

Preaching Dates

Sunday 17 May 2020

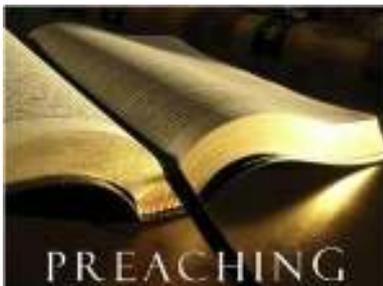
Brian Crockett (am) preparing an online message for Bethany Evangelical Church, Paisley for their YouTube channel either this Sunday or next Sunday

Bill Haining (am) at Bridge of Don Baptist Church

Stephen Ilett (am) will be facilitating on Zoom at Dingwall Baptist Church where **Neil Fisher** will be preaching via YouTube

Dawn Martindale (am) on video via YouTube at Rosyth Baptist Church

Charles Sommerville (pm) via Zoom at Kelty Evangelical Church



“Perilous Times”

By Ian Barr

In the last days perilous times shall come... (2 Tim 3: 1-7)

When a Christian friend read these words to me almost 32 years ago, not only did I recognise the sign of the times, but I saw a similarity in the character of my own life. What I also found so amazing was that whilst it was written almost 2000 years earlier, it was so up to date and accurate. He continued to show me the way of salvation and coupled with his Christian Influence and life, he had the joy of leading me to the Saviour.

It was a great moment of personal visitation from God. In grace He showed me my sin and guilt, and my total inability to put it right by human effort. But what has struck me recently was the truth and power of the above verses. They give clear evidence that we are living in last days where we see fewer and fewer people having any God-dimension. For the believer, we look forward to the joy of His coming, but it is mixed with the solemn reality that His day of grace and longsuffering will soon be over.

The bible speaks often of nations being the objects of divine visitation and through this current crisis; I believe God is lovingly and graciously speaking to us. He wants to bring us to a sense of need and dependence upon Him. Revive our hearts and glorify Him. It might be for many that He is breaking into our hearts, stripping the worlds veneer, revealing our illusions of power and demolishing our objective to build a better world. Perhaps our previous complacency about God, sin, pain, suffering and others has brought these humbling realities to our mind and heart. If the coronavirus, in spite of the havoc it has wreaked, has induced many to look to God whom they have ignored for years then, it will have served a Spiritual purpose.

Let us thank and praise God that He did not speak to us remotely, but sent His Son down to this world of darkness, grief, sin, disease and death. There was no remedy for sin to be found except through Him. He was undefiled and undefilable. He did not isolate himself or keep distant, but mixed with all kinds of people. He could touch and cleanse the leper without being contaminated. The ceremonial unclean woman, with an issue of blood, touched Him in faith and was healed physically and spiritually. Yet for all He had done, at the end there was no praise, no gratitude, no worldly applause, but the cry of “Crucify him, crucify him. We rightly acknowledge the devotion of the NHS, the carers and all who are rallying together at this time, but let us remember the One who loved us and gave Himself for us. The terrible virus of sin was heaped upon Him that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him. (2 Cor 5:21)