FROM DEATH TO LIFE **AUSCHWITZ-BIRKENAU**

Fundacja LivingStones

HOUSE OF PRAYER

Bringing Heaven to Earth where HIS and His Will is done

NEWSLETTER & BUILDING UPDATE Nº9: 12-11-2018

Jesus said: "I am the Resurrection and the Life."

Dear Friends,

I want to share a couple of things in this newsletter and building update. The main event is the current state of the Prayer House building, which has been our focus for so much of this year. Tomorrow will be the last day the builders will be on site for the current phase. The roof is on, the porch has been built, and now the main structure of the building is complete. We've reached a BIG, BIG milestone. PRAISE YOU LORD!! There's a lot more work to do and I'll share more about the building later but first I want to talk about something else...

I've been thinking about John chapter 11, the resurrection of Lazarus from the dead. You know the story: Lazarus, the brother of Martha and Mary, was sick and some friends were sent to fetch Jesus so that He could heal him. But Jesus delayed. He waited two more days before He decided to go to Bethany.

By the time He arrived, Lazarus had died. In fact, he'd been dead for 4 days and was already buried in a cave with a big round stone over the entrance to the cave.

When I was having my prayer time this morning I was aware of Jesus there with me, and I kept thinking, *"Lord, if You had been here this wouldn't have happened".* Actually I wasn't thinking of anything in particular, it's just that those words kept going around in my mind. And that is what caused me to look at John chapter 11, because that's EXACTLY what Martha and Mary said when Jesus arrived in Bethany: *"Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."* And you can feel the unspoken accusation, the question that's hanging in the air: **"Jesus, where were You? Why didn't You come?".**

And many of us have the same question echoing in our hearts. It doesn't matter who we are – bad things happen to us. Sometimes really bad things. And as we look at the past, we cry out, "Lord where were You? Why didn't You come? *If You had been here it wouldn't have happened!*".

This is not meant to be a theological discussion. I don't have the answers, just a few observations from the passage in John chapter 11.

It's interesting but Jesus doesn't stop bad things from happening. He didn't stop Lazarus from dying. But when He arrived at Bethany He made a declaration. He said, **"*I am the resurrection and the life*"**. And then He went to the tomb, to the place where Lazarus was buried, and told the people to take away the stone. There are no barriers with Jesus, and there are no places He cannot go. And we all know what happened next. Jesus cried out with a loud voice: **"*Lazarus, come out!*"**. And he came out FULLY ALIVE, FULLY HEALED and COMPLETELY WHOLE.

God's response to the devil's assault is not always to prevent the assault from happening. God has established righteous laws that govern the universe and He cannot violate those laws – especially the law that gives man freedom to choose both good and evil. No – in these cases God's response comes AFTER the assault. He responds to the devil's assault with **RESURRECTION** and **LIFE**. And we come out FULLY ALIVE, FULLY RESTORED and COMPLETELY WHOLE! It's how He does things.

So where was God in the Holocaust? It's the same cry: the same question, "Lord where were You? *Why didn't You come? If You had been here it wouldn't have happened.*"

Like I said I don't have the answers, but I do know from the passage in John chapter 11 how God will respond.

Jesus will respond to the devil's assault in the same way He did for Lazarus – with **RESURRECTION** and **LIFE**. He will come to the tomb, to the place where the Jewish people were buried, and from this place of death they will come out FULLY ALIVE, FULLY RESTORED and COMPLETELY WHOLE. If you don't believe what I'm saying, read Ezekiel chapter 37.

What is this going to look like? I don't know – but this is what the Prayer House is all about!

**** SELAH (this is a musical pause in Hebrew) ****

And now to the building...

We're celebrating the completion of the roof!

This is truly wonderful and amazing and it looks absolutely beautiful. Thank You SO MUCH Father!! A picture is worth a thousand words, so here are some photos of the building taken in the past few days...

First some photos of the outside:









This one was taken standing on the railway line from the direction of Auschwitz-Birkenau looking back.



Now for some photos of the prayer room and the roof inside. Sorry about the mess, but it's not been cleaned up yet.







The last photo is the view looking out of the Prayer Room, through one of the large balcony doors facing Auschwitz-Birkenau.



So where do we go from here..?

About 6 weeks ago, when there was still a lot of work to be done on the roof, I was in the bathroom thinking about what to do next. *"Should we stop and wait for the spring?"* And immediately I felt the Holy Spirit say, *"Do I tell you to stop?"*. And I thought, *"no You didn't."*

So this is to let you know that we will continue with the building works into 2019.

The next big step will be to seal the building – hopefully before the cold weather sets in. This means foam insulation under the roof (on the inside) and 34 windows and balcony doors. This should also enable work to be carried out inside the building, even when it's cold outside.

Finally, we want to say a BIG THANK YOU to everyone who has stood by us and supported the work that the Lord is bringing to birth here – through your prayers, through your visits to us here in Auschwitz, and through your heartfelt giving. That's so precious.

With love and blessings,
Mark & Cathy

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