

Notes

"Don't Be Deceived" (Matthew 24:4-14)

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**Coolum Beach Baptist Church**

*'To know Christ and make Him known'*



"However, no one knows the day or hour when these things will happen, not even the angels in heaven or the Son himself. Only the Father knows." (Matthew 24:36)

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December

9AM David Eden

"Do Not Be Deceived"  
(Matthew 24:4-14)

## Thought for the Week

### Keep Watch in 2024

Operation Overlord was the codename for the Battle of Normandy, the Allied operation that launched the successful liberation of German-occupied Western Europe during World War II. The operation was launched on 6 June 1944 (D-Day) with the Normandy landings. Operation Fortitude was a military deception operation by the Allied nations as part of an overall deception strategy during the buildup to the 1944 Normandy landings. The deception was implemented with dummy tanks, aeroplanes, other vehicles, temporary buildings were constructed and dummy landing craft were stationed at likely embarkation points in the East and the South-East of England. US Commander General Patton paid many of them a visit, along with a photographer, to ensure that their location was noted. The landing craft, built from wood and canvas and nicknamed Bigbob's. Additional deception to the extensive physical measures, was a plan of radio signals and leaks through double agents. Managing that information flow had to be done with caution since leaking supposed top-secret invasion plans would have been very obvious. Instead, the deceivers used tactics developed by in Cairo. Agents were allowed to report minutiae such as insignia on soldiers' uniforms and unit markings on vehicles to allow the Germans to build up a picture. The observations in the south-central areas largely gave accurate information about the real invasion forces since it was stressed that using as much real information as possible led to better outcomes. Reports from the South-West of England indicated few troop sightings, but in reality, many units were housed there in preparation for D-Day. Reports from the South-East depicted largely-notional Quicksilver forces. That approach aimed to convince German intelligence services of an order of battle for the Allied forces that placed the centre of gravity of the invasion force opposite Pas-de-Calais. Operation Fortitude North was so successful that by late spring 1944, Hitler had positioned 13 army divisions in Norway.

Jesus in Matthew, provides us two areas of watchfulness in 2024 about deception. The first in (24:36), "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in Heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father." The second is, "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves." (Matt 7:15) Deception is subtle upon Christians, because that is the way the great deceiver works. Therefore be on your guard in 2024. God bless, David Eden

## Prayer Points

- Give thanks for Ian's successful heart operation and pray for his continued recovery.
- Give thanks for the Lord's mercy, grace, provision, protection, strength and joy that he has given us in 2023.
- Pray for peace in Gaza, Ukraine and Myanmar

### NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION

Get ready to party in the church hall tonight. It all starts at 7pm and will go to 12.15pm (or anytime in between depending on your stamina). Everyone is invited and encouraged to bring a plate of food to share for snacking and supper. You may also want to bring your favourite board or card game as well. We will also be setting up the table tennis tables for those who would love something a bit more energetic.

### PASTOR ON HOLIDAYS

Harrison, Jess and the kids will be taking a few days off over the next few weeks. Please pray for them to have a great time of refreshment before we start another big year of ministry in 2024.

