

This Kingdom's Only Hope

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is arguably one of the world's greatest sovereign states. Britain is home to some of the most beautiful scenery and places in the world. We have a rich history and one worthy of celebration and embracing. The influence we have had on the world greatly outweighs the size of our island. From the Magna Carta in 1215, which set the foundations of democracy to the largest empire the world has ever known. From great leaders such as Cromwell and Churchill to national heroes such as Nelson, Wellington, Elizabeth I and Sir Francis Drake, Britain has been a blessed nation.

The British once led the way in social and political reform from noble and ethical motives. The 7th Earl of Shaftesbury, Anthony Ashley-Cooper campaigned for better working conditions for children. In 1833 he introduced the Ten Hours Act. This meant children working in the cotton and woollen industries must be aged 9 or above and no person under the age of 18 was to work more than 10 hours a day, and no more than 8 hours on a Saturday. The Act of Parliament also meant that no person under the age of 25 was to work nights. Ashley-Cooper introduced a number of Acts to protect children and adults. His work was due to his strong Christian faith and commitment to God. Another Act he introduced was Mines and Collieries Act 1842. This legislation outlawed women and children working underground in a coal mine.

Another Christian figure that led the way in reform was William Wilberforce. He made it his life's mission to see the slave trade abolished throughout the British Empire. By the grace of God an Act of Parliament was passed in 1833 which brought an end to the abhorrence of the slave trade. This country is home to the world's bestselling book. The Authorised Version of the Holy Bible is largely the work of one William Tyndale who risked his life to translate God's Word into the common language of England. No other book has changed lives more than the Holy Bible. Queen Victoria said that the Holy Bible was the secret to her success as a Monarch and the reason behind Britain's greatness. Sadly these days we have forgotten the Book that blessed our nation and made it once feared and respected. Today the Bible is trampled underfoot. Britain promotes sin, wickedness and corruption in the corridors of power. This nation has forgotten God. We must repent and give heed to Holy Scripture.

I was born in this country and I love my country dearly. However I am saddened to see what this once great nation is now turning into. As I love my country I will speak the truth in love. I will declare to you in love and our nation's leaders that there are consequences of sin. Britain is in many ways a beautiful country but spiritually Britain is an ugly nation and becoming an ever growing cesspit of sin. Just read the newspapers or turn on the TV. You will see wickedness every day. We are a fallen and sinful people. Jesus said in Matthew 15:19, "For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander." We have a heart problem. The problem is sin, only Jesus Christ can wash our hearts clean from sinfulness.

Psalm 7:11 says, "God is a righteous judge, and a God who feels indignation every day. The Bible says God is angry with the wicked everyday. God is holy and just. He must punish and avenge all unrighteousness of men. The ultimate judgement of God is eternity in Hell. But I do not want you to perish in your sin. John 3: 36 says, "Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him." The Bible teaches that the only way to have the wrath of God removed from you is to repent of sin and trust in Jesus Christ alone for salvation. In Luke 3 the Bible warns us to 'flee from the wrath to come.' We cannot prosper as a nation or as individuals while in open rebellion against the living God. My hope and prayer for this country and the people of this country is to be saved.

The Bible warns in Psalm 9:17 that the wicked will be cast into hell and all the nations of the earth that forget the Lord God. Our nation is showing the upmost contempt toward God by the lack of desire for the knowledge of His ways. The Bible says God will bless those who follow Him. It is my earnest prayer and hope that the people of Britain will turn to God and consider His ways. I want to see Britain prosper and grow in righteousness. The only way that can happen is if the country is convicted of sin and repents. It is time for broken Britain to return to the Maker's instructions.

Jesus Christ, truly God and truly man, shed His blood on the cross for sinners. The sinless Saviour died and rose again for sinful men and women. All who repent and trust in Christ will be forgiven of all sins. The God given gift of eternal life in Heaven cannot be bought or earned by works, it is a free gift. We all need a Saviour today because we have all fallen short of the glory of God. You need the gospel, your only hope is the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ.

By Nathan A. Hughes