

Why Two K?

Well, at last it's here! Whether we were off to Greenwich to experience the dome, or went to bed at 11pm saying "Humbug", we are people of the Third Millennium. How does it feel? The trouble is, now all the hype is over, nobody seems to have too much to look forward to.

Hope seems to be in short supply wherever we look. Political idealism has become a choice between the Euro or the Dollar. Statistics on crime and family life are uniformly depressing. Medical progress seems to be about killing all the babies with natural defects and manufacturing others in our own tarnished image. Even the Age of Aquarius is looking a bit of a pipe dream - the most potent water sign is the rising sea-level from global warming. Are you confident about the new millennium? Optimist!

But Christians have reason to be optimistic about the future. Jesus almost *invented* hope. His death for sin, and resurrection to eternal life, showed that God could break into the endless cycle of time that the ancients, like the modern Eastern religions, believed in. Jesus put a bomb into history that sent it hurtling towards a goal - nothing less than the re-creation of the world, and the abolition of everything that is wrong with the present one.

We believe it's nearer than it was, and that we can all be part of it through turning from our old ways to faith in Jesus. The Christmas carol is as true now as it was 150 years ago:

*Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the Angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love-song which they bring:
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the Angels sing!*

Jon Garvey