

Preaching Dates

29 September 2019

David Andrew (am) at
Clackmannan Parish Church
John Bingham (am) at
Grace Community Church, Garthamlock
Hazel Brooks (am) at
Larkhall Baptist Church
Alastair Crockett (am) at
Largo Church of Scotland
Gordon Dickey (am) at
Wooler Evangelical Church
Arthur Jones (am) at
South Beach Baptist Church, Saltcoats
Dawn Martindale (am) at
Rosyth Baptist Church
Stan Paliwoda (am) at
Maryhill Evangelical Church, Glasgow
Alex Ramsay (am) at Bo'ness Baptist Church
Ian Stephen (am) at Borders General
Hospital Chaplaincy Centre

Jim O'Hara (pm) at
Cowdenbeath Baptist Church

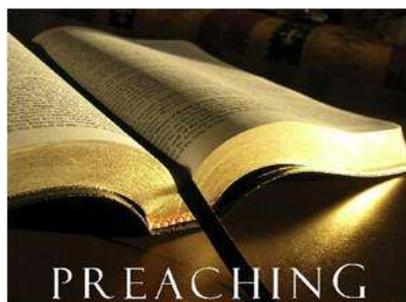
Charles Sommerville (am + pm) at
Springfield Gospel Hall, Arbroath

Tuesday 1 October 2019

David Bebbington (am) at weekly service,
Truett Seminary, Baylor University, Texas,
USA

5 October 2019

Charles Sommerville at PWMI Conference,
Shettleston Baptist Church



"Lessons From The Potter!"

By Ian Barr

"Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand..." (Jer 18:6)

The art of fashioning clay into vessels of beauty and utility is one of the most ancient and interesting of arts. Ancient ruins and museums of the world are full of objects of ceramic taste and loveliness, more costly even than the precious metals. There is no figure that more strikingly suggests the work of the Father's hand in moulding the lives and characters of His people according to His will. Clay in itself is base, unattractive and appears to be a useless mass. But in the hand of God it is very valuable. God's crowning work in the creation of man, was formed from the dust of the ground, yet he was made in the image and likeness of God. (Gen 1: 26, 2:7) What could be worse than rubbing clay into the sockets of the eye, yet from this a man was able to see (John 9:6) God in love and humiliation came down to earth in a vessel of clay, and in the eyes of man – no form, no comeliness, no beauty, no desire. (Isa 53:2) but to the eyes of the Father and the eye of faith absolute perfection.

This is illustrated in the OT in the story of Jacob wrestling with the angel. (Gen 32:24-32). His name had significance, meaning and character. He bore that name because the word meant "supplanter". The angel wrestled all night with him, and it was not until morning that the angel touched him and he broke down. Jacob, above all else wanted blessing, power and a touch from God, but it was hard for him to raise his hand and say "I am Jacob". That was Jacob's place of power. As a result, he received a blessing and a precious word from God. "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for as a prince you have power with God and with men."

God wants to do wonderful things for us and through us, but no one wants to confess himself to be common clay. But that is all we are. God is so good, so kind! He does not give us a revelation of our natural life just to embarrass us and put us in utter dismay, but rather that we may see our new life and power in Him, that he might make out of us princes.