



PORTOBELLO BAPTIST CHURCH

Messenger

July 2007

www.portobellobaptist-church.org.uk

A THOUGHT

Guidance For us to be sure of this...

We need Faith

HEB 11:8 By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

Because we know this story it is easy to let it glide over our heads. I wonder if we would be willing to order the removal van before God showed us the destination. If we are going to do this there are other lessons we need to learn also..

We need to stand Firm

EX 14:13 Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today.

When you realize that the Egyptians were right at their backs breathing out murder after loosing their firstborn children this was a big "Ask". But God needs for us to do this not so that we will be statues but so that we will be ready for the next instruction.

We need to go forward

EX 14:15 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on. (to go forward).

What is God asking you or the Church to do? Mrs Thatcher was famous for her statement "The lady's not for turning". Now although our first point saw Abram leaving Haran for an unknown destination, God rarely keeps us in the dark for long. One more incident this time from Paul.

We need a Heavenly Vision

It is a blessing for us that Paul didn't just stay in Asia Minor but heard and obeyed the vision from Macedonia.

Acts 16v9 During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." *Acts 26:19* "So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven.

Our needs are still the same as in approx. 2010BC for Abraham, or 1490BC for Moses, or 700BC for Isaiah or AD50's for Paul. We too need a Faith that will stand Firm until we have a clear vision to go forward. Then we need like Abram, Moses and Paul to be obedient.

Alan Berry,
Interim Moderator

THE PULPIT

July	1st	a.m.	Mr. William Anderson
		p.m.	Rev. Robert Gemmell
	8th		Rev. Alan Montgomery
	15th		Rev. James Bathgate
	22nd		Rev. Alan Berry
	29th		Rev. Robert Gemmell



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

August	16th	Management Committee
	23rd - 25th	Christian Resources Exhibition -- at S.E.C.C. Glasgow

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Hold this paper close to your nose and breathe deeply

If the sheet turns green, you need to see a Doctor.

If it turns blue, see a Dentist.

If it turns red, see your Bank Manager.

If it turns black, you need to check your will
(so see your Lawyer immediately).

If, however, it does not change colour
then there is nothing wrong with you and
there is no reason why you shouldn't be in church next week.

(Mrs Cathy Whittaker)

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

The Sinclair's visited Parr St. Evangelical Church, Kendal and bring back warmest greetings from the fellowship.

EMAIL UPDATE FROM LINK MISSIONARY (ANGOLA)

Hi folks,

Just wanted to let you know what I've been up to and ask you to keep me, PEPE and Angola in your prayers. I'm heading south to Benguela tomorrow (17 June) so will be out of e-mail contact for the next week or so.

I got back from a four day trip to Lunda Norte last night. It was a trip full of new experiences, learning a little of the local dialect, having soldier termites for tea (crunchy, tasty but chew well so pincers don't get stuck in your throat) and being moved in my heart again by the situation of children in this area. I'll tell you more when I get back from Benguela, but pray for the pastors and the church in this area.

The trip to Benguela is to support Maria Teresa as she teaches the PEPE course for the first time. We have five people sent by their churches to participate, it sounds a small number but it will be good for Teresa, and if they all work in PEPE afterwards then that will be great. Pray for Maria Teresa as she will probably be feeling a bit nervous, that the course would run smoothly and the students have a real sense of calling to PEPE work. pray for good health for us all.

Pray for Angola. I have been distressed to hear of what is apparently a new law. Known thieves can be shot on sight. A team arrives in an area with photographs and that's it. Allowed. Pray for Angola, especially young people. It was good to hear the concern of the IEBA church leaders for young people as we were together in Lunda norte. Pray the concern would be made practical.

I'm keeping this brief as I'm up early tomorrow, but I do thank you for all your prayers and support.

Lynne

POEM



The rain it raineth every day,
upon the just and unjust fella;
but chiefly on the just, because
the unjust's got the just's umbrella.

(given by Jack Livingstone)

SAVING SUNBEAMS

Portobello Holiday Club Summer Week
9th -- 13th July 2007

As the name suggests, eco issues and the good news, are at the forefront of our message this year. Each day we shall visit a new earthly setting with songs, story, opening activity, workout, challenge, games, craft, wildlife, agencies and much, much more.

At the start of the week we hear about the fig tree in the parable, not performing, unloved and uncared for, and a man wanting to try to bring it back to life. With love, anything is possible. Then it is Ruth's story. Working in the fields in a small rural community, life can be very hard but help is at hand. We, too, can take responsibility, even as 'townies'. By mid-week we are in the city. Jesus was far from pleased with what he found in the temple ... and we shall look at pollution too! We can change these bad habits and we must. Thursday is crunch time, going through 'the burn'. Deserts and wilderness for Jesus were testing places but places too from which to gain strength and resolve through quality time with God. He knew what he had to do. The last day fittingly brings the week to a close at the waterside. So many stories to choose from: the rivers of Exodus, the springs in Revelation or, my favourite, Jesus on the beach with breakfast on the fire welcoming his disciples back from a hard night's fishing. What a wonderful homecoming it shall be.

Held in Portobello Old Parish Church, Bellfield Street