

## GOOD NEWS FROM GERMANY

Kenneth Hagin's Winter 1990 Bible Seminar in Broken Arrow, OK

An unidentified East German pastor gave the following report: Before they (the East German Christians) could pray effectively for their country to remove communism, God first had to do a work in their hearts. Since about 1984, Christians in East Germany had been in a state of rebellion against their government. They had come to see that they were living in a system of fear, oppression and lies, with a secret police that employed hundreds of thousands of people just to spy and report on the rest of the people in the country. So the people were in fear, and the Christians were in rebellion against this state-surveillance. The Christians were also bitter because their children couldn't attend a high school or university unless they renounced Christianity and joined the communist party. But the Christians came to realize that Romans Chapter 13 applied to believers under communist governments as well as any other governments. God had to change their hearts so that they could pray with the right attitude for their government. They started praying and fasting for their country. And God had them purpose to love and forgive their government even though it was not a good government, even though they couldn't hold free elections and had no other real freedom.

But once they developed an attitude of love toward their government and learned to pray for their government with authority, based on God's word, then they started to see change.

They learned to pray for their government with authority based on God's word from reading Brother Kenneth Hagin's books on the authority of the believer, for which they are so grateful. Churches in West Germany risked arrest and imprisonment in order to smuggle Hagin's books through the East German border -- but God showed them how to do it and protected them from getting caught.

So about three years ago, they had some real intense prayer meetings for their nation, especially to get permission to open new churches, and get state registration to purchase property. But the time came where they had a strong, joyous witness in their hearts that they had the answer even though they couldn't see it in the natural. So they felt led to stop asking God, and started simply praising God because they had a strong witness in their hearts that they had received.

Before the churches got permission to open in state-owned buildings, they were held illegally in private homes, but the problem was always a lack of room. This changed with last fall's revolution. Before then the communists had 2.3 million members in their East German party; now only 700,000 remain. Now there are 18 registered churches in East Germany, soon to be 30; perhaps 50-60 by next year. And of course the communists had the best and most beautiful buildings in the county--but now the new churches have been given ample space in these beautiful buildings formerly used by the communists!

The former leader of East Germany for several years was Eric Honneker, but now he's disgraced and actually has been sentenced to prison, but has been left outside prison because he's deathly ill. But none of his former associates would let him stay with them, because they were all too scared, so a born-again Christian pastor took him in. This pastor had twelve children, eight of whom had been denied entrance to high school or a university because of the communists' prohibition against Christians receiving higher education. But now this pastor is voluntarily housing Eric Honneker and his wife, and although Honneker has not yet received Jesus as his saviour, he is attending a morning prayer meeting everyday with this pastor. Praise the Lord! And Christians in East Germany are now praying for Eric Honneker's salvation.

Now the Christians in East Germany are enjoying their new freedoms, especially to preach on the streets and to legally organize Bible schools and to publish literature, none of which could be done freely before.

They have discovered that Christians can control politics through prayer. For example, last October 7th the government of East Germany ordered all their citizens to attend mass street demonstrations in honor of their government's 40th year in power. But that same day the freedom democracy protest movement was also planning a mass demonstration for freedom in East Germany. When the communist government found this out, they started planning to violently suppress the protestors. It was discovered later that they had issued plans and orders to shoot the protestors and had even organized houses in which to treat the many dead and wounded they expected. So the Christians of the nations called for prayer meetings on October 7th to pray specifically that the change in government would come without the shedding of blood. They put their faith on that, because they knew it was God's will. They

said, "We will have a change in government, but it will be without violence." And it was -- not one single person died during all of East Germany's revolution. And they realized what a miracle they had when they saw the horrible pictures coming out of Romania a few days later, where about 10,000 people were killed during that nation's revolution. And they realized that the difference between East Germany's bloodless revolution and the one in Romania was that the teaching books on the authority of the believer in prayer had not been distributed in Romania like they had in East Germany, so the Romanian Christians were weak in their faith and hadn't been using their faith to pray properly for their government and their nation and so 10,000 died. But the East Germans are excited about getting Hagin's books on the authority of the believer translated into Romanian and distributed widely in Romania so that future tragedies like that can be avoided -- Praise the Lord! They are also taking food into Romania now because there is great lack of food in that nation now. But they found that the Romanian Christians were more interested in receiving the word of faith on the authority of the believer than they were in natural food.

Prayer needs:

Pray for East Germany that the current revival would reach their whole nation with thousands being saved; also pray for the use of the largest sports stadiums for revival meetings. For Christians, the biggest and most beautiful facilities are just good enough!

Pray for the development of a network of independent faith churches with at least one or two churches in every city of the nation.

Pray for a large building for their Bible school in East Berlin.

Pray for the nation of Albania, which has had the strangest and strongest Communistic system -- that God would turn it upside down also as He has done in these other nations.

In closing, God can use political circumstances to build His kingdom, and the Christians determine what is going on in their nation through prayer. Kenneth Hagin said years ago that if his book, The Authority of the Believer gets into any nation, the Christians in that nation can change their nation through prayer.

In 1982-1984, Hagin was led to pray for Eastern Europe at Rhema prayer meetings. We need to keep praying for a great outpouring of

the Holy Ghost and a great ingathering of souls from the whole earth. Gen. McArthur called for Christian missionaries from America to flood Japan after World War 2 because the Japanese gods had failed then and the people there were ready for a new way. But when the traditional missionaries preached, the Japanese came away saying, "We don't understand this Christian God that these missionaries are preaching -- He makes His people sick and kills them." They were ready for a new God, but they didn't want the one being preached by the traditional missionaries. They had enough trouble already. If they had heard the word of faith message about a good Jesus, the Japanese would have turned right then.