

### Preaching Dates

#### Sunday 22 November 2020

**Gordon Dickey** at

Hawick Baptist Church, socially distanced.

**Jonathan Groves** at Buckie Baptist Church  
with Kerusso Trust update

**Sylvia Jones** via Zoom at  
Galashiels Baptist Church

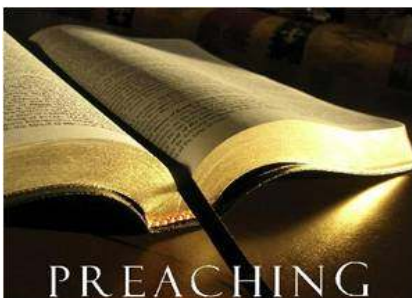
**Willem Smit** pre-recorded at  
Lossiemouth Baptist Church

#### Thursday 26 November 2020

**Charles Sommerville** (pm) via Zoom, Thursday  
evenings Bible Study on Ephesians. For  
details: [drcharles.sommerville@sky.com](mailto:drcharles.sommerville@sky.com)

#### Saturday, 28th November 2020

**Elizabeth de Silva** at morning zoom outreach  
meeting of Aglow International  
Paddington/Tottenham



### “God Sees and God Knows”

By **Aubrey Jamieson**

I was always impressed by the lyrics of the song- ‘Did it ever occur to you, nothing ever occurs to God’.

Some years ago, I was given a sentence that I have gone on to use at funerals, particularly in difficult and tragic situations. ‘We gather here today shocked and stunned, even bewildered by the events of the past week but God is never ever taken by surprise’.

During lockdown as I’ve regularly stood with families at graveside services, I have tried to bring a message along these lines: ‘In the midst of an ever-changing and extremely uncertain world He is the One who does not change. So He is the One that we must lean upon.’

The first six verses of the lovely Psalm 139 remind us that God is omniscient, and nothing ever happens that He is unaware of. The Psalm begins - ‘Lord You have searched me, and You know me’. The word ‘searched’ means literally to pierce through.

In the book of Hebrews, we read – ‘Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account’. Verse 4 of Psalm 139 says – ‘Before a word is on my tongue You know it completely O Lord’.

Jesus said in Matthew 12 v 36 that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken – and that’s a solemn thought!

But there’s a wonderful side to this too. Jesus promised that when we confess Him before others, He will confess us before His Father in heaven. And even the simplest acts of kindness we perform in Christ’s name He sees, and He knows.

And far from being anxious about the fact of God’s all-knowing nature the Psalmist instead revels in it. Verse 6 – ‘Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain’. The fact that God sees us and knows us intimately is a marvellous thing. But equally amazing is the fact that He should even want to.

And as we live in these deeply uncertain days surely nothing else can give us more assurance, more hope, more peace than the knowledge that He is the one who holds the future in His hands and who loves us with an everlasting love.

Let us come to Him and place our lives afresh into the hands of the, all seeing, all knowing, all wise, all powerful God – the One who fills Heaven and earth.