November 2019 • Vol 51 No 11

# Field of Refuge 2019

**One new Christian!** 

A new hymn to a familiar tune

**Update on Ishaby Tinarwo** 

### November 2019 Volume 51 Number 11

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# Chistar Worker



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# MY PERSPECTIVE



### The blessing of family

An extremely wonderful event happened on 13<sup>th</sup> October – my first grandson was born!

I have to admit that I was not ready for the feeling of total joy and total love that overcame me when I saw 'wee Joe' for the first time. I was holding a precious baby who will carry on my line of the Galloway family.

Having three children, I knew that feeling when they were born. But somehow it is different when it is a grandchild (I'm sure all grandparents understand this). With children, though, came the responsibility of being a parent, of trying to bring up each child *"in the training and instruction of the Lord"* (Ephesians 6:4 CSB). That is an incredible responsibility. And most of us would have to admit there were many times where we failed. But we tried.

With grandchildren it is different. You still want them to be trained and taught in the Lord – and we plan to help all we can – but ultimately we have passed the mantle on to our son and daughter-inlaw. They now have the responsibility for this precious new life.

Solomon wrote, "Grandchildren are the crown of the elderly, and the pride of children is their fathers" (Proverbs 17:6 CSB). Although I don't really classify myself as 'elderly' yet, I am more aware each year of my own mortality. With the loss of my own father at the end of last year, I've become more aware that the number of years I have left are far fewer than the number that I have already had. I would love to see my grandchildren finish their education, marry and even make me a greatgrandpa! But that is for the future and that is in the hands of the One who holds the future.

So, in the meantime, there are lots of visits and cuddles as we 'bond' with our new grandson. We give thanks to God for our children and our grandchildren, praying that they will grow up to know Jesus and that they will serve him during their lives.

On a different note, some may be wondering why we are publishing early for November. The reason is quite simple: Ian and Barbara Starrs are leading a group of thirty other UK Christians to Israel – and we are part of that group!

On Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> October, we all fly from Manchester to Tel Aviv for eleven days in the Bible land. From Mount Carmel to Galilee to the Dead Sea to Jerusalem, we are all excited to be visiting the land where Jesus lived.

Many refer to Israel as "the holy land". I must admit that I do not regard it in this way. Even Ezekiel emphasised that was an "unholy land" because the people had forsaken God to serve idols. If it was true for Ezekiel's time, it is just as true today, as very few serve the Messiah. We look forward to worshipping with the congregation of the Lord's people in Nazareth – always a highlight of a visit to Israel. We will have many photos and stories to share when we return.

The joy of being a Grandpa

Jon

# Field of Refuge 2019

Selah Be still and know that I am God

On 11<sup>th</sup> October, fifty ladies gathered in the beautiful surroundings of Tulliallan Castle, Kincardine, for a weekend of study, praise and fellowship.

The theme for the weekend was 'Selah - Be still and know that I am God'. Our time was spent studying two Psalms where the word 'Selah' appears: Psalms 46 & 62. The word 'Selah' appears at the end of verses in many Psalms and means to take a break, to pause and reflect on what has been said. Chrissy Vick was the main speaker for the weekend and gave excellent lessons on the theme, speaking about the importance of being still and letting God into our lives.

- **S** Seek: 'Be still' Psalm 46:10a
- E Engage/Exalt: '...and know that I am God' Psalm 46: 10b
- L Listen/Linger: 'I wait quietly before God' Psalm 62:1,5
- A Act/Apply: 'Trust in Him at all times' Psalm62:8a
- H Habit/Hope: 'Pour out your heart to Him' Psalm 62:8b.

We also enjoyed sessions on Meditation, Prayer, Discussion, Theology and Arts & Crafts.

Thanks goes to the organising team and the incredible amount of work they put into making our time together so special.

During the weekend we studied, sang and prayed with lots of laughter and sometimes tears! Overall it was a wonderful spiritually, uplifting time spent with beautiful Christian ladies. It was lovely meeting up with old friends and making new ones. I'm already looking forward to next year's retreat!

#### Carol Whitehead

I have had a bit of a rough year with anxiety and post natal depression being big factors in my life, so I had quite a bit of fear travelling the long distance from my home up to the ladies' retreat in Scotland. Being in new social situations is not the easiest for me.

By the first night when I was going to bed I phoned my husband and said I need to come back again next year. This whole weekend released me – it's honestly the first time in my life that I have felt I was in God's presence, I felt His arms around me and He opened my eyes, heart and mind. The lessons from Chrissy just seemed like they were written for me, the daily meditations by Rachel opened my mind and heart allowing me to focus and be with the Lord. And the group sessions – crafts, theology, prayer and discussion – allowed me to open up and talk honestly and truthfully.

Massive thanks must go to the whole team who worked on this weekend. It was my first ladies' retreat and it won't be my last. The whole experience allowed me to dig deeper and focus. I was not expecting to come away from the weekend feeling how I did – the only way I can describe it is 'awesome'. I found my Selah this weekend, I was able to *be still and know that He is God!* 

#### Rachael Sandison

This was my fourth year attending the retreat at Tulliallan and, as usual, the time and effort put in by the ladies organising the event did not disappoint. One of the biggest challenges has been the distance I have had to travel and, being a military wife, this can vary each year. This year I was travelling from Exeter and so I nearly didn't come at all. However I knew I needed to





connect with likeminded Christians, especially as my circumstances have meant that it can be difficult settling into a church family.

I asked a close friend to accompany me and it was evident that her testimony touched many of the ladies attending. Throughout the weekend I made new friendships, strengthened existing ones and experienced the power of God as He brought women of different personalities and opinions together in one accord.

When I arrived home following the retreat, I was faced with many spiritual challenges. Hearing other women being so open about their struggles and facing my own issues can weigh the heart down and, after such an uplifting weekend, I really missed the fellowship. Yet thanks to the excellent teaching and workshops, I am becoming more equipped to grow in my faith in this troubled world – taking a "selah" moment – and inspired to "shine among them like stars in the sky" (Philippians 2:15).

The weekend was a huge encouragement and I would highly recommend anyone searching for peace or answers to attend next year.

**Rebekah Speirs** 

November 2019



# CONGRATULATIONS!



### **BRISTOL JOY**

We are pleased to announce that we have a new sister-in-Christ. **Erika** was baptised on 12<sup>th</sup> October. She has been attending for a while and it has been an encouragement to us all to see her grow in her faith and make this commitment to her Lord.

Please keep her in your prayers as she starts her Christian walk, that she will know the love of God more each day and be a witness to all those she meets.

Robert Daniell

Joseph Dallas Galloway

### NEW ARRIVAL

Scott and Rachelle Galloway (Glasgow), with their parents, Jon & Arlene Galloway (East Kilbride) and Patrick Boyns (British Bible School), are pleased to announce the arrival of **Joseph Dallas Galloway** in the early hours of Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> October. Mother and baby are both doing great.

Jon Galloway



### Idea for Bible Study

For the past few months we have been using a programme known as "The Bible Project" to assist our mid-week meetings. This is provided free on YouTube.

A brief video of about five minutes is used as an overall introduction to each book of the Bible. Those attending read the book beforehand, view the video, and then are led in a discussion by our own teacher.

The presentation is very well done and it has given us a chance to look at the overall theme of a Bible book, which in some cases has led into lessons giving further teaching and sharing.

This would be particularly useful for people by themselves or small groups.

Trevor Williams

### Can you help?

The King's Cross congregation is looking for copies of "The Christian Hymnary" printed by the Berean Press and revised in 1938.They still use them but the books they have are becoming worn. They are willing to pay postage.

Any responses please to Peter Bentley:

peterdmmc@gmail.com

/illiams



# A NEW HYMN

As a Wiganer, I abhor Rugby Union (aka 'kick and clap'). However, I've always enjoyed the national anthems, particularly "Land of my Fathers". I probably supposed it was written by a Welsh hymn-writer, but it turns out that the author was a pub landlord! Nevertheless it's a great tune, written in the 1850s or 1860s, and deserves a hymn to go with it.

### Praise God My Creator

(Tune: "Land of My Fathers")

Sing praises to the Lord

Praise God my Creator, almighty is He. Praise God my Redeemer, for He set me free. He pardoned my sins, so loudly I'll sing And praise Him with all of my soul. Lord! God! Father, Creator and King. He pardoned my sins, so loudly I'll sing And praise Him with all of my soul.

Praise Jesus my Saviour, who suffered and died: His grace gave me righteousness – where is my pride? The thorns on his brow are my glory now, I'll praise Him with all of my soul. Lord! God! Saviour who died on a tree. The thorns on his brow are my glory now, I'll praise Him with all of my soul.

Praise God's Holy Spirit who lives within me, To comfort and guide and bear fruit all can see. I'll walk in His way, give thanks every day, And praise Him with all of my soul. Lord! God! Spirit who lives within me. I'll walk in His way, give thanks every day, And praise Him with all of my soul.

© Morley church of Christ



# BRITISH BIBLE SCHOOL NOTES

I don't suppose if of any of us were to stand by the Chebar canal in Babylon that we would see the likes of that which the prophet Ezekiel saw, but I am persuaded that unless we see something of the glory and power of almighty God, our lives will be much the poorer.

Do we need a watchman? There is no doubt that the life of this would-be priest was about to change beyond almost all recognition. He had seen vividly, and in a most dramatic and terrifying fashion, the glory of God coming in just and righteous judgement against his people. From this moment on, Ezekiel was to be the watchman of Israel, warning them of what was to come and helping the people face up to their responsibilities.

It was never going to be easy. The people wouldn't listen, and if ever they did hear



### East Kilbride

Scholar's Gate G75 9JL

Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> October 9,00am to 5,30pm Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> October 11,00am to 1,15pm Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> November 9,00am to 5,30pm Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> November 11,00am to 1,15pm

Geachers: Patrick Boyns and Jon Galloway www.britisbbibleschool.com

Ghought by some to be a difficult book, this module shows the writings of Ezekiel to be both clear and full of excitement, as well as very relevant to the work of mission today.



All are welcome to either or both weekends! For more information please visit our website or look for us on Face the words that the prophet spoke, they were most disinclined to take them to heart. Still, the watchman was to report what he saw and the people were left to decide what, if anything, they might do about it.

Year after year the prophet was to speak the same message of "lamentation and mourning and woe". It's not as if he had a pleasant or hopeful message to share, but one of destruction and judgement. It was anything but an easy calling – but these were words the people to hear.

Of course, this was a message to a covenant people who had blatantly violated the terms of the covenant. They should have known better. They should have known to love God, to love their fellow beings, to do justice, to love kindness, to walk humbly with their God. They should have known to live lives in keeping with the character of their God. But they chose not to.

Somehow they needed waking up out of their complacency. They needed to learn, as does each successive generation, how to live their lives in faithful obedience to God. They needed to be reminded that it wasn't ever about being 'religious' or 'spiritual' but it was all about their God, the creator of heaven and earth who had called them to be his special people.

And here we are, over two and half thousand years later, still struggling with the same sort of things. Maybe we haven't filled our worship places with wooden idols. Maybe we're not offering our children to the pagan gods. But it's our hearts...where are they? After what are we longing today? As the covenant people of God, we know better than we so often are.

May he bless us with growing knowledge and understanding of his word.

Patrick Boyns britishbibleschool.com



# AROUND THE WORLD

God gave me a wonderful opportunity to study two years at the British Bible school – I graduated in 2003. My wife Sonia completed her studies in 2004.

My three years at the School were so formative and through my time at the School I encountered Jesus and learned how to love and know him better – I would not trade that for anything.

Vijay & Sonia Madiki in India

After our graduation we came back to India to begin working along with my Dad, Prasanna Kumar Madiki who is also a graduate of the BBS in 1994. Prasanna is now 69. We have been involved in teaching and preaching Christ all these years. God blessed the work we are doing. By God's grace we have been able to plant seventeen new congregations in our State. I have personally baptised many people into Christ and witnessed more than 350 baptisms during these fifteen years.



We are actively involved in a rural preachers teaching programme. Our rural preachers network (RPN) meets monthly in our building in Samalkot. We spend time in serious Bible study. All these working preachers (both rural and tribal) don't have proper Bible education as they were not able to go to any kind of preachers training school or Bible school. We started teaching programme which we

called the "Bharat Bible School" (Bharat means India, so BBS- India) in 2006.

Our RPN fellowship started with 36 preachers and now has just above 350. This is helping these men and the congregations where they are to transform and to grow in their faith. We present our teaching in Bible Seminars, presenting Christ and preaching Christ. We also invite independent preachers with other denominational background to these classes so they can come to know the truth. My wife Sonia is actively involved with helping women and children through projects that cater both spiritual and physical needs. We are working in two states using our native language in India with this teaching programme and reaching out to the unreached with the good news of Jesus.

None of this would be possible without the British Bible School and the influence it has had on our lives. I strongly commend to make use of School's teaching resources to help each Christian to grow in their faith and to glorify our God.

As long as God gives us strength and life we will continue to press on. I know God will bless us all beyond the measure that we have always expected. Our heartfelt thanks go to all the saints who are praying and supporting us. Sonia, our sons Samuel and Paul, and my Dad, Prasanna, all join me in sending greetings to you.

> Vijaya Madiki Samalkot,India <u>vkmadiki@yahoo.co.uk</u> <u>vkmadiki@gmail.com</u>



# FROM THE ARCHIVES

### "Doers...Not Hearers Only"

The following appeared in the Edgefield bulletin of February 25th 1979:

"In Komokoff, Russia, many yeas ago, attendance at Sunday School picked up after a priest started handing out candy to the peasant children for their good work. One of the faithful children was a little boy who recited Scripture with proper piety. He would pocket the candy and then run to the fields to munch his reward. The priest took a liking to the little boy and the child became more and more interested in Sunday School. He became so intrigued that the priest succeeded in training the boy to recite all four Gospels by memory. The boy received a special prize for his accomplishment and also recited Matthew, Mark, Luke and John non-stop in church one day. Over sixty years later this man died, and on his tombstone appeared the name Nikita Kruschev! This man could quote the four Gospels by heart; but the words made no change, no progress in his life...Kruschev died an atheist as far as we know because he knew of religion but not the reality of a living relationship. Exposure does not place people closer to heaven or even make them Christians."

### KNOWLEDGE ALONE

Mere knowledge of the Bible – even the memorising of much of the text – is just not good enough. This can never accomplish God's purpose for the individual's life. We well remember meeting a man whose comprehensive knowledge of the Bible was amazing. He was a Brahman – a member of the highest priestly caste in Indian society. He had originally found a well-worn Bible in a rubbish bin, and began to read it daily. He too could recite many chapters without effort. But he remained a high caste Hindu. The knowledge had no apparent effect on his character and life.

### MISSING THE POINT

Jesus thus rebuked religious leaders: "You search the Scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness to me; yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life" (John 5:39-40). They could not be faulted for their knowledge of Hebrew Scriptures. Further, they had profound reverence for those Scriptures. Sir Frederick Kenyon tells how the scribes "numbered the verses, letters and words of every book. They calculated the middle word, and the middle letter of each. They enumerated verses which contained all the letters of the alphabet, or a certain number of them." Such was their respect for the Word of God that a scribe was not to write more than one letter before looking again at that which he was copying. Yet, despite great knowledge and reverence for the Scriptures, these people were missing the supreme point - they were blind to the greatest truth therein contained.

### LACK OF LOVE

The Master said to them: "I know that you have not <u>the love of God</u> within

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you" (John 5:42). One essential ingredient was lacking in their character: true love for God. Such love involved determination to seek God's will in all things – the desire always to please him, the willingness to submit all of life to his control. This they lacked, and we are not surprised to read the further rebuke Jesus gave them: "How can you believe, who receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?" (John 5:44).

### "AN HONEST AND GOOD HEART"

Interpreting the Parable of the Sower, the Lord Jesus said that the seed which fell into good soil represents people who, "hearing the word, hold it fast in <u>an honest and good heart</u>, and bring forth fruit with patience" (Luke 8:15). Give such a "heart" – a mind sincerely seeking to know God's will, a loving desire to submit to his requirements – the result of learning the truth must be all that God desires. Without this attitude, knowledge – however vast – will never fulfil the divine purpose.

#### "HE SHALL BE BLESSED"

Let us gain as much knowledge of the Word as we can – and encourage every work of the Lord's people which aims to promote study of the Scriptures. But let us never forget that the superstructure of Bible knowledge must be erected on the foundation of whole-hearted love for God. This will ensure that knowledge of the truth is translated into character and life. We will be and do what we know – and such people will be both blessed by God and used for his purpose. "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves, being no hearer that forgets, but a doer that acts, he shall be blessed in his doing" (James 1:22-25).

Albert E. Winstanley

## THE DELIVERANCE OF ISRAEL (THE BOOKS OF JUDGES & RUTH)

### British Bible School Autumn Study Week

 Bassenfell Manor, Bassenthwaite, Lake District

 Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> to Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019

 • Here full days of study and reflection away from the cares of life

 • Delightful accommodation, good food and decent company

 • All inclusive cost: £150 per student

 • Minduy, 4<sup>th</sup> to Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019

 • All inclusive cost: £150 per student

 • All inclusive cost: £150 per student

 • All inclusive cost: £150 per student

 • Minduy, 4<sup>th</sup> to Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019

 • All inclusive cost: £150 per student

 • All inclusive cost: £150 per student<

Galatians

"The dangers of legalism are never far away and always to be opposed. This module examines the text of this letter in light of its first century context and draws some important lessons from it for today."

Wembley 92 Barnhill Road Wembley HA9 9BS

Friday, 1ª November 7.15 to 9.30 pm Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November 9.00 am to 5.15 p

Friday, 29th November 7.15 to 9.30 pm Saturday, 30th November 9.00 am to 5.15

Teachers: Bob Eckman, John Griffiths and Jack Paton

www.britishbibleschool.com

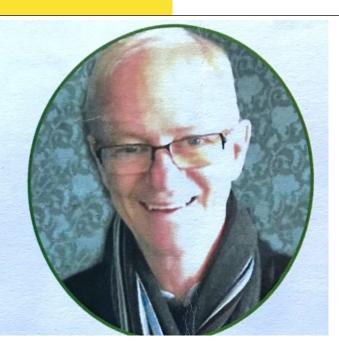
Study Weekends provide opportunities for short periods of instruction in a group setting. Participants can expect a fast-paced, intensive approach, covering a significant amount of material from a selected module.

For more information please visit our website or look for us on Facebook.



November 2019

# AT REST



### ALAN GRAY (Kirkcaldy) 10<sup>th</sup> October 1950 - 29<sup>th</sup> September

Our brother went to his reward on Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> September 2019. We met at Kirkcaldy Crematorium on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019 (exactly 69 years since he was born)

for a celebration of Alan's life.

I first really got to know Alan in one of his many places of cutting hair in Thornton. Once Alan got you in the chair he would ask lots of questions, or begin the conversation telling a joke with a cheery smiling face, or maybe give you a wee tune on his keyboard. Alan was always seeking and inquisitive, with deep and meaningful questions, searching for as much truth and Bible facts that he could take in. Truly a seeking soul.

The talks would eventually turn to religious matters and Alan was genuinely interested to find out all about the church and how to become a Christian. He was introduced to Christ by Andy Scott and on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2002 I had the privilege of baptising Alan into Christ. It was a day he would never forget – the water was VERY hot, which meant that Alan came up out of the water a little bit redder than when he went down!

Alan was a regular at the building on Hayfield Road, Kirkcaldy. He participated in many activities: welcoming everyone at the front door, singing in the choir, doing Bible readings, leading prayers and giving encouraging Bible lessons. This inspired those who heard him to read, pray and talk, given that Alan had a bit of a stammer – but he did not let this hold him back. One lady said she admired him so much for being able to read despite the struggle he had with his speech. Another brother recalls the hours of laughter shared together including walks to the bus stop after church discussing life in general, then standing on a street corner trying to figure out what a portion of the scripture meant as they tried to grow and encourage one another in the Lord.

Even after becoming a Christian Alan did not stop asking questions. He not only attended congregation Bible classes, but also requested additional study at his home in Thornton – this became a regular weekly time with Robert Hughes and myself trying to answer his questions from the Bible. I also believe that when others went for haircuts he would mark them in his appointment book for a double session – to chat, and yes, to ask more questions.

One of his favourite verses of scripture was the prayer of Jabez, that GOD would expand the territory of his heart: "Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, 'Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain'" (1 Chronicles 4:10). And God granted his request.

We will all miss Alan very much, especially his wife Janis and sons Stuart and Ross, but we can rest assured that Alan is now with his Lord. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord..."

Alan Moyes

### AT REST

### CHRISTINE ELIZABETH DAVID (*nee* Hurcombe) 28<sup>th</sup> April 1950 - 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019

My sister Christine passed away after a year long battle with lung cancer. Christine was baptised in Loch Lomond at the age of 13 during a Campaign in Glasgow that our parents attended. My Dad, Bill Hurcombe, broke the ice by the shore in order to walk into the water. She was a faithful Christian at the Newport congregation from its start in the 80's, previously being part of the congregations at Cardiff and Ince (Wigan). For many years she cleaned our building and she loved to suggest places for church picnics and outings.

Tom, Margaret and I, her five children and their families will miss her. We praise God that her suffering has ended and she is with her Lord.

Ruth Winstanley

### Gwen Smith (*nee* Britton) 1924 - 2019

Within one week our congregation lost our two oldest Christians. They were immersed at the same time 80 years ago.

Gwen Smith (nee Britton), the daughter and grandaughter of church members, passed away on 30<sup>th</sup> September, aged 95.

In her younger years Gwen was a Sunday School teacher and an accomplished singer, using her talents at various church functions singing solos and duets. She even transcribed "The Christian Hymnary" into tonic So-fa for the hymn leaders to use.

Sadly Gwen had a massive stroke some 40 years ago which took her speech and ability to walk. When ever we visited her she had a ready smile and the love of Jesus never went away. We commend Nora Waite, her sister and ours in the church, for her faithful loving devotion.



### Joyce Bullock (*nee* Booth) 1924 - 2019

On 7<sup>th</sup> October, Joyce Bullock, went to her eternal home at the age of 95. She had been the daughter of faithful Christians. She was a faithful wife, mother, grandmother and greatgrandmother. She was baptised at the age of 16 in the Burns Street Chapel, Ilkeston. She was a Sunday School teacher for many years at Burns Street and at Seymour Road, Eastwood. Mum and Dad (Gilbert Bullock) also provided hospitality for visiting preachers for many years.

Due to failing physical condition Mum went into a nursing home for the last four years, where until the last year or so she would bemoan her inability to attend church on Sundays to those who visited her. Philip and I were the fortunate sons of Joyce and Gilbert Bullock and are forever grateful for their example and teaching.

John Bullock

Trevor Williams



# APPEAL UPDATE

#### UPDATE ON ISHABY TINARWO



Ishaby and Happiness Tinarwo

Ishaby had his surgery on the 24<sup>th</sup>. September. The doctor said the operation went well.

The plan was for Ishaby to stay in the intensive care unit for a week, but due to complications with his liver and kidney function and other set backs he was in the ICU for over three weeks. This meant that he had to extend his stay in

India for another eight days so as to allow more time for his after-surgery care.

A couple of days ago he was allowed to stay in the guest house where his wife

Happiness has been since they arrived in India. During this time he has been doing some exercises to gain more strength. Ishaby had a review with the doctor on 24<sup>th</sup> October which went very well.

The plan now is for Ishaby and his wife Happiness to fly home to Zimbabwe in the early hours of Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> October. Praise God.

I want to thank all of you for your generosity toward our appeal that made all this possible.

As soon as Ishaby gets home and settled I am sure he will send a message of gratitude which I will pass on to you all.

Dave Carscadden (Corby)

### Two Study Weekends ... One Beautiful Letter

### Morley

3 Zoar Street, Morley, Leeds, LS27 8JD

Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> November 7.00 to 9.30pm Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> November 9.00am to 4.30pm Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> December 7.00 to 9.30pm Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> December 9.00am to 4.30pm

Paul's letter to the Ephesians takes us beyond this realm and into the heavenly places. Though the theological implications are vast, there is a wealth of practical instruction that cannot be overlooked.

Teachers: Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway and Mark Hill www.britishbibleschool.com

Study Weekends provide opportunities for short periods of instruction in a group setting. Participants can expect a fast-paced, intensive approach, covering a significant amount of material from a selected module.

For more information please visit our website or look for us or Facebook. All are welcome to either or both weekends!

Advanced Bible Study Series in Gemünden, Germany

ABSS I – 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> February ABSS II – 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> February

Contact: Paul Brazle (brazle.paul@gmail.com)



# DIARY

#### <u>November</u>

4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> – <u>British Bible School</u>: Residential Study Week at Bassenfell Manor, near Keswick. Teachers: Patrick Boyns, John Griffiths, Jack Paton and Steve Whitehead. Contact: <u>study@britishbibleschool.com</u>.
8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> – <u>Morley</u>: British Bible School Study Weekend. Module: "Ephesians" (part 1). Teachers: Patrick Boyns and Mark Hill. <u>www.britishbibleschool.com</u>

**9**<sup>th</sup> – <u>Eastwood (Nottinghamshire)</u>: Quarterly Outreach meeting – "Jesus – and His Return". Light refreshments at 6.00 pm and lesson at 7.00 pm. Contact: Adrian Limb (<u>cofceastwood@aol.com</u>).

**16**<sup>th</sup> – <u>Northampton</u>: Ladies' Day – "Love Letters", 10.00 am-3.00 pm. Contact: Karen Johnson (<u>liburdkaren@hotmail.com</u>).

**16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> – <u>East Kilbride</u>:** British Bible School Study Weekend. Module: "Ezekiel" (part 2). Friday – 7.30-9.45 pm; Saturday – 9.00 am to 5.00 pm. Teachers: Patrick Boyns and Jon Galloway. <u>www.britishbibleschool.com</u>

**29**<sup>th</sup>-**30**<sup>th</sup> – <u>Wembley (London)</u>: British Bible School Study Weekend. Module: "Galatians". Friday – 7.15-9.30 pm; Saturday – 9.00 am to 5.15 pm. <u>www.britishbibleschool.com</u> (note that this date is subject to change)

#### <u>December</u>

**6**<sup>th</sup>-**7**<sup>th</sup> – <u>Morley</u>: British Bible School Study Weekend. Module: "Ephesians" (part 2). Teachers: Patrick Boyns and Jon Galloway. <u>www.britishbibleschool.com</u>

13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> – <u>Dundee</u>: Young Adults Weekend. Venue: Windmill Christian Centre, Arbroath, DD11 1QG. Cost: £40 per person. Speaker: Patrick Boyns. For any bookings please contact Dan Jones: <u>jonesdp1116@gmail.com</u>.

#### <u>January 2020</u>

17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> – BBS Family Retreat: "In the Steps of the Master"; venue: Bassenfell Manor Christian Retreat Centre near Keswick. Contact: <u>britishbibleschool.com</u>

#### <u>February</u>

**28**<sup>th</sup>-**29**<sup>th</sup> – <u>Hyvots Bank & Kirkcaldy</u>: East Coast Joint Meetings – "2020 Vision", 7.30 pm. Speaker: Mark Hill. Friday at Hyvots Bank, Saturday in Kirkcaldy (Hayfield Community Centre). Contact: Alan Moyes (<u>alan.j.moyes@gmail.com</u>) or Nick Wilson (<u>hnwilson@blueyonder.co.uk</u>).

14<sup>th</sup> – <u>Great Barr</u>: Bible Seminar. Venue: Main hall, Collingwood Community Centre, Collingwood Drive, Birmingham. B43 7NF. Contact: Sola Adeosun (<u>sola.adeosun@gmail.com</u>).

#### <u>April</u>

11th - Kirkcaldy: Annual Social Day, 1.30 pm. Speaker: Adam Barr. Contact: Alan Moyes (alan.J.Moyes@gmail.com).

#### <u>August</u>

27th-29th – <u>European Christian Workshop</u>: Lancaster University. Theme – 'AWAKE'. Contact: Stephen Woodcock (01509 768789 or <u>registration@europeanchristianworkshop.com</u>).

#### <u>September</u>

5<sup>th</sup> – <u>Great Barr</u>: Fellowship Day. Venue: Main Hall, Collingwood Community Centre, Collingwood Drive, Birmingham. B43 7NF. Contact: Sola Adeosun (<u>sola.adeosun@gmail.com</u>).

#### European Events Calendar

#### <u>February 2020</u>

17<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> – <u>Gemünden, Germany</u>: Advanced Bible Study Series. Arrive Monday evening for ABSS I, which begins on Tuesday morning. ABSS I – Tuesday-Friday; ABSS II – Friday-Sunday. Contact: Paul Brazle (<u>brazle.paul@gmail.com</u>).

**27**<sup>th</sup>-**1**<sup>st</sup> **March** – **European Ladies' Retreat** in Burg Lichtenberg, Thallichtenberg, Germany. Theme: "A Royal Priesthood" (1 Peter 2:9). Organised by Christian women in the UK. Contact: <u>elrorganizers@gmail.com</u>. Website: <u>http://elr.yolasite.com</u>.



### THE FINAL WORD



"Do this in my memory" Churches of Christ place great emphasis on the remembrance of Jesus Christ in taking bread and fruit of the vine each Sunday. In November of each year our nation takes two minutes to remember the soldiers who were killed in world wars and conflicts since. Apart from war memorials, and perhaps the occasional place of worship that was bombed and kept as a memorial, there is now little sign of the devastation that was wrought across the world, of the horrors that degraded mankind. The greatest sadness in all of this is that mankind has not learned one single thing about the futility of war. Leaders of nations try to ripple their political muscle; some will show off military might. These events are little more than the school bully who tries by their own will to dominate those around. Shame upon those nations.

As I travel around our own country I endeavour to look at the war memorials and wonder what was in the hearts of those who died on the battle field. 'Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.' John 15:13 is the verse often used on those memorials; sadly this is a huge misappropriation of scripture. Jesus was not talking about death on the battlefield but living in a world



where those who love Jesus are despised and hated. He was talking about you and me when so-called friends mock our faith or our family makes life difficult for us because we are Christians and we want to put Jesus first. He was talking about being ignored because we are different, that our speech is clean, that we will say 'no' to immorality; that we don't 'go all the way'. Every Christian looks like most other people but we are not we are different: we sound different. we think differently. We are the people on the battlefield not fighting with guns but with love in our hearts and kindness in our actions. Our tears are not for the dead but for the living, for those who go through life and reject the salvation of Jesus. We are indeed the soldiers of Christ and we must put our armour on.

I recently read a poem by G.A.S. Kennedy, a Chaplain in World War I. I offer it for your thoughts.

> Still I see them coming, coming, In their ragged broken line, Walking wounded in the sunlight, Clothed in majesty divine.

> For the fairest of the lilies, That God's summer ever sees, Ne'er was clothed in royal beauty, Such as decks the least of these.

Tattered, torn and bloody khaki, Gleams of white flesh in the sun, Raiment worthy of their beauty, And the great things that they have done.

> Purple robes and snowy linen, Have for earthly kings sufficed, But these bloody sweaty tatters, Were the robes of Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your heart be troubled and do not be afraid' (John 14:27).

Trevor