

SO
THE **WORLD**
WILL **KNOW**

CELEBRATE 2000 YEARS
OF THE RESURRECTION
OF JESUS-CHRIST



OLIVIER FLEURY

CONTENTS

7	Endorsements
13	Special Thanks
17	Foreword
19	The Vision
29	Jesus Celebration 2033
39	The God of the Celebration
49	The 100 000 Piece Puzzle
61	Confirmations in Israel
79	Africa, the Door to the World
93	Asia the Last Continent
101	Visit to the Vatican
115	TWO BIG QUESTIONS...
117	I: When was Jesus Resurrected?
129	II: He Is Truly Risen: Now What?
143	Epilogue

ENDORSEMENTS

“I want to be a part of this vision!”

Loren Cunningham, Founder, Youth With A Mission (YWAM), USA

“I believe that there is no event in the history of the universe, other than the creation of the universe itself in the first place, which equals that of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It seems to me compelling and marvellous that a vision has been given by the Lord to celebrate the 2000th anniversary of the resurrection of Jesus. May the Lord move believers in his church worldwide to prepare for this momentous celebration.”

Michael Cassidy, Founder, Africa Enterprise and the National Initiative for Reconciliation, South Africa

“May every door open to you as you serve this massive historic celebration. Let praise and worship arise from all the Earth. ”

John Dawson, President Emeritus, Global Convener, Youth With A Mission, USA

“May God continue to powerfully confirm this big vision and affirm your wisdom as you spread it throughout the body of Christ.”

John Glass, General Superintendent, ELIM Church, England

“The great potential of an initiative such as Jesus Celebration 2033 lies in rooting the Christian witness in the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The witness of Christians who, united in the name of

Jesus, celebrate the love of God the Father for humankind and the vivifying power of the Holy Spirit is crucial for an effective proclamation of the Gospel. If it is the lifting of the cross of Christ that draws us together; it is the resurrection that send us forth to witness, united in the Risen one and strengthened by the love of the Holy Spirit.”

Teresa Francesca Rossi, Centro Pro Unione, Rome

“May the Holy Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead breathe upon his body to seize this historic opportunity to lift him up before the nations of the earth.”

Rick Ridings, Founder, Succat Hallel (24/7 worship and prayer in Jerusalem), Israel

“I believe that Jesus Celebration 2033 will be the greatest opportunity for this generation to lift up Jesus before the world. The resurrection of Jesus is the greatest event of all history. It brings an unequalled hope for the future.”

Paul Eshleman, Vice President, Campus for Christ, USA

“The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the turning point in human history. The Apostles preached the resurrection more than the cross - they understood something we do not. Olivier rightly sees that the Church desperately needs to rediscover the meaning of the resurrection. That’s what Jesus Celebration 2033 is all about.”

Mike Griffiths, National Director, Elim Churches, New Zealand

“Making the gospel accessible to every human on earth is our Mission. Praying for our broken world should be our daily bread. And celebrating together across our differences is a must. Celebrating the resurrection of Jesus with people from all nations, all confessions, all languages, all backgrounds, is truly a foretaste of Heaven.”

Romkje Fountain, Co-director, Schuman Centre for European Studies, Netherlands

“We are already looking forward to a special anniversary year, 2033, to commemorate the ministry and resurrection of Christ. May this be an occasion for the global body of Christ to proclaim the fact that 2000 years ago, God so loved the world that He gave his only Son so that whoever believes in him will have eternal life. Two millennia later we are still admonished to GO and make disciples of all nations. Youth

for Christ is dedicated to raising up a new generation of life-long followers of Jesus and the 2033 Celebration gives us a marvellous opportunity to reaffirm this timeless call.”

Geordon Rendle, President, Youth for Christ International, Canada

“Olivier has the capacity for long-term planning. It’s no wonder that God downloaded his own dream of worldwide celebrations to mark the passing of two millennia since his son Jesus won the victory over death and rose again.”

Roy Jones, Director, YWAM Associates Europe, Sweden

“I fully believe this initiative is ordained and initiated by God. I support this vision 100% and urge the body of Christ from all nations to unite together to celebrate our Lord Jesus Christ’s resurrection, the greatest event in all of history.”

Benny Prasad, World record holder as the first musician to travel to all 245 nations sharing the gospel of Christ, India

“When Jesus taught his disciples how to pray he told them to pray “Our Father!” What father on earth doesn’t love family reunions? Jesus Celebration 2033 is the largest “family reunion” that the world has yet to see! To celebrate Jesus - the One whose name is above all other names - and his great victory! Wow, it’s going to be big!”

Bedros Nassanian, Director, Gateway Beyond Geneva, Switzerland

“I am very excited as an Asian to hear what God has placed on Olivier’s heart. Celebrating the 2000 years of Jesus’s resurrection provides an unprecedented opportunity to demonstrate God’s love and the powerful freedom that the resurrection brings to our lives.”

Aurelio Loseo, US coordinator for mobilizing missions in the Philippines, Hawaii

“This is a God idea whose journey so far is nothing short of miraculous. Olivier carries the vision with great passion that is contagious. We love his commitment and desire to see Jesus lifted up. Thanks Olivier for always pointing the way to the One who matters most: Jesus!”

Michael & Sheryl Sua, Senior Pastor, Beacon Hill, Upper Hutt, New-Zealand

“The very essence of our faith is filled with the event of Christ’s resurrection, and this fullness is even more plentiful when it is commemorated in Jesus Celebration 2033, among disciples of all nations and confessions. I wish you many blessings in this historic event!”

Carlos E. Ham, Former Executive for Evangelism, World Council of Churches, Cuba

“Christians of the world are being called to unite in a global event to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. What a glorious vision to see and hear all Christians joining with one voice to praise the Son as the sun rises over their country. I commend this initiative to you and pray that as we work together over the coming years to make it a reality, we will indeed see the blessing of God on our broken and divided world.”

Daniel Willis, Director of Global Consultations, The Lausanne Movement; Executive Director, Leading Global Impact, Australia

“Olivier is presently the YWAM Director for Switzerland. He oversees six training centres and six operating locations with a staff of 250 and an annual student turnover of 300 students. He is a man of integrity and is held in high regard by those he leads. He is well known in the region having partnered with local churches, developing the very successful Alpha course. He is a man of vision ready to pioneer new ministries, help others strategize and take on fresh faith challenges for the kingdom of God. He is a man of proven character, faithful to follow through on his commitments. I have known him for many years and endorse him as a man of God, an anointed YWAM leader and an asset for the body of Christ.”

Stephen Mayers, Chairman, YWAM Europe, Spain

Special Thanks

I would like to extend my special thanks to those who helped make this book a reality.

Firstly, I thank my wife Sylviane; you who have been my faithful partner all these years. Thank you for believing in me from the very beginning. You have encouraged and supported me to develop this project. Together we have passed through the clouds of uncertainty and experienced wonderful moments of adventure, crazy at times, euphoric other times. The peacefulness and patience that you radiate in our couple is a source of stability for our family. Thank you for being the virtuous woman you are. I thank Nathan and Rémy, our two beloved sons, with whom I delight in sharing all the marvellous moments of life.

A huge thank you to those who were involved in the preparation of this humble book. The combined efforts of individuals with diverse talents devoting hundreds of hours has been a rewarding team experience. Thank you for the beauty and refinement you have sown into this work.

To Jöel Raymond, my devoted scribe. Thank you for your efficiency and helpful advice, thank you for your friendship.

To Paul Hemes, my friend, and favourite theologian/historian: Thank you for the advice and insights you have given on the complex subject of dating the resurrection. Your thorough research on this subject, with its multi-faceted analysis, brought forth clarity for the final two chapters of this book.

How can I ever thank Corinne Liechti and Ann Robert, who spent hours on their keyboards to capture all the fantastic narratives described in this book? A huge thanks to both of you!

Thank you to everyone who proofread the different manuscripts and ironed out the theological hotspots. Surely some still remain...our sanctification is ongoing! Thank you for all those who helped me with my denominational and cultural insensitivities.

Thank you to everyone who worked tirelessly to polish off the pearls of my creative grammar and rendered it into something legible. Through your genius the world will never know how bad my grammar really isn't. Especially Stéphanie Tharp, Sandrine Roulet, Nadine Roumi, Matthias Rambaud, Christian Willi, Raphaël Tanner, Danièle Ariège and Estelle Lécureux.

I wish to give a special mention to those who have supported us in prayer and financial gifts, some going back twenty years from the time we first stepped out and chose to live on financial offerings for our ministry. Through your generosity we are able to continue in the calling God placed on our lives.

Above all I thank him who was faithful right to the end...even dying on the cross for me. To him who granted me grace, however undeserving I am. To him who allows me to taste daily the power of his resurrection overflowing my heart with joy to share with others. Thank you Jesus for pulling me out of my personal dung heap. You washed me clean and gave me a second chance and a new life.

Soli Deo gloria

FOREWORD

Do you know what you will be doing the morning of April 17, 2033?

I know what I'll be doing. To ask someone to project themselves so far into the future can naturally be bewildering, especially when most people can't imagine where they will be in one week, what they will eat tomorrow or what kind of work they will have in a month.

What will you be doing on April 17, 2033? I have asked this question to people all around the globe. Some look at me with a twinkle of amusement in their eyes, others lower their brow with scepticism. Most are surprised, some begin doing all sorts of calculations in their head: how old will they be, will they be retired, how old will their children be, will they still be alive? Naturally, they presume I am not asking a random question; there is more to it than just small talk. This farsighted project is the topic of this book. To know twenty years from now and on a specific day... this personal conviction isn't of my own but of my God, the living God who revealed himself through Jesus Christ.

I am a man like any other, a normal simple person in my eyes. These same eyes had a vision of something outside of myself, supernaturally communicated like the visions we can read about throughout the Bible. The Apostle Paul became a Christian after seeing a vision of the resurrected Christ. Hundreds thereafter had a similar experience during the forty days following the Christ's resurrection. For the past 2000 years, millions of men, women and children have had their own personal revelations. Let me explain what happened to me and what I have passionately pursued ever since.

Imagine...

Imagine... the dawn of resurrection Sunday 2033, when light breaks forth on a new day!

Imagine... the greatest celebration in all of history: 2000 years since Jesus Christ's resurrection!

Imagine... the worldwide body of believers gathering in all regions of the Earth!

Imagine... the Church demonstrating tangible love and sincere unity to the world!

Imagine... Jesus Celebration 2033!

The Vision

Before my eyes a vivid image appeared almost like a movie. Gravity was eluding me. Before me, our blue planet and the Sun was rising. As the first rays of sunlight beamed into the waking Earth, one time zone after another, I saw eruptions of light that emanated from the Earth and extended up into the sky. Thousands of these glorious columns of light spread across the earth and penetrated the dark emptiness of space, filling it with light.

We left Switzerland in 2007 for one year and went to Australia. The goal was to enhance our biblical training at our church's affiliated international campus, the Christian City Church (C3) of Dee Why, a suburb of Sydney.

The summer months of 2007 were already nearing an end. The morning of

March 7 was my turn to go straight to my courses. Yesterday, I took our boys to school before meeting my wife Sylviane, in class. Today, the roles were reversed: she took care of them as I grabbed my bag and Bible and set out chewing my toast trying to keep the honey from dripping off.

“Good morning Nathan, g'morning Rémy, good morning Sylviane!”

I didn't want to keep our neighbour Sarah waiting. We were taking the same course and she kindly offered to drive. The atmosphere was fresh and light; I could already feel the sun's warmth at 7:00 am, and the birds were busy with their morning chorus. A wonderful joy accompanied me, so I began to worship my maker, thankful to experience this new school year. The reality of his presence, by my side, surrounding me, was awe-inspiring. I looked up into the sky, my eyes eager to pierce through the canvas of this world and peer into the mysteries of the heavenly host. Today was going to be unique; everything within me resonated with anticipation.

This morning, the founder of the C3 church movement and the Oxford Falls Bible School, Phil Pringle, would speak in the grand auditorium. Every month the 450 students gathered together with the staff for a praise and worship time, followed by a message from the founder.

As I arrived, the worship team was busy warming up. I found a comfortable spot in the front and shuffled over to the third aisle. A sense of God's presence was all around; the auditorium walls seemed to reverberate God's heart, and the worship team played in unison, harmonizing their instruments. The drums gave the rhythm, the keyboard filled the air with its melody and the guitar vibrated with electric riffs. We worshipped with all our capacities and offered our thanks and praise to God.

I love to worship God! It is during these moments, surrounded by other believers, that God has repeatedly touched the deep things of my heart; my emotions and my longings, they are all bare before him. This morning something unusual transpired. I was there in the natural world, and yet my eyes could also see something in the spiritual world. Two worlds normally superimposed became distinct, one in the natural, while the other was like a film that unravelled before my spiritual eyes. The Holy Spirit captured me and his presence imparted a revelation. I could see it, feel it, and with my mind, understand it.

In an instant I could see the rotating Earth from outer space. The Earth was waking up. I saw a dividing line between the retreating darkness and the dawning light. The light advanced through one time zone after another. Where the line advanced, flares of light burst forth and ema-

nated into the sky. These bright flashes were not dangerous or harmful; on the contrary, they were full of warmth and harmonious, radiating joy and love. Wow! It was such an overwhelming beauty and power unfolding before my eyes.

Then suddenly I gazed over a vast crowd of people, diverse in all their colours and physical attributes. Thousands upon thousands were gathered and worshipping God. Within stadiums and parks and city centres, in rural areas, vast fields and plains, wherever there were people, there was worship. These were the bursts of light that had radiated from the Earth. Even more, the morning light that engulfed the Earth was resurrection Sunday. From the East to the West, time zone after time zone, in thousands of cities, millions of people testified to the truth of Christ and were celebrating his resurrection.

After a while I sat down and felt compelled to write of my experience. The thought of losing the essence of what had just transpired through my being stirred me to scribble a depiction of these scenes with comments about the vision. But God wasn't finished with me. The worship band was still fully immersed in their praise and I got up once again to praise God with all my heart.

There, again, thoughts flooded my spirit; little by little it came together, I sat and wrote, then got up and continued to worship and sat down again, filling my pages with God's revelation.

It's better to listen to God

My heart pounded with feelings of revival. The Bible speaks in the book of the Acts of the Apostles of how God stirred the hearts of the early church. Was he stirring our hearts now? Is this what it meant to bask in his presence?

This wasn't the first time I experienced an outpouring of his love. Ten years prior in 1997, while attending a Bible college in Dallas, Texas, the Holy Spirit moved so powerfully in our midst that the classes were suspended for two weeks! Students held all-night prayer vigils and basked in his personal touch. We repented, worshipped and adored him, deepening our relationship with Jesus as we drew closer to him with our sweat and tears.

The worship time drew to a close, and soon Phil would take the stage. I had an urge to quickly go and plead with Phil to sense the Spirit and reconsider. It seemed so much richer to continue my dialogue with God than to switch focus onto Phil's message. This urge dwindled somewhat when I considered what I was about to do. Phil Pringle is a man of stature, overseeing 300+ churches all over the world, and is clearly a man of God with an important message to share. Alas, I stopped wrestling within myself, as it was too late. He bounded up onto the platform with his characteristic athletic style. As for me, the "downloading of heavenly files" continued, and I pleaded with God not to stop. Phil began to address us:

"My friends, I hope you are experiencing the same thing as myself this morning. God is working profoundly in our hearts, I have decided not to preach and leave you the freedom to commune with Jesus. Be open to receive from him the abundance that he has in store for you."

Incredible!

For the next thirty minutes the auditorium was filled with personal prayer and devotion. The atmosphere was rich with individual consecration and fervour for God. Hearing Phil's receptivity to what was going on launched me like a catapult back into my vision with God. This time I heard him say:

The whole Earth will partake in celebrating the 2000 years of Christ's resurrection. No nation, tribe or people group will be left out or forgotten. Enthusiasm and anticipation will overjoy those gathered to witness the dawn of resurrection morning. It will be the culmination of a joyful season. However, remember that under no circumstances should you associate this celebration with Christ's return. When Jesus returns is not your problem; he can come before, during or after the celebration. He will return when the Father in heaven decides and it is not given to men to know when.

Then Phil came back to the microphone. He thanked God for drawing close to us and encouraged us to remain attentive to the Holy Spirit! But I didn't want to leave this heavenly atmosphere. I had the impression that this wasn't the end. I couldn't just go about my morning like

every other. There was still so much to hear and see and absorb and write down. I felt exhausted and dizzy, yet at the same time energized and refreshed. The auditorium started to clear out, and with my time constraints I jotted down some last thoughts before I meandered off to class.

Among those mind flashes, I saw the potential for colossal exposure, with huge billboard promotions. The world's media was focused on the event. Some mocked the Christian community and accused them of trying to draw attention to themselves. Whatever the motivation, everyone was talking about Jesus, so much so that not a single person on Earth hadn't heard of his rebirth: the 2000 years of Jesus's resurrection! Christians stirred up with boldness were proclaiming their faith in Christ. So many gatherings were being held around the globe that we even lost count!

The vision of Israel

What a humbling experience for a Swiss like myself with a watch embedded into my head to be late for class. Not only late- I arrived last. The other students were ready to take notes from our professor, Brett Barclay. Brett loves God, which is evident when he speaks as inspired by the Holy Spirit, and he is reflective, with tremendous knowledge to impart to his students. As soon as Brett began to speak, I was propelled once again into that spiritual dimension. This time it came like a movie script, the focus of which seemed to centre on the holy city of Jerusalem, where Jesus was resurrected.

Many will want to celebrate the resurrection in Jerusalem. We informed the Israeli government how pilgrims from around the world would flood into the city. They denied us from organizing anything for security reasons and barricaded the city. They sent us north to assemble in a plain where it was flat, and I saw an airport. There were civilian airplanes landing on the runway from all over the world and buses loaded with passengers. This plain seemed enormous; I could only guess that the number of people gathered was hundreds of thousands.

My hand started to hurt as I scribbled down everything going through my mind. I glanced at the time and realized that I hadn't a clue what

was going on in class. For forty minutes my concentration had been elsewhere, and then I heard Brett say:

“Olivier, what do you think about that?”

“Uh, I’m terribly sorry I didn’t hear your question,” I said. “Actually, I haven’t heard a word of what you said. I’m experiencing something like never before. I’ll catch up the class, and I’m happy to explain it later, but right now please accept that I’m completely out of tune with today’s topic.”

“Okay, we can talk about it later if you like.”

He looked at me with an inquisitive face, then continued where he left off. This released me to dive back into my thoughts. They came like little packages, bundles of information, but I didn’t have time to develop the ideas as they stacked up like children at the water slides waiting their turn to take their plunge. Then the bell rang for a fifteen-minute break, and everyone shuffled around me, with books closing, chairs squeaking, and classmates chatting. Nothing broke my concentration. The internal dialogue was louder than any of the animated discussions that surrounded me.

There are another twenty years to go with many influential people to meet. I’m going to have to share this vision for it to grow. People in positions of authority, who carry high responsibilities, must hear of it. I won’t be alone. There are others. God is in the process of talking with them. I have to find these people, God, please lead me to these people.

Another bell rang, and the class prepared to continue. I grabbed my things, with a polite gesture to our professor, and bolted for the door. I squeezed past the other students who were all making their way back in.

While classes were going on, I found refuge in the campus chapel. This beautiful round room with comfortable sofas and carpets was the perfect place to bask in God’s presence, and as I set my things down to prepare to listen, the “downloading” continued.

This time, Bible verses sprang forth. One after another, different texts came to light, and I saw them like never before. It was like doing an intensive Old Testament Bible study with Jesus as my tutor.

My attention was centred around the Hebrew people who fled Egypt and wandered in the desert, waiting to enter the Promised Land. They were the successors of Abraham, who received a promise and mandate to be a blessing to all nations.² Some churches have also experienced miracles just as the Israelites of Moses's time had. Yet they, too, are wandering in circles, more preoccupied by what happens within their walls than what happens outside. When we go and make disciples of all nations as Jesus mandated for the church,³ then will we be a blessing to them.

After some time, I could feel I was entering into a new phase, one that is best described in computer terms as an "upload." Receiving from God was coming to a close and now I was to give back; but, more importantly, to intercede for this vision, to carry it and nurture it, to pray for the church that it could receive it. This vision was like a new-born baby, tender, fresh, and vulnerable, and I implored God to grant me strength, to not abandon me, to preserve this beautiful vision that had managed to weave itself into the fabric of my being.

That experience alone with God took every last ounce of strength I had, and stretched me like dough spread out for pizza. My body lay flat on the floor; it went into the furnace for purification, my spirit called out to him with tears as sweat dripped down my head. I cried out to God, I proclaimed victory, I expressed myself in every way transparent before God without shame.

Never have I experienced the presence of God in such a tangible form in my life. Though the experience was not visual, every other sense knew he was there. I sang psalms and hymns to him, and worshipped him for all that he is. His presence was powerful yet gentle, like a lioness who carries her cubs in her mouth. The contrast was captivating.

After some time it subsided; as God's grace filled me with a sense of awe, my soul was invigorated, but I became aware of how exhausted my body had become. The Bible speaks of a peace that surpasses all understanding.⁴ This peace was dense and filled the chapel, like a

room full of buzzing computers when somebody pulls the main power plug. I noticed the absence of sound, and with it the absence of God.

My marathon with God was over. I leaned on a piece of furniture to get up, and remembered Sylviane was waiting, right about then, in the cafeteria for me. How will I explain to her what just happened? Will she understand or think I've gone crazy?

As I left the chapel and grabbed my belongings, my left leg didn't support my weight; it seemed to have fallen asleep, a bit like the feeling after a long bike ride. Something felt numb and I limped to the exit. It didn't relent all day, nor the following day; the intensity lasted ten days.

For the next four months I could feel that same sensation in my left hip. In the years to come it would sporadically reappear, particularly when on trips to speak about the JC2033. I interpret this as a reminder of what I experienced with God that day, a heart-to-heart and body-to-body encounter. Is this humbling experience how Jacob felt after his encounter with God in the desert? 5

1. Habakkuk 2:14
2. Genesis 12:3, 18:18, 22:18
3. Matthew 28:19
4. Philippians 4:7
5. Genesis 32:29-30

We hope you enjoyed reading the first chapter of the book “So The World Will Know”.

If you would like to read it in full, you may order it here:

Book “So The World Will Know”. CHF 20.- € 15.-

info@jc2033.world

If you wish to know more about this project, please visit our web site : www.jc2033.world

You could also:

- view the inspirational vision clip (1min) : <https://youtu.be/Lt-ASaQvXeA>
- checkout our Facebook page : www.facebook.com/JesusCelebration2033/
- make a donation: <https://www.jc2033.world/en/donate.html>
- ask a question via email info@jc2033.world

Hope to meet you along the way to the worldwide celebrations on resurrection Sunday 2033.

Olivier Fleury

JC2033

NEARLY 2000 YEARS AGO...

Jesus Christ's resurrection transformed the fate of humanity.

As we approach this historic anniversary, a Swiss man received a vision for a gigantic commemoration with throngs gathered in every nation of the world.

This will undoubtedly be the biggest celebration ever organized in the history.

A marvelous opportunity for millions around the world to experience the good news:

JESUS CHRIST IS TRULY RISEN!



OLIVIER FLEURY, pioneer of the Alpha course in the francophone world and former director of Youth With A Mission Switzerland, is compelled by this extraordinary vision.

More than twenty years before 2033, he has embarked upon an international quest to mobilise Christians and ignite a movement toward this momentous celebration coined "JC2033". This book presents his enthusiastic testimony, full of faith, hope and love.

WWW.JC2033.WORLD

