

Preaching Dates

21 April 2019

James Ewen (am) at
Bo'ness Baptist Church
Nicholas Fletcher (am) at Flagpole
(sunrise) service, Queens Park Baptist
Church

Richard MacPhee (am) at
Uddingston Baptist Church

Phill March (am) at
Langdale Church Dunstable

Charles Sommerville (am) at
Cumbernauld Baptist Church

Brian Crockett (pm) at
Maryhill Evangelical Church, Glasgow
Cheryl Leckie (pm) at Ayr Baptist Church
Alistair Mackay (pm) at McCarthy Stone
retirement complex, Dumfries.

Alex Ramsay (pm) at
Bo'ness Baptist Church

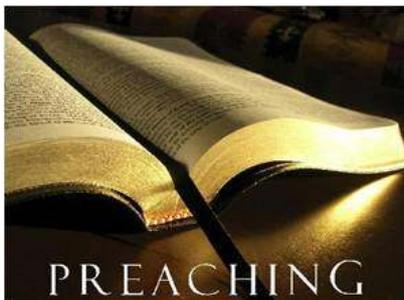
Charles Sommerville (pm) on 7 Letters to
the 7 Churches, at North Berwick Baptist
Church

24 April 2019

Charles Sommerville (pm) at
Shettleston Baptist Church, Glasgow

27 April 2019

Caireen Likely, plenary speaker at a
pastor's conference on Dietrich Bonhoeffer
in St. Andrews.



**"I'm forgiven, because
You were forsaken"**

By George Thomson

Psalm 22 is one of the longer psalms, and the 31 verses cover much detail as we learn of David's despair and ultimately his joy. The psalm opens with David's cry 'My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?', as he finds himself in the middle of difficulties and rejection. David however knows that he has something to hold on to, as he recalls that God helped previous generations when 'they cried to You and were saved' (verse 5), and asks God to 'come quickly to help me' (verse 19). God does rescue David, and the latter part of the psalm is full of joy as David praises God, and ends with the powerful words 'He has done it'.

And what has He done? This takes us to the New Testament where we read the same words 'My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?' (Matthew 27:46). Jesus, God's only Son, uttered these words as He was about to die on the cross, and give His life as a sacrifice for our sins.

At Easter, as we remember Jesus' death in obedience to His Father's will, we can also rejoice that after burial He rose again. How wonderful is God's plan to rescue us and forgive us from our sin!

Our lives may not be like David's, but like him, we will sometimes find ourselves wondering where God is as we experience difficult or unexpected situations and circumstances. Our challenge is to believe, and to give thanks and rejoice at all times, not just Easter, that God has not forsaken us, and that 'He has done it'.

*I'm forgiven, because You were forsaken.
I'm accepted, You were condemned.
And I'm alive and well,
Your Spirit is within me,
Because You died and rose again.*

*Amazing love, how can it be
That You, my King would die for me?
Amazing love, I know it's true,
Now it's my joy to honour You,
In all I do I honour You.*