

# The Corona Chronicle

West Worthing Evangelical Church Rugby Road.

Sunday August 23rd

[www.westworthingevangelical.co.uk](http://www.westworthingevangelical.co.uk)

Being Church while the Corona Virus emergency is on



## Some Like It Hot!

Well, they've certainly had their desire fulfilled over these last couple of weeks with tropical temperatures day after day! People have flocked to the seaside and wherever else they could prostrate themselves in the sun to work on their tan. Not that much social distancing in evidence, either!

But for many of us I suspect that it has been more a case of enduring rather than enjoying the intense heat. Lovely as it is to see the sunshine, we can find that the relentless heat takes its toll on our bodies and our energy. As you find yourself dripping (again!) with perspiration the most enticing prospect that tantalises us is to be able to stay under a cold shower or to lie in front of a fan all day! It's just too hot!

But there is one area where it is impossible to be too hot; indeed where it is dangerous **not** to be hot. Some of the most uncomfortable, compelling and challenging words the Lord Jesus Christ ever spoke were delivered to a group of his people who were quite happy with their status quo. He said, "I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were either cold or hot! So because you are neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth." (Revelation 3:15-16 ESV).

The Laodicean Christians had settled into their environment and it was hard to tell what differentiated them from their pagan neighbours. The problem lay in the nature of their relationship with their Saviour – not opposed, just an undemanding comfortable inertia. And Jesus wanted his people hot! He still does.

What is this spiritual heat that Jesus longs to see in his disciples? Don't make the mistake of equating it with activity, though it may lead us to that. Activity in itself can become a treadmill that leads us to spiritual enervation, much as the recent heat brought physical draining to many. As we get older we find that we can no longer be as active or do as much as previously. That may irk us, but activity is not the gauge Jesus uses.

Neither is it an invitation to seek to work ourselves up into an emotional state which thrills us at the time then leaves us deflated afterwards and looking for the next spiritual fix.

So what is it then? It is the controlling warmth of a love for him that dominates our lives and thinking. In other words, relationship – and as we all know, deepening a relationship has to be worked at. You can't just decide "From today I'm going to love this person more" and Bingo! it happens!



Deepening a relationship means getting to know them better, spending time with them, listening to them, sharing with them, being honest with them.  
And it's the same with getting to love Jesus more.

At an FIEC Annual Assembly in Worthing many years ago Tony Sargent spoke at a ministers' session. In it he said, "Many pastors are overworked and underprayed!" That is probably true of **all** of us. Prayer is meant to be a love life with Jesus and if we viewed it in that way perhaps we would radically overhaul our approach to praying. Of course, praying for God's work and people, for our world and its problems is vital but do we find that sometimes we are merely coming to God with a shopping list?  
Of course, learning to love Jesus more deeply is not only a solo effort. God has given us a family of believers so that together in worship and in fellowship we can encourage and strengthen one another as we seek to love our Lord Jesus as he deserves.

Dennis R. Read



Oct. 16, 1907

A. S. Boyd

*Clergyman (by way of consoling despondent parishioner). 'Just consider how you have been guided and provided for all these seventy years.'*

*Parishioner. 'Sixty-nine, if you please!'*

Punch Oct 16 1907

## BEING CHURCH DURING THE LOCKDOWN



We started Sunday morning Church Services on August 16th at 10-30

A risk assessment has been completed and we shall observe the government's guidance for the Church building. This will be an Onsite, Online Service and you will be able to watch the Service live on Face Book. A recording of the service will be available on the website. The Online prayer meeting will continue on Messenger on the West Worthing Evangelical Church page. At the moment we have two at 6-30 on Sunday and 7-30 on Tuesdays

**We welcome visitors to our services** but so that we can accommodate safely it would be helpful if you can contact us by Email at least 72 hours before at [wwech@rocketmail.com](mailto:wwech@rocketmail.com) This applies to visitors not regular members of the congregation..

**For all who come to our services please remember**

That face coverings will have to be worn at all times when on the premises and that people should bring their own.

That two metres social distancing and HMG hygiene guidance must be adhered to strictly.

That contact details will be required from visitors to assist Track and Trace if required, but that they will be destroyed after the mandatory three weeks from the last visit.

I asked: "Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?"  
Who am I?

I asked God, "Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh?"  
Who am I?

I said: "What is truth?"  
Who am I?

I asked God not to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah if righteous men could be found there.  
Who am I?

I said: "I have gotten a man from the LORD."  
Who am I?

I washed my hands before the multitude and said "I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it."  
Who am I?

I am the festival that Jesus was at when He stayed behind at the temple.  
What festival am I?

Jesus stayed with me when he was passing through Jericho.  
Who am I?

I came to Jesus at night to hear His teaching.  
Who am I?

I am the tree that Jesus caused to wither up.  
What tree am I?

- Fig tree
- Nicodemus
- Zacchaeus
- Passover
- Pontius Pilate
- Eve
- Abraham
- Pilate
- Moses
- Nathaniel

# Hymns, Prayers and Bible Readings.

## GIVING THANKS FOR OUR REDEMPTION IN CHRIST

*From Ephesians 1*

We praise You, God and Father of our Lord Jesus, for You have blessed us from heaven with every spiritual blessing in Christ:  
Thank You, Lord.

You chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless in your sight:  
Thank You, Lord.

We praise You for Your glorious grace, freely given in Your beloved Son; by whose blood we are redeemed, our sins forgiven according to the riches of Your grace:  
Thank You, Lord. Amen.

**Bible Reading. Revelation 3 v14-22**

14 "And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, 'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God:

15 "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot.

16 So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.

17 Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing' and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked

18 I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.

19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.

20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

21 To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

22 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." ' ' "

1 Stand up, stand up for Jesus  
Ye soldiers of the cross;  
Lift high His royal banner,  
It must not suffer loss:  
From vict'ry unto vict'ry  
His army He shall lead,  
'til ev'ry foe is vanquished,  
And Christ is Lord indeed.

2 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,  
The trumpet call obey;  
Forth to the mighty conflict  
In this His glorious day:  
Ye that are men now serve Him  
Against unnumbered foes;  
Let courage rise with danger,  
And strength to strength oppose.

3 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,  
Stand in His strength alone;  
The arm of flesh will fail you,  
Ye dare not trust your own:  
Put on the gospel armour,  
Each piece put on with pray'r;  
Where duty calls, or danger,  
Be never wanting there.

4 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,  
The strife will not be long;  
This day the noise of battle,  
The next the victor's song:  
To him that overcometh  
A crown of life shall be;  
He with the King of glory  
Shall reign eternally.

## PRAYING FOR OURSELVES FOR HOLINESS

From Isaiah 35

Lord God,  
Lead us in the way of holiness,  
Cleanse us for our journey,  
And teach us to be wise;  
Guard Your redeemed,  
Crown Your ransomed ones  
With everlasting joy;  
Let sorrow and sighing flee away  
And gladness overtake us;  
In Jesus Christ our saviour. Amen.