

West Worthing Evangelical Church, Rugby Road, Worthing.

The Corona Chronicle

Easter Sunday April 12th

www.westworthingevangelical.co.uk

Being Church while the Corona Virus emergency is on



West Worthing
Evangelical Church



Prayer through the Week Christ is Risen. He is Risen Indeed

Lords Day We remember the glorious resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. As we worship the Lord we are worshipping with the host of Angels, Church triumphant in heaven and the Church militant here on earth.

Monday

For those who live in care homes. Maybe praying for someone in particular. Especially remembering those who are confused.

Tuesday

For our government. Pray for our Prime Minister and the burden that is on his shoulders

Wednesday For those who find it difficult to get groceries. We thank God for those who are shopping for people. We praise God for the many acts of kindness.

Thursday For those who have become sick both in our fellowship and family.

Friday For our world, in the light of the global pandemic. For the world leaders particularly in Africa and South America.

Saturday For safety for all those people working over many different organisations so we might be kept safe and looked after.

Easter Sunday

10-30 Short Service on Facebook

www.westworthingevangelical.co.uk press the latest news on facebook and webcast button

11-00 Prayer and Fellowship on Messenger

6-30 Prayer and Fellowship on Messenger

Tuesday

7-30 Prayer and Fellowship on Messenger

A Truth For All Seasons

"The greatest day comes after the greatest sleep" proclaims a large placard hanging over the end of a shopping aisle in Sainsburys, advertising their range of sheets and bedding. Well, I'm not certain of the inevitable connection between the two. In my experience, some days have gone rapidly downhill after a good night' sleep!

But in the realm of eternal realities the placard speaks more truly than its designers ever dreamed, for this is the heart of the Easter event. As Jesus hung upon that cross on Good Friday His purpose and claims seemed to be unravelling fast and when He finally died they apparently died with Him. All that was left was a world of confusion and darkness where human self-interest and sin, and diabolic action had triumphed yet again. Jesus, the God-man, was dead and hope died with Him; the human condition was unchanged and God was as far-off as ever.

BUT then came Easter Sunday! The greatest sleep was over for the Saviour of the world and He burst out of the grave bringing to birth the greatest day! For now everything was different. Certainly human sin and failure and need still stalked the planet but now the price of our rebellion against God had been paid, the penalty suffered and a loving gracious God offered forgiveness and a welcome into relationship with Himself to all who threw themselves on the mercy He held out through the Lord Jesus Christ.

And this is the wonder of our celebration today -Jesus Christ **is** risen; our Lord is the Victor after all! Our foes – the failures and sins, death, the devil himself – are defeated. Forgiveness is sure, heaven is opened, God's love for us is a certainty.

And when for us **our** greatest sleep comes – the day we close our eyes on this life for the last time (whether that is Coronavirus-caused or not) – then will dawn **our** greatest day when we step into new life and see him face to face and enjoy him for ever.

So this Easter Sunday we cannot be together to celebrate that Jesus is risen – but we can still rejoice for it is eternally true - and if this doesn't stir our blood and lift our spirits, warm our hearts and stir up our love for him – what will?

"Jesus is King and I will extol Him...!"

Dennis R. Read



Let us start by reminding ourselves of the investment that God has into the believer's life. He has chosen us to be His Child. He knew that we could not save ourselves being dead in our sin. He made us alive by taking God's wrath upon Himself and His righteousness through His precious blood has covered our sin and we can stand 'not guilty' before a Holy God.

As He has invested so much in our lives we are kept by His power. Our Lord maintains His investment in us. He acts if we walk away from Him and brings us back like a shepherd brings a lost sheep into his fold.

He is an unchanging God in an changing world. I am amazed to think of the great changes that have taken place in the world in our Grand parents, parents and our own life-times. When I was a boy the twelve inch black and white television had only one channel and was only on for a few hours a day, today if we want it we can have thousands of channels twenty four hours a day. The changes have been breathtaking. We struggle to keep up and there is a reaction against modernism. We seek the old paths. Some of us reject modern technology and find ourselves in difficulty when we are told that we must make contact by Email.

But the Lord is our unchanging refuge and strength in all the situations we might find ourselves in life. He is our anchor, steadfast and sure while the billows roll.

The eternal God is your refuge,
And underneath are the everlasting arms;
He will thrust out the enemy from before you, Deut 33v27

He has promised never to leave us or forsake us, whatever the circumstances may be.

As Jesus was going to the cross His disciples forsook Him and fled, but through His terrible experience of capture, trial

and execution God did not forsake Him, John 16v32, right up to the point of His death when He gave up His spirit. At His death, an atonement for our sin God's wrath, our sin, the just penalty for our sin was upon Him.

God forsook Him. Oh the greatness of the cross that the Son of God should die for me. Oh the love of God who created the majesty of the Universe should die for poor wretches as ourselves. Oh the grace of God for us.

Jesus is the same yesterday today and forever, He will never forsake us. Although Peter chose to deny His Lord, Jesus still loved Peter and later by the seashore reinstated Him. He will never forsake us.

Earthly friends may fail us, but we can trust that the Lord will be with us. We might fall into some sin and even when convicted refuse to repent, but in His mercy towards us He will take away our peace and joy. He might discipline us with difficult circumstances, but He will still keep us and call us again to keep to His word and we can find delight in that.

Our friends may let us down. Even when peoples hearts change and their love turns to hate when their attitude suddenly changes. God's love never changes. The Lord will be gracious to us, look on us with favour, His love is unchanging.

He is our refuge and strength even when our physical strength wanes away. The Lord will care for us even in our times of weakness and old.

Even to *your* old age, I *am* He,
And *even* to grey hairs I will carry *you!*
I have made, and I will bear;
Even I will carry, and will deliver *you.*
Isaiah 46v4

Jesus IS the same Yesterday, today and forever.

