### **NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH OF GOD - DERBY**

# Welcome - Worship – Word

### 2024 Theme: The Year of The Word



### 73 - 89 Brighton Road Alvaston Derby DE24 8SZ T: 01332 726031 / 07989527074

Sunday: Monday: **Tuesday:** Every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday **Every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday:** Saturday: 11.00am 11.00am **7.30pm 7.30pm 7.30pm** 12.00 -2.00pm Family Worship Service Prayer Meeting Life Changing Prayer Meeting Men's Ministry Meeting Women's Ministry Youth Ministry

# Highlighted meetings are held remotely on zoom. **ZOOM ID: 879 298 9449**

Charity number: 250306

# **PASTOR'S THOUGHTS**

#### 21.04.2024

### **Praying for Peace**

On the eve of the Jewish Passover and in response to Iran's missiles, Israel sent a bombing message back to them.

This came as a surprise as much of the West had asked Israel not to respond in the name of peace.

This escalation has prompted concerns over regional stability and the wider impact this conflict may cause. Recent reports of explosions in Isfahan and Israel's military operations against Iran have underscored the precariousness of the already delicate situation.

For many believers, the unfolding events in the Middle East hold profound spiritual significance, rooted in the teachings of the Bible. Central to this is the imperative for the Church to pray for Israel. This call to prayer is not merely a suggestion but a deeply ingrained mandate found throughout scripture.

The biblical basis for praying for Israel stems from God's covenant relationship with the nation. In Genesis 12:3, God promises to bless those who bless Israel and to curse those who curse Israel. This principle underscores the importance of standing in solidarity with the nation and interceding on its behalf.

Furthermore, the Bible exhorts believers to pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6), recognizing the city's central role in God's redemptive plan. As tensions rise and conflict looms, the need for fervent prayer for the region becomes more pressing.

Beyond geopolitical concerns, the spiritual significance of Israel cannot be overstated. It is the land of the patriarchs, the birthplace of Jesus, and the stage upon which much of biblical history unfolded. As such, the

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Church has a vested interest in its well-being and a responsibility to lift it up in prayer.

In times of crisis, prayer becomes not just a religious duty but a powerful act of solidarity and faith. By praying for Israel, believers affirm their commitment to God's purposes for the nation and demonstrate their trust in His sovereign control over world events.

Myles Munroe said, prayer is heavenly licence for earthly interference. Luke 18:1 states we...ought always to pray and not lose heart (or give up, or faint) - various versions.

As tensions continue to simmer in the Middle East, let us heed the biblical imperative to pray for Israel. In doing so, we align ourselves with God's heart for His people and participate in His redemptive work in the world.

## NOTICES

Please see the front page for the weekly meeting schedule. All meetings are held in Church unless otherwise stated.

- Prayer Meeting every Sunday from 9am in the Church Hall
- Today! 21 April Alvaston Christians Together Service 6pm -7pm here in church
- Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April Service to include baby dedication.
- Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May: Safeguarding Training: 10am-2pm: Venue: NTCGDERBY. Facilitator: Tina Pokuaah – Kesis Consulting All workers are kindly requested to attend. Please contact Sis Jean Coleman or Brother Peter Archer for further information
- Friday 21 June to Sunday 23June NTCG Nottingham District Youth Convention . Venue: NTCG DERBY
- Friday 26 July to Sunday 28 July NTCG Nottingham District General Convention. Followed by three nights of meeting will guest speakers from the Caribbean.
- Tues 30 July and Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July at Nottingham

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August in Sheffield. District Choir Rehearsals will take place date and venue to be confirmed.

 NTCG National Convention 2024: Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Aug 24 – Sun 25<sup>th</sup> Aug 24 Theme GROW : Venue International Convention Centre, Wales Please visit NTCG National Convention 2024 Please visit Eventbrite to book your tickets. EarlyBird registration ends 30 July 2024.