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Brexit – a Christian perspective

When I was in France with the Twinning Association last week I was surprised to find that the French were familiar with the term 'Brexit' – and were interested in whether we stayed in the E. U. or not. There has been discussion (and disagreement!) about what the Christian position should be.

When we have no obvious path, I feel the Lord wants us to go on general principles and make up our mind prayerfully to the best of our ability. In Ecclesiastes chapter 7, verse 10, Solomon writes: "Do not say, 'Why were the old days better than these?'" So look forward, not back. When asked about the end of the world and events to come, Jesus says: "You will hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that you are not troubled: all these things will happen, but the end is not yet." (Matthew chapter 24 verse 6) A lot of the discussion I've heard seems to be framed in apocalyptic terms and to be based on people's fears. But Jesus counselled us not to be afraid or upset because everything is in flux or looks threatening, or to assume the end of the world is imminent. We should use our best judgment, based on the truth and facts, not fears or rumours. In the Bible we are advised to seek wisdom and to not be afraid many times. And, above all, to believe in the love of God, and his continuing care for us.

Many are afraid of the unhealthy spiritual influence the E.U. may have on the U.K. I've been thinking about Daniel, who laboured faithfully and life-long in Babylon after the Jews were exiled from Israel. It did not corrupt him. Rather, he influenced some very powerful rulers and even King Nebuchadnezzar came to worship the God Daniel served. (Daniel chapter 4 verse 37).

Let's not retreat from the world, but be salt and light in it.