

Christian leadership in times of crisis

2020 AUTUMN LECTURES
ONLINE



'As soon as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven. And I said, "O LORD God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments'

Nehemiah 1:4-5 (ESV)

Our Autumn Lectures this year take the theme of 'Christian leadership in times of crisis'.

The spread of the COVID-19 pandemic has challenged governments around the world. What does the Christian faith have to say about leadership in such times of crisis? The response of the institutional church has been largely managerial and has failed to provide spiritual leadership to the nation. Our lectures this year will provide insight and analysis of scriptural teaching, the historical response and then finally an assessment of where we have gone wrong in dealing with the pandemic.

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When

7.30pm
Mondays: 2, 9,
16 November

Where

Online on The Christian Institute's [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) pages

Instructions: Each Monday go to our [YouTube](#) or [Facebook](#) page just before 7.30pm and look out for our Autumn Lecture premiere video. Don't worry if you miss it, the lectures will continue to be available on YouTube and Facebook.

Order all three lectures on CD and MP3.

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0191 281 5664

MP3 CD £4
CD boxset £6

MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER

BIBLICAL TEACHING ON LEADERSHIP IN TIMES OF CRISIS

Nehemiah surveys the crisis of fallen Jerusalem

The teaching of Scripture is the proper starting point for any discussion of Christian leadership under crisis. We will mention Joseph, Moses, Hezekiah. Our main example, though, will be Nehemiah, despatched back to the ruins of Jerusalem, with a final group of the exiles, with the city and the nation

of Israel in crisis. Threatened by those around them, the rebuilding project ground to a halt. How did Nehemiah provide leadership to the disheartened exiles? What lessons can we learn for today?



MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER

LEADERSHIP UNDER CRISIS IN CHRISTIAN HISTORY

From the Reformers to Dietrich Bonhoeffer

What did the Reformers teach about the appropriate response to plague and pandemic? Martin Luther wrote a treatise on the matter which we will consider. Thomas Cranmer fled from Cambridge in the face of a plague! In the nineteenth century there were several visitations of cholera in which thousands of people died. Bonhoeffer

demonstrated true spiritual leadership from his prison cell. How did Christian leaders provide spiritual leadership to both church and nation? How was God understood to act in these times of crisis?



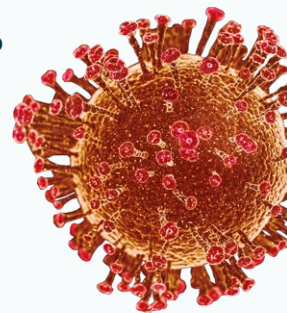
MONDAY 16 NOVEMBER

A FAILURE OF SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

The contemporary church response to COVID-19

Many have reported increased spiritual interest in the person of Jesus Christ during this pandemic. This has often been true in these times of crisis. Individual church ministers have often been heroic. However, the response of the church as an institution has been nothing short of scandalous. Why this failure of spiritual leadership? What led

to the suspension of public worship for the first time since Magna Carta? There are, of course, broader questions including the trade-off between health and economics, the proper role of the state and the place of liberty, including religious liberty. We will reflect on all these matters.



Speaker

Revd Dr Richard Turnbull

Revd Dr Richard Turnbull is a trustee of The Christian Institute and Director of the Centre for Enterprise, Markets and Ethics. Richard served in the pastoral ministry for over ten years. He was also for seven years the Principal of Wycliffe Hall, Oxford. He has authored several books, is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and a visiting Professor at St Mary's University, Twickenham.

