjoyed, gives this advice to the Church during a period when false teachers were infiltrating it: "*But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit...*" (Jude 20). You must be filled with the Holy Spirit to 'pray in the Holy Spirit'. The advice (to all in the Church) was to spend time praying in tongues that they may be built up in their faith.

Some can't see the benefit. But Paul the Apostle was glad that he spoke in tongues. So are we. Rather than rely on religious opinions, ask God to confirm your believing, with 'signs following'.



We believe in the miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit in the Church

Miraculous is the right word. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are not merely somebody being 'good' at something. They are supernatural Spiritual endowments given to believers to assist the Church in its mission.

The Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit distributes these gifts as He determines (1 Corinthians 12:11). As a need arises, any Spirit-filled person has the capacity to operate any one of these gifts. As we walk in the Spirit, we expect the miraculous in our normal daily lives: a word of wisdom here, a prayer for healing there. Apart from the gifts that are called for directly in a meeting (tongues, interpretation of tongues and prophecy), Revival Centres members do not particularly nominate when the other gifts may have been in operation.

What are the Gifts of the Holy Spirit?

The Bible speaks of a range of gifts that operate within the church. For example, from 1 Corinthians 12: word of wisdom, word of knowledge, faith, healing, working of miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, tongues and interpretation of tongues. And from Romans 12: prophecy, faith, ministering, teaching, exhortation, ruling and mercy.

Specific use in a meeting

In 1 Corinthians 14, Paul the Apostle gave instructions on how three of these gifts – speaking in tongues, interpretation of tongues and prophecy – are to operate in a church meeting.

These miraculous utterances under the leading of the Holy Spirit have been set in the church both as a sign to the unbelievers (those not in the church) and for building up believers. Paul wanted to make sure these gifts were used properly so their benefits would flow.

Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church. (1 Corinthians 14:12).

Tongues, Interpretation and Prophecy

Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers... (1 Corinthians 14:22)

Tongues

God has set this Spiritual manifestation in the Church. It is a sign (a supernatural miracle) to those who are not yet in the Church. Paul acknowledged that while everyone in the church **could** speak in tongues (1 Corinthians 14:23), this gift should be used only two or three times in a meeting, and each time to be interpreted (1 Corinthians 14:27). In a Revival Centres Church meeting, at a set time, you will hear this gift being operated, with the companion gift of interpretation.

But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church... (1 Corinthians 14:28)

Interpretation of Tongues

In a church meeting, when the gift of tongues is used it must be accompanied by the gift of interpretation of tongues. In a Revival Centres Church meeting, following each use of tongues, the message in tongues will be interpreted into the local language. As there are two or three

messages in tongues, so there will two or three interpretations of tongues. Interpretation, like prophecy, serves to build up the Church.

Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge. But if anything is revealed to another who sits by, let the first keep silent. For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged. (1 Corinthians 14:29-31)

Prophecy

Prophecy simply means to speak under God's inspiration, not necessarily to predict the future.

Note that **all could** prophesy, but in the meeting only two or three **should**.

Like interpretation of tongues, the gift of prophecy serves to edify and comfort. In a Revival Centres Church meeting, following tongues and interpretation of tongues, the gift of prophecy will be operated two or three times.



We believe in prayer for healing of the sick by the power of God

Prayer for healing by God is His miraculous intervention in the physical needs of our body and of our mind.

It is not 'learning to accept illness', but instead God removing illness. We have experienced in our midst God's answer to hopeless cases: asthma, cancers, epilepsy, alcoholism, anxiety, incurable illnesses. We see today real examples of God's answer to specific needs.

We recognise that until you are healed, you are not healed. Church members are free to avail themselves of medical assistance to treat any needs they have.

Is it still God's will?

God revealed Himself as the healing God – “*I am the LORD, the one who heals you*” (Exodus 15:26 GNT). He calls Himself “*Jehovah Rapha*” in Hebrew – meaning the physician and healer.

Jesus drew great crowds when He was on the earth, not only for the words He said but because He healed “*all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people*” (Matthew 4:23).

The Bible holds many promises regarding healing. In Mark 16 we read about the signs that would follow believers:

they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover (Mark 16:18)

James, writing to the Church, said:

Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him ...And the prayer of faith will save the sick... (James 5:14-15)

The Bible describes Jesus as “*the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever*” (Hebrews 13:8). There are many personal stories of healing in our midst. God has not changed!

Do you need healing?

It can be hard to take the step from hearing about other people being healed to realising that this applies to you too.

At our meetings you will not only hear real people tell their real stories of miraculous healings, but you can be prayed for yourself. There is a specific part of our meetings where people are invited to come forward for prayer.

Take the opportunity and find out personally about our healing God.



We believe the Bible instructs the Spirit-filled believer on how to live an overcoming life

Peter the Apostle wrote to the Church and reminded them they had been given “*...all things that pertain unto life and godliness...*” (2 Peter 1:3).

The instructions given in the New Testament to the Church are different in expectation to those given in the Old Testament (e.g. the Ten Commandments). Under the Old Testament, the expectation was that no-one would be able to live up to God’s ways. That they would continually be coming back seeking forgiveness for failures: “*For the law, being only a reflection of the blessings to come and not their substance, can never, by the same sacrifices repeatedly offered year after year, make those who come near perfect*” (Hebrews 10:1 ISV).

Under the New Testament, with a Church comprised of Spirit-filled believers, the expectation is flipped the other way.

This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them (Hebrews 10:16)

The overcomer

We have a new type of person come into view: the Spirit-filled overcomer.

In Revelation in the Bible we read of many trials and troubles for those in the Church. In each case, the promises are aimed at the overcomer. The one who takes God at His word and, empowered by the Holy Spirit, lives a new and righteous life.

The new life

The new life given to those who have been filled with the Holy Spirit is one where internal and external challenges are met with a desire to be right. This, coupled with faith and the power required to make that a reality, leads to overcoming.

Paul the Apostle encouraged his many converts in the church assemblies to whom he wrote:

Think right

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable — if anything is excellent or praiseworthy — think about such things
(Philippians 4:8)

Act right

... sound doctrine ...sober, reverent, temperate, sound in faith, in love, in patience ...not slanderers ...sober-minded ...a pattern of good works ...sound speech ...not pilfering, but showing all good fidelity ...denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age (Titus 2:1-12)

Be holy

...holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:... (Hebrews 12:14)

But what if I sin again?

Rather than the expectation of failure in the Old Testament, believers now have an expectation of overcoming and victory. But if weakness prevails on an occasion we are reminded of this comfort:

My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous (1 John 2:1)

Lest we become complacent, however, we are reminded also of Esau who

... found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears
(Hebrews 12:17)

and the warning that if we

... sin willfully ...there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins
(Hebrews 10:26)

The Bible encouragement is to take this seriously, revelling in the power of the Holy Spirit, and the comfort that

the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations (2 Peter 2:9)



We believe that Bible Prophecy describes God's plan for this world, and gives signs of the soon return of Jesus Christ

Looking around the world today we see selfless acts for others, beauty, the arts, amazing progress in science and technology, and countless people just getting on with their lives doing good where they can. But we also see misery, injustice, pollution, betrayal, theft, killing and war.

It seems we have this wonderful capacity to shine, while at the same time living with a shadow on our souls. This plays out individually, and it plays out at the level of cultures, peoples and nations. God has shown his wonderful plan for the individual, but does God have any interest in the affairs of mankind at this broader level?

God's plan

God does have a plan not just for individuals, but for the world as a whole. God's plan for us as individuals is covered in detail on our website – www.revivalcentres.org. His salvation is open to anyone – regardless of gender, race or nationality (Galatians 3:28).

God is also interested in nations. In Old Testament times He dealt with Egypt, and He dealt with numerous other tribes and peoples that came into contact with Israel. He also dealt in detail with Israel itself, His "*peculiar* [special] *treasure*", and made promises to that nation, some of which are still to be fulfilled.

The Old Testament nation of Israel figures prominently in the Bible. God made many promises to the patriarchs of this nation – promises that must be fulfilled, if God keeps His promises. In terms of space allocated in the Bible, the unfolding unfinished story of Israel is significant.

The Israel of the Bible was to become a large fraternity of nations and peoples: a "*company of nations*" and a "*great*" nation (Genesis 35:11, Genesis 48:19). We can trace the history of Israel, its scattering among other nations (Deuteronomy 4:27) and God's promises that its people will be "*gathered*" again (Ezekiel 11:16-17). But looking to the modern nation of Israel, it is clear that not all prophecies concerning the Old Testament nation of Israel can be fulfilled there. So is there a broader fulfilment? Has God kept all His promises? The story is fascinating and intricate, covering many Bible prophecies and history over many centuries up until our modern time. See our website to explore these themes.

What does this mean? It means we have a God who keeps His promises – that the promises made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the Old Testament remain true. It means that the plan and promises outlined in the beginning stages of the Bible are still being worked through by God. It allows us to see the coming of Jesus in a broader context (Matthew 15:24, John 1:11); the opening up of salvation to all mankind in context (Romans 11); and the next item on the agenda, the return of Jesus Christ, as part of an unfolding plan for the ages.

Return of Jesus

Jesus Himself said in prophecy that He would return to earth and spoke of His return in detail. The “Second Coming” features in many areas of the Old Testament prophecy that also speak of His first coming.

The angel that told Mary of Jesus’ birth also said that He would reign (as a King), and that He would have a kingdom (see Luke 1:32-33). The only crown Jesus received while on earth was the crown of thorns jammed onto His head prior to being crucified. But there is a kingdom to come. In the Lord’s prayer we read: *“Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven”* (Matthew 6:10).



For as the lightning comes out of the east, and shines even unto the west
so shall also the coming of the Son of man be

Jesus spoke of the signs that would herald His return (Matthew 24, Mark 13 and Luke 21). In summary, these were: false religious ideas, warfare, famines, pestilence (rampant disease), earthquakes, persecution of His people, a lukewarm approach by many of His followers, an increase in lawlessness, fearful sights, Jerusalem surrounded by armies, signs in space, distress of nations with no way out, the powers of heaven (Greek: ouranos, from which we get the word “uranium”) will be shaken (agitated, incited), and that the gospel would be published in all nations. In addition, Old Testament prophets gave other signs: an increase in knowledge, an increase in travel, and descriptions of modern warfare.

Do we know when? Jesus said:

But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. (Matthew 24:36).

Many have tried to predict the coming of Jesus. **All have failed.** The advice of Jesus is to **watch**.



Invitation

We invite you to make contact with your local Revival Centres Church. You can find contact details, personal stories, news and articles at our website: www.revivalcentres.org