

Just what we need at a time like this!

Dear friends. We would like to share with you two powerful prophetic impressions that were given to us by the Lord in early 2026. They concern and apply above all to us, the followers of Jesus.



‘It is the content that counts, not the packaging’. We place too much emphasis on the ‘extras’: sound systems, lighting, perfect sound, top-notch PowerPoint presentations... But the truth remains: the Lord looks at the heart! It must be noble, because Jesus dwells within it. It is, so to speak, the golden Holy of Holies. It is the content that matters, not the form! We must return to simplicity.

Psychology and self-improvement? JESUS is the centre of everything! The beginning, the middle and the end. Nothing works without Him. What is needed is the clear, true Gospel.

The second point concerns verse 4:14 from the Book of Esther. It is, of course, very well known and has been read countless times; we know it by heart. Very few people, however, are truly aware of what this has to do with us at this time. We sensed a deep sense of urgency and



seriousness from the Lord regarding the need for us to grasp and take hold of what is written there. Just as Esther – insignificant, of lowly birth and without parents – was catapulted by God into a position of royalty, which then gave her the opportunity to change the fortunes and history of her people, so too are we called to take up the position God has given them!

We were born into the NOW for a time such as this. We were not born earlier, for example in the Middle Ages, or later, for example in 2100 (unless Jesus comes before then), but NOW. We came

to earth exactly where God wanted us to be; at a time that He predestined. With the gifts and talents that He has given to each of us, and which, in this particular combination, no one has ever had, has, or will ever have. And, like Queen Esther, we have been made kings and priests (Rev 5:10). That is our identity – if we belong to Jesus. And even more: like Esther, we may come to the King of kings at any time and present our requests to Him. He calls us, always inviting us to come and ask, seek and knock, so that He may give to us, let us find and open the door for us (Matt 7:7-11). This applies to you personally and to His church as a whole. We are called, in times like these, to pray especially for His chosen people, the Jews and Israel, just as Esther did, with prayer and fasting.

Of course, this also applies to every other aspect of our discipleship. Let us make full use of the talents and gifts we have received from God and seize every opportunity that comes our way to be ambassadors for Christ (2 Cor 5:20). And here, too, the same principle applies as with the first point above: listen, believe, act!

In this context, we wish you much joy, encouragement and motivation as you read the following reports. May they encourage you to listen, believe and act.

W. and R. Woiwode.

Pakistan Mission – Trip 27 November – 8 December 2025

We landed on time at 8.30 am in Lahore – a city of 14 million people in north-eastern Pakistan.

A seven-member welcoming committee had gathered at the airport, and we were immediately presented with four (real) rose garlands each and welcomed. Our first traditional Pakistani breakfast was spicy, delicious and, of course, eaten with our hands.



- Things got underway on the very first evening with a prayer and worship gathering. The volume was simply unbeatable. Anyone who thinks that persecuted Christians in the Islamic Republic are cautious, low-key or intimidated is thoroughly mistaken. You could hear from a distance where our meetings were taking place, and a poster featuring our faces and announcing the upcoming pastors' meeting was displayed prominently on the wall of the house.
- Our outreach began with a youth conference. Around 100 teenagers had gathered, and the theme of Dad's sermon was 'Knowing God – from which follows calling'. I was also given the opportunity to share a few thoughts, and interestingly (or, when walking with the Holy Spirit, perhaps more accurately: logically), my talk also centred on the three points: identity, relationship, and purpose. We hadn't discussed it beforehand, but this is how the Lord led us.

The boys were very attentive and really enriched the day with their performances on the theme of 'The Cross and Salvation'.

That same evening, the first evangelistic meeting took place. A large marquee had been erected for the occasion. We were quite amazed when we saw all the carpets it was laid out with, and the festive drapes adorning the ceiling. Fit for a king – and He was right there



among us. Dad preached on the Prodigal Son and shared his testimony. Many people responded to God's invitation that evening and came forward to give their lives to Jesus. We prayed, hugged, laid hands on one another, made friends... and took loads of photos :-) It was truly a moving and blessed evening.

- Even before we set off, God had laid it on our hearts to help ensure that Bibles could be given away. That is why we at Abraham Dienst had launched a fundraising appeal and sent the money raised to Pakistan to buy Bibles. On the second evening of evangelism in the tent, we were able to present a Bible to so many people for the first time in their lives. What a moving moment. What a privilege. What a blessing. Some kissed them, pressed them to their hearts, and it was deeply moving when you consider that here in the West we often have dozens of Bibles 'lying about' somewhere that are never really opened. There, it is a real treasure, and we pray that these Bibles will bear much fruit. We were also able to give many Bibles to the young people.

Following the evangelistic meetings we held at four different locations, we were invited to various families' homes for dinner – at 11 pm, of course. So, usually a group of about 20 of us would turn up at someone's flat in the middle of the night, sit on their double beds, sofas, chairs and so on, and be thoroughly spoiled with good food. Just imagine that happening in Switzerland – 20 strangers eating curry with their hands in YOUR bed in the middle of the night – simply sensational... and for us: unimaginable! The hospitality and unpretentiousness of the Pakistanis never ceased to surprise us, sometimes even amuse us, but always deeply moved and blessed us.

- One day, we were able to visit a Christian school with around 80 children. We were told that children from Christian families either cannot get a place at school in the first place, or are subjected to such psychological and physical abuse that their parents voluntarily take them out of school. The current problem is that the school operates from rented premises. After a short while, the landlords discover that the tenants are Christians and give them notice to leave. As a result, the entire school has to move every few months.

Wherever we went, a guard of honour was formed, and we were pelted with rose petals. This shower of rose petals was so intense that we found ourselves experiencing yet another shower of roses hours later (e.g. when going to the toilet or changing clothes) :-). It was the same at this school. We were actually glad to have sunglasses on our heads, because the exuberant little ones hurled the roses into our faces with such enthusiasm that afterwards we could pick them out of our mouths and ears.

The highlight, of course, was that we had brought sweets with us. But everyone involved also had a brilliant time singing, dancing and taking photos together. We were able to experience the same thing again a few days later – this time at an orphanage. All these children had been brought from a nearby brick factory, where they were forced to perform 'textbook' child labour.



- Pastors' conferences were held at various locations over three consecutive days. God had already laid it on Dad's heart whilst he was still in Switzerland to speak on the subject of Israel. This is what he did – every day, drawing on different Bible passages. The topic was received with great openness; we prayed together for Israel and blew the shofar, which always generated a great deal of enthusiasm. One pastor came up to Dad and said:

"We'll never be able to travel to Israel and meet our brothers and sisters there in person. But you're always going there, and when I hug you, it's as if I were hugging Israel," and he threw his arms round him and asked him to take his love back to Israel with him next time.

- One pastors' meeting in particular has stayed with us. We were first welcomed at the home of one of the pastors. He is a very important man in the country, serving both as the 'head' of a large pastors' association and as a member of the government. A thoroughly modest, humble and likeable man. There were already around 20 pastors present, all of whom were introduced one by one. We then drove to the venue, where around 200 people had already gathered. The location was in a predominantly Muslim area and was guarded by armed security guards. I wasn't even allowed to go to the toilet on my own, even though it was right next to the building. Outside, food was being cooked over an open fire for all 200 people, which was quite a sight to behold.

- Incidentally, my clothing was also a major issue. It wasn't long before people made it clear to me that I wasn't dressed 'appropriately' in my ever-so-same Western outfits. So, without further ado, I was brought a new Pakistani dress every day – sometimes pink with lots of glitter, sometimes petrol blue with gold, sometimes pink with embroidery... And, of course, I had to wear a headscarf at all meetings.
- Two days before we flew home, a pastor was shot dead shortly after dropping his daughters off at school. Just a month earlier, there had been an attempt on his life, which he had survived. Our host told us that hostility towards Christians had increased dramatically once again since news of the 'successful' attack had emerged.

Yes, our time in Pakistan was truly blessed. And full of all sorts of experiences:

- Guns and yet roses (we kept seeing armed people on the streets, and every day we were showered with roses)
- Poverty and yet generosity
- Persecution and yet public evangelism
- Staged events and yet profound, divine encounters

Many things that seem to us to be opposites coexist in Pakistan as a matter of course.

And once again, a divine principle was confirmed: we are blessed so that we may be a blessing to others. It's a matter of give and take. Experiencing all of this together with my dad was a very special privilege for me.

Thank you, Father! Thank you, Dad! Thank you, Pakistan! Hanna Oehri-Woiwode

Days of Encounter in Aeschi, 2–8 February 2026

The topic was 'Living and Praying in the Spirit'. Despite the many excellent and encouraging comments we received – which naturally delighted us – we heard from some brothers and sisters that they had expected something different and were taken aback. For what I thought there was basic knowledge that every Christian ought to have anyway (all messages are on YouTube). Milk rather than solid food. With all these impressions, I went to Jesus once more and asked if He had anything to say about it and what I should make of it. His answer was clear and also set the direction for the TdB in 2027. I heard: "These messages were appropriate for the current state of the church. It should have been 'eating solid food' long ago, but still needs milk." Aha, I thought, yes, that fits. At the team meeting, we discussed this and also prayed for a theme for the TdB in 2027. We all felt we needed to pick up where we left off this year. After the milk comes the solid food next year, namely



'Living and Praying in the Spirit Part 2! A warm welcome to you all! All teaching sessions can be heard on our YouTube channel.

Report on the gathering in Aeschi, 2–5 February 2026

As usual, I was early and one of the first to arrive. Hanspeter gave me a very warm welcome and showed me to a parking space.

As the participants gradually arrived, I felt as though I were back at the Lenten retreat in March 2025. I felt part of the group right from the start, and I already knew some of them from back then. What has stayed with me, thanks to Werner's humorous way of putting it, is that God speaks to everyone differently and that we should examine everything. He said we shouldn't believe everything a preacher tells us just because we like him or think his green jumper is so nice. Instead, we should examine everything in the light of God's Word!

The dishwasher, which was in the same room, ran its cycle every day during the message or the worship, making the usual noises. It gurgled quite loudly, so everyone probably heard it. On the third day, when it almost drowned out Werner whilst he was speaking, he suddenly said that he had the impression that God was cleansing us too, and that all the 'dirty water' had to be flushed out.

Otherwise, I enjoyed interesting table conversations and, this time, some very good food! Powerful testimonies of healings, of God's work at the 'Colourful Evening', and good, deepening group times.



Matthias wishes you all more exciting times, experiences and God's work.

Testimony: Abraham Service, Fasting Week 2026, Jaun, by Joachim Hermann

...When I head to the first meeting in the morning, I'm greeted by cheerful chatter. Everyone hugs one another, exchanging words of blessing and encouragement. After this start, this refreshing 'shower of love', I'm wide awake despite a restless night and raring to go for whatever the new day brings.

Before worship, there is still an opportunity to share impressions or dreams, and messages from God. People also recount experiences with God from the previous day, breakthroughs in their spiritual lives. Miracles, new insights. Even the generous gift of a supporter who is reimbursing all participants and staff for the costs of the fasting week. It is amazing what God is doing. He comes alive in a vivid and tangible way in all these accounts – an incredible abundance.

After more than half an hour, the praise and worship begins. Heaven is open. The very first song triggers a wave of singing in tongues. The whole hall is filled with heavenly harmony in earthly diversity. This singing also lasts for about half an hour. There are also moments when there is simply silence – for 5, 10, 15 minutes. God's presence is palpably strong.

During our prayer and praise outreach in the city of Freiburg, near the university and in two chapels, we meet three people, pray for them and bless them. In front of the synagogue, we pray for the Jews throughout the world and for Israel.



Spiritually speaking, this week of fasting and prayer is quite substantial fare. Werner and Regula have a big heart for a very diverse group of God's sons and daughters. Here you can sense maturity and depth, the courage to embark on God's adventure, to step out of one's comfort zone and take others along with you. Wow!

Simply put: God's family in action... Unique.

My heart is full of gratitude for all that God is doing among us and within us, in his people and in his world, during this time!

Testimony on the 2026 Week of Fasting and Prayer in Jaun by Dagmar Vogel

This was the first week of fasting and prayer I had ever taken part in. My husband Christian had been on the retreat several times before and always came home feeling fulfilled and enriched. That's why I was really looking forward to us being able to take part as a couple this year.

I felt very much at ease in the large group right from the start, and the fasting didn't cause me any difficulty, apart from the fact that I was very tired for the first three days.

The visit by the delegation of intercessors from the canton of Fribourg moved and encouraged me deeply. God gave me an impression that confirmed a project by Christian Morel (coordinator of Prayer for Switzerland for the canton of Fribourg): Christian wants to bless a stone and place it

in every church in the canton. God gave me a word based on Luke 19:40 as confirmation: “If no one calls on me, these stones will cry out and praise me!” This encouraged me greatly, as in recent months I had rarely taken enough time to listen and was unsure whether my spiritual ears were still working.

I found it very refreshing that, whilst Werner and Regula provided a framework and set some key points, they left plenty of room for God to work through the Holy Spirit. I also found the long breaks between the group sessions very helpful. There was plenty of time to get to know some of the other participants, to rest or to go for a walk.

One of the highlights was our prayer outreach in the city of Fribourg! Although it had to be brought forward by two days due to the poor weather forecast, God had planned and orchestrated everything wonderfully. The chaplain in charge of the university chapel, Père Fortunat

(originally from the Congo), allowed us to sing and pray there and was so moved that he gladly received our blessing and blessed us in return. He was also keen to take a group photo with us, for which he called over a student. Then there was this elderly man who was delighted by a miracle: “So many believers in the chapel – I’m usually always here on my own!” He sang along enthusiastically and was so encouraged.

And the middle-aged woman who came into the “Notre Dame of Bürglen” chapel whilst we were singing and praying, to pour out her heart to Mary about a problem that was weighing heavily on her, was told by one of the participants in our week that Jesus is her Helper and Saviour. Our sister was able to pray for her in Jesus’ name, and she found new courage. With a heart full of gratitude and wonder, I returned to Jaun.

This week, God has made it abundantly clear to me what I had received a special anointing from Him for, and I was able to be anointed as a sign that I wish to accept this anointing/calling and, with God’s help, stand firm in it. The input from Werner and Regula (and from other participants) acted as a catalyst to set things in motion that had previously been lying dormant in my subconscious. This week, I felt like I was ‘in the right place at the right time with the right people’!



‘New Shoes from Father’ (Prophetic Word)

When God gives us ‘new shoes’, this has a profound meaning in spiritual (biblical) terms, often associated with a fresh start, being equipped, and divine guidance. We received this word from the Lord during the week of fasting and prayer in March 2026

Here are some of the key spiritual aspects intended to encourage us:

- **Preparation for new paths and calling:** New shoes symbolise readiness for a new phase of life or a new task that God has prepared. They represent a new beginning, much like the people of Israel had to be ready for the Exodus from Egypt. It fits perfectly with the impression from the start of the year: “For such a time as this” (Esther 4:14)
- **Equipment for difficult terrain:** “When God sends us down stony paths, He gives us sturdy shoes.” This symbolises resilience – God gives us the strength and equipment we need to overcome crises and emerge from them stronger. Solid food. You are unique and equipped with every blessing in Jesus Christ (Eph 1:3). We will need this for “a time such as this.”
- **Peace and the Gospel (God’s armour):** Eph 6:15 mentions the “shoes of readiness for the proclamation of the Gospel.” New shoes from God therefore mean being firmly grounded and ready to spread the ‘Good News’. In this, our whole life is a worship service (Rom 12:1). The most powerful weapon in this: God’s Word (Eph 6:17). Hence God’s initiative: ‘Return to my Word.’
- **Dignity and restoration:** New shoes can also be a sign that God is restoring our dignity. Whilst having no shoes or poor-quality shoes often symbolises poverty or slavery, good shoes symbolise freedom and our status as children of God. (Luke 15:22)

- Divine guidance: They suggest that divine guidance leads us on the right path in life. Even if we ourselves sometimes wish for and would take other paths.

In summary, new shoes are a sign (or an image) of God's care, who equips us appropriately for the paths on which he leads us (Ps 23:1+3b)

What does the future hold for the 'Back to My Word' movement?

Oh yes, it's still going strong. It never stopped! Even after last year's Bible reading from 31 October to 4 November 2025, several organisers had enthusiastically told us that they would be doing it again, and that it would be spreading to other towns and cities. So we're assuming that this year, too, the whole Bible will be proclaimed aloud in many places across Switzerland from 31 October (including once again in Stein am Rhein). As the 31st falls on a Saturday this time, you can of course start reading earlier. We already know of a few places where such a Bible proclamation will take place again or for the first time. You don't need to get in touch with us either. The same principle applies here: 'Keep it simple'; in other words, keep



the organisation as straightforward as possible. And reading the Word of God, this precious treasure, is an extremely noble endeavour. Do it in whatever way suits you best. The main thing is that you do it!

We're also making progress on an international level. In Niederdorla, at the geographical centre of Germany, we'll be there when our brothers and sisters read through the entire Bible from 4 to 7 June. A sister from Herrnhut also has a vision in her heart that the Bible will be read in every German federal state!

Some time ago, we had the impression that the Lord wanted us to read His Word in Armenia, but we didn't know anyone there. Through a friend, we then came into contact with a pastor and missionary. We heard from him that he had wanted to read the whole Bible with a group of young people last year. However, for various reasons, it didn't happen. Now we will be reading the whole Bible in Armenia from 12–16 October. God willing, and if we are still alive, we will be there too.

Our friends in Denmark and Sweden will also be holding another Bible marathon in August 2026.

We were absolutely thrilled to hear that the entire Word of God was read out in Washington DC, USA, in April. It doesn't really matter why this was done or which well-known figures took part. The main thing is that God's Word is read with faith! That is wonderful and inspires other nations to read God's Word and let it be heard throughout the land. Let us pray that this divine initiative, 'Come Back to My Word', really takes off and spreads like wildfire.

Another instruction from the Lord came through a vision experienced by a brother who is a friend of ours. It was the vision of the 'Nations at the Father's Table'. In it, Andreas saw nations from various regions of Europe gathering around this table. For example, there was a table where England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland came together. At another table sat Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland. At yet another, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. At one, the Benelux countries sat together, and so on. And there was the DACH table: Germany, Austria and Switzerland at the Father's table. At every table, there was an empty seat. Israel was meant to sit there. Only with Israel are the respective tables (there were many others) complete. When I read this, I knew: something is coming together here and now, or rather, something is being carried forward. The thoughts God gave me included the fact that people always eat at a table. And then further: Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God (Matt 4:4). And just like that, we were at the 'Back to My Word' movement. 😊 I understood it to mean that the Lord is inviting us together to His table in the various regions of Europe, so that on the one hand we may eat His Word together by proclaiming it together. But on the other hand, we are also to pass it on, just as He had instructed His disciples: 'Give them something to eat' (Matt 14:16). And so, in this way, we will pass on His Word, the solid food. To this end, we will get in touch with leaders from the respective nations who share the vision, pray about it and put it into practice. Andreas, with whom I met and exchanged ideas, has greatly encouraged us to take these steps. And we would like, if at all possible, to have a Jewish representative at the DACH table. Please do pray with us for this endeavour.

Many thanks. Werner Woiwode

Term:

- Bible reading in the heart of Germany from 4–7 June 2026
 - Bible reading in Denmark from 5–9 August
 - IWS solidarity event on Bundesplatz in Bern on 30 August (see flyer)
 - Bible reading in Armenia from 12–16 October 2026

 - **Root Days 2026:** “Discovering the roots of our faith together” with Hans-Peter Lang
Dates: 4 July / 12 September / 17 October / 14 November
Venue: Transformation, Reiherweg 2, 5034 Suhr
Time: 9.00 am – 11.00 am
 - **Back to basics:** with Hans-Peter Lang and Simone Neuhauser-Lang
Seminar Part 1 10 October 2026, 10.00–15.30
Seminar Part 2 5 December 2026, 10.00–15.30
Registration: kontakt@shoresh.ch (please specify the date)
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<https://www.youtube.com/@WernerWoiwode-Abi>

