



10th October 2005

Welcome to

# Wake Up Call

your weekly email support from WorkNet

## Complete Advice

**Note: we are still looking for an Assistant see news below**

This is the fifth wake up call in a series based on Psalm 37. Follow the Bible Reading link to read the Psalm.

Have you noticed that following half an instruction can be very dangerous? Most of us give or receive advice as part of our work. For some of you, you earn your living by selling your expertise to others. Teachers attempt to impart knowledge and encourage wisdom. Consultants sell their time in order to stimulate learning. Informally, colleagues help others with all kinds of tasks passing on a skill or a bit of experience.

It is in this environment of give and take that work proceeds. We work, with the help of others, all hoping in some way to achieve a measure of success. You may not want to change the whole world, but at the end of each day it is more satisfying to feel that in your world in even a small way you have managed to succeed.

As you progress on a path of honesty, it is very frustrating to be overtaken by others who use underhand methods and conspire with each to succeed at cheating. They attempt to short cut hard work, by-pass fairness and cut in on those who work well and honourably. Their whole aim is to get rich quick on minimum effort.

David's A-Z again gives an alternative route to the ranting, raving, table bashing or seething resentment which would be a normal reaction. His proposal is twofold. To be still and patient. This makes sense. Don't jump up and down waving your hands about in rage, be still, calm and measured. Don't give in to impatient fury and resentment wanting everything to resolve now, but stay patient in the face of injustice. It sounds so wise, plausible and sensible even if a little unnatural and not quite human.

It is, however, only half the advice and as such is extremely dangerous. His actual advice is to be still before the Lord. This is completely different. It is not just sitting in the lotus position trying to chant a mantra. It is a conscious, heightened awareness of the presence of God. Being still is more than telling oneself to stop being agitated, but coming before the Lord with your agitation.

The patience David advocates is that of waiting patiently for Him. It is not waiting for things to blow over, calm down or resolve themselves, it is for Him. He may blow it over, calm it down or resolve it, but your patience is because of His timing, not for the sake of patience. Besides which, it is much cooler to be still and wait than to fret as long as your stillness and as long as your patience is God focussed.

In Jesus' Name,

Geoff Shattock

Conference  
Date Fixed



see below

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Bible Reading

**Here is some Biblical background for this week's Wake Up Call**

**Psalm 37:1-40**

Do not fret because of evil men or be envious of those who do wrong;

<sup>2</sup> for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away.

<sup>3</sup> Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.

<sup>4</sup> Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart.

<sup>5</sup> Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this:

<sup>6</sup> He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun.

<sup>7</sup> Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

<sup>8</sup> Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret—it leads only to evil.

<sup>9</sup> For evil men will be cut off, but those who hope in the Lord will inherit the land.

<sup>10</sup> A little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look for them, they will not be found.

<sup>11</sup> But the meek will inherit the land and enjoy great peace.

<sup>12</sup> The wicked plot against the righteous and gnash their teeth at them;

<sup>13</sup> but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he knows their day is coming.

<sup>14</sup> The wicked draw the sword and bend the bow to bring down the poor and needy, to slay those whose ways are upright.

<sup>15</sup> But their swords will pierce their own hearts, and their bows will be broken.

<sup>16</sup> Better the little that the righteous have than the wealth of many wicked;

<sup>17</sup> for the power of the wicked will be broken, but the Lord upholds the righteous.

<sup>18</sup> The days of the blameless are known to the Lord, and their inheritance will endure for ever.

<sup>19</sup> In times of disaster they will not wither; in days of famine they will enjoy plenty.

<sup>20</sup> But the wicked will perish: The Lord's enemies will be like the beauty of the fields, they will vanish—vanish like smoke.

<sup>21</sup> The wicked borrow and do not repay, but the righteous give generously;

22 those the Lord blesses will inherit the land, but those he curses will be cut off.

23 If the Lord delights in a man's way, he makes his steps firm;

24 though he stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand.

25 I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread.

26 They are always generous and lend freely; their children will be blessed.

27 Turn from evil and do good; then you will dwell in the land for ever.

28 For the Lord loves the just and will not forsake his faithful ones. They will be protected for ever, but the offspring of the wicked will be cut off;

29 the righteous will inherit the land and dwell in it for ever.

30 The mouth of the righteous man utters wisdom, and his tongue speaks what is just.

31 The law of his God is in his heart; his feet do not slip.

32 The wicked lie in wait for the righteous, seeking their very lives;

33 but the Lord will not leave them in their power or let them be condemned when brought to trial.

34 Wait for the Lord and keep his way. He will exalt you to inherit the land; when the wicked are cut off, you will see it.

35 I have seen a wicked and ruthless man flourishing like a green tree in its native soil,

36 but he soon passed away and was no more; though I looked for him, he could not be found.

37 Consider the blameless, observe the upright; there is a future for the man of peace.

38 But all sinners will be destroyed; the future of the wicked will be cut off.

39 The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord; he is their stronghold in time of trouble.

40 The Lord helps them and delivers them; he delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they take refuge in him.

## Wake Up News

Online News

- WorkNet is looking for someone to fulfill the vital role of Assistant to Geoff Shattock. A reworded Job and Person description is now available on the online news page follow the

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link on the left to view or download. If you are interested in this post, please send your CV to [geoff@worknetuk.org](mailto:geoff@worknetuk.org) If you know someone who may be interested, please make this important need known to them. Short term we are looking for a typist -if you have experience and would like some temporary work please be in touch.

- **We have now fixed a date for a conference under the theme of "Doing the work you were born to do" for March 4th 2006. More details to follow soon**
- The [WorkTalk](#) course is based on the seven sayings of our Lord from the cross. If you haven't got your copy, you can order it now from our [on-line shop](#) and use it for your personal meditation as well as a learning programme.

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