

Scottish Registered Charity: SC015322



PORTOBELLO BAPTIST CHURCH

Messenger

July 2010

Just God

*“Who is among you that fears the Lord,
that obeys the voice of His servant that walks in darkness,
and has no light?
Let him trust in the name of the Lord.
(Isaiah 50:10)*

I heard about a man who received four long-distance calls before he could get out of the house one morning. Everybody had problems and they all wanted him to come and solve them “right now!” He told his wife to forget about breakfast and rushed out, only to discover his car wouldn’t start – so he called a taxi. When he got into the taxi he yelled, “Alright, let’s get going!” The driver asked, “Where do you want me to take you?” He replied, “I don’t care where we go, I’ve got problems everywhere.”

Do you feel like that today? Have you done all you know to do, but the situation hasn’t improved? Here’s your answer, “Trust in the Name of the Lord” (Isaiah Ch50 v 10). God’s character, God’s faithfulness, and God’s power are all wrapped up in His Name, So, when you pray and claim the promises in His name, you’re trusting in His character, His faithfulness, and His power. It’s like standing on a rock! All of us have times when our faith is weak and we struggle to believe. But God is faithful to us even in those moments. Listen: “if we believe not, yet He abides faithful: He cannot deny Himself” (2 Timothy Ch2 v 13). God knows what you are going through today and He will help you, if you will just turn it all over to Him.

Go ahead, all it requires is one step of faith on your part.

Rev Terry Gallagher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

September	8th	07.30 p.m.	Quarterly Business Meeting
	25th	10.00 a.m.	2010 Bible Conference at
		– 3.00 p.m.	Duncan Street Baptist Church
October	28th		Scottish Baptist Assembly at
	– 30th		The Vine Venue, Dunfermline

PRAYER POINT

Please continue to pray for those that regularly attend the Thursday evening Stauros Meeting, that God would sovereignly move in their lives as they seek to know more of Him and to conquer their addictions. Pray also for those who faithfully assist each week.

Ewan Sinclair

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

After our fortnight long summer holiday to the area just outside Cambridge, Allistair & Ewan bring warm greetings from the Spicer St. Independent Evangelical Church, St. Albans and Twynholm Baptist Church, Fulham (London) to the fellowship at Portobello Baptist Church.

Allistair & Ewan Sinclair

RECENT INCIDENTS OF PERSECUTION

Karnataka, India, June 30 (CDN) — Hindu extremists on June 23 beat two pastors, seriously injuring them in Chandapura, Anekal. The Evangelical Fellowship of India reported that after pastors Shidu Kurialose and Nithya Vachanam of Bethel Assembly of God Church conducted a Christian meeting in a home, armed extremists attacked them at a tea stall. The extremists accused the pastors of forceful conversion and started beating them with iron rods. Both pastors sustained serious injuries and were admitted in a local hospital. No police complaint was filed.

Tamil Nadu – After opposing a Christian convention on June 17-20, Hindu extremists from the Bajrang Dal on June 22 burned at least seven vehicles belonging to Jesus With Us Pentecostal Church in Mathikere, Hosur. The Global Council of Indian Christians reported that the incident started when the extremists on June 18 called on local authorities to revoke the organisers' permit and convinced local Hindu shop owners to close their stores. Police arrested five Hindu extremists in connection with anti-Christian violence. Subsequently, under police protection, Christians moved their meeting to another area eight kilometres (five miles) from the original site.

Uttar Pradesh – Hindu extremists from the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh disrupted the prayer meeting of the Jesus Church (Isha Garh) on June 21 in Firozabad and accused the pastor of forceful conversion. A source said the extremists forced their way into the church building and manhandled Pastor Breymond Shastri. The next day the extremists went to newspaper Amar Ujala with the accusation, and the local periodical published a false report that Pastor Shastri was taking part in forceful conversion activities. Area Christian leaders said no forceful conversion was taking place. The extremists warned the pastor he would be harmed if he continued to conduct worship services.

New Delhi – Suspected Islamic extremists beat an Afghani Christian, seriously injuring him, on June 14 in Malviya Nagar. A Christian source said two Islamic extremists on a motorbike beat Hamid Ullah on his head as he was walking home. The Christian fell on his stomach and the extremists continued to beat him, denigrating his faith, calling him “pagan” and warning him to convert to Islam or face harm. Afghani Christians have been facing warnings, threats and attacks in different areas of New Delhi, the source said, and the advocacy department of the Evangelical Fellowship of India has taken steps to help them.

Orissa – Hindu extremists from the Bajrang Dal on June 9 accused three Christians of forceful conversion and attacked them in Deogarh, Sambalpur. The Evangelical Fellowship of India reported that the incident took place when Hindu Biranchi Kistotta invited Pastor Lamuel Panaik, Pastor N. Philemon and Sudhir Kumar to celebrate the healing of his son, for whom Pastor Panaik had prayed. People of various faiths attended the celebration, including Hindu members of Kistotta's family. At about 12:30 p.m., seven Hindu extremists accompanied by media personnel suddenly arrived and called Pastor Patnaik to come out of his house. When the pastor refused, the extremists rushed in and forcefully pulled out the three Christians. The extremists accused them of forceful conversion and beat Sudhir Kumar while manhandling the two pastors. Police arrived and questioned those present about whether forceful conversion was taking place, and people came forward to say that the Christians were innocent. Police took the three Christians to the police station as a safety measure, however, and arranged for their return home at 10:30 p.m. No police complaint was filed as the Christians chose to forgive the attackers.

Chhattisgarh – Hindu extremists from the Bajrang Dal attacked a Christian school program from May 20 to May 29 in Jagbalput, beating a pastor and two teachers on May 27. Beaten were Pastor Rahul Pant and two teachers from Mission India. A source told Compass the extremists accused the Christians of forceful conversion and of using a government school for the Christian program, called Children Development Program (CDP), without permission. They also accused the Christians of distributing books containing conversion activities (biblical narratives). The extremists took the Christians to a police station, where officers questioned them. The Christians said they had permission from the village head, but the assailants said they need permission from the local collector. The parties reached an agreement wherein the Christians were forced to stop the CDP in the government school until they obtain the collector's permission. The Christians were released without charges.

Andhra Pradesh – Hindu extremists accused Pastor T. Paul of forceful conversion and beat him on May 24 in Narayanpet, Mahabubnagar, seriously injuring him. The All India Christian Council reported the Hindu extremists stopped Pastor Paul as he returned home in a Jeep after conducting a worship meeting. The extremists stopped his vehicle and dragged him out before beating him and accusing him of forceful conversion. The pastor received hospital treatment for internal injuries. Area Christian leaders have asked police to arrest the assailants.

(taken from www.compassdirect.org)

MY FATHER'S EYE! ("The Pastor's Evening Visit" by James Smith, 1802 – 1862)

(James Smith was a predecessor of Charles Spurgeon at New Park Street Chapel in London until 1848. Early on, Smith's readings were even more popular than Spurgeon's!)

"Your Father – who sees in secret." Matthew 6:6

Can anyone hide himself from the Lord in secret places?

Can I, under any circumstances, escape His notice? Impossible!

The eye of God has been fixed upon me every second of this day; it is now at this moment fixed fully upon me. But it is my Father's eye! My Father sees in secret!

He sees my needs – and my woes.

He sees every secret working of my foes – and will save me from them.

He sees every secret influence which is likely to injure me – and will prevent it.

He sees . . .

the secret workings of my heart,
my hidden thoughts, my unuttered desires,
my soul conflicts, my private temptations.

But He sees also my secret sins!
Every evil thought, every improper action,
every unfitting word – passes under His eye!

Solemn consideration this!

May it make me cautious.

May it preserve me. . .

from yielding to temptation,
from nourishing sinful thoughts, and
from acting inconsistent with my profession.

My heavenly Father sees me!

He sees me at this moment!

He sees me every moment!

He sees my most secret motives, thoughts, and purposes!
He who thus sees me – hates every sin with an infinite hatred!

(taken from www.gracegems.org)

BRAINY YAKKING: J. C. RYLE ON THE CHURCH IN HEAVEN



(John Charles Ryle (10 May 1816 - 10 June 1900) was the first Anglican Bishop of Liverpool)

When all earthly glory is passed away then shall this church be presented without spot before God the Father's throne. Thrones, principalities, and powers upon earth shall come to nothing; dignities, and offices, and endowments shall all pass away; but the Church of the first-born shall shine as the stars at the last, and be presented with joy before the Father's throne, in the day of Christ's appearing. When the Lord's jewels are made up, and manifestation of the sons of God takes place, Episcopacy, and Presbyterianism, and Congregationalism will not be mentioned; one Church only will be named, and that is the Church of the elect.

Questions:

According to Ryle how will the Church in heaven be different from the Church today?

What kinds of things might contribute to that difference, how will those things change?

How might this view of the Church in heaven help our view of the Church today?

(taken from www.wretchedradio.com)

GREAT QUOTES with Kirk Cameron

Faith is frequently represented in Scripture, under the metaphor of bodily sight. Of Moses it is said that "he endured as seeing Him who is invisible" Hebrews 11:27. That is, his heart was sustained through faith's being occupied with the mighty God.

The eye is a very delicate thing – it is soon hurt and easily damaged. A tiny speck of dust will cause pain and make it weep. It is very striking to note, that this is the very way to recovery – it weeps out the dust that gets into it.

Just so, faith is a most delicate grace, thriving best in a pure conscience. Hence the apostle speaks of "holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience" (1 Timothy 3:9). The lively actings of faith are soon marred by the dust of sin, or by the vanities of the world getting into the heart where it is seated. And wherever true faith is – if it is hurt by sin – it vents itself in a way of godly sorrow.

~ Arthur Pink "The Eye of Faith"

Faith is often used synonymously with the word "trust". In my own experience, I've learned that trust is a very delicate thing. It's like a crystal vase – easily shattered, and once broken, very difficult to restore. I've learned to guard my wife's trust. If I am to know the full measure of Chelsea's love, I must keep my word to her, be faithful and loyal to the very end, and treasure her above every other woman on earth. When pride, ego, or unfaithfulness creeps in (in any form), trust is damaged and the relationship is in danger. Trust thrives when love is pure, but dies in unfaithfulness. Even so, faith flourishes in a pure heart alone. If you are a Christian, examine your heart today and see if there be any wicked way in you. Expel the foreign objects of sin through godly sorrow and restore your pure eye of faith.



~ Kirk Cameron

BAPTIST UNION OF SCOTLAND PRAYER LINK

July	4th	Drumchapel & Dumbarton
	11th	Dumfries & Duncan Street
	18th	Dundee (Central) & Dunfermline West
	25th	Dunoon & Dunrossness