



ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

Monday, 8th May, 2023

Sunday Sermon: Romans 4: 1 – 25

In Romans, Paul is setting out God's Plan for salvation as the Divine answer of righteousness to counter the innate depravity of human sinfulness.

Having outlined the universal godlessness and unrighteousness of mankind, God's righteousness is revealed in the Person of Jesus, the Son of God. That is the gospel of which Paul is not ashamed "*for it is the power of God unto salvation*". It is His **Perfect plan**. There are several features to that Plan.

In the first place there is the **consistency of it**. Ever since the Fall, and especially in the new beginning with Abraham's call, it has always been God's plan to rescue and bring into being a people for Himself.

There is also the **impartiality of it** in that it is intended for anyone, whether Jew or Gentile. The promise to Abraham is before he was identified as the father of the Jews.

The key to its efficacy, as set out in this chapter, is Abraham's faith. He took God at His word: he believed *that God would do exactly what he said he would do*. It was not earned by individual merit but credited because of confidence placed in Another and what He would do. In Abraham's case that involved the miraculous birth of Isaac. That shows the **supremacy of God's plan**.

Finally, and critically, is **the opportunity it presents** for each of us, as we acknowledge our sinfulness and inability to merit salvation, to exercise our personal faith in this glorious gospel.

This Week

Normal programme this week with Toddlers at 9 30am on Tuesday; Drop-In Café from 10 30 to 12 30 and #One2Seven / Youth Challenge from 6 30 to 7 45 on Wednesday; Bible Study (Acts 21) at 7 30 on Thursday.

Prayer will take place on Tuesday at the church and on Zoom at 8pm and for the half-hour from 9 to 9 30 on Wednesday and Friday mornings.

Two visiting preachers this coming Sunday: Fraser Allan in the morning and Alex Bedford at night.

Mission of the Month

Last month's contribution to the work of The Faith Mission amounted to £700.

This month we are supporting Children for Christ in Romania as our Mission of the Month.

The church has had a long involvement with Children for Christ, with the late David Jack looking after much of its business administration and John Macleod – along with teams and individual volunteers – spending time in the country helping at camps and contributing in ministry, training and practical projects.

The work consists of an orphanage and a series of summer camps for children and now led by Romanian personnel. One encouraging feature is the number of ex-campers and beneficiaries coming back to help and service the work.

Practical support is ensured by collecting items of clothing and other relevant

artefacts for use at the camps and centre as well as being sold in the charity shop out there to help fund projects. Allander's support has been, and is, substantial.

Concert

Inspirational Gospel Music, Scotland, have arranged Ernie Haase+ in a live concert on Thursday 18th May at 7 30pm in Freedom City Church Centre in Cumbernauld, G67 1QR. Tickets are available from Bill Anderson, 07909697573

SGA Prayer

The next Slavic Gospel Association Prayer Meeting will be on Friday 26th May at 7 30pm in Margaret Russell's home at 53 Roman Road, Bearsden, G61 2SG.

Morning Star

It is planned to show the film – Morning Star – telling the story of John Wycliffe and his pioneering work in promoting the Reformation. The showing will be at Allander on Friday 19th May at 7 30pm. Admission is free with a retiring offering at the door. Invitation cards are now available.

Library

The church now has an extensive library arranged and looked after by Colin Wilson who writes: *You are invited to visit the new Church Library where hopefully there will be a book of interest for you. Come and speak to me about the books that you enjoy and would like to be here.*

Summer Convention Dates

Scottish Reformed Conference at Hamilton College this Saturday 13th May with Sinclair Ferguson and Kevin DeYoung as the speakers. Faith Mission Convention in Edinburgh from 2nd to 7th July with Charles Price and Paul Mallard. Keswick on the theme of Human in July: 15 – 21; 22 – 26; and 29 to August 4th.

People and Prayer

George Cowan is now in Mugdock House Care Home and can be visited anytime. Contact George on 0745437043.

Inga has caught Covid while down in Moorlands. It has left her with a heavy cough and disturbed her teaching programme. She would appreciate prayer for healing and strength to continue.

Holiday Club

Planning for the Holiday Club is well under way with a good number of volunteers offering their services. The Club itself will be run by Simon and Hannah Snodgrass with help from John and Martha Meagher. The theme this year is Mission Possible and the dates, 10th to 14th July from 10am until noon each day. Publicity is being arranged and leaflets for distribution will be available in due course. The next Planning Meeting is scheduled for Monday 22nd May at 730 pm.

Finally,

The Coronation Weekend has passed and we now have a new King. Queen Consort, Camilla was crowned with Queen Mary's crown with 2020 diamonds in it. King Charles' crown weighed 5 pounds. It was solid gold with 444 gemstones.

It made me think of the humility of our King, humble and obedient, willing to die on a cross for our sins, and be crowned with a crown of thorns. May we have a humble heart like the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

What do we aspire to do in our lives? JOY means to serve Jesus first, Others second and (Y) ourselves last. All with a humble and eternally grateful heart.

Jim Flett