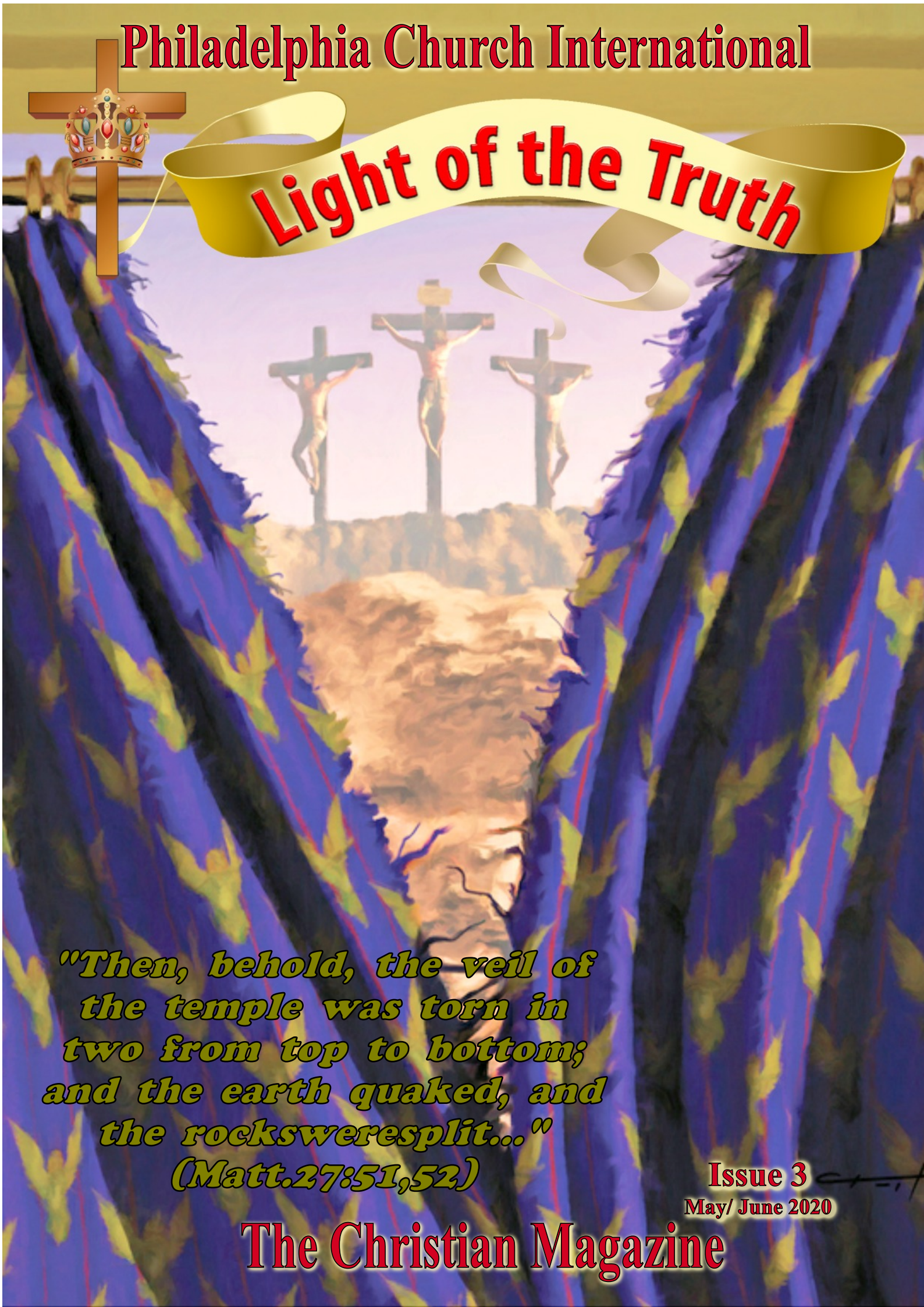




Philadelphia Church International



Light of the Truth



*"Then, behold, the veil of
the temple was torn in
two from top to bottom;
and the earth quaked, and
the rocks were split..."
(Matt.27:51,52)*

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The Christian Magazine



Light of the Truth

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Issue 3 May – June 2020

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

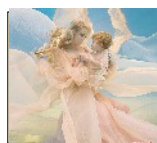
“Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’... For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness... (Matthew 6:31-33)

By speaking these words, Jesus is letting us know that our Heavenly Father wants to be involved in meeting our needs, both spiritual and physical. He gave two instructions: ‘do not worry’ and ‘seek’. So, as we face different challenges and needs, we can ask the Holy Spirit to help us ‘not worry’ and ‘seek’ and we will see God’s provision and help: “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” (Matthew 6:33). May our faith be strengthened as we see His goodness to us!

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Great Is His Faithfulness!

All who receive the Lord Jesus,
In the new spiritual birth,
Need never fear the latter days—
Days of great trouble on earth.
God is faithful to His children,
He loves and cares for each one;
In His Kingdom our needs are met...
As we abide in His Son.
Great Is His Faithfulness!

Not one thing can separate us
From the love of Christ our Lord;
Not earthquakes in diver’s places,
Nor famine, peril, or sword;
He’ll never leave, nor forsake us,
O why should we fear or doubt?
We’re safe in the palm of God’s hand...
And no man can pluck us out.
Great Is His Faithfulness!

In His time, our Lord shall return...
We shall hear that trumpet sound
And rise to meet Him in the air—
United on Heaven’s ground.
Face to face we’ll thank our Savior,
There in that glorious place,
And praise Him through eternity
For His mercies and His grace...
Great Is His Faithfulness!

Connie Campbell Bratcher

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ !

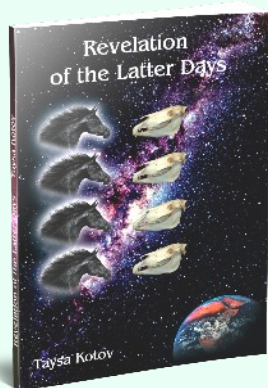
We would be very pleased to receive letters from you and any testimonies about how God is working in your lives, about any miracles and signs you have experienced on the path of following Christ, or while you were searching for Him. Please send your letters to us and we will be glad to publish them in our magazine. The editor has the right to edit all material which is sent for publishing, but the content will not be changed. Unfortunately we are unable to return any originals.

Attention!

Anyone who wants to know what time he is living in, what is happening in the spiritual world and how it is reflected on the earth, about which God wants to warn His people speaking about the last days and the approaching end (Apocalypse) through the Apostle John and Prophet Daniel, can read about this in the book “Revelation of the Latter Days” which was received from God and written down by the pastor of Philadelphia Church, Taysa Kotov.

At the present time the book is available to purchase for the retail price of £5.50 or EURO 7.70. For churches who would like to place a larger order, a discount is available.

You can register your interest by writing to our postal address or e-mail (see back cover) and we will contact you.





"Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many" (Matthew.27:51-53)

"Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many." (Matthew.27:51-53). There were some very interesting events that occurred at the time when Jesus Christ was crucified.

The first one that I would like to focus our attention on is the darkness that was over the whole land for three hours while Jesus Christ was still alive: *"Now when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour."* (Mark.15:33). This event was not meaningless. It was a testimony that the Light had come into the world and people rejected It. They condemned the Light to death, It was rejected and crucified and darkness covered Israel, a darkness that manifested itself physically.

This darkness was a manifestation of the kingdom of darkness. All of hell had descended in order to triumph over the Son of God, believing that it had managed to kill Him. Hell was preparing to meet the Son of God as one defeated, because at that time Jesus was clothed in human flesh and was, therefore, mortal. He had also taken on Himself all the sins of the world, which meant that as a consequence, He was going into death and hell as the Son of Man and would not be able to leave it. This is what they assumed and so anticipated their victory.

It was so hard for Jesus at that time, because He felt Himself surrounded by the darkness of hell and forsaken by the Father: *And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" which is translated, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"* (Mark.15:34) Jesus could see in the spiritual realm the triumphing forces of hell, He could hear their mockery and ridicule and how they were celebrating victory. It was not hidden from Him; the spiritual world was real for Him. In addition to all His physical suffering, He also felt loneliness, rejection and being forsaken by His Father while at the same time hell had opened its mouth in order to receive the Son of God clothed in human flesh.

Until that time, no one had ever risen from death in the flesh and none were able break the bonds of hell. Sin had absolute power over everyone who fell into the abode of death, and this would be especially true for the Man Who had taken upon Himself the sins of the whole world – He would be doomed to eternal imprisonment. At least, that is how it looked to the kingdom of darkness. Paul describes that no evil power from the kingdom of darkness could have known what God had prepared: *But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory, which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear*



heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." (1 Corinthians 2:7-9). The Father kept this plan a secret from everyone, and none of the spiritual authorities in the heavenly places perceived the wisdom with which God sent His Son to Earth. If they had known they would not have crucified Jesus, since this was their final defeat and not the victory that they were celebrating ahead of time. All that God intended to accomplish and how He was going to deprive hell and death of their power was hidden from the kingdom of hell and death, from the whole world and even from believers.

While the darkness was over the whole land and triumphing in its victory over Christ, something took place in the ninth hour that was unbelievable and unexpected for the kingdom of darkness: *And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit. Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.* " (Matthew.27:50-53).

When Jesus entered death, He entered with the power of the victor, not as one defeated. Everything that the prince of the kingdom of darkness expected did not take place. Jesus descended to death with a question to the powers that had been overcome: "*O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?*" (1 Corinthians 15:55). The sting of death is sin, and Jesus had put sin to death in His Body on the cross, taking the sin of all mankind upon Himself and putting it to death in His flesh. In its place, He gave forgiveness to mankind and with His Sacrificial Blood washed away all sins from those who received His Sacrifice. How can one be condemned whose sins have been taken away? *Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.* (Romans 8:33-34)

The Cross of Golgotha condemned and destroyed sin, it removed the authority from the devil and justified the chosen ones. However, at the moment Jesus died, the energy of life that was in Him as the Son of God in Jesus Christ, was released as a dynamic explosion of God's power and the darkness that had been over the land for three hours had to retreat. He was released from the mortal flesh He had received as the Son of Man during His time on Earth, and entered His former state of the Son of God but with greater power and authority: *And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in*

heaven and on earth. (Matthew 28:18). Paul also describes this event: *But made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.* (Philippians 2:7-11)

This power which broke out of the Flesh of Jesus, was released as an explosion of energy, and the waves from this explosion spread across the earth and tore the veil of the temple in two: "*... The veil in the temple was torn in two...*". The sin that had separated man from fellowship with God had been washed away. This was the veil that had protected sinful man from the danger of being before the holiness of the living God without the blood of the sin offering. As it is written in Hebrews: *It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.* (Hebrews.10:31). The veil was torn, because now man can be covered with the Sacrifice, through Christ and receive free access to the Father whilst being in Christ, having forgiveness and salvation.

The next event that took place when the energy of God was released from Jesus Christ was the shaking of the earth: "*... and the earth quaked...*" This means that the mightiness of God which was released for the Earth, shook all the powers of darkness, which had kept the Earth in a curse and death for so many years, keeping mankind in ignorance, in the dark. Sin had power and authority over those living on the Earth, until Jesus took this victory from hell, setting the chosen ones free from the power of sin.

Even "*... the stones were split...*". What took place here is the breaking of strongholds, the breaking of hearts of stone. The hearts of man, which had become as stones, as written by the prophet Ezekiel, were broken: *Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and do them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God.* (Ezekiel 11:19-20). Hearts of stone are incapable of obedience, of accepting the truth, and do not hear, do not see and do not accept. Jesus was confronted with such hearts when He was preaching in Israel: *For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, lest they should*

understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them. (Matthew 13:15). Hearts of stone are incapable of repentance, of accepting their own guilt, and only the power of the Spirit of God, which came out at Golgotha, is able to break the heart of stone.

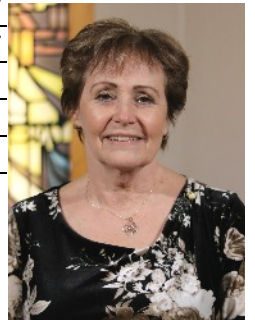
Paul describes what happened on the cross during the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, exactly what we preach today, about the power of God that was released, and not just any power but the mighty acting power of God: *For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. (1 Corinthians 1:18).* In the Greek text, the word "power" is written as "dunamis," that is, what took place on the cross is the dunamis of God, which means might, power in movement, in action. This is how the word dunamis is translated from Greek (*link below). 'δύναμις', meaning (miraculous) power, might, strength. (a) physical power, force, might, ability, efficacy, energy, meaning (b) plur: powerful deeds, deeds showing (physical) power, marvelous works. It was this that was released at Golgotha and began to operate on Earth and now is in us.

...and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all. (Ephesians 1:19-23). It is that power, moving, changing everything in its path, powerful, mighty, dynamic, which is now in

us. After the Spirit of the Son of God came down to the Earth, it became possible for us to receive Him and have Him in us. This mightiness resurrected Christ and those holy ones who were waiting for His appearing, as it is written about the first resurrection with Christ: ... and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many. (Matthew 27:52-53)

We are expecting our resurrection and we are resurrected by the same mighty power, not just at the end of our lives but this power is carried in us and can even work through us. This is the Spirit of Christ, the Spirit of life from God. This is what happened on the very day when the Son of God and the Son of Man were crucified on the cross at Golgotha. That is why Jesus' last words were that it was finished: *So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit. (John 19:30).* It was finished when the mightiness of God, which had once been bound in the Body of the Son of Man in Jesus Christ was released: *Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many. (Matthew 27:51-53).*

* link for Greek translation:
https://biblehub.com/lexicon/1_corinthians/1-18.htm



Pastor Taysa Kotov
(translated from Russian)

Great sign of the wife Revelation of the latter days

"She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron..." (Rev.12:5)

"Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth. And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born. She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne. Then the woman fled into

the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days." (42 months) (Rev.12:1-6).





As we already know, a wife is a church with a revival in its womb. On the very eve of the birth of revival, a dragon appears in order to prevent it from appearing. The revival has not yet begun, but the dragon has already risen, who stands before the wife in order to devour the baby whom the wife must give birth to, that is, before the revival, Satan will rise in the power of the dragon. He will attempt to prevent the appearance of the baby, although he knows that she will certainly give birth. But he is preparing to devour it, to prevent revival in its very beginnings, in infancy.

However, his intention will be disturbed. It is said that the wife will give birth to a baby, and he is sent to shepherd all the nations with an iron rod, that is, he has been sent from God to be born, and grow to the level of maturity, to shepherd with an iron rod, and no force can resist this. The revival will certainly take place: "She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron..." (Rev.12:5). But after some time, at the end of the revival, the spirit of revival will be taken from earth to heaven: "...And her Child was caught up to God and His throne." (Rev.12:5). The church-wife who gave birth to this revival, that is, the church through which the revival was brought into the world, will be preserved by God in a miraculous way: "Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days." (Rev.12:6).

The time of the revival will be accompanied by a spiritual battle, which, in fact, is a battle with the dragon in the sky. And at the end of the revival, the dragon will be cast down to the ground and begin to pursue the church-wife. This will begin at the end of the revival, John describes the battle with the dragon itself, how Michael the Archangel and his Angels will fight the dragon and his angels: "And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death. Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath,

because he knows that he has a short time." (Rev.12:7-12). You could say that this is the result of the revival of the last time.

The defeated dragon, realising that he has little time left, begins the serious persecution of the church-wife, the very one who gave birth to the child and freed the revival. He rushes to pursue the wife. However, she will be hidden by God from him. She will be given a prophetic word from God, according to which she will hide, the wings of the eagle speak about this - this is God's revelation for salvation: "Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male Child. But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood

after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood. But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth." (Rev.12:13-16).

The church-wife will be completely unnaturally hidden and fed by God for some time. However, the revival will not end so quickly. It will still continue, although not with the same force. And then the dragon will begin its information war: "So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood." (Rev.12:15). The spewed flood is the information battle, it could be called slander, launched after the wife. But the people will not accept this information. Earth is made up of nations, and they will not follow after this information: "But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth." (Rev.12:16). And then, the dragon, in full rage, will begin to fight those who were born during the revival. There will be many of them, and the testimony of the gospel will not yet end in the power of the Spirit of God.

This will be the message of the Angels, they will testify of judgment and warn of the danger of worshiping the beast, which indicates that the beast will already appear. Exposure of the beast, its true face and the consequences of the marks placed by it will be preached: "Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth-to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people- saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication." Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation." He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name." Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them." Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe." (Rev.14:6-15). Until the gospel is preached throughout the earth, there cannot be an end to time. So the time of the revival, or the pouring of the last rain on the earth, will be throughout the earth. And it will be preached to absolutely everyone, as recorded in the sixth verse: "Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth-to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people..." (Rev.14:6).

It is also the time of the beast and the false prophet, however, the witnesses of God preaching the eternal gospel will not yet be taken from the earth. They will rebuke, condemn and warn the people, persuading them not to accept the mark of the beast, and will also testify that the kingdom of the beast, Babylon, has already fallen and will not stand forever: And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication." Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation." He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have

no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name." (Rev.14:8-11).

And then, when God sends His Angel of harvest in order to reap the harvest, the time will begin, of which is said that: "Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them." (Rev.14:12,13).

This will happen at a time when the dragon will give his strength to the beast, that is, the antichrist will appear in the arena, as described in the previous chapter. He will contrast God's miracles with his miracles, seducing people, urging them to follow and worship the Antichrist. As Paul once described the opposition of the Magi to Moses, so it will be repeated in the latter days, but he will not last long, the judgment of God will come down on him, in due time: "Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, disapproved concerning the faith; but they will progress no further, for their folly will be manifest to all, as theirs also was." (2Tim.3:8,9).

So, at the end of the revival this difficult time will begin for believers, of which it is said that the believer will be saved until the end. It will be harvest time, when the Angel of harvest will put his sickle on the ground in order to reap. This is not the ascension of the church from the earth, which all believers expect.

"Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority. And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast. So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?" And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been



written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.” (Rev.13:1-8). It seems that the beast that emerged from the sea is a spirit, a system of the beast, at the head of which, of course,

there will be an individual.

A wound on one of the heads of the beast, which is said to be fatal and suddenly healed, may be the economy. The head is the control, the influence of the whole system of the beast. And one of the goals from the point of influence, is most likely the economy, or the monetary system, which will be in trouble. The economy will be completely destroyed before his appearance, but with his arrival the mortal wound will be healed, that is, he will restore everything, and this will shock the nations, and all will bow to him, recognising his power.

All who live on earth will acknowledge and bow to him, those who did not accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour, those who were not sealed by the Holy Spirit, as described in the Revelation of John, that in the beginning the Holy Spirit will seal His own: "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads." (Rev.7:3). In the Greek version there is the word "sphragizo", which is defined as "preserved by the seal", that is, all sealed by the Spirit of God will be preserved by this seal from seduction, and all those whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb will worship the beast: "All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.” (Rev.13:8). Those on whom there will be no seal of the Holy Spirit will

accept the authority of the Antichrist over themselves and affix his seals and accept his system. He will be active for forty-two months: "...and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months.” (Rev.13:5). Exactly the same amount as it says about the wife hiding in the desert: "Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days." (42 months) (Rev.12-6). His authority will be strengthened by a false prophet: "*Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived. He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666." (Rev.13:11-18).*

Pastor Taysa Kotov
(translated from Russian)

Lesson №2

Genesis. Chapter 2.



In the first verse it says that everything was already created by God: heaven and earth, and all of their hosts: "Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished." (Gen.2:1).

The words "host of them" suggest that we are talking both about the luminaries that accompany the earth, and about the Angels who are in control of the earth and watching over the fulfillment of God's

ordinances: "Can you bind the cluster of the Pleiades, or loose the belt of Orion? Can you bring out Mazzaroth in its season? Or can you guide the Great Bear with its cubs? Do you know the ordinances of the heavens? Can you set their dominion over the earth? Can you list up your voice to the clouds, that an abundance of water may cover you? Can you send out lightnings, that they may go, and say to you, 'Here we are!'" (Job.38:31-35).

Heaven dominates the earth, and the whole army of heaven is subject to the statutes of God. This statute contains the covenant of God with His Israel: "Thus says the Lord, Who gives the sun for a light by day, The ordinances of the moon and the stars for a light by night, Who disturbs the sea, And its waves roar (The Lord of hosts is His name): "If those ordinances depart From before Me, says the Lord, Then the seed of Israel shall also cease From being a nation before Me forever." Thus says the Lord: "If heaven above can be measured, And the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel For all that they have done, says the Lord." (Jer.31:35-37).

On the seventh day of the week God rested from His works: "And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made." (Gen.2:2,3).

The word "rested" means that God was making His creation for six days and blessed and sanctified the seventh day. The seventh day is called rest day, it is a blessing for man. On the seventh day, a person is determined to come before God and communicate with Him. "Sanctified" - means "separated for Himself". The seventh day does not belong to man, this is a day dedicated to God, therefore man does not have rights to it, he cannot dispose of it at his discretion, cannot enrich himself on this day by doing work. Even the cattle on earth should rest on this day, because God set this day aside for Himself, sanctified and blessed. It is a true blessing to be able to spend the day in God's presence, to be in His peace, which is a symbol of the eternal peace awaiting us. Each holy seventh day proclaims to the world that eternal peace awaits it. Isaiah wrote: "If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, From doing your pleasure on My holy day, And call the Sabbath a delight, The holy day of the Lord honorable, And shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, Nor finding your own pleasure, Nor speaking your own words, Then you shall delight yourself in the Lord; And I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth, And feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father. The mouth of the Lord

has spoken." (Isaiah 58:13,14).

The following describes the greenhouse period of time on earth: "...before any plant of the field was in the earth and before any herb of the field had grown. For the Lord God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was no man to till the ground; but a mist went up from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground." (Gen. 2:5,6).

During this period, God created man Himself, personally, from the dust of the earth: "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being." (Gen.2:7).

"Dust", the Hebrew word "afar", means "dust" - a synonym for everything small and insignificant. This is, as it were, emphasized for the humility of man. Only after God breathed in the face of a person created from the dust of the earth, the breath of life, he became a living soul, that is, an independent person, independent means "to become a living soul."

Further it says that God planted paradise in Eden: "The Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed." (Gen.2:8)

The word "Eden," in Sumerian, means "plain", and among the ancient Jews this word was associated with a word that is homophonous meaning "garden of pleasure." When it says: "The Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed.", this gives us an understanding that the garden occupied some part of the plain, and not the whole of Eden, as evidenced by the consideration of the word "paradise".

This word, in Greek, sounds like "paradiseos", it is borrowed from the Persian language. This word means "fence" or that which is "surrounded by a fence." It can be a park or a garden. So God planted paradise in Eden, that is, a garden in Eden, or the garden of the Lord, a garden planted on the plain, and placed man there. Although at that time all the land was already covered with vegetation and wildlife, but preference was given to the garden in Eden. This place was set apart on earth for God's fellowship with man. Paradise was a place different from the whole earth in that it was in it that two trees were planted - the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. These two trees are spoken of in the same way as man, specially.

"And out of the ground the Lord God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil." (Gen.2:9).

If it is said about all the trees that God sprouted them from the earth, then these two trees are spoken



of separately, as being placed in paradise, not grown from the earth: "The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil". The tree of life is a symbol of immortality, in the east it also meant the highest wisdom: "She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her, And happy are all who retain her. The Lord by wisdom founded the earth; By understanding He established the heavens; By His knowledge the depths were broken up, And clouds drop down the dew. (Prov.3:18-20), "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, And he who wins souls is wise." (Prov.11:30).

The tree of the knowledge of good and evil, based on the similarity of the Latin words "peccatum" (sin) and "pomum" (apple), is usually symbolically represented by an apple tree. With the eating of the fruit of the tree of knowledge, a person loses "moral innocence." If God called one tree life, and from the other, He warned not to eat of it, for the reason that, having tasted it, you will surely die, then it can therefore be symbolically called the tree of death. Having tasted the "forbidden fruit" from this tree, man opened up access to the world for dark forces, gave authority to the destructive elements of chaos, over which he has no power. The consequences of this act are truly catastrophic for both man and the whole creation.

"Now a river went out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it parted and became four riverheads. The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one which skirts the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold. And the gold of that land is good. Bdellium and the onyx stone are there. The name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one which goes around the whole land of Cush. The name of the third river is Hiddekel; it is the one which goes toward the east of Assyria. The fourth river is the Euphrates." (Gen.2:10-14) Here it is necessary to observe the fact that one river came out of Eden to irrigate paradise, and then it was divided into four rivers. This symbolically speaks of Jesus Christ as the source of living water, from which four rivers will emerge, that is, the four Gospels are the rivers of life that have come from the same source. The revelation of John speaks of a fountain of living water, to which the thirsty are called: "He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life." (Rev.21:6). Jesus testified of Himself as the source of living water. In the one who drinks it, it also turns into sources, that is, into rivers: "...but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." (John 4:14).

The name of the rivers also gives us a definition of their spiritual meaning and combines in one concept

the Good News, that is, the Gospel. The first river is called Fison, that is, "pouring without cost," the second - Gihon - "stream, breakthrough, key", the third river - Hiddekel - "living water", the fourth - Euphrates - "sweet water". Here is a general description of the rivers flowing from the single source - pouring without cost, key, living water, sweet water. We can find all this in the promises to those who will come and drink from the source of living water: "To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life"(Rev.21:6), "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." (Matt.16:19). Wisdom descending from above is called fresh water, and he who has it exudes fresh water from his mouth: "Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring?" (Jam.3:11)

The following describes the creation of a woman: "And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." (Gen.2:18), "And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man." Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh." (Gen.2:21-24).

In this place, the secret of creating a woman from a rib taken from her husband is described. In a literal sense, an edge - in Hebrew "tsela" - means "face, side of a geometric figure, essence". As the rabbis understand this place, in the beginning the man and woman were created in one body, that is, they were one person in order to love each other and feel as one. She was taken from her husband and therefore named wife. Literally, it was taken from "ish" and is therefore called "isha." This indicates their unity and community, therefore they should be as one flesh, experiencing love for each other, as for themselves.

The second chapter ends with these interesting words: "And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed." (Gen.2:25), that is, the author wanted to emphasise their purity and innocence. They did not have a concept of sin, had not yet tasted the knowledge of evil, therefore they were pure in their relation to each other, and their nudity did not provoke any lustful thoughts in them, but was perceived by them like all the surrounding nature, as pure beauty.

The Bible study session is led by Pastor Taysa Kotov
(translated from Russian)

About our Church



Philadelphia Church International was established in London in 1995 by the wonderful and powerful prophetic word of God which spoke about its beginning. Members of the church are from different countries all around the world, but mainly from the former republics of the Soviet Union.

Philadelphia Church follows a charismatic path, or the path of the first apostles. The type of our ministry and its characteristics are described in the Revelation of Apostle John: *And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, 'These things says He who is holy, He who is true, "He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens": "I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name. Indeed I will make those of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie — indeed I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you. Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth. Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown. He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name. He who has an ear, let*

him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." (Revelation 3: 7-13)

Each of the churches described in the Revelation of John has an Angel of God at its head who defines the anointing - the type of ministry. The ministry of the church depends on its development in the Spirit of God. Our church is called "Philadelphia" upon the revelation of God, because in the basis (foundation) of our church lies the Love of our Father God, which fulfils the new commandment of Jesus Christ: *A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.* (John 13:34-35)

The word 'philadelphia' is translated from the Greek language and means 'brotherly love', so the name 'philadelphia' itself speaks of our ministry. Just as the disciples of Jesus Christ, we try to fulfil His commandments of love for others with our lives and deeds. Brotherly love is shown through the support, help and sincere understanding of the needs and sorrows that close ones are going through. Everyone who comes into our church soon begins to feel that they have found a Christian family.

The church began with just nine people who became the living stones of its foundation. During the time of its existence the church has grown and widened. Today the church continues to be filled with new believers who are dedicating their lives to our Lord Jesus Christ. And God testifies by His Spirit that it is only the beginning of His plan about us.



He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward...
(Matt.10:41)

Dear brothers & sisters in Christ!

By the great mercy of our Lord God we have all been given the opportunity to be a part of the missionary ministry in Israel, Switzerland and Ukraine where by the will of God our brothers and sisters are working for Him.

A missionary fund to support this ministry has been opened and is successfully working in our church. If the Holy Spirit places on your heart to be part of this mission then you can send your donations to the church address.

Come to Me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest (Matthew 11:28)

Today God is calling you to become part of His family. This is a call to salvation which is also for you, our dear reader. We will be glad to see you.



Our Services:

- Su – 13:30 – main service, lunch, question & answer time on spiritual subjects, Sunday School
- Mo – 19:00 – youth services (house groups)
- Tu – 19:00 – prayer service
- Fr – 19:00 – prayer and Bible study



How to find us:

We meet at Seven Kings United Free Church which can be found on the corner of Meads Lane and Norfolk Road, Seven Kings, Ilford, Essex IG3 8NU

Nearest underground station:
Newbury Park (Central Line)

Nearest mainline station:
Seven Kings

Buses:
364 (stops on request on Meads Lane)
86 (stop at Seven Kings station)



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