

The Chancellor's Understanding

Konrad Adenauer (1876 – 1967) was a German statesman who served as the first Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) from 1949 to 1963. He was co-founder and first leader of the Christian Democratic Union, a party that under his leadership became one of the most influential parties in the country.

In the early years of the Federal Republic, he switched focus from denazification to recovery and led his country from the ruins of World War II to becoming a productive and prosperous nation that forged close relations with France, the United Kingdom and the United States.

On one occasion, Dr. Billy Graham is reported to have had a conversation with Adenauer. The chancellor asked Graham, “Do you believe Christ rose from the dead?”

“Yes, I do,” replied the evangelist.

“Do you believe He is in heaven now?” Adenauer asked.

“Yes, I do,” answered Graham.

“Do you believe He will return and reign over the earth?” the chancellor continued.

“Yes, I do,” Graham said.



“So do I,” the chancellor concluded. “If He doesn’t, there is no hope for the world.”

Writing about that conversation, Dr. David Jeremiah, author and senior pastor of Shadow Mountain Community Church in El Cajon, California, observed: “The famous German leader had come to the same conclusion that millions throughout history have – the only one who can save the earth is God Himself. The world’s problems continue to be addressed by many trying to help those who hurt. Others have resigned themselves to man’s ultimate self-destruction and have insulated themselves from suffering with barriers of materialization and pleasure.

“Both are right about one thing: Man has created a world incapable of saving itself. And that is exactly the kind of world God is able to save – one in which man’s possibilities are totally limited but God’s are unlimited.”

We serve an all-powerful God, and God can best demonstrate Himself when man has reached the limits of himself.

So, wherever you are in this journey called life, and whatever you may be facing, take heart. God is in control. The future is in His hands.

But Jesus looked at them and said, “With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible” (Mark 10:27 NKJV).

– Beecher Hunter