

SUNDAY 18TH JULY 2021.

Service outline.

Call to worship: *“Since then you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.” Colossians 3:1-3.*

Prayer: Our Father God, we give you thanks for the privilege we have as your chosen family. May the time we spend in worship this morning be acceptable in your sight and may your Name be honoured in our praise, our worship, our meditations and our understanding as we hear your Word.” We ask this in Jesus name, Amen.

OT reading: Psalm 34: 1-10. *“I will extol the Lord at all times; His praise will always be on my lips. My soul will boast in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt His Name together. I sought the Lord and He answered me; He delivered me from all my fears. Those who look to Him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame. This poor man called, and the Lord heard him; He saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him and He delivers them. Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed be the man who takes refuge in Him. Fear the Lord, you His saints, for those who fear Him lack nothing. The lions may grow weak and hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.”*

Thought to ponder: “We can choose to gather to our hearts the *thorns* of disappointment, failure, loneliness, and dismay due to our present situation, or we can gather the *flowers* of God’s grace, unbounded love, and unmatched joy.” *Barbara Johnson.*

HYMN No. 507 (Red book).

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. I am not skilled to understand
What God has willed,
what God has planned;
I only know at His right Hand
Is One who is my Saviour. | 4. And Oh that He fulfilled may see
The travail of His soul in me,
And with His work contented be,
As I with my dear Saviour. |
| 2. I take him at His Word indeed,
“Christ died for sinners” - this I read,
For in my heart I find a need
Of Him to be my Saviour. | 5. Yes, living, dying, let me bring
My strength, my solace from this spring-
That He who lives to be my King
Once died to be my Saviour. |
| 3. That He should leave His place on high
And come for sinful man to die,
You count it strange? So once did I
Before I knew my Saviour. | 1 Timothy 1:15. “Christ Jesus came into the
world to save sinners....” |

BIBLE READING: Ephesians 2: 1-10.From verse 8 *“For it is by grace you are saved, through faith-and this is not of yours selves, it is the gift of God- not by works, so that no-one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works which God has prepared in advance for us to do.”*

PRAYER: Praise God for who He is, give thanks for all His blessings, intercede for those who are needy, anxious, going through trials, and for those who are serving in difficult places and pray for church family, friends, personal family and those who need to know God’s mercy and grace.

HYMN No. 152 (Red book).

1. There's a wideness in God's mercy,
Like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in His justice,
Which is more than liberty.
2. There is welcome for the sinner,
And more graces for the good;
There is mercy with the Saviour;
There is healing in His blood.
3. For the love of God is broader
Than the measures of man's mind,
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.
4. There is plentiful redemption
In the blood that has been shed;
There is joy for all the members
In the sorrow of the Head.
5. Pining souls, come nearer Jesus,
And oh, come not doubting thus;
But with faith that trusts more bravely
His vast tenderness for us.
6. If our love were more but simple,
We should take Him at His Word;
And our lives would be all sunshine
In the sweetness of our Lord.

Frederick Faber.

Devotional message from Chris.

“Be still and know that I am God” Psalm 46:10

We most often come across this verse as a favourite motto in frames, or on church walls. What does it say to you? Hush? Quieten down? Wait? You are too busy.

The Psalm probably best fits the situation we find in 2 Chronicles 20 when the Moabites, the Ammonites and the Meunites came against Jehoshaphat and Judah in battle. He could do nothing for himself against them, so he called on God. It is best if you let the Bible tell the story: Read 1 Chronicles 20.

Let's examine the Psalm: The answer is in the word is in part in its context.

First, the meanings in the first verse:-
Sons of Korah: Singers in the temple. As in 2 Chronicles 20.19.

Alamoth: Maidens who sang parts.
Antiphonally.

Jacob: Most often applies nationally. Also here.

Theme; The Lord is present in our trouble (tightness) v1

:1 A very present help in trouble.
Earthquake 800-750BC? It was massive. It destroyed cities.

Amos 1:1 The words of Amos, who was among the shepherds of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel, two years before the earthquake. About 760bc

Zechariah 14:5 . . . And you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah.

What trouble? Any trouble! Do you have some right now, then this is for you!

Note this is the first of three psalms of praise.

:2 Therefore we will not fear. Fear dispels faith. When fear comes in, faith goes out.

The four thoughts Psalm 46:2&3 All speak of confidence in convulsion & aftermath of earthquake. Though, though, though, though -

For us Romans 8: and the 4 Whos :31, 33, 34, 35 all speak of our security in Christ.
Romans 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us,
:31 Who can be against us?
:33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect?
:34 Who is to condemn?
:35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

:4 River=permanent flow. Streams= 'storm water drain' in the Jordan and the valleys Hinnom & Kidron.

:6 Nations rage, nations totter, earth melts Egypt & Assyria the mega-powers contesting.

:8 Come, behold. Come & see what God has done!
He makes wars to cease, breaks bows, burns chariots.

Therefore BE STILL AND KNOW ... I will be exalted in the earth.

Be still what does it mean to you & me?

The stories of three men

Don Prout spoke to our funny bone. In a sermon on 'How to Study the Bible.'
1 Cruden's is for the crude.
2 Young's is for the young.
3 Strong's is for the strong. Therefore use Strongs Concordance.

Robert Young Speaks to our head. Not Father knows best, Dr. Kildare, but the Biblical Scholar. born in 1822 to a miller. Apprenticed to printer, studied Hebrew, Chaldee & Greek spare time.

1847 started own printing works for books on Biblical languages. Taught in Dr. Chalmers Sabbath School, Became missionary to the Surat of India, and engaged in literature work.

He taught himself Gujarati & Hindi Arabic, Gaelic, Finnish & Teutonic languages.
1864 - 1874 headed the Missionary Institute. He authored many works on languages

The present work is the result of very many years labour, and is designed to lead the simplest reader to a more correct understanding of the common English Bible by reference to the original words in Hebrew & Greek with their various shades of meaning.

In 1871 he stood for the Hebrew Chair at St. Andrews University, but was rejected.

John Greenleaf Whittier Speaks to our heart. Author of many hymns. A Quaker & Abolitionist. Born in 1807 to a subsistence farmer Too sickly for farm work.. Studied father's 6 Quakerism books. Apprenticed to bootmaker. Parents paid tuition by supplying produce. After first term became teacher in country school to pay his tuition fees. An avid reader.

He wrote a poem & sister sent it in - it was published. After 2nd term he left school and found work editing a magazine. Went from one to another. Never settling down.

In 1830 he stood for congress, but defeated. Suffered many breakdowns in nerves & health.

In 1833 he published an anti slavery pamphlet and was drawn into Abolitionists ranks until 1865 when 13th Amendment was passed. Many of His hymns & poetry are of an humanitarian nature. He was persecuted, once was stoned and driven out of town for his views which he believed were right and godly.

In 1866 A poem, "Snow Bound," A Winter Idyll, earned him \$10,000 for the first edition alone. A surprise success after so many failures.

He ended his life living with relatives.

Perhaps we know him best for hymn 410
(Blue book)

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
 forgive our foolish ways
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind.
 In purer lives Thy service find.
 In deeper reverence praise
O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
 O calm of hills above
Where Jesus knelt to share with Thee
 the silence of eternity
 Interpreted by love
With that deep hush subduing all
 Our words and works that drown
The tender whisper of our call,
 as noiseless let Thy blessings fall
As fell thy manna down

What of Psalm 46 and our text
Scroggie says that it partners with Psalm 75.

Young tells us that ‘Be still’ means
‘Desist’, ‘Let go, let drop, leave alone,
forsake, be quiet’

Another interpretation. Although it may
recall a past condition, the two years before
the earthquake when the warning of Amos
went unheeded, it speaks prophetically of
the time when Jesus comes to establish His
kingdom of righteousness on earth at the end
of this age.

With that in mind, let us read it again:

Isaiah 41:18. I will open rivers on the bare heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys. I
will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.

Ezekiel 38:19 For in my jealousy and in my blazing wrath I declare, On that day there shall be
a great earthquake in the land of Israel.

FINAL HYMN No. 376 (Red book)

1. Out in the highways and byways of life
 Many are weary and sad.
Carry the sunshine where darkness is rife,
 Making the sorrowing glad.

2. Tell the sweet story of Christ and His love,
 Tell of His power to forgive;
Others will trust him if only you prove
 True every moment you live.

CHORUS:

*Make me a blessing;
 Make me a blessing;
Out of my life
 May Jesus shine;
Make me a blessing
 O Saviour I pray,
Make me a blessing
 to someone today.*

3. Give as was given to you in your need,
 Love as the Master loved you;
Be to the helpless a helper indeed,
 Unto your mission be true.

BLESSING: “*May the God of peace , Who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought
back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything
good for doing His Will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him through Jesus Christ,
to whom be glory forever, Amen.*” **Hebrews 13:20,21.**