

# LET'S REACH ICELAND

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## PRAYING FOR THE NATION

I went to pray at the spot where in 1000 A.D. Iceland was declared a Christian nation--but it was declared a Christian nation with a caveat.

The picture to the right is of the exact location where the declaration was made. To this day, you can even see mounds in the landscaping where those who had traveled to attend the Althing, Iceland's Parliament meeting, built shelters.

## WHAT WAS THAT DAY LIKE FOR BELIEVERS?

I tried to imagine what that day all those centuries ago must have been like for those who had adopted the Christian faith. The country was torn between paganism and Christianity, and everyone knew the issue was going to be decided at this Althing.

Those who followed Christianity were likely hopeful and spent time in prayer as they made their way to the Althing, but then the announcement came: The final decision would be left with Lawspeaker Thorgeir Thorkelsson - a pagan priest and Cheiftan.



The site of the Althing  
in 1000 A.D.

*It was announced  
that a pagan  
priest would  
decide whether  
Iceland would  
become a  
Christian nation.*

## WAS HOPE LOST?

That announcement probably left the Christians feeling very little hope that things would go their way, but when the announcement came the next day, it was declared that Iceland would be a Christian nation.

Sort of.

While Thorkelsson announced the adoption of Christianity, he watered down the decree by making it known that pagans could still (*con't on next page*)



## PRAYING FOR THE NATION (CON'T)

worship their gods and continue with their pagan practices as long as they did so privately.

It was a hollow victory, but at least Christians were free to practice their faith and a war between Christians and pagans was avoided.

When I stood in the spot where this historic announcement was made, and as I walk the streets of Reykjavik, **I pray that the people of Iceland will fully turn to Christianity - not to avoid a war, but to gain salvation and to serve the one true and living God.**

How the gathering of the Althing looked in 1000 A.D.



Hallsgrímskirkja lit up in pink for Breast Cancer Awareness Month

The ruins of a Viking longhouse dating from the 10th century.



**Thank you to Pastor and Sis Blankenship** and my entire church family from **Norfolk Apostolic Church** for your prayers, love, and support.

**Partner with me and, together, Let's Reach Iceland!**

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**THANK YOU FOR EVERY PRAYER!**