

Kings Norton Baptist Church

Easter Sunday 31st March 2024

11:00 am



We welcome you this Easter morning

Opening scripture: Paul said 1 Cor 15....

“Christ is Risen” – “he is risen indeed”

Hymn MP 74 Christ is risen Hallelujah

Reading Luke 24:1-12

The empty tomb

A summary of what that means

Pray

Hymn MP 453 up from the grave he arose

Talk 1 Josh D

Reading Luke 24:36-48

Lord’s prayer - Back of the Mission Praise book

Talk 2 The final sacrifice

Hymn MP 295 I serve a risen Saviour

Sketchboard Two pieces of wood

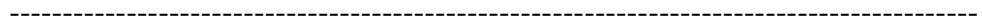
Song Tell them

Notices Thanks for Friday, refreshments, midweek, normally 10 am

Judy Cook, Chris card, Bring and share Fellowship lunch

Hymn MP 52 God sent his son, Because he lives

Closing prayer



The songs we sing are in the white ‘Mission Praise’ book. (The Lord’s prayer is on the inside back cover) The Bible readings from the blue bible handed to you as you came in.

Show the empty tomb - What does the resurrection mean?

1. That God exists just as Jesus revealed him.
2. That Jesus Christ is God and is therefore the most important person in the universe.
3. For all people - Jesus’ return from the grave ends the guessing game as to what happens the other side. > Preached everywhere, ever since.
4. That the sacrifice at the cross was accepted - and therefore I can be sure of my sins forgiven if I look to Him.
“The cross of defeat - gave way to victory
The cross of guilt and condemnation — has bought freedom.
The cross of pain and suffering — brings healing and hope.
The cross of death has become the means of life.”
5. That God is the Justifier of the repentant sinner. Salvation is the work of God - and the gift of God – it is not of me!
6. Christ’s resurrection confirms that there is a resurrection of the dead.
7. Christ’s resurrection confirms that there will be a Judgment Day to come. Some will be raised to eternal life - and others will be raised to eternal punishment.
8. All who follow Christ can also expect a bodily resurrection, and what type? – he shows us.
9. Eternal Life is assured - for all who have Jesus - will live – as he lives.
 - Robert Ingersoll, noted lecturer and avowed anti-Christian on his deathbed said: “Life is the cold and barren valley between two eternal peaks. I strive in vain to see beyond the distant height. I cry out and the only answer I hear, is the echo of my empty wail.”
 - How different to hope at death - Dwight L. Moody, famous preacher and founder of the Moody Bible Institute, while on his deathbed: “Can this be death? Why it is better than living! Earth is receding, heaven is opening. This is my coronation day”
 - Adoniram Judson "I depart bounding away as a child from school.
10. The resurrection means I can trust Him and everything he said.
11. The power that raised Jesus from the grave is at work in every follower of Jesus today.

2. Message

Avoiding Leviticus, but it is the gospel book! How to approach God, how to stay right with God. God speaks from the Tabernacle

Pick out from Leviticus chapters 4

The one who sins – takes a perfect animal – lay hands on that animal – offered up on the altar by the priest – The wrath removed from one to the other - I am now forgiven.

God said I will accept you not by taking your life but the animals life instead.

⇒ *Averted wrath from man to the animal*

Leviticus end 9 / 10. If the sacrifice was not offered properly then there would be no substitute – the wrath would come upon me!

For surely the Lord will punish every guilty man, woman boy and girl, the sacrifice shows it. ...

Yet the Lord in his love.....

700 years before Jesus came, we read of the suffering servant.

Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

All this was a clear visible picture of another sacrifice that would come. The sacrifice of a perfect Human being. When the last of the prophets John the Baptist saw Jesus he said “Look the lamb of God who takes away the sins of many people around the world” here is that lamb without blemish.

Read Hebrews 10:11-12

⇒ *Averted wrath from man to Jesus*

Now today the one who sins – can have a perfect man (Jesus) the one who offered up the perfect sacrifice – we lay hold not literally by the hand but by faith – The wrath removed from one to the other - and I am now forgiven.

Heb 10:17

A few words from a famous hymn:

1 There is a green hill far away,
Outside a city wall,
Where the dear Lord was crucified,
Who died to save us all.
2 We may not know, we cannot tell
What pains He had to bear,
But we believe it was for us
He hung and suffered there.

The Gospel of Jesus is good news: It tells the rebellious that they can be reconciled to God, that justice is satisfied, that sin has been atoned for, that the judgment of the guilty may be revoked, the condemnation of the sinner cancelled, the curse of the Law blotted out, the gates of hell closed, the portals of heaven opened wide, the power of sin subdued, the guilty conscience healed, the broken heart comforted, the sorrow and misery of the Fall undone.

A.B. Simpson

3. Sketchboard talk

I am here because it will soon be Easter.

The holiday is just hours away.

The way I am going to explain what happened at Easter is by comparing two pieces of wood.

What do I mean by that?

Well the best place to start is at the beginning.

ON page one of the Bible we read that In the beginning a good God created a good world.

All the stars, sky, sun and moon, the animals the fish and birds, the flowers and the trees, the hills and the valleys were all made by God and everyday he made something he said it was **good**.

On the last day he made man and woman, **Adam** and Eve. And when he had made them he said it was **very good**.

He put them in a perfect garden full of fruit trees. I wonder which is your favourite fruit? oranges, apples, grapes, bananas, oh yes and plums, mmm there's so much to choose from. Adam and Eve were specially made by God to live with Him and and enjoy him for ever.

God said you can take from any tree – but not the one in the middle of the garden. And they understood what God had said.

Tree branches

Then the devil came and said: “**Did God really say** you shouldn't do that?”

If you take it you will have special power, God is being unfair to you - you are better off without Him, you can be wiser than God, you can make up your own rules, your own right and wrong.

Eve listened and believed the lie. She took one of the fruits from the forbidden tree – and then she gave some to her husband who was with her.

Suddenly they changed, they became frightened, and when they heard the Lord God in the garden they hid from Him. And when God asked them what they had done, they blamed each other, and then they blamed God.

That friendship with God was broken, and they knew something terrible had happened in them.



Cut flowers they were cut off from God.

DEATH, - RIP - Yes they died, just as God said would happen.

Because they disobeyed God and turned their back on Him - from that time on death and suffering entered the world - **tombs** - and the Bible says that because everyone descended from them does wrong as well – all die.

They had two children Cain and Abel and one murdered the other.

Yet the Lord God knew Adam and Eve would do this and had already prepared someone who would come to put things right.

Again and again the writings of the prophets in the Bible point forward to another **Adam**, **Jesus** he is called the second Adam or the last Adam.

Jesus went around doing good, he healed people, he helped people, he spoke about this good God, he did not sin, he did nothing wrong, he said nothing wrong, he fully obeyed and loved God His father all of the time. There has never been a man like Him before or since. Surely people would be pleased to see such a good man.

Some were, and yet many - without any reason to do so - hated him. They arrested him, hit him, spat on him, beat him almost to death and then tortured him on another piece of wood, --1-- the painful cross.

It is here he died, - and shed his blood as the nails went into his hands and feet. - not for his own sins but the bad things that others do. **He who had no sin** became sin. We are told he died, the **good for the bad, to bring many to God**.

Here are the two pieces of wood. And here are three things between then <
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1. With our forefather Adam, sin came into this world, and all have sinned since. Jesus the last Adam through his death can forgive all who come to Him.

2. With Adam the relationship with God crashed and so everyone is born away from God, separated from God. Yet Jesus who came to forgive people made it possible for all who are forgiven to suddenly find that God is there, as I do, and live with him, at peace with him, and even better I can be with God and know Him as my father in Heaven and how wonderful to know the love of a father.
3. With Adam death came into this world and now all die. But for Jesus it was different He brought **LIFE**. Jesus did not stay dead, - **stone rolled away** - he rose again. Women went to his tomb on Easter Sunday morning and found the body gone and there he was alive again. He had a new everlasting body, it would never die again. Death has been defeated and he has now taken this human body to heaven and all who follow him will be in heaven too. How wonderful.

Two Crosses - Along with Jesus two criminals were crucified, one on each side. They had made some bad choices and done wrong things and were being rightly punished.

But right near the end just before they were to die, one of them had a change of mind, and said “*I deserve this*” and he turned to Jesus and said “*you are the king who has done no wrong, remember me in heaven*”. Jesus said to him today, “**today you will be with me in paradise**”.

This man had made the most important and best choice of his life. There is no Judgment Day for Him, he is in now in heaven.

Many today - like that criminal – have made – and are making the most important choice of their life and turning to Jesus.

So those two pieces of wood help us see what Easter is all about.

Now before we say a pray - we are going to sing a really great song: “Tell Them” about the empty tomb and the stone being rolled away Prayer.

