

Word For The Week

31 August 2018

Preaching Dates

2 September 2018

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

Gordon Dickey (pm) at
Stenhouse Baptist Church

Graham Horne (am) at
Bellshill Baptist Church

Andrea Mill (am) at
Bristo Baptist Church, Edinburgh

Charles Sommerville (am) at
Carbrain Baptist Church

John Perkins (pm) at Auchlochan,
MHA (Methodist Homes for the Aged),
Lanark

Paul Cairns (am + pm) at
Islay Baptist Church



“So shall thy strength be”

By Aubrey Jamieson

‘as thy days so shall thy strength be’ - Deuteronomy 33:25b

For me the last eight weeks, in many ways, have felt the weakest of my entire life. I am rarely unwell, normally very active and physically strong so to be suddenly in a situation where everyday tasks become a challenge and discomfort and pain the norm, is quite an eye opener.

In June I fell from a ladder smashing my left shoulder. An Xray confirmed a broken humerus. I needed a sling to keep the shoulder in place and hopefully mend itself over 6-8 weeks. Four weeks later a CT scan was requested and even more damage to the shoulder was diagnosed. I was referred to the consultant in Aberdeen. The consultant laid things on the line: my shoulder was badly dislocated and due to the passage of time the operation, which would be a real challenge, needed to be done soon. I would be cut from the shoulder downwards, the joint forced back into place and a plate and pins inserted. The consultation ended with the operation agreed for the next day.

By evening I was inevitably a little preoccupied about the operation. That evening my sister in law was playing old hymns on YouTube. One verse spoke to me - ‘A wonderful Saviour is Jesus my Lord. He taketh my burden away. He holdeth me up and I shall not be moved, He giveth me strength as my day’. That last line came strongly to my attention. The words are from Deuteronomy 33:25. Suddenly it hit me that even on that day, a day I didn’t really want to face, that God’s strength was equal to it and He would see me through.

Just as when I have cried to God for strength during my ministry and service using the promise of Isaiah 40:31 (Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength) and have clearly known His help, so on this day, in all my weakness, I would be cast into the care and prayers of others, His strength would still be sufficient for me. It is always given to us for the day and equal to the day; His strength will always be commensurate to the task in hand or the demand of the day.

In recent weakness, restlessness and moments of unbelief I need to constantly remind myself that God’s strength is equal to that operation, and to every day of my life as I seek to walk in faith with Him. I don’t know what today holds for you. It may great responsibility or serving others. Or you may be laid aside in some sickness or difficulty and unable to participate in much that you normally do. I can confidently say that His strength will always be equal to the day because God’s promise to the tribe of Asher all those centuries ago is wonderfully true and applicable to His people today – ‘as thy days so shall thy strength be’.

Further to the story I am travelling to Aberdeen on Thursday 30 August for some more surgery to my shoulder.

