

Preaching Dates

24 November 2018

Hazel Brooks (10am – 4pm) at Ladies Conference, Living Waters Church, Bellshill

Charles Sommerville (pm) at Blacketyside Farm Gospel Meeting, Leven, Fife

25 November 2018

Fraser Allan (am) at Strathendrick Baptist Church, Balfron

David Andrew (am) at St Mungo's Church of Scotland, Alloa

Glen Cartwright (am) at Fusion, Newton Mearns Baptist Church

Bill Haining (am) at Peterhead Baptist Church

Aubrey Jamieson (am) at Lerwick Congregational Church

Dawn Martindale (am) at Rosyth Baptist Church

Charles Sommerville (am) at Carbrain Baptist Church, Cumbernauld

Chris Townsend (am) at Vale of Leven Baptist Church, Alexandria.

Aubrey Jamieson (pm) at Ebenezer Hall, Lerwick (Christian Brethren)

Charles Sommerville (pm) at Shettleston Baptist Church

Jim McNulty (am + pm) at Islay Baptist Church

28 November 2018

Bill Haining (am) at 'Rainbow Club', Oasis Christian Fellowship, Bridge of Don, Aberdeenshire

Charles Sommerville (pm) at Dykehead Mission



"A Smart Gospel"

By Andrew McNeish

When I need to transfer monies to a new payee from my online bank account I need an OTP - a One Time Password. I have to provide proof I am who I say I am? Not until I have convinced the person, contact or company that I seek to speak to, that I am he, principally with a number or password, will any conversation be forthcoming. My name is no longer sufficient or adequate. To be believed is ever increasingly difficult. My new passport works by hologram and code - more important than my picture. Voice recognition, eye recognition and our ears are now known to be a better more unique print than a finger. The ultimate is Deoxyribo-Nucleic Acid - DNA; "the fundamental and distinctive characteristics or qualities of someone or something, especially when regarded as unchangeable." (*Oxford Dictionary*)

Beside the burning bush described in Ex 3, Moses in fear and dread engaged in a conversation with God. Moses was challenged to take control of His people and lead them out of Egypt. Moses objection to this *suggestion* arises from his perceived inadequacy. "Who am I..." He asks and continues..."OK let's say I go and tell them that the God of your fathers has sent me to rescue you. They'll reply - what is His name? ...What do I say?" God's answer Ex 3:v14 is an eternal truth - utterly, utterly breathtaking, yet incredibly, within the dialogue, a Truth so easily missed.

God has no DNA. But in these words..."I AM WHO I AM" is the fundamental and distinctive characteristic and quality of someone, unchangeable. *I absolutely Am* - This is His eternal identification - *not His name!* - His OTP. It is from this authority - the "I AM" that Moses has to tell the people - *where* the instruction *comes from* - not *who* from. In God's Word from this point on in Exodus, and in the history of the world and universes, this is His *Identification*. Here given to Moses - to us - and to all humanity who will ever live is who He is. It is not until the next verse v15 that He reveals *His name* - Yahweh (jɑ:weɪ).

My name may no longer be sufficient or adequate - His name is forever glorified..."and this is the name by which all generations shall remember me." Following preaching, when I step down from the platform to which I've been generously invited it should not be my name the church will remember.

Here there is no space or time to unpack this incredible truth further. But I suggest unpack it you need to, and unpack it you can. John Piper's latest publication 'Astonished by God' will excite your very soul and transform your preaching - all for £9.99! This is a message for the church today - A fundamental part of the gospel message to which we are charged to preach.

