

**Sent:** Friday, February 15, 2019 9:32 PM

**Subject:** West Mains Report January/February 2019

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West Mains Report - January/February 2019

Good Afternoon Brethren,

The sun is shining in Bonny Scotland and it seems all is well, people smiling, laughing and some are even opening doors for you (I must be starting to look old). I find it amazing that the mood of people is changed dramatically when the sun is shining, and blue skies are all around. The saddest thought of all is that very few will give thanks to our Great God for such a beautiful day.

Brothers and Sisters, we need to let people around us hear us praise God for our lives, our days, our families and all the other blessings He showers on all of us. The world needs to hear followers of Christ acknowledge their belief in the Creator publicly: I believe many Christians are too caught up in the PC culture attitude and remain silent because of what might happen if they speak UP or speak OUT.

The Gospel is God's blessing to mankind and by not speaking UP or OUT, we as believers miss out on many blessings: The blessing of helping change a life for eternity. The blessings of knowing that Jesus is present amongst us and the Word is absolutely true. Salvation is the greatest of gifts.

I live in a society that does not believe in absolutes, the grey area between Black and White is now as wide as an ocean and so anything is acceptable in that setting, anything is permitted, those types of so-called freedoms that we hear every day have made the world a dangerous place to inhabit. The Godless societies in which we live in are fraught with real danger. The greatest danger for the believer is accepting the changes that society wants to adopt as normal and acceptable. In these situations, and times, the believer is usually labelled as narrow minded, brain dead, bigoted, uncaring, Neanderthal and worse.

Those are the moments I need to sit down and have a quiet moment with God. I also need at times like that to count my many blessings and to know that God is GOOD and that one day He is coming back to take us home regardless of what the world thinks of me and my commitment to Him.

Our God is a Great God, we need to tell that absolute truth to our family, friends, workmates, neighbours, and those people we have the opportunity to speak to about Jesus. We sing a song "Stand Up Stand Up For Jesus", that time is NOW!

The words above are penned because of the discussion I had with two men last week. I found myself trying to wade through a lot of negativity about God and Church - specifically believers. As we discussed God, it became very apparent that both men had been brought up in families that did not believe in God and very seldom spoke about God, if ever. That uninformed view of God is Pandemic and those sit up moments should make us get down on our knees and ask God to give us the strength to speak His name. **If we don't teach people to follow Jesus, the world will teach them not to.**

## **Report**

The work at West Mains is going well and everybody sends their love. Our attendances are up, and we have had several visitors this month. Tom is still attending services each week including our Tuesday night Bible study. He told me last week that he really feels at home at West Mains. I would ask you to keep him in your prayers as we study with him.

The food bank is well attended, and we have made positive inroads with those coming along to the foodbank; some have become our friends and they trust us now and see that we are just trying to help them by being Christlike towards them.

Brother Ian Starrs has started his six-week study in the book of Ecclesiastes, and he is doing a tremendous job.

The ladies' class is continuing their studies in the book of Hebrews and they have been promoting the class to the other ladies who don't attend at present. The Tuesday Bible Study on the Gospel of Luke has been an excellent study and the discussion and points covered has been uplifting.

Continue to keep us in your prayers as we continue to lift you up before God.

In Him

Alex