

Preaching Dates

Saturday 25th July 2020

Elizabeth de Silva (am) via Zoom at Manchester Central Aglow outreach

Sunday 26 July 2020

Matthew Edmonds (am) via Zoom at Castlehill Baptist Church, Bearsden, Glasgow

Jonathan Groves (am) via pre-recorded video at Hillview Community Church and Kintore Community Church, Aberdeenshire

Bill Haining (am) via Zoom at Bridge of Don Baptist Church.

Stephen Ilett (am) via Zoom at Dingwall Baptist Church

Jim McNulty (am) at Islay Baptist Church Port Ellen where they opened up their morning service last week and all went well although socially distanced!

Monday to Friday 27- 31 July 2020

Glen Cartwright - sharing a series of five pre-recorded audio devotionals Monday-Friday for Galashiels Baptist Church.

Glen Cartwright Teaching

Truth (YouTube link resource) from Monday to Friday.

30 July – 17 September 2020

Charles Sommerville via Zoom for 16 weeks on Philipians. For details: drcharles.sommerville@sky.com



“At home with the Lord”

By John Perkins

When I was a small boy my Grandmother took me to the Cinema. The trailer was the Disney classic '101 Dalmations'. The feature film was the story of three pets; a Labrador retriever, a Bull Terrier and a Siamese cat which were left stranded two hundred miles away from their owners. After overcoming many obstacles and dangers on their perilous journey across the Canadian wilderness, battered, bruised and starving they eventually made it back home and were reunited. The film was 'The Incredible Journey'.

Whether or not you are an animal lover you will know about the incredible homing instinct which animals, birds and fish display. I've watched salmon returning upriver to spawn at the Potts of Gartness in Killearn when the River Endrick has been in spate at the end of October. Nothing can deter these fish from undertaking their hazardous journey against the odds even though many die in the process. The homing instinct is incredibly powerful not just in animals but in us too; our two sons live in London and New York respectively, but we all look forward to being together again when they come home at Christmastime, as do most families with relatives living far apart. The word 'nostalgia' comes from two Greek words; 'nostos' meaning 'return home', and 'algos' meaning 'pain'. It originally meant 'homesickness' - something which can only be fully cured by returning home.

But there's an even more powerful homing instinct in us, and it is of a spiritual nature. Deep in our hearts there is a homing instinct or nostalgia which I believe God has placed in us all, even if some people choose to ignore or even deny it, which tells us that the world we inhabit for a brief span is not our real home - heaven is! And one day quite soon all of us who have placed our faith in the Lord Jesus will be going home.

You see there is something about us, in our make up, which life on this earth can never fully satisfy, even though many people pursue happiness by accumulating more money and possessions, a bigger house or success in their career. Paul says that "Their mind is set on earthly things" but how many of them are truly satisfied or fulfilled?! When Aristotle Onassis died and someone asked "How much did he leave?" the answer came back, "Everything!"

Philippians 3:20 But **our citizenship is in heaven.**

2 Corinthians 5:7-8 For we walk by faith, not by sight. We are confident, then, and would prefer to be away from the body and **at home with the Lord.**

In the hymn by Charles Wesley, 'Rejoice the Lord is King' we sing 'Rejoice in glorious hope; Jesus the judge shall come, And take his servants up to their eternal home'.

It doesn't matter what your postcode is - your citizenship and your home is in heaven. The best is yet to come!