

**News and Current Events :: 6.3 earthquake in Christchurch new Zealand - potential fatalities - please pray****6.3 earthquake in Christchurch new Zealand - potential fatalities - please pray - posted by Mikeydarev (), on: 2011/2/21 21:04**

Hey guys

A few hours ago, Christchurch NZ was rocked by a 6.3 earthquake that was only 5km deep and about 20mins drive from town centre.

Deaths have been reported but unconfirmed. Please pray for this city and for our country...

Pray for comfort for the people, for the church to rise and serve, for people to turn to Christ during this time...

"When your judgments come upon the earth, the people of the world learn righteousness." Isaiah 26:9

God bless y'all

Mikey

Re: 6.3 earthquake in Christchurch new Zealand - potential fatalities - please pray, on: 2011/2/21 21:04

Yes, will be praying. Also very pertinent scripture you quoted.

Also Evangelist Ray Comfort grew up there.

Re: - posted by RobertW (), on: 2011/2/21 21:23

I believe this is where Bro. Andrew Strom has been staying. Not sure if he is there now. Been praying for him and the family tonight.

Re: , on: 2011/2/22 2:03

Andrew's in Australia Brother.

Earthquake in "Christchurch"

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-pacific-12533291>

Re: - posted by RobertW (), on: 2011/2/22 3:35

Thanks for that update. I noticed Jacqui had replied and said they are in Melbourne and are ok. Praise God. Looks like those dear people in the earthquake zone will need some serious prayer.

Re: , on: 2011/2/22 9:10

Amen. Seems the whole world is reeling and shaking right now. All of the world needing prayer, and we can do that, gladly.

Re: , on: 2011/2/22 11:29

New Zealand is my home country so I feel especially sad about this. My prayers are with all those affected.

Re: - posted by Mikeydarev (), on: 2011/2/22 21:09

We have now confirmed 75 dead in earthquake and 26 story building in town bout to collapse. Thousands spent night in parks etc round town.

Please pray for the church to serve well during this time. I believe Asuza Street revival started after an earthquake in cali fornia back in the day.

maybe... just maybe

God bless

Mike

Email from Andrew Strom - posted by Nasher (), on: 2011/2/23 2:55

AWFUL SHAKING in CHRISTCHURCH
-by Andrew Strom.

It was with terrible sadness that I learned yesterday of another huge earthquake hitting the New Zealand city of Christchurch. It has only been 2 months since we left that city and we have many dear friends there. The first earthquake last year had no fatalities but this one looks to have many dead and injured.

I want to share a few things about our time in Christchurch that left me quite disturbed and concerned when we left. But I want to be sensitive because of the terrible sadness associated with this new quake.

As some of you know, one of the main things that I hoped to do in Christchurch after the first quake was to organize a large open worship event in the city - to praise and glorify God that nobody had been killed even in a huge 7.1 earthquake. I found that no such event was being planned, but there were thousands of evangelical Christians in Christchurch, and I felt very strongly that it was important for us to publicly glorify God for the miracle of surviving such a disaster with no-one killed. The place was traumatized and it was obvious that a sensitive Worship event would do much good - and even many non-Christians would likely attend. But sadly it was not to be. And this is the disturbing part.

I have organized large events before, so the Christian Radio network knows me - and quickly agreed to promote the event for free. The PA sound people also agreed to supply excellent sound for a very low cost. And the Christchurch City Council couldn't have been more helpful. Everything was looking good. But then we ran up against the Christian leaders.

One of the main "networking" Pentecostal leaders in the city told me that we could count him OUT of any support for the event. Then I spoke personally with the Dean of Christchurch Cathedral who told me that we could NOT use the main Square in Christchurch for a worship event for the whole Body. (Today this man's Cathedral lies in ruins. It had survived the first quake, but it did not survive this new one).

I called a number of prominent pastors and worship bands around Christchurch. I said we had the support of Radio, the Council, the sound and everything. No response. Worship bands not interested.

Pastors not returning calls. (You might think they were busy after the quake - but remember no-one died and Christchurch was up and running pretty fully after only a couple of weeks). I simply couldn't understand it. The evangelicals of Christchurch had made no public acknowledgement of God at all - no public worship for this miraculous escape - no public glorifying of Jesus. Even the secular News and the politicians were calling it a "miracle". People were traumatized everywhere. Wasn't it a "no-brainer" that we should be doing such a thing? Doesn't God deserve public praise after protecting so many people from harm?

In fact, it was such a no-brainer that the secular people themselves decided to do something. A number of the top bands and musicians from New Zealand came down and gave a free concert in the park for the traumatized city. It was heavily advertised on Radio - and 20,000 people showed up. Of course it was a secular event - not Christian. The Pentecostals, Charismatics and Evangelicals of Christchurch had made virtually no public sound at all.

I felt strongly that I could not push things any further without some basic support from the church. We managed to hold a couple of outdoor concerts for the homeless, and got involved with distributing "care packages" and things, but I was so disappointed. In fact I was more than disappointed - I was alarmed and deeply disturbed. I even told some friends that it

was "dangerous" to offer no public praise after God has just so obviously saved your city. I felt so strongly about it - and deeply saddened for the state of the Body of Christ. But I could do nothing more.

On December 17, 2010, my family departed from Christchurch. On December 28th we boarded a plane for Australia. I believe it may be some time before we ever return.

My heart truly goes out to the people of Christchurch - and to all the world so poorly served by the church of our day. This was truly one of the worst "lost opportunities" that I have ever witnessed in all my years with the church. And Christchurch was truly one of the most beautiful cities I have ever seen. The people are so dear to us. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, my friends. May God bless and protect you all in these dark times.

-Please comment on this article at the website below-

<http://www.johnthebaptisttv.com/>

Yours with great sadness,

Andrew Strom.

Re: Email from Andrew Strom - posted by White_Stone (), on: 2011/2/23 10:45

Praise Jesus for your post.

After the 7.1 quake, on a social forum I visit, I became embroiled in a 'discussion' with a New Zealander over the lack of worship of God. She said that the earthquake was not God's doing, it was a ground fault in the earth. Her eyes are completely closed. I have not even broached the subject with her this time. What can I say, I told you so?

If they turn to Him, He will open their eyes but they do not want to see. They would have to give up all the worldly pleasures and worse yet, humble themselves before the One God, Jesus Christ. Praise His name.

white stone

Dear White stone - posted by Mikeydarev (), on: 2011/2/23 20:10

A prophet never wants to say "I told you so?", in fact just in the presentation of your post it sounds like your 'discussion' may have gone a lot better if you had presented some grace that seems lacking in your post. Andrew has nailed an important point but if you could 100% confidently say your church groups in your city would get it right then I'd listen to you a bit more.

Please pray for us in wisdom as to what to do now. Pray for the church to come back to biblical Christianity yes and that they would serve their community well and proclaim Christ well at this time.

We had a girl in our bible study who has lost a family member in the quake... It's not unlikely I'll meet someone else in the same boat. It was dead silent when she shared that last night too. I think it's about the only appropriate response.

Thanks to all who are praying

Mikey

Re: Dear White stone - posted by Joyful_Heart, on: 2011/2/24 11:14

This came in my email today 2.24.

Christchurch Earthquake
emlynsubi | February 24, 2011 at 6:39 am

Tuesday's earthquake in Christchurch, New Zealand devastated the city centre. At present the official death toll is 98 with police having grave concern for the 226 still missing.

Scripture Union New Zealand has one staff member and one associate in Christchurch. They and their families are safe and well but their homes are damaged. According to National Director Wayne Fraser, 'The hardest part for all (in Christchurch) is the emotional toll and the sense that having just got on top of the previous damage they are back to square one. I guess the landscape has literally changed with the steeple on the cathedral on the ground and other icons beyond repair.

Please pray for the people of Christchurch as they face the consequences of this disaster.

Panorama of Christchurch taken shortly after the earthquake

<http://i.imgur.com/0vZbD.jpg>