

ABC NEWS

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This Sunday, Simon's sermon is entitled "Prepared and Ready" based on readings from Matthew 24v6-8 and Deuteronomy 6v1-9.

Before the return of Christ, Jesus himself specified a number of things - things that would happen in the world before he came back. These are the signs of the end of the age - signs that will precede his actual physical return. The signs include deception, false 'christs', wars and rumours of wars. He also mentioned nation rising against nation, kingdom against kingdom, famines, earthquakes - and Luke adds pestilences, in Luke 21v11. But, with regard to all these things, Jesus said do not be 'alarmed', literally, do not cry out loud with terror, at them. For these things 'must happen,' literally, they must come into being, v6. And then he concludes with an important verse, 'all these [signs] are the beginning of birth-pains', 24v8. This is the verse I want us to look mainly look at, in this section. Simon.

Our online services

Our Sunday morning service will go "live" at 6pm on a Saturday evening. However, if possible, we would like you to join us on Sunday in prayer at around 10.20am before watching the service at 10.30am as normal. Please pray for your church family and for all the frontline workers who are keeping us going in these difficult times. Please pray too for our prime minister and the cabinet who have the unenviable task of piloting the UK through troubled waters. It is clear from comments on our televisions and in our newspapers that there is going to be a gradual build-up of pressure on the government to publish its exit strategy. As the lockdown continues, people will become more agitated, so, as we said last week, we need to keep our eyes firmly fixed on Jesus.

You [Click here](#) to go directly to the service page.

Our midweek service this week will continue with our theme of "Repercussions of the Resurrection". This week's message will be brought to us by Simon and is entitled, "From empty to full" based on John 21:1-14. This will go live at 6pm on Wednesday.

If you missed any of earlier services these can be viewed online services by going to <http://www.alldwickbaptist.co.uk/latest-news/online-sermons>

The response from you has been very encouraging so far but please do send in your reactions to contact@alldwickbaptist.co.uk.

SERMON' NOTES - We will be emailing Simon's notes for today and Clive's from last week, together with the news sheet. If you don't have an email address, then we will be hand delivering both the news sheet and the notes to you early next week.

PASTORAL CARE TEAM - We now have a team of 15 people who are committed to contacting you all at least twice a week whilst this crisis continues and probably beyond. I know from listening to your feedback how much this is appreciated by you all. If for any reason you have not been getting a call, please phone me on (01243) 866238 and I will make sure you are on our contact list. Also, if you have any particular problems, please tell a member of the pastoral team and they will report back to me. We will then do our best to help. We also have three people who can help with your shopping if you are unable to get out. Again, please tell any of the pastoral team and we will sort it. Derek.

PLEASE THANK GOD - For the 4 people who have been delivering the news sheets and Simon's notes to those people without internet access. This has also been a great blessing to many people.

(SMALL) CD PLAYERS WANTED - For people without internet access we would like to produce a monthly CD of the sermons that go out online. If you have a CD player that you no longer use, can you let me know. It would really help. Derek

Our resident poet

Did you know that one of our congregation, Arthur Magee, is a well known local poet? He isn't too well at the moment and would value your prayers for himself and for Eileen his wife, who is also been unwell recently. He has kindly given us permission to print some of his poems. If you are finding our enforced isolation difficult, then this week's poem will remind you that you are never alone.

I am

When you feel all is lost,
I am here besides you.
When you lose your way,
I am here to guide you.
When you feel vulnerable and weak,
I am here to defend you.
When you need a friend,
I am here to befriend you.
When you ask me into your life,
I am here to save you.
I am the way, the truth and the life,
I am your God.

WONDERFUL NEWS – We have just received this update about John Richardson's progress following his recent operation. His skin graft has taken 100%. John, Trish and his nurse are overjoyed with the results so far. They see this as an answer to prayer. Please continue to pray for John (and Trish) as he enters the next recuperative period and that his biopsy results are good.

UPDATE ON PAT PARKER – Pat is still in hospital as she had an infection and her blood count was low. Mick reports that she has had various blood transfusions and is feeling better. She is also eating now which is a good sign. Mick is frustrated that he is not allowed to visit her due to the current restrictions. He is hoping she will come home soon as her next chemo session is due on Monday. Please continue to pray for Pat and Mick. **STOP PRESS – Pat is now AT HOME!**

MORE GOOD NEWS – Marie Stoneham is feeling much better and she feels she is making "amazing" progress. Suzanne Hill has also sent us a message that her daughter Bex began to feel better on the same day the prayer request was sent out. Bex is feeling much better, she is coughing less, and she is sounding like her old self. Thank you for your prayers.

UPDATE ON KATE MOSS – Kate continues to have mild symptoms of Covid19 virus, feels very weak but not particularly ill. She is currently living with the uncertainty of not knowing what will happen next. She does feel most strongly that the Lord is protecting her and is so grateful for your prayers.

...and finally

PLEASE JOIN SIMON FOR PRAYER - On Monday, Simon intends to pray for the church at 9.30am. He would like us all to set this time apart to join him in prayer before he sets out on his rounds.

A WORD ABOUT PRAYER - Prayer is an opportunity to journey hand in hand with the one who went to the cross and prays day in day out on the right hand of the Father for us. Angela

URGENT PRAYER REQUESTS - If you have, or know of, an urgent need for prayer then please contact Simon as first responder. He will then activate the prayer chain as appropriate.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR – Kate Moss, Brian Goldsmith, Joy Smith, Pam Brown, Stella Filby, Maureen Jones, Joan Brett, John Richardson, Joy Puffett, Marion Bryant, Pat and Mick Parker, Val Collett, Pam Ryan, Tony Brock, George Woods, Sid Evans, and for any others in our fellowship who are unwell at this time. Please also pray for all of us who have to self-isolate over the coming weeks.

DID YOU KNOW? – That Morrison's are delivering basics to vulnerable people. If you call 0345 611 6111, choose option 5 and they will give a time slot for the following day. Louisa.

AND DON'T FORGET – Thursday 8pm – open your doors and clap for the workers of the NHS.

FRIDAY NIGHT IS QUIZ NIGHT – Every Friday at 7.15pm, Jon Robinson (my son) is organising a quiz through his church website and on Facebook. It lasts around 20 minutes and is really good fun. If you want to take part then join via www.stjohnssouthbourne.com or through the We Love Southbourne Facebook page (facebook.com/welovesouthbourne). Derek.

Contact and Church office information

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