



SUGAR LAND BIBLE CHURCH
"BRINGING THE BIBLE TO LIFE FOR 38 YEARS
1982- 2020



THE CORNERSTONE

December 2020

Christmas time at SLBC



The Children and Youth of SLCBC getting ready to pack Christmas Boxes for Samaritan's Purse



Come Join us Sunday December 20, 2020 at 11:00 am for a special Christmas Worship performance!



Missions for the Month

Capturing Poland for Christ

"But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us." II Cor. 4:7 (NIV)

In The USA

Capturing Poland For Christ
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In Poland

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Fall 2020

News from Poland

All of us have been in some way been affected by the virus. In September we had a preaching workshop and pastoral conference in Warsaw-Radosc. People were not wearing masks and we did not social distance. About a week later two pastors, **Jerzy Rogaczewski** from Katowice and **Adam Gutsche** from Torun got sick and were admitted to the hospital in the middle of October. Both of them were diagnosed with pneumonia. Please pray for them as their lives are in danger. Since October 24th Poland has been in the "red zone" which means all restrictions are on again like we had in March and April.

Gregory Bednarczyk, our ministry partner, sent us this prayer request, "My son David who is my associate pastor got sick. Please pray for him."



Dawid Bednarczyk



Jerzy Rogaczewski (first from left)

Grzegorz Gawrych, pastor from Elk Baptist Church, fell while repairing the roof and broke several vertebrae. He was hospitalized for two weeks in September. He has begun to slowly walk but is still on pain medications. Please pray for him. His church in the city of Elk is building a rehab center for disabled children.



Andy Woods—Pastor

Signs of the Times for 2020

(Part 10)

In our first installment, we observed that the Bible places much emphasis on the signs related to Christ's return (Matt. 24:33; Luke 21:28; Heb. 10:25, etc.). Observing these signs helps us ascertain that general time of human history in which we find ourselves. We noted that if the signs of the Tribulation period are rapidly approaching, and the rapture of the Church precedes the Tribulation period, then the rapture must be coming even faster. Thus, we began to ask ourselves, what are some of these signs that are now setting the stage for the coming Tribulation period? We selected the following *seven*

signs as deserving of analysis to be covered in this series:

1. Signs related to Israel
2. Signs related to international politics
3. Signs related to economics
4. Signs related to technology
5. Signs related to spirituality
6. Signs related to society
7. Signs related to understanding Bible prophecy

Therefore, this series is dedicated to exploring the *seven* signs related to the soon return of Jesus Christ. As a result of this teaching, may we all grow in our understanding of the unique time in which we now live. As dealt with in the prior installments in this series, there are several signs meriting discussion concerning the modern state of *Israel* and *international politics*. Moving away from these categories, we now will begin to discuss signs related to *economics*.

3. Signs Related to Economics

According to prophetic Scripture, the last days economic scenario will involve a trend toward both a *global* and *cashless* economy as well as an economy teetering on economic *collapse*.

A Global Economy

Concerning the work of the future Antichrist, Revelation 13:16-17 predicts, "And he causes all the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the freemen and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand or on their forehead, he provides that no one will be able to buy or sell except one that has the mark, either the name of the beast or the number of his name." Here, the coupling of opposites ("small and great," "rich and poor," "free men and slaves") indicates that the day would eventually arrive when a one-world economy would engulf all of humanity. In such a scenario, the individual and national economies of the world would ultimately become intertwined into a one global economic movement. The days are now long gone when the United States could ignore the rest of the economic activity of the world. Today, an economic problem in a small remote country can send the rest of the world into an economic tailspin. In other words, just as prophesied, the economies of the world have become interdependent upon one another. Consequentially, national economic independence is now largely a thing of the past.

George Soros, the quintessential globalist, recently said:

I think the dollar is now under question and I think the system will need to be reformed, so that the United States will be subject to the same discipline as is imposed on other countries....In the long run, *having an international accounting unit rather than the dollar* may, in

fact, be to our advantage (italics added). [Jennifer Ablan and Daniel Burns, "Soros Says U.S. Faces 'Lasting Slowdown,'" online: <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-economy-soros-exclusive-idUSTRE53537D20090406> , April 6 2009, accessed 21 January 2016]

Soros' point is simply this: let us dump the dollar as the lead currency of the world and instead have one currency over the whole world. That way, no country, such as the United States of America, will enjoy economic hegemony over any other nation. Instead, having an international accounting unit will create economic parity among the nations of the world. Such a sentiment is setting the stage for the fulfillment of Revelation 13:16-17.

A Cashless Economy

Also, the same passage (Rev. 13:16-17) indicates that no one will be able to buy or sell unless they have first received a mark on their right hand or forehead. Terry Cooke notes the motivation behind the great push for a cashless economy among the global elites. He writes:

The new world order economists are not ignorant of the importance of cash and its ability to inhibit the control of the world. They are aware that to completely control, track, and monitor the global population they first must eliminate the use of cash. With cash there is no way to know how people are using their finances, whether for or against the government and its agenda, because control of one's finances in essence means control of one's entire life. Advocates of world government have for decades been promoting a move towards cashless transactions via a myriad of banking plans, ATM machines, credit cards, point of sale machines, credit data all funnel through massive computer systems. Eventually the goal is control of all these computers by the economic leaders of the New World Order. [Terry L. Cook, *The Mark of the New World Order* (Springdale, PA: Whitaker, 1996), 203-04].

It is astonishing how rapidly humanity is progressing toward this prophesied cashless economy. Liz Moyer, in *Forbes Magazine*, observes:

Money is becoming more of a concept than a physical entity, and most ordinary mortals have not really noticed the switch. People are using debit and credit cards in more and more everyday situations, from meals purchased at fast food restaurants and fuel purchased at gas stations, to movies, groceries, sundries, highway tools, and clothing. Even New York City taxicabs are rigged with electronic readers. Increasingly, paychecks are electronically deposited, and the money for bills they pay – mortgage, utilities, cable, and phone – are paid electronically as well. Banks offer incentives to consumers for using these direct pay options, which allow them to keep better tabs on their customers and their money. Welfare and food stamps are issued on cards, which can be downloaded at the register or through an automated teller machine [Liz Moyer, "The Myth of the Cashless Society," online: http://www.forbes.com/2006/02/11/cashless-society-cash_cx_em_money06_0214cashless.html, February 14 2006, accessed 14 January 2016].

My wife doled out a little money to me not too long ago. She put a hundred-dollar bill in my wallet. That was about six months ago. Today, that hundred-dollar bill is still there, and it is not because I do not want to spend it. The reality of the situation is that I cannot find anybody to break the bill into smaller bills or change. Regardless of the retailer or the store that I enter, no one seems to have the change necessary to break a bill that high.

We, in our family, bought a new car recently. Just out of curiosity, I directed a hypothetical question to the car salesman that was helping us with the transaction. Off the top of my head, I serendipitously asked him: let us suppose that I walked in here with two large suitcases filled with cash and wanted to buy a car, could I do that? He responded that you would not even believe the trouble that you would be in for doing that. He then indicated that he would have to make a call to the IRS, the DEA because you could be laundering money, and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). He indicated that such a large cash purchase would create for the both of us a total logistical and bureaucratic nightmare. How interesting it is that people who

traffic in cash are immediately today placed under a cloud of suspicion. It is automatically assumed that they must be doing something illegal or immoral simply because they possess a large volume of cash.

Because we use credit and electronic transactions for almost everything these days, now there is an immediate paper trail available exposing virtually everything that we do. Interestingly, if I purchase a book online, suddenly I begin receiving e-mail notifications saying if you like this book, then you will probably like these other books as well. These subsequent email notifications and marketing efforts are astonishingly accurate. They seem to be able to monitor my preferences and tastes with uncanny precision. How are they able to do that? After making the initial purchase, the computer obviously ran an electronic profile on me. However, if I were making all my purchases in cash, then conducting such a digital profile would be an impossibility. So, a cashless society allows for the monitoring and control of the entire population as never before. This is the very scenario that the Scripture predicts will dominant the world in the end times. It is the kind of system that we are rapidly progressing toward. Thus, the movement towards both a global and cashless economy represent key economic trends alerting us to the soon return of Christ.

In our next installment, we will continue to discuss the *economic* signs of the last days by highlighting how our entire present economic system is now teetering on sudden *destruction*.

(To Be Continued...)

Scripture for the Month

Matthew 2:1-11

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

When Herod the king heard *this*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.'"

Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared.

And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found *Him*, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also."

When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was.

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy.

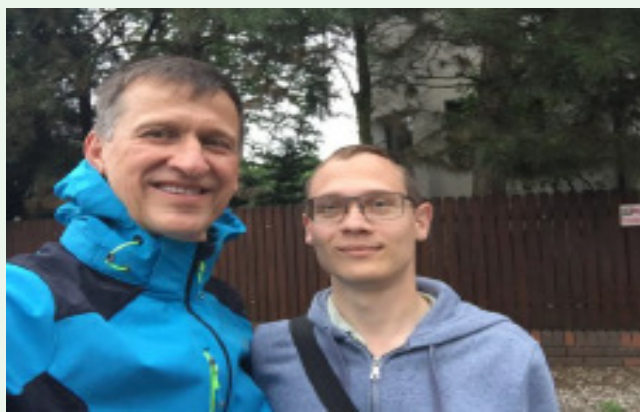
And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Irek Dawidowicz's family member was diagnosed with Covid-19, so he and his wife were two weeks on quarantine inside their home. The police came every day to their home to check if they were home. Praise God I managed to preach every Sunday in our church of Narew as well as churches in Bielsk-Podlaski, Hajnowka and Warsaw during two conferences.

Marek Glodek, who is still serving as senior pastor at Second Baptist Church in Warsaw, is called to a counseling service to the pastors in crisis all over Poland. The church managed to hire a pastor from city of Olsztyn to lead the church and take the pulpit. We have 120 Baptist churches all over Poland and only 80 have pastors. Several are divorced, some have marital problems, and some have problems with keeping the faith or struggling with financial problems. Capturing Poland For Christ helped Marek purchase a car so he can travel all over Poland and be effective in his ministry. We have served several times together in revivals in Poland and Lithuania in the past, serving the people and pastors.



Marek Glodek (first from right)



Piotr with Zhibartas

Lithuania

This summer my interpreter from Ukmerge, Lithuania, seminary student Zhibartas Gaidimaukas, visited us. I equipped him with materials and support for pastors there. I had to postpone our two preplanned trips to Lithuania.

Ukraine

Three years ago we received a Ukrainian family and gave them shelter at our church in Narew. Oleg Horobej and his wife Oksjana managed to leave Donbas (eastern Ukraine) when Russia invaded the area. They are Christians and Oleg has the ability to preach, so he is substituting for me at the pulpit from time to time while I am preaching somewhere else. His son Vitalik and his newly married wife Wiera have joined their parents and are our church members.

However, their two teenage daughters, Lea and Katja, have remained in Ukraine under the care of their grandma and they are their daily prayer request.



Piotr with Horobej family.



Lea and Katja are in the middle.

Family News

Piotrek and Carolina are serving in ministry with PROEM in central Poland. Piotrek, after 8 years in ministry, is called by God to get more theological education. When I was with Carolina on our trip to Texas in 2015, we stopped at DTS campus and had lunch with two dear friends of mine, Greg Hatteberg Director of Alumni Services and Professor Timothy Warren. They encouraged me to introduce DTS to Polish students. Piotrek is the keyboard player with the group EXODUS 15.



Piotrek and Carolina

He is in the final stage of his admission application and applying for a scholarship. God willing, he will begin online studies the winter semester of 2021 and they both are aiming to come to Dallas in the fall of 2021. Please pray for them as Piotrek has a sensitive heart to the people he serves.

Capturing Poland For Christ will help to them financially. As soon as they are accepted and obtain a US visa, I will communicate with you and present prayer requests more specifically. Actually Carolina, who was born in Dallas in 1990, does not need a visa since she has her US passport and citizenship.

(Continued on page 8)

Dear SLBC Church Family,

If you or a family member desire to be baptized, please let us know by responding to this email with THE FULL NAME OF THE CANDIDATE FOR BAPTISM as it should appear on their Baptismal Certificate.

As soon as we have an idea of how many candidates we have, we will send out another informational email with the Baptism Class dates. **Please note that all candidates for baptism are required to attend "one" scheduled baptism class prior to being baptized.** Thank you! **281-491-7773**
SLBC–Office

Please Pray for Ministry Projects

1. Food for the Faithful Project - \$2000

At this crucial time of the year when elderly people are asked to stay home due to the pandemic, I want to visit the pastors and believers who are in need. We will purchase food for them and visit people in Bielsk Podlaski, Narew, Michałowo, Nowa Wola, Hajnowka and Białowieża. Please pray for \$2000, for transportation and purchase of food for them and a new Bible copy for the family.

2. Winter Tires for Pastors - \$1200

3. Material for New Converts - \$1500

We need to replenish Bibles and follow up materials for the new converts. In Poland, a new Bible translation has been printed with the partnership of the Bible League and we want to buy 50 copies.

4. Pray for necessary finances to continue this ministry

We are so grateful to each one of you who are praying for us and supporting us financially. Thank God for your love for the Lord. We keep praying for all of you, for your safety and security and for God's blessings upon your lives.

Finally, brothers and (sisters), pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you"
(2 Thessalonians 3:1)

In His Name,
Piotr Wiazowski



For the health and consideration of other members of our congregation, we kindly ask you to refrain from using perfume/cologne and other scented beauty products. Thank you for understanding.