

## Why do Anglican Churches Face East

A friend of mine in Indonesia asked me, on WhatsApp, why some churches face east and many don't. This was my reply. Thought I share the same with you.

The reason is looking to where Jesus will come again. In the Gospel of St. Matthew, chapter 24, verse 27 records:

“For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.”

Or even the fact that the Star that symbolised the birth of Jesus appeared in the East (St. Matthew 2:1-2):

“Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.”

In the Old Testament we see a record of Prophet Ezekiel that he saw the “glory of the Lord” when facing East:

“And the glory of the Lord came into the house, by the way of the gate looking eastward.” (The Book of Ezekiel, chapter 43, verse 4).

The Anglican, Roman Catholic and Orthodox churches have their Altars facing East due to the reasons given above. This enables the Priest to raise the Body and Blood of our Lord, each time and every time towards New Jerusalem from where our Lord Jesus is expected to return.

We also know from our Scriptures that the devil has opposed our Lord Jesus in every which way he can and therefore the devil should be on the West awaiting His arrival. How then can we raise the Cup and the Host towards devil and expect our Lord's Presence? Furthermore, we could even be celebrating the devil should we raise the Cup & the Host towards the West. Why err; follow the words in our Scriptures and be safe...

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