

BORIS YELTSIN DIES AT 76



“There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every event under heaven – a time to give birth and a time to die.” (Ecclesiastes 3:1-2)

Boris Yeltsin, the man who presided over the final disintegration of the Soviet Union and the demise of Soviet communism, died of a heart attack on 23 April – evidently from heart failure.

Although Yeltsin was initially admired abroad for his defiance of the communist systems, most Russians remember him presiding over the steep decline of their nation as he pushed it to embrace democracy and a market economy as the country's first post-Communist president.

Befitting a man who broke with Communism, Yeltsin became the first Russian head of state since Tsar Alexander III in 1894 to be given a church funeral. The service was in the Cathedral of Christ the Saviour, a vast gold-domed building. Josef Stalin dynamited the original church but under Yeltsin it was rebuilt on the same site, as a symbol of Russia's revival.

“It is appointed for *all* men to die once, and after that *the judgment.*” (Hebrews 9:27)

RUSSIAN TEENS SEE BENEFITS OF YELTSIN'S LEADERSHIP

Boris Yeltsin's influence can be seen in the lives of teenagers throughout Russia. His reforms made FEBC-Russia's "Talking with Teens" Christian broadcast possible.

The program features Christian and non-Christian teens who discuss life and relationships and inevitably spiritual issues. Producer Olga Denisova credits

the honesty of the teens for bringing listeners back each week. This is a breakthrough in Russia's history of atheism.

Pray that many Christian leaders are raised up by this broadcast.