



encouragement, empowerment, evangelism

spiritual message is the Bible Belt? And if the Bible Belt is significant, then how crucial is the role of the church in Tulsa - often described as the 'Buckle on the Belt'? Tulsa churches need to wake up and respond to the call. They have so much more of a Christian 'foundation', and the freedom to show it, than most of the world enjoys. We need to get back to biblical Christianity and give Jesus his church back. Churches are too entertainment-centred & controlling. So many are Christian social clubs prioritising keeping people happy, passive, and on their membership lists rather than making disciples. Wake up, Tulsa! Shake off your complacency and take responsibility for taking the gospel message and the Christian life to the world. We need you!

*"The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward." Matthew 10:41
- often quoted by Pastor Kenneth during my visit to Faith Temple.*

Thank you!

I want to say a big 'thank you' to the people and pastor of Faith Temple, for receiving me with such love and for responding to God's work through me; to the Directors and supporters of Heavenfire Ministries, who enabled this work to happen; and most of all to God, who again did the surprising thing (sending me to Tulsa), and showed up in power



Cake at "Farewell Chris" supper

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He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward him for what he has done. Proverbs 19:17

Credit card donations can be made through a secure facility on the web site.

Cheques payable to Heavenfire Ministries. Donations to support the itinerant ministry of Chris Wade are also very welcome.

Chris welcomes invitations to minister in the UK or abroad and is available for consultation in matters of faith and church.

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*for our God is a consuming fire
Heb 12:29*

Sent to Serve and Save in Tulsa

Wednesday 27 January as I sat down to watch TV, God spoke.

"Perhaps you should visit your buddy Kenneth in Tulsa. It'd be good for him, good for the church, and good for you. At least one month, maybe three." Isn't it great when God speaks, unexpectedly! The day I telephoned Pastor Kenneth to share it with him (it happened to be the third day!!) was the last day of a twenty-one day fast in which he was calling on the Lord to send help! In that phone call I learnt that he'd lost his darling wife in a car accident not long before. He was calling out to the Lord for help and encouragement, for direction for the church, and for new power to set people free from the powers of spiritual oppression. The cry of the Israelites went up before God (Ex 2:23), and he hears us still.



Faith Temple sanctuary

Kenneth and his church confirmed the call, so we began planning the date for me to arrive in Oklahoma. We asked the Lord to tell us when I should go. In bed that night the Lord said to me "March 20". I waited until our next 'phone call, for Kenneth to speak. When we did, he said "Well, I've been feeling that springtime would be good". I pressed him further. "Well, Easter is April 4 this year, and I feel it would be good if you could come, say, 2 weeks before that?" Look it up!

So, to move forward 3 months (I was there 19 March - 11 June). From the incredibly generous comments I received from both pastor and people of the church, and from the wonders I saw with my own eyes, I returned to England fully confident that all three of Kenneth reasons for crying out were met by God's work through me!

Back to Pastoral Ministry

Preaching up to three times per week in a pastoral setting was a challenge, as for the last 7 years I've been out of pastoral ministry on the mission field. Pastoral preaching, though similar to evangelistic/apostolic preaching is subtly different, yet I enjoyed this very much. I also really took to being back in pastoral ministry generally, which quite took me by surprise!

Leaving church leadership in 2003 was like laying down not only one burden but also the many burdens that some Christians expect their 'Pastor' to carry for them. Again, as every leader knows, grievances are usually directed at leadership, whether fair or not. Being based at one

church for almost 3 months and being given full freedom to minister pastorally was pretty much a return to church leadership - and I really enjoyed it! Reflecting back, it's quite amazing how much I have changed in my values, perspectives and approaches - in the time I have been out of the church role. I 'had a ball!' Just don't expect me to go back into full-time pastoral ministry any time soon!

Word and Works

So what happened there in Tulsa? Looking back at Pastor Kenneth's objectives, you could reasonably think that they wouldn't be easy to meet. You'd be right! Yet the Lord time after time gave me the *rhema* word to get to the heart of matter in counselling, preaching, and in personal evangelism. In similar vein, day by day I was led to restaurants, supermarkets, and other public places - *even a jacuzzi* - to speak with people who the Lord had placed there for me. Sharing the Word, witnessing about God's amazing works, and giving personal words of encouragement or prophecy was a daily thing! Some of these 'divine appointments' were even in Telugu - the language of the region of India where I have spent so much ministry time these last 10 years! Talk of finding a 'needle in a haystack', and I was led to 3 such opportunities!

The church really needed a few more committed 'younger' people. Being so much 'in tune' with Pastor Kenneth, yet very different in our respective giftings, really seemed to give the church - members and visitors - a big boost. I know it worked for Pastor and me! In church and outside it, I was privileged to help a number of teens-to-thirties come (or come back) to faith, and they look like committing to the church. Salvation is so much more than just 'turning to Christ'. In salvation we are given forgiveness, heaven, prosperity, healing and deliverance! Faith Temple embraced this, and we saw miracles! Rebuking and turning aside a tornado happened twice. On both occasions (once while I was preaching, the other whilst in bed) even though the tornados caused quite a bit of damage round about us, they didn't affect us (Ps 91:7). Spiritual opposition came and went - that serpent, Satan, being stirred up by the power of the preached Word and the presence of heaven's fire. On one occasion, at the peak of spiritual attacks, I even had to deal with the threat of a literal snake - a dangerous cotton-mouth viper - just before a key church service!

So many miracles of healing took place that I know I didn't make note of them all. I did however post frequent news updates of events at www.twitter.com/heavenfirechris. This is open to anyone wanting to read, without need to register. I always take great care not to make unreasonable



Matt (R, with girlfriend), made an amazing recovery, including broken bones healed after motorbike crash.

claims of miracles, & one aspect of such reports being in the public domain is that hype or exaggeration would soon be found out!

Hospital Staff Amazed!

Frequent miracles are a normal experience for me on the mission-field, but in the setting of pastoral ministry it almost blew me away! Healing of broken bones, strokes, heart problems, a punctured lung, chronic head pains, terminal cancer, parasite infection, and so many more all were seen and recorded, and perhaps the most amazing thing is that every one of these mentioned here was verified by hospital consultants! There were many more! I have never been in and out of hospital so much. Staff in the triage department came to recognise me and would lean across and whisper in joyful amazement to colleagues when they saw me again. Yet, as I'd enjoy saying to them - "It's not about the Man of God, it's the God of Man!". Some



Nicole's dislocated shoulder was instantly healed when I called at the petrol station where she works, on my first Sunday.

people were healed or received God's provision in other ways (e.g. financial blessing or restored relationship) by ministry over the 'phone - on a couple of occasions even without me speaking to the sufferer directly! There wasn't a service where we didn't have testimony!

America's Exceptionalism: Tulsa's Time

I have many more observations and anecdotes from my time in Tulsa, and much more to reflect upon, but I'll finish with just one insight into another reason God sent me there. I found myself saying the same thing to a number of pastors and members of various churches. Later, I was told that preachers from around the world were saying a very similar thing at Oral Roberts University when they gathered there for a leaders conference. I feel very strongly about this, and I know it to be from God: here it is. America is exceptional. It has an exceptional role in the world. America's role (as God has revealed it to me) is as Gatekeeper and Security Guard of the Kingdom of Jesus. For this role to be met, America needs to be strong - politically, financially, economically, and militarily. Personally, I don't agree with the way in which some leaders go about achieving these strengths, but the *response* is not always the same as the *call*. America is exceptional, and her strength needs to be primarily in the spiritual realms, because the battles of the last days are, and will be, spiritual. America has a new sense of identity post-9/11, and a growing awareness of being part of, yet a leader in, the world community. If America is to answer God's call, the nation needs a spiritual wake-up! If America is exceptional, then how much more significant to this