

## Why this Website?

It is ironic that at a time when Brexit makes the news every day in Australia because it reflects our shared desire for fundamental liberty, there is never a mention of a much more significant need for our *religious* freedom as Christians, to work out our own salvation without being told that we should leave it to the theologians, priests or Popes. Philippians 2:12-13, ‘Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.’

This can be seen in that, even in translations like the King James, we see emphasis on the supposed authority of the clergy, not found in close examination of the original Greek words. So, while the Apostle Paul clearly tells us to work out our own salvation, as we saw, he is translated in Hebrews 13 as implying that that the responsibility is given to those who ‘rule’ over their flocks, Hebrews 13:17, ‘**Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.**’

In fact, it correctly reads, ‘Be **persuaded** [by the evidence of God’s word] by those that **lead** you...’ Similarly, in verse 24 the word ‘rule’ should be translated ‘lead’ from the Greek.

This King James emphasis on authority is in direct opposition to Jesus Christ’s words in Matthew 20:25-28, ‘**But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise **dominion** over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.**’ Somehow, this seems lost even in many modern translations of the Bible, which still use the word ‘obey’, perhaps because many churches still seek dominion over what they think their members *should* believe, today.

While Brexit will eventually be seen to be the most significant thing to happen to Britain in maybe hundreds of years, and represents a betrayal of the people by their representatives who claim to know better what their electors want, a similar *religious* elite have been betraying their flocks for much longer still, quietly foisting off their *traditions* as Biblical dogma, just as did the Pharisees, because most Christians are not prepared to educate themselves in God’s word sufficiently enough to challenge their dominion.

The difference between the two deceptions is that one betrayal has much more immediate consequences for the betrayed than the other. The Brexiteers are anxious to leave because they have personally felt the consequences of being subservient to Europe, though their elite representatives live in a quite different world, set apart from the mundane disadvantages; the national health service overburdened, a corrupt and costly EU, unregulated immigration, ridiculous rules, low wages, foreign religions and customs, and laws made in Europe which overrule British law.

The average Christian, on the other hand, may have noticed shrinking congregations, the growth of atheism, the replacement of churches by mosques, the growth of abortions and LBGTQXYZ, but was never deeply convicted or involved enough to be disturbed.

When they see the loss of Britain's Empire, the increase in murder, violence, knife crime and terrorism, the threatened break-up of the UK and even 'global warming', they don't connect these with Britain's increasing atheism and rejection of God's Commandments because they never really did read the Bible and are quite unaware of its warning prophecies.

If they did, they would realise that these things are merely the forerunners of the curses listed in the book of Revelation, which God has promised to pour out upon those who reject the guide He sent along with His human Creation – the Bible. If you doubt that, read just two chapters in the Bible – Leviticus 26, or Deuteronomy 28. If then you recognise these prophecies are already occurring in the Western Christian nations, maybe it is time to read more about the coming End-Time, on this website!

You may have noticed that I have chosen to remain anonymous, as just 'Ozwitness'. When I found that the minister at the head of the Church in which I was a pastor, back in the 90's, had by his conduct disqualified himself from the ministry, but would not stand down and had secretly gained financial control of all its facilities, I was shocked. I believed I had escaped the tradition of hierarchical control, and so I left and helped found a group of independent churches. However, even then I was to learn that when it came to the crunch over a calendar issue, Church tradition once again triumphed over the word of God in that association. Once again, I left.

I learned the hard way that, like the early Christian churches, we must look directly to Jesus Christ, though they also had the teaching of His Apostles, while they still lived. Now, we cannot afford to look to *any* man or woman, even those who may have raised up the church we attend, because all humans make mistakes and are subject to human nature, and it's quite true that absolute power corrupts absolutely.

As faithful Christians we must look solely to God's word. Take a long look at ALL churches, and where there is a man, or a woman or even a group who set the church doctrine, there will be found biblical error. Even in an entirely independent church, an

ordained minister should not stand between his flock and Christ. He must only point to Jesus Christ and His words! They are his only authority.

So, when I retired as a pastor and returned to Australia I made sure that no-one could look to me, by remaining anonymous in this cyber ministry. There has never been a more important time to look directly to Jesus Christ and His words! Most Christians are so busy looking to their church that Christ is often left outside, knocking, and they haven't even noticed. Revelation 3:20, 'Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.' NIV.

**If we will finally place our trust in Him alone**, we will grow in grace and knowledge. 2 Peter 3:17-18, 'Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.'

Churches which betray their members by looking elsewhere, relying upon the traditions of men, do not build that close relationship with Christ which allow them to pass on the understanding of God's End Time instructions their members will need in the coming dangerous years ahead.

Ask yourself if your church has acted like the British Parliament and betrayed the trust you placed in it to represent its true purpose? Are its beliefs the same as those of Jesus and the early Christians we can read about in the Bible? Does it honour the 7<sup>th</sup> Day Sabbath which even the Gentile Christians kept? Does it teach the Ten Commandments, the true Holy Days they kept, or the pagan holidays like Easter and Christmas, later introduced by the Roman Church? **Are its beliefs** about your eternal future, Biblical or **just traditions**, not found in the Bible?

If they are, perhaps you should read about the End-Time in the Book of Revelation. Please read it, for then, like those anxious Brexiteers, you will gain the incentive to escape the coming Tribulation that the Bible says will wipe out almost all life from this earth. Remember what Jesus said about those who reject His Laws and choose to follow church traditions, Mark 7:9, 13, 'And he continued, "You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions! 13, 'Thus you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many things like that." NIV.

The choice is yours. Matthew 7:21, "'Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.'" NIV.

.....

