

Dear Praying friends,

Aug. 14, 2015

We have been back in Nepal about a month now – and have felt that there are some big battles happening here in the spiritual realm. We are struggling with lack of rain – here in Palpa, the monsoon rains have been much less than needed. People are still dealing with the aftermath of the earthquakes and some are still living in tents or temporary housing. Our expat team has tensions among each other which weren't so prevalent previously.

And – the major one on everyone's minds now is the new constitution – due to come out finally sometime next week.

There are many issues with the constitution that people are not happy with – and protests, demonstrations, and strikes are all happening across the country. But the most worrisome is the inclusion of a clause once again making it a criminal offense to be involved in “changing a person's religion”.

Nepal is currently a secular state – but there are extremist factions pushing to once again make it a Hindu Kingdom. Interestingly, the Muslim population of Nepal seem to support this move – making it more obvious that the push is against Christians.

The writers of the constitution are considering a clause stating that it is against the law (and a punishable offense) to be involved in “acts to convert a person”. People are concerned that even acts of charity or offering to help people by groups of believers would be considered as trying to convert people.

The Christian church and leaders here in Nepal have been working to make sure this clause is not included. But – most believe that it must be a spiritual fight, so today has been a day of prayer and fasting – not just here in Tansen, but in other places across the country.

I would like to include some parts of a letter written by a Nepali Christian who has given permission for this to be shared with friends:

“Nepal is going through an important phase of writing the constitution now. There are many concerns from many groups. One of the concerns is to establish Nepal as a Hindu country again and to add the provision against changing anyone's religion in the new draft constitution (which was not there in the last constitution). Nepal was closed to the Gospel for a very long time and anyone who believed was persecuted severely before and during the Panchyat Regime. Nepal then opened to the Gospel and the growth of the church in Nepal has been tremendous (some consider it to be one of the fastest growing local/country churches )

We at Tansen have been burdened to pray for these matters.

When we started praying we are encouraged to look at the lamb who was slain and victorious- Revelations 5.5. To look at Jesus seated on the throne high above every name/ principality or power- Philippians 2:9-11.

We are also reminded to confess the sins of ours, our fathers, forefathers and our nation because of all the disobedience/ idolatry / bondage's / unbelief in accordance with 2 Chronicles 7.14.

We are also praying that the ancient doors of this nation would be opened to let the King of glory come in Psalm 24: 7-10. But the challenge is first that the doors of our hearts, families, fellowships and churches be opened to him and for him to be seated as the King of Glory in all the thrones in these places.

We are greatly encouraged as we pray that the battle belongs to the LORD - 2 Chronicles 20 and we are called to

1. look to him- 2 Chronicles 20.3,
2. trust in him for deliverance
3. take up our positions- verse 17
4. praise him for what he is going to do in our country as we find ourselves at this battle - verse 21-22

Even as you pray please feel free to share how God is encouraging and leading you in prayers.”

Please, as you feel led in these coming days, pray for Nepal! As much as the physical earthquake devastated this country, this spiritual “quake” could also have long reaching and devastating effects here. To God be the Glory!

In Him, Les and Debbie Dornon