

Preaching Dates

Sunday 31 May 2020

Stephen Ilett (am) at Dingwall Baptist Church. It is a written sermon provided to all and preached to those on Zoom.

Willem Smit (am) in a pre-recorded message for Lossiemouth Baptist Church

Charles Sommerville (pm via Zoom), at Kelty Evangelical Church



“Patient, Endurance and Faithfulness”

By Richard MacPhee

This calls for patient endurance and faithfulness on the part of God’s people. Revelation 13:10b

I have, and am, struggling with Coronavirus and its impact. I live in a household with a mix of me, a health care professional, some with asthma, some with prior mental health problems and one with a heart condition. The tug of war between societal, professional and financial responsibilities against the need to keep my family safe has threatened to tear us all apart. In some ways a microcosm of the tug of war internationally; to minimise death whilst avoiding incurring financial ruin. The outcome of that tug of war is still being played out before us. Desperate times in many ways.

Thankfully with a whole lot of prayer, a helpful manger, some creative thinking and clever technology, a solution was found – for now. Another microcosm!

It’s not only me. Studies point to 40% of the population really hating our current position. Socially, the variances of circumstances lockdown has demonstrated are quite terrifying. Lonely and isolated older people, domestic abuse, the sick and vulnerable. Society has stepped up with food parcels and arrangements for those at risk but cannot mitigate everyone’s individual issues.

Our verse helps guide us through the day to day of lockdown. This verse was spoken into a time of real or metaphorical (depending on your view of Revelation) plagues, earthquakes, persecution, terror and death. We have need of patient endurance. We need to keep breathing in and out, taking one step at a time, one day after another. With every breath, step and day trusting our Lord to keep us and to know that we dwell every moment in his hands. Even if we don’t feel like contending with those breaths, steps and days, we keep going in the certain knowledge that at some point this will end.

If we are wise, we may even learn something. If we are wise, the church may be (at very least) more tech savvy and more able to connect to others outside our walls. If we are wise, we will emerge closer to our Lord.