

REPORT PS 24.7 OPEN HEAVEN CONFERENCE MELBOURNE, GREATER UNION MOVIE THEATRE 24-26 JULY 2007

Hosted by Centre for International Reconciliation and Peace led by Ps Norman & Barbara Miller
Report by Ps Barbara Miller

Ps Tom Hess ministered powerfully in Australia in 2000 in Brisbane and Sydney and in 2006 in Cairns. This year, Tom and Kate blessed many as they ministered in Melbourne. Tom gave excellent teaching on Jewish-Arab Reconciliation, Altars and Covenants, Joshua Generation and 24/7 prayer, praise and worship. Kate did some beautiful dances for us, one carrying a small Jewish boy. Ps Paul Lee and his wife Ps Diep-Thanh are even more enthusiastic about raising up 24/7 prayer in Melbourne now.

Melbourne has the biggest Jewish population of any city in the Bethany Gate so it was a strategic place for our conference. It has one of the largest number of holocaust survivors of any city in the world also. We chose Melbourne for the conference because it was the site of the first Federal Parliament in Australia and was Australia's capital for many years.

We were blessed with the preaching of Ps Lawrence Hirsch, head of Celebrate Messiah in Australia and pastor of a significant Messianic Jewish congregation in Melbourne. We were also blessed with the Celebrate Messiah team leading the praise and worship each night under Ps Phil Plotnek who writes his own music and has a number of his own CDs.

Tom and Kate had just come from a couple of days ministering in Sydney at a weekend workshop on similar topics to what Tom was preaching in Melbourne. Barbara organised Tom and Kate's visit to Sydney via Ps Robyn Peebles of Good Shepherd. Because Robyn was standing for Parliament, Ps Tom invited Robyn to Israel for a 2-day JHOPFAN Government Leaders Track, including meeting at the Knesset, the Israel Parliament. Robyn is standing in Bennelong, Prime Minister John Howard's seat.

Ps Norman and Ps Barbara Miller organise a Ps 24/7 conference each year around 24 July – Cairns 2003, Parliament House Canberra in 2004, Uluru, the heart of Australia in 2005, the Sydney Opera House in 2006 and Bendigo and Melbourne back-to-back in 2007. The Bendigo 24/7 conference was preceded by a Prophetic Worship and Intercession School. A strategic prayer journey for the 2-hour drive from Bendigo to Melbourne was prepared for those attending both conferences.

Ps Tom spoke in 4 sessions. The first was on Reconciliation between Jews and Arabs. He talked about the 12 apostles going out to the 12 gateways to take the gospel and Melbourne having the largest Jewish population in the Bethany gateway. He shared on Isa 61:6-7 and Isa 19:23-25. He said Christian congregations in Egypt were praying for Gaza and 2 Lebanese Christian congregations were praying over the border with Israel.

Ps Tom also spoke on the Joshua Generation and said the theme of the All Nations Convocation in Jerusalem this year was Restoring the Hearts of the Fathers to the Children and the Children to the Fathers. He shared from Mal 4 and said there were 3 aspects of this:

1. We need to turn the hearts of Gentiles to our Jewish fathers.
2. We need to turn the hearts of non-indigenous Australians to the Aboriginal people as fathers in the land. He said he would like to believe for 100 churches in Melbourne to pledge \$1,000 each to fund 2 indigenous chaplains for 1 year.
3. God's about to bring a generational release from the Moses to the Joshua generation. Luke 21:24. This generation is preparing the way for the King of Glory.

This generation shall not pass until all things are fulfilled – that's us. The signs are there said Tom. 1967, when Jerusalem was reunified under Jewish rule after the 6-Day War, was the beginning of the last generation.

Ps Tom also spoke on God's covenant with Israel and the church and on 24/7 prayer, praise and worship. He said that when David put in 24/7 prayer, the borders of Israel were extended from the Nile to the Euphrates because there was an **open heaven**. Abraham built 4 covenantal altars – Seichem, Bethel, Hevron and the Temple Mount.

Ps Norman said the 24/7 conferences each built a highway from a different part of Australia to Jerusalem – Cairns to Jerusalem in 2003, Canberra to Jerusalem in 2004, Uluru to Jerusalem in 2005, Sydney to Jerusalem in 2006 and now Melbourne to Jerusalem in 2007 (Isa 62:10)

The Melbourne Open Heaven conference was held at the Greater Union movie theatre 24-26 July right in the Melbourne CBD. As host, Ps Norman Miller spoke on the conference theme – Open Heaven. Norman opened the conference by honouring indigenous Christian pioneers like Ps Sir Doug Nichols.

Jason, the grandson of Ps Sir Doug Nichols read out his speech when he was made governor of South Australia. A voice over of him being inaugurated was played. Sir Doug's daughter Lillian Tamiru was also there and Aboriginal pastor Neville Lilley and chaplain Jean Phillips. Barbara honoured William Cooper who was the founder of Aboriginal Sunday which became Aborigines Day and then NAIDOC of which we are celebrating the 50th anniversary.

Indigenous –non-indigenous reconciliation occurred with Ps Rob Isaachsen introducing Rev Neville Lilley who preached on the Good Samaritan. He had been struggling to get support from Melbourne churches for indigenous chaplains and some Aborigines in jail were becoming Muslims because of Muslim chaplains. We tookup an offering for indigenous chaplaincy and raised \$2715, the highest of any offering we took during the conference. This provided a real breakthrough.

There has been a breakthrough result in the first Aboriginal from the stolen children to be awarded compensation by a court. This has established a precedent. Though it was in SA, the man lives in Victoria and Ps Phil Bradley believes the Open Heaven conference paved the way for it spiritually.

Again, we sowed into the city where we had our conference, not only with our time and prayers, but also our money.

There was some beautiful worship and dance. Three Melbourne churches took turns leading the worship in the morning and a dance team from Thailand and Singapore blessed us and the Lord. On the last night, we did a prophetic act with Jill Curry reading out her prophetic word from Cairns last May at the Bethany Gate All Pacific Prayer Assembly and the dancers placing crowns on a flag of Australia. Barbara then read out the decree written for Bendigo which was to have Australian and international significance and put Melbourne's name on it and a new date of 26 July 07.

The Premier of Victoria, Steve Bracks and his deputy premier officially announced their resignation the morning after the conference finished. Three people told us they thought this was a result of our conferences – Ps Paul Lee, Jill Curry and Ruth Webb. Bracks was replaced by Mr Brumby from Bendigo. The Lord had given Barbara a word before leaving Cairns that the conferences were going to be strategic and that "illegal government "would be removed but she thought it would just be in the heavenlies. Barbara incorporated this into the decree. What did these leaders do? Bracks introduced the Religious Vilification Act that Muslims used the take two Christian pastors called Danny and Daniel to court for teaching what is in the Quran.

Ps Col Stringer gave messages on God's glory and on God calling us to arise. He also spoke on the 800 lighthorsemen and the need for godly men to come forth in our nation and issues of character.

Jill Curry gave a message on the lighthorse and Barbara did on the anniversaries, noting the battling anointing, the sacrifice and the nation-building anointing in the formation of the modern state of Israel and that God wanted to establish his throne over Melbourne as well as Jerusalem.

Ps Lawrence Hirsch gave a message on how the split occurred between Messianic Jews and other Jews and Messianic Jews and Christians. It was great to meet some Messianic Jewish youth who attended at night and Tenile and Aaron were keen to work with indigenous people as Tenile's dad had been led to the Lord by an Aboriginal pastor in country NSW.

Barbara gave a message on God's Plan for Melbourne which involved spiritual mapping and an analysis of prophetic words over Melbourne. The prophetic words mainly said that God wanted to pour out revival and His glory on Melbourne but there was also one of judgement that an angel had been waiting a long time to activate the armies of heaven on Melbourne's behalf but not enough prayer was going up on behalf of the city for this to occur. It's interesting that 2 nights earlier that week Barbara woke up feeling that a battle was going on in the heavenlies over Melbourne and that she was meant to commission the armies of heaven to battle so she did this at the conference. Part of the redemptive purpose of Melbourne is to be a place of racial harmony and also to fund the church. She roared like the Lion of the Tribe of Judah because Ps Diep-Thanh saw the lion do that in a vision prior to the conference. We warfared for the prophecies to manifest.

We brought together 3 intercessors leaders – Maree Wilson of Intercessors for Melbourne, Sue Tinworth from Transforming Melbourne and Jason Golden from Catch the Fire for the intercession and we brought together pastors, some of whom wouldn't normally work together. Three different churches shared the morning worship leading – one each morning.

We did strategic prayer over Melbourne with Maree Wilson facilitating it under Barbara's guidance as Melbourne people needed to stand in the gap for their own sins. Topics covered were:

- o Repentance for Batman's treaty, a broken covenant with Aborigines and repentance for treatment of Aborigines generally, recovenanting Melbourne to the Lord & repentance for treatment of Chinese
- o repentance by Chinese for what they'd brought into Australia including standing in the gap for the Chinese mayor of Melbourne.
- o Repentance for Melbourne's turning its back on men of God & running some out of town
- o Repenting for the sins of city and closing the gates to what is not of God and opening gates to King of Glory
- o Prayer for the nation and elections

We are grateful to David and Carol Jack and their son Andrew of Melbourne for much of the practical work that made the conference a success as well as our team from Cairns and the Melbourne churches who participated in this national conference.