



ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

Monday, 29th May, 2023

Sunday Sermon: Romans 5: 12 - 21

Continuing the presentation of the gospel by Paul in his letter to the Romans, this section of chapter seems to take another excursion into the spiritual history of God's people to explain the significance of particular features.

Having established the answer to sin as Jesus dying instead of us by his death on Calvary there is also the truth that Jesus will live instead of us by his resurrected life.

In this section, the focus is on leadership and inheritance. The principle of inheritance is the same – it reaches all who belong to that leader; but the nature of the inheritance varies with the leader.

The original and innate leadership of all humanity is that of Adam. As the Genesis story records, **destruction was caused by that first leader**. Through disobedience and rebellion against the expectations of God, sin entered into human nature and remains thus ever since, bringing with it eternal punishment.

However, **correction was brought about by our Second Leader: Jesus Christ**.

His redeeming action of going to the Cross to pay for our sins (and release us from the original inheritance) and his resurrection by which he now lives in us, needs to be accepted by deliberate faith through which we inherit a new nature through being born again by grace.

That is a **transformation that is brought about by the gospel**.

Keswick in Ayrshire

This year's 3-day Keswick-in-Ayrshire will be held once again at the Park Hotel in Kilmarnock on Friday 2nd, Saturday 3rd and Sunday, 4th June. Admission is free but pre-booking may be necessary. See the Keswick Ayrshire website.

This Week

Coming into the last month before the summer break (already?!) Toddlers, Café, #One2Seven, Youth Challenge, Bible Study and Prayer meetings will all convene at the usual times.

Faith Mission

Friday night sees the monthly Rally at Allander at 7 30 with Albert Mawhinnie speaking and Gordon doing his spontaneous leading, prompted by Janice!

On the following evening, Saturday 3rd, Rejuvenate will again meet up for their last session before they go off to a special weekend at Newton Stewart at the end of the month.

FM Prayer Union

Completing the FM weekend, the monthly Faith Mission will be held at Margaret Russell's Home (53 Roman Rd, Bearsden G61 2SG) on Monday 5th June at 7 30pm.

FM Convention

Responses to the suggestion for an Awayday on Thursday 6th July to the FM are awaited by Jim Gourley as soon as possible so that arrangements can be made. Paul Mallard is the speaker and Gordon Thomson our host! The visit will include a tour of the premises and lunch.

Mission of the Month

Having supported Children for Christ over the five Sundays of May we turn to Slavic Gospel Association for June.

Mark Foster will be with us at the Prayer Meeting on Tuesday 13th June.

People and Prayer

Although not one of our own, we mourn the passing of Professor Donald Macleod of the Free Church, powerful preacher and theologian whose spoken and written ministry has been such a blessing to so many.

We remember all those in our fellowship who need a place in our prayers. The reassuring words in Deuteronomy 33: 27 are a real help in the many and varied situations that different ones among us are having to face.

It was good to see Mary and Paul Clark out at the meetings last week. And, seeing Margaret Russell back to herself but still waiting further investigations. Fortitude is a real testimony.

Inga

Speaking of fortitude (and commitment, enthusiasm, industriousness) among many characteristics, - Inga is due back tomorrow from her time at Moorlands

teaching the Wycliffe SIL training course. She will have a few days to get herself ready to return to her "day job" in Mexico, leaving on June 6th. This Sunday will be her last Sunday at Allander.

Seminars on Evangelism

Glen Scrivener will be speaking at the Equip conference on Building our Confidence with a focus on evangelism at Calderwood Baptist Church, East Kilbride, on Saturday 10th June. The conference will be from 9.30 until 1 pm. He will also be delivering an evangelistic talk that same Saturday evening. Conference cost £5. Details from Calderwood Baptist Church website.

Church Outing

A church outing to Balloch has been arranged for Saturday, 17th June with a meal at the Balloch Inn at 1 pm and a Sail on Loch Lomond from 3 – 5pm. You can come to both or to one or the other. The meal costs £25 and the Sail £13. Sign-up sheets are available at the back of the church for choice of activity and / or menu. Names are needed by 11th June.

A Men's Meal has also been proposed for Wednesday evening, June 28th.

Finally,

One of the most haunting things that I have read in the writings of AW Tozer is when he wrote, *"Before the Devil gets us to accept something, the first thing he does is get us to laugh at it"*. That thought haunts me because I believe that I am seeing it being fulfilled in this day. The TV programmes of my childhood often had as the funniest character someone of ambiguous sexuality and most definitely camp! Pantomimes frequently had male actors for female characters and vice versa. For decades that was entertainment, now it is life - affecting education, medicine, and every realm of life. The only consolation is that there seems little to laugh at in our day, maybe the Devil has pushed the mockery as far as he can go. We await to see what the Lord does next. Isaiah 5 v 20 *Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter.*

John Macleod