CHRISTIANS SHOULD NOT BE LIVING IN THE FAMINE OF THE TRUTH Copyright Matthew Verschuur. Originally published in The Protector, 21/3/2005.

Even though there has been a famine of the Word of God, this famine is not going to last.

The Bible speaks of a time when there shall be a great curse, "Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither *shall* fruit *be* in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and *there shall be* no herd in the stalls: Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation." (Habakkuk 3:17, 18). Christians are not to despair. However, Christians should not be deceived to think that lack is good. The rejoicing of Christians is in the Lord, and His ability to provide.

The Bible is not promising a time of lack for believers. Oftentimes, these curses have been represented in a way to mean that Christianity is to be destitute of all blessings. A whole prophetic framework has been built up, that says that in the last days, the Church is to be in a great lack. This is not what the Scripture shows.

The prophet Amos showed a great lack that has already come to pass in Church history, which is not a lack for true believers, but a lack for others: "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD: And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, and shall not find *it*." (Amos 8:11, 12). There has been a famine of the Word of God in Australia. The nation is full of sin because of the famine of the Word.

The following verses show that while there is a great famine, there is also a breaking of the famine: "And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." (Matthew 24:12–14). The truth of the Bible has to spring and break forth, regardless of the famine. There may be many compromisers and false doctrines, but this is not enough to stop the truth. Many people may be filled with their own ways — drinking, swearing and so on — but the heathen culture cannot go on without the Word breaking it.

There are many Scriptures to show that the Word of God is to prevail. And if the Word prevails, the Church must also prevail. The prophet Isaiah wrote of the Word of God in the last days, saying, "He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law." (Isaiah 42:4). The Word cannot fail. The Word is being established in the Earth. People shall be converted to Christ by the Gospel.

Christians should not think that it is hard for the Gospel to reach people, or that it is failing. The truth is that the Word of God is able to break through, and make itself known to millions of people.