

PRESBYTERIAN NETWORK

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN ENGLAND & WALES

ISSUE
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AUTUMN 2022



THE SEED AND THE SERPENT

PART 1



**JOHN OWEN: KNOWING GOD,
YOUR GREATEST PRIVILEGE**



**PRAYING WITH
JESUS (PART 3)**



**CLIMATE
EMERGENCY?**



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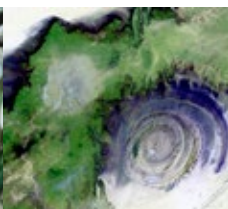
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www.epcew.org.uk

Editor: Rev. Dr Peter Naylor
peter.naylor@immanuelcaerau.org.uk

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EDITOR'S NOTE

One day, Jonathan Edwards went into the woods to contemplate God and to pray. He writes, 'I had a view, that for me was extraordinary, of the glory of the Son of God, as Mediator between God and man, and his wonderful, great, full, pure and sweet grace and love, and meek and gentle condescension. The person of Christ appeared ineffably excellent, with an excellency great enough to swallow up all thought and conception...I felt an ardency of soul... to lie in the dust, and to be full of Christ alone; to love him with a holy and pure love; to trust in him, to live upon him; to serve and follow him...'

'God in the communications of his Holy Spirit, has appeared as an infinite fountain of divine glory and sweetness; being full, and sufficient to satisfy the soul...'

May our gracious and merciful God give us more true knowledge of himself, that we might worship and serve him with holy awe. Let God be honoured in our congregations and in our hearts. ○



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SPOTLIGHT on the Churches

BARRY - CHRIST CHURCH

Christ Church was encouraged by a three-day summer outreach in the Barry town centre. Volunteers from our church and the Cardiff churches engaged many from the community, offering drinks, an evangelistic book table, and crafts for children. We had many opportunities to share about faith in Christ and offered tours of our building. Due to an abundance of volunteers, we were able to distribute leaflets to many homes. The following Lord's Day we had three visitors join our worship services as the result of a conversation, a leaflet, and an observation of the event from a bus.

Barry outreach



We are growing in attendance. We pray and care for those with health difficulties. We pray that the Lord will continue to use our church to proclaim the good news of the gospel to our community.

 Lauren Goodman

BERLIN

The first time I was in the U.S. to raise support for church work, a pastor told me, 'You have to think big and do the work that's put in front of you.' That sums up this year well.

Due to the 'pandemic', students have returned home earlier than expected. The congregation is feeling their absence. Therefore, we want to try to invite more people and welcome them to the services. Our goal would be five new households this year who stay. The growth of the church is in God's hands, but Christ teaches us to pray for it (Thy kingdom come).

Year by year, we rely on financial support from outside our own congregation. Therefore, our second major concern is to become financially independent as soon as possible.



SPOTLIGHT on the Churches

This would enable us to support other churches and other church plants.

For these two reasons, we as an elders' session have decided to pray and fast for this purpose every first Wednesday of the month. In the evening we then use our prayer meeting to pray together once again for these matters. At the same time, the normal church work has not diminished. We are happy to have baptized two covenant children this year and hope to have many more. On Sundays we hold two worship services (11:00 am and 2:00 pm). In our Confession Class at 10:00 am, we are currently looking at the relationship between the Christian, the Church, and the State.

 Johannes Müller



BLACKBURN

Rev. Norman Green asks for prayer that there would be a deeper sense of God's presence when the church meets to worship and that God's touch would be upon the meetings. He asks for the Lord's unction and help in preaching, and longs for conversions – to see lives changed. His prayer is that new families would continue to join the church and that the Sunday school would grow.

The church needs a new organist to assist them with worship. The

'lockdown' took its toll on the congregation. Pray that the church would continue to know unity, and that members would be of one spirit.

Norman is thankful to the Lord that his house is able to accommodate fellowship meetings. He asks for prayer in his visitation of members and for his own devotional walk with the Lord – that he would become even more excited about his Saviour.

 Benjamin Mitchell



BURY ST EDMUNDS

We give thanks to the Lord for many encouragements. The church is going through a season of growth and we are enjoying the new community centre we are blessed to meet in. A particular joy has been the growth of the number of children in the church. We have recently helped out with some community activity days which were successful and granted opportunity to meet new people and invite them to church. We hope we can develop other new ways to reach out. In ministry we have been working through the Gospel of Matthew and the book of Hebrews. We thank the Lord for the continued recovery of Rev. Bill Matthes and continue to pray that he will be strengthened and restored.

 Matthew Jolley



SPOTLIGHT on the Churches

CAMBRIDGE

Sometimes we think the summer is a bit of a slack time in the life of the church. Certainly, because people have so much holiday, it can be fragmented, a time when the rhythm of the life of the church is disrupted and after a while, we come to long for that rhythm to be re-established. There are some consolations to this though in Cambridge. For one thing, several of our young people (and sometimes not so young!) take off to give of their time and energies to those wonderful beach missions, Christian camps, and other Christian endeavours, in which one of the objects is to introduce others to the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. For those of us left at home, we have the privilege of bearing them up in prayer and then of hearing their news on return. As one said to me after two weeks of doing first a camp, and then a beach mission, 'how sad that it's over'. Another consolation is having folk visit the church, sometimes former members, whom we have not seen for so long. This gives the opportunity not just of catching up on a personal level, but of hearing of the wider work of Christ's kingdom, which again can fuel our prayers and challenge our own endeavours in the work at home.

We have also been blessed this summer period with four new babies

born in the congregation, and another one due soon.

Cambridge can be quite transitory, and it is over the summer when we see this most. Whilst we have not had such an exodus this summer as last, we have had to say farewell to some who have grown dear to us. In the Lord's goodness however, we've had new faces appearing amongst us, some of whom may settle with us. We've also had applications for church membership from four single young men and a family, which is encouraging.

As the seasons roll round, we look forward to a new academic year, with hopefully new opportunities to serve.

 Peter Leverton

CARDIFF - ARCHER ROAD

As a church, we have been grieving with our brother Paul Morgan at the loss of his dear wife, and our sister in the Lord, Pauline.

Christ's office as our great High Priest has been a major theme in Rev. Philip Haines's ministry from Hebrews and we have been encouraged to draw near to the throne of grace, with confidence, that we may receive mercy and find



SPOTLIGHT on the Churches

grace to help in time of need. We are also being blessed by a new series on Isaiah on Sunday evenings.

After the summer holidays, and a time of refreshment, when we have been edified by the ministry of several visiting preachers, we have recommenced our Sunday School and Friday evening Youth Group. The Church School begins a new academic year with a fresh intake of pupils in Reception, and pupils joining our Years 2, 5 and 7. We thank God for keeping our outgoing Year 11 through their GCSE exams and pray for their blessing.

More encouragement has come in the form of welcoming three of our covenant children, aged between 16 and 18, into full communicant membership.

 John McCabe



John and Heidi



Andrew with youngsters received into membership

an outdoor Family Fun Evening again with many parents coming to share in the activities.

Our minister Andrew Graham continues in Luke's gospel on Sabbath mornings and the book of Proverbs each Sunday evening. We have also held live Zoom meetings with pastors from Manipur, North East India, and from KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa.

But there has been sadness and a number of members have lost aged parents. One member, Mervyn Dando, who has Parkinson's Disease, spent a long seven weeks in hospital but is now doing well at home.



CARDIFF - BETHEL

We rejoice in God's continued blessings. The children's work, in particular, has had a number of events, with the annual Easter Egg Hunt in a local park proving very popular. 500 eggs were hidden and attracted over 100 people giving an opportunity to build links with the community. The 'Blast!' children's club also organized



SPOTLIGHT on the Churches

The church has welcomed new members during this period, and it was a joy when four youngsters confessed their faith and became communicant members. Jeff Tucker was also installed as a deacon and we also shared in the joy of the engagement of Rev. Dr John Evans to Heidi Acland.

We have indeed been able to rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep and continue to trust in God to build up His church.

 Patricia Stowell



CARDIFF – IMMANUEL

In June, we suffered the loss of a dear sister, Jean Jones, who was called home by the Lord after a period of illness. Jean was steadfast in faith, with a strong desire to be in all the services of the church, an example to us all.

In mercy the Lord has sent encouragements alongside our loss. We have been strengthened greatly by the labours of our brother, Benjamin Mitchell. In June he and Sarah Gahan were married. What a blessing. We pray for them as they seek to establish a Christ-centred home together, where saints also may be refreshed by their hospitality.

We have been privileged to welcome three new members, Gareth and Gwen, and Sheila. Another of our covenant children also confessed her faith in Christ and has begun to take communion. It is such a wonderful answer to prayer. Two families connected with the congregation have been blessed with the birth of children. Over the past few months, some new people have begun to attend. We pray with all our hearts that the Lord will continue to add to his church such as he would save.

Two of our men, Rhodri and Brendan, have been nominated to be deacons, and we hope to proceed to ordination in November. We thank God for our deacons, who show the love of Christ to the congregation, and we pray for them at this time.

 Peter Naylor





SPOTLIGHT on the Churches

CHELMSFORD

Darren has been away on a three-month sabbatical. We have had a number of visiting preachers over the summer and numbers have held up well while Darren has been away. We were delighted that James and Annette Green became church members just before Darren left for his break. James has preached for us on several occasions which we have very much appreciated.

On Thursday nights in June and July we had a series of visiting speakers from missionary societies we support. It was very encouraging to hear what God is doing through the work of the London City Mission, Pamoja, Innovista, Daylight Prison Ministries and UCCF, and the challenges these organizations are facing.

Fran and Zoe Newby have now been accepted by OM to work in Kosovo. They are now looking forward to serving the Lord there and are raising support in preparation. Please do contact them if you would like to know more about their plans or would like to support them.

We are planning a church barbecue early in September to welcome Darren, Glad and Josiah, back, and we are looking forward to the plans God has for us in the autumn.

 Ruth Ferguson

CHELTENHAM – NAUNTON LANE



Costa family

We were delighted to welcome the Da Costa family, who joined us in June. Lucas Da Costa was unanimously voted in to be our new assistant minister, to train under Matt. It has been great getting to know Lucas, Laura, Abi and Yasmin (with a new baby on the way too). Matt and Lucas are currently blessing us with preaching on Nehemiah and Genesis 1-3.

On 2 July we had our annual churches day out in Gretton. We were joined by around 70 people from the Cheltenham, Gloucester and Solihull churches. It was a great day of fellowship, food, football, and ice cream!



SPOTLIGHT on the Churches

We have been very encouraged by the installation of four new deacons in May. These men will be a helpful support to the elders in the practical needs of the church. We will be holding a children's holiday club at the end of August. At Easter it was encouraging to have many children attend from the local area.

We have been pleased that some Ukrainian relatives of one of our families have joined us. Two Ukrainian grandparents are being hosted by one of our families.

 Dave Doughty



CHELTENHAM - WHADDON ROAD

We have had much to be thankful for in recent times. Two families are taking part in a *Christianity Explored* course which is going well. We have

had three new members and one baptism. We have also had two children's choir concerts in which family members of the children were able to come along and hear the gospel. We have begun a series in the Letter to the Romans in the morning and re-started our series in the Book of Exodus in the evening on the Lord's Day.

We are grateful to the Lord that Bethan Pfeiffer's recent breast cancer operation went well and that she is gradually recovering. It has been a tremendous blessing to see the church lovingly care for the Pfeiffer family.

The new academic term is nearly upon us. We are seeking to reach international students with the gospel. We would also like to add to the eldership and establish a diaconate in due time.

 David Pfeiffer





SPOTLIGHT on the Churches

DURHAM

Durham Presbyterian Church has seen the regular ups and downs of church life in recent months. Two students who were with us graduated and moved on. That gave us an opportunity to have a church barbecue where over 60 gathered in the sunshine to enjoy food and fellowship.

In August we welcomed two new members, one of whom was baptized on profession of faith. These new members add to the eight that joined the church at the turn of the year.

Two deacons have been elected, and we have a new treasurer. We are facing some financial challenges in the year ahead, but we believe that the Lord is already providing for our need. We look to him to build up his church in Durham, thanking him for his many mercies.

 Phil Baiden



GLOUCESTER

We continue to give thanks to God. One Sunday our place of worship was packed with visitors, so much so that we ran out of service sheets. We greatly enjoyed the added voices as we sang praises to God. The church is coming up to its second anniversary, and we look forward to what God will continue to do in Gloucester. Although we have had several families move away, the Lord has continued to grow our small flock. We would value your continued prayers for September as we seek to bring more awareness of the church to our neighbours and as we engage in evangelism in the city.

 Michael Cochran



SPOTLIGHT on the Churches

HEXHAM

We remain thankful for the many ministers who have come to preach for us over the last few months. We are also very thankful for the men and women in the congregation who continue to give sacrificially of their time and energy to keep the church running. Though not disheartened, and very grateful for all we have received, we are a small congregation, and we feel stretched by the many duties and responsibilities involved in keeping a church afloat. Pray with us for endurance, grace, and the ability to thrive and grow in spite of our circumstances.

We are delighted to hear of the possibility of a retired American minister coming to serve us for 5-6 months over the winter. Please pray that all issues with visas, accommodation and travel would be cleared so that this may become a reality.

'Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you' (1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18).

 Juliet Schroeder

HULL

We are now meeting for two services on the Lord's Day, and twice a month

for midweek prayer and Bible study. Our assessor elder, Chris Kavanagh, preaches periodically and for the rest of the time, the pulpit is taken by local men.

We are waiting for an estimate for a small amount of work on the church building and the spare land, which is looking untidy at the moment. Although our attendance numbers may be few there is still an incredibly faithful core of people who attend almost every meeting.

 Chris Lawson

LINCOLN

The work continues to flourish and the Lord continues to pour out his grace to provide ministry every week. Recently, the Lord's Supper was served for the first time. What joy was seen among the saints as they participated in the Lord's Supper together. The impact of this communion together which will now be administered each month will only strengthen the work further as this means of grace is administered. In September, two members of the Sheffield session will visit Lincoln for the day to interview future members of Lincoln Presbyterian Church. We look to the Lord for local elders to be raised up and for a minister to be provided.

 Kevin Bidwell



SPOTLIGHT on the Churches

OXFORD

The summer months are usually a change of pace in Oxford as students have gone home and people are away on holiday. It feels this year however that the pace has increased! Our morning services are often packed to bursting, with latecomers having to stand at the back. Our evening services have also been sweet times of worship and fellowship. Please continue to pray that the Lord would provide us with a larger and more permanent location for our services.

We also have a new members' class and a communicants' class, as well as a busy schedule of fellowship events. We are beginning a short series on 'Biblical Leadership' in our evening services as we move towards calling our own elders. Please pray for the Lord to raise up men of his choosing and give the members clarity and unity on who these elders should be. Please also pray for new and returning students in October, that many would settle with us, and we would be able to serve them faithfully with the gospel.

 Andy Young

SALFORD

We were delighted to give thanks with the Lowery family for the safe arrival of their youngest daughter and to celebrate her baptism in June. In the same month, at the recommendation of the session, member Ben Lowery was brought under care of Presbytery. (This is the first formal stage of progress towards the ministry.)

Our minister Rev. Chris Statter has continued preaching in 1 Samuel (Lord's Day mornings) and on key doctrines of Scripture (evenings), following the order of *the Westminster Confession of Faith*. Having had Covid over the Easter period, Chris experienced debilitating post-viral fatigue in the months following. The congregation are grateful for his recovery and for the Lord's provision for our little flock in the meantime.

Grateful for the care of our assessor elders, we continue to pray for strengthening in faith and love, in new members joining the church, and in fruitful outreach to the local area.

 Rosemary Statter

The Lowery family and
Chris Statter





SPOTLIGHT on the Churches

SHEFFIELD

Normality is steadily being restored for the congregation with the regular administration of the Lord's Supper twice a month. Kevin Bidwell is leading and preaching regularly, and this further establishes a consistent pattern for worship and pastoring. We have a working session which is functioning well, and we are praying for the work of the commission appointed by presbytery to help us as a session in matters of governance. They will advise our session, and we trust that this work by them will further strengthen the congregation. In the midst of challenges, we have three new people going through communicant membership classes for the first time. One of these is from Lincoln and two are from Sheffield. We all rejoice that conversions are happening by the grace of God.

 Kevin Bidwell

SOLIHULL

We continue to meet in a school building for Sunday worship and are blessed with a variety of visitors. We ask that the Lord will cause people to come regularly and then join our congregation. We are thankful for welcoming two new people into membership recently. We look

to the Lord to provide for some specific needs: a ministry assistant, a building of our own and we are at the beginning of a process looking to appoint deacons.

Stephen Dancer is currently preaching a series on Covenant Theology on Sunday mornings and has just come to the end of a series on Romans in the evenings. We are studying Joshua mid-week. We are blessed by this ongoing ministry. We also thank God for the opportunity that our elder, Falko Drijfhout, had to visit Sovereign Grace Church in the USA, with which we have a link. The Lord has continued to bless us with fellowship and financial support from that church.

We enjoyed a day of fellowship in July with the Cheltenham and Gloucester churches and thank God for friendships formed and renewed.

 Rachel Morgan

SUNDERLAND

In March, Nathan returned from a three-week US trip feeling encouraged by our friends across the pond. We enjoyed a few special events over Easter, including a joint church walk and a Good Friday service. Although only a few from the community attended, it is always reassuring to see



SPOTLIGHT on the Churches

that we are not invisible to those who walk past our sign and receive our invitations.

In July we received the news that we were no longer permitted to continue worshipping in the library. This was stressful and disconcerting, but with the Lord's help we have been able to move to a community centre just down the road. We are delighted to be in an ideal space within our desired area, and finally to have our own kitchen cupboard!

One of the biggest encouragements has been receiving two new families into membership. We had been praying earnestly for more children, and this makes us very excited for the church's future. 'Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.'

 Anna Hilton



TRANÅS



Trygve welcomes our new member

We have had services every morning on the Lord's day this year. We are still very few. But we are thankful to the Lord that we could welcome a new member in February. And we will also welcome a young family from the Netherlands who moved to Sweden in August. They found our church on the internet and have bought a house just outside Tranås.

The sermons during this year have been from John's Gospel (about Jesus' seven miracles), then through 1 Peter, and now from the Gospel of Matthew (Sermon on the Mount). After a summer break, this series will start again (on 21 August).

God bless you all and please keep us in your prayers.

 Trygve Lundblad



SPOTLIGHT on the Churches

ZÜRICH

We thank you for all your prayers and support for us as a church! We are happy to report that since the beginning of June both the morning and evening services are better attended. In the coming months we will also welcome some new members.

We are also grateful for the increased contacts with our founding church in Newcastle. In June, Peter Winch, along with his family, provided cover here in Zürich for three Sundays. With Peter

we also recorded two YouTube videos, as you can see in the picture. Then in mid-July Jonathan and Julie Winch also visited. At the end of July we were also able to welcome the Schröder family from Hexham! So the fellowship with all of you is growing more and more, even though we are separated by 1000 km (621 miles)!

Soon the studies at the Seminary in Newcastle will begin again for Simeon Krumpaszky (Intern) and, for the first time, Samuel Schaffner. Please pray for the students as well as for Rev. Florian Weicken who has some important appointments abroad in addition to the preaching services.

 Simeon Krumpaszky

OTHER NEWS

The International Conference of Reformed Churches (ICRC) 10th assembly is set for 13-18 October this year in Namibia.

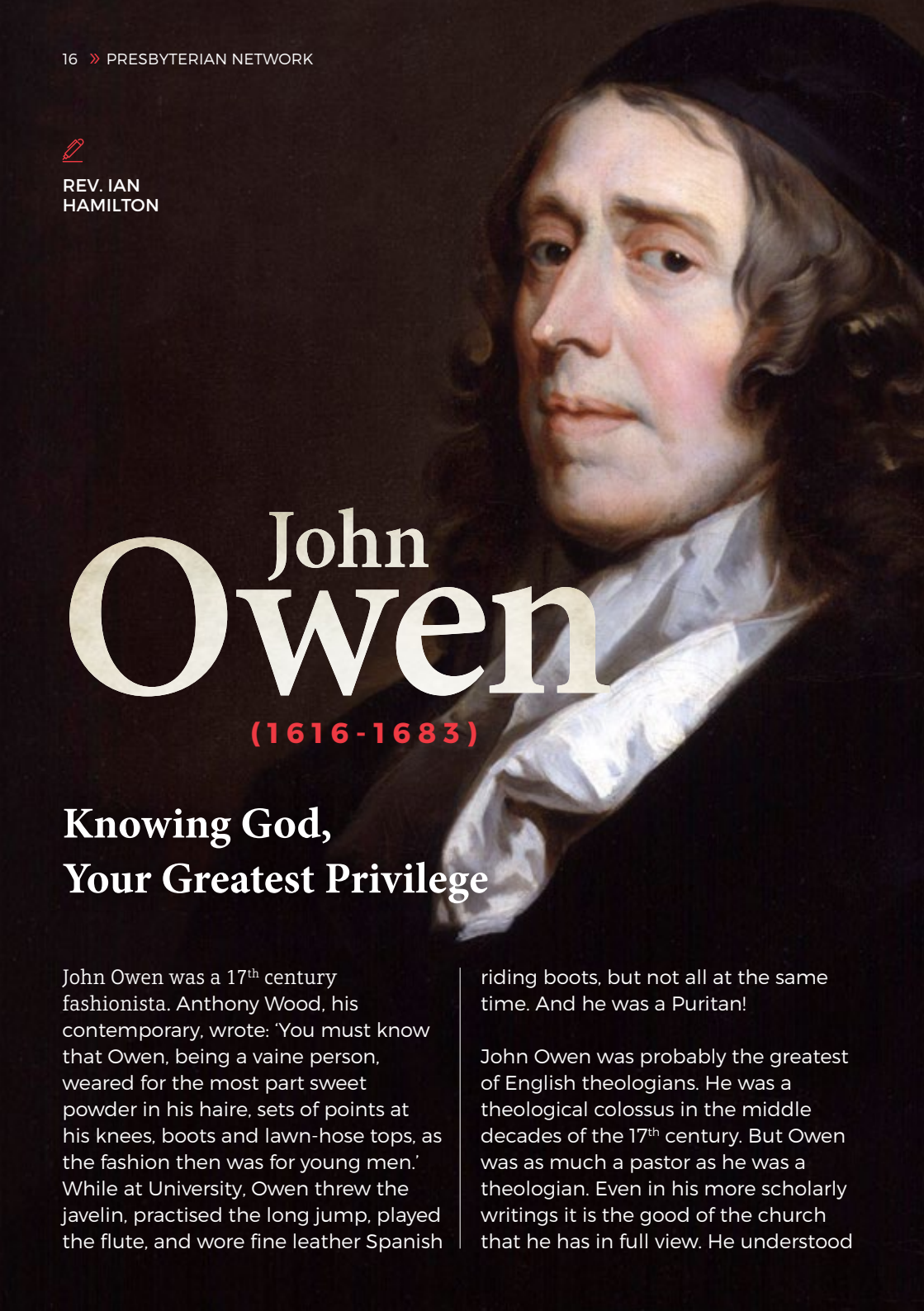
The EPCEW has been involved in this conference for many years as a member church, alongside many of our sister churches, serving as hosts in 2013. Rev. Nathan Hilton and Rev. Andrew Graham are to represent us.

Website: icrconline.com





REV. IAN
HAMILTON

A detailed oil painting of John Owen, a 17th-century English theologian. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark cap and a white ruffled collar. His hair is long and wavy, and he has a serious expression.

John Owen

(1616-1683)

Knowing God, Your Greatest Privilege

John Owen was a 17th century fashionista. Anthony Wood, his contemporary, wrote: 'You must know that Owen, being a vaine person, weared for the most part sweet powder in his haire, sets of points at his knees, boots and lawn-hose tops, as the fashion then was for young men.' While at University, Owen threw the javelin, practised the long jump, played the flute, and wore fine leather Spanish

riding boots, but not all at the same time. And he was a Puritan!

John Owen was probably the greatest of English theologians. He was a theological colossus in the middle decades of the 17th century. But Owen was as much a pastor as he was a theologian. Even in his more scholarly writings it is the good of the church that he has in full view. He understood

that the greatest practical good that a Christian could be given by their pastor was high and glorious views of God and the grace of his love for us in Christ. He wrote, 'Our greatest hindrance in the Christian life is not our lack of effort, but our lack of acquaintedness with our privileges.'

In volume 2 of his *Collected Works*, Owen maintains he does something no-one before him had done. He expounds at sublime length the communion that every believer has with the three Persons of the Holy Trinity. Starting from 2 Cor. 13:14 and 1 John 1:3, 'our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ', Owen proceeds to develop the richest and most moving of expositions of the believer's communion with the three Persons of the Godhead: ... We have communion with the Father in love... We have communion with Christ in grace... We have communion with the Holy Spirit in comfort.

COMMUNION WITH GOD THE FATHER

First, communion with the Father is supremely in love (read 1 John 4:8; 2 Cor. 13:14; Rom. 5:5). Owen says this 'is the great discovery of the gospel' (2.19). In all these and other texts, it is the Father's love that is highlighted. So Owen writes, 'Eye the Father as love; look not on him as an always lowering father, but as one most kind and tender. Let us look on him by faith, as one that hath had thoughts of kindness towards us from

everlasting'. Christians must therefore meditate on this distinguishing, free, unchangeable love.

Owen was deeply concerned that many Christians fail to grasp the grace of the Father's love in Christ: 'Many Christians think there is no sweetness in God except what is purchased by the high price of Jesus' blood.' Owen never wearies of impressing on us that the Father's love 'ought to be looked on as the fountain from whence all other sweetnesses flow'.

COMMUNION WITH GOD THE SON

Second, communion with the Son is supremely in grace. We have communion with Christ as Mediator, and as Mediator he meets us 'in GRACE'. Owen highlights a number of biblical texts to make his point (John 1:14,16,17; 1 Cor. 1:9; 2 Cor. 13:14; 2 Thess. 3:17-18; Song of Songs 5:10). So he writes, 'This, then, is that which we are peculiarly to eye in the Lord Jesus, to receive it from him, even grace, gospel-grace'.

Owen considers communion with Christ to focus on his 'personal grace' and his 'purchased grace':

- a. Christ's personal grace. For Owen, Christ's personal grace is nowhere better described than in the Song of Songs. Owen's exposition is deeply, even exclusively, Christological. Christ is the believer's husband, so responding to this

personal grace involves, 'The liking of Christ for his excellency, grace and suitableness, far above all other beloveds whatever, preferring him in the judgment and mind above them all,' and 'accepting Christ by the will, as its only husband, Lord and Saviour. This is called "receiving" of Christ, John 1:12; and is not intended only for that solemn act whereby at first entrance we close with him, but also for the constant frame of the soul in abiding with him and owning him as such.' Owen characteristically continues, 'Let believers exercise their hearts abundantly unto this thing. This is choice communion with the Son Jesus Christ. Let us receive him in all his excellencies, as he bestows himself upon us; - be frequent in thoughts of faith, comparing him with other beloveds, sin, world, legal righteousness; and preferring him before them, counting them all loss and dung in comparison of him...Let us tell him that we will be for him, and not for another: let him know it from us; he delights to hear it, yea he says, "Sweet is our voice, and our countenance is comely"; and we shall not fail in the issue of sweet refreshment with him.'

- b. Christ's purchased grace. Owen explains what he means by this: 'By purchased grace, I understand all that righteousness and grace which Christ hath procured, or wrought out for us, or doth by any means make us partakers of, or bestows on us for our benefit, by anything that he hath done or suffered, or by any thing he

continueth to do as mediator'. How are we to enjoy communion with our Saviour in this grace?

- First, we do so by approving and embracing the divine way of salvation. In the gospel we see our utter depravity, spiritual poverty and just condemnation; but we also see, by God's grace, that Christ is our 'wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption'. So, in the gospel we find peace for our souls and glory to Christ.
- Second, the Christian enjoys fellowship with Christ in holiness. On Christ's part this involves interceding with his Father 'by virtue of his oblation... that he would bestow his Holy Spirit on them.' The Spirit comes as the Spirit of holiness, who is 'the efficient cause of all holiness and sanctification, - quickening, enlightening, purifying the souls of his saints'. Thus, because of our union with Christ, we receive Christ's own holiness. On our part, the believer receives by faith, the gracious blessings of Christ, who 'as the great Joseph... hath the disposal of all the granaries of the kingdom of heaven committed unto him...'
- Third, we have communion with Christ in 'the grace of privilege before God', the highest of which is adoption. Says Owen, 'The privileges we enjoy by Christ are great and innumerable; to

insist on them in particular were the work for a man's whole life, not a design to be wrapped up in a few sheets. I shall take a view of them only in the head, the spring and fountain whence they all arise and flow - this is our adoption.'

COMMUNION WITH GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

Third, communion with the Holy Spirit is supremely in comfort. It is the special ministry of the Spirit to bring to us the great and gracious promises and blessings of the gospel, to shed abroad God's love in our hearts and to glorify Christ. Says Owen, 'The soul is never more raised with the love of God than when by the Spirit taken into intimate communion with him in the discharge of this duty.' He continues, the Spirit's ministry as the Comforter focuses on 'his bringing the promises of Christ to remembrance, glorifying him in our hearts, shedding abroad the love of God in us, witnessing with us as to our spiritual estate and condition, sealing us to the day of redemption', 'confirming our adoption, and being present with us in our supplications. Here is the wisdom of faith, - to find out and meet with

the Comforter in all these things; not to lose their sweetness, by lying in the dark [as] to their author, nor coming short of the returns which are required of us.'

Knowing God is therefore knowing him as the Father who loves you,

as the Son who gave himself for you and who is in himself 'all glorious', and knowing the Holy Spirit who indwells you to comfort, encourage and make you more like Christ. When someone knows God you can quickly identify them - not by their passionate profession, not by their theological knowledge, not by their evangelistic activity, but by their love (read 1 John 4:19).

John Owen pastored two congregations, one of over 2000, and one of 20. He preached to Parliament on the day after Charles I was executed...never mentioning the King's death. When Charles II came to the throne in 1660, Owen lost all of his theological and ecclesiastical privileges

and positions. However, he counted them all 'loss, compared with the excellency of knowing Jesus Christ'. To read Owen, is to find yourself walking among God's giants (to quote J. I. Packer). ○



Owen was deeply concerned that many Christians fail to grasp the grace of the Father's love in Christ. He never wearies of impressing on us that the Father's love 'ought to be looked on as the fountain from whence all other sweetnesses flow'.

PRAYING WITH JESUS

What lessons do we learn?

 REV. JOHANNES MÜLLER



**Westminster Shorter
Catechism Question 100:**
***What doth the preface of the
Lord's Prayer teach us?***

Answer:

The preface of the Lord's Prayer, which is, Our Father which art in heaven, teacheth us to draw near to God with all holy reverence and confidence, as children to a father, able and ready to help us; and that we should pray with and for others.

Although the whole Bible is a guide to prayer, we see in church history over the last 2000 years that the Lord's Prayer has stood the test of time. There are a few reasons for this. The most important is probably that our Saviour himself teaches us this prayer twice. It is not just a prayer that we can pray word for word. It is a prayer that teaches us how to pray. It consists of a preface, six petitions, and a conclusion.

'Preface' does not sound very exciting. I must confess that in most books, it is the part that I read last. But especially in the Lord's Prayer, the preface gives us important help to pray. The preface itself is the beginning of the prayer. It reminds us who we come to in prayer, our Father in heaven, and how we

should come to him. That is what we will look at in this part.

WE PRAY WITH REVERENCE

‘The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.’ We all know by heart these words from Proverbs 1:7. They are an important foundation for our whole Christian life. Unfortunately, fear of the Lord seems to be becoming more and more unpopular among Christians. This is evident in our prayer life, especially in how we come before God. I cannot look into the heart of anyone, and so I do not know with what attitude you approach God in prayer. But Jesus reminds us that we come not only to our Father, but to our Father in heaven.

That is why the Catechism shows us right at the beginning: ‘Our Father, in heaven, teaches us to approach God with all holy reverence.’ This is not about having a trembling fear of an adversary or judge who wants to punish us unjustly. On the contrary, it is because of his grace in Christ that we come before his throne. Yet Hebrews 12:29 reminds us of the simple reality: ‘For our God is a consuming fire.’

It does us no harm to reflect on who God is and to whom we pray. God is the almighty creator of heaven and earth. The very words ‘in heaven’ remind us that God is enthroned over the heavens, dwelling in unapproachable light, governing his creation. Isaiah’s vision (Isaiah 6) shows

God being worshipped continuously because of his absolute holiness. Even the angels cover their faces and feet. No one can see God without perishing. The very fact that we come before this holy God should at least instil in us some awe. But this fear of God is based above all on God’s grace itself. Hebrews 4 calls us to come to the throne of grace, for we can only come to the Father because we have such a great High Priest, Christ himself. The Heidelberg Catechism says in question 120: ‘Why has Christ commanded us to address God as our Father? To awaken in us at the very beginning of our prayer ... reverence toward God.’

It is not about trembling fear, but childlike reverence. This reverence comes through the grace of God, because of the work of Christ. This is exactly why we should sing Psalm 130 regularly. ‘But there is forgiveness with You, that You may be feared’ (Psalm 130:4). As we meditate on God and his grace, the fear of God will grow in us and we will come before the throne of grace with reverence.

WE PRAY WITH CONFIDENCE

The entire question 120 of the Heidelberg Catechism reads: ‘Why has Christ commanded us to address God as our Father? To awaken in us at the very beginning of our prayer that childlike reverence and trust toward God which should be basic to our prayer: God has become our Father through Christ and will much less deny

us what we ask of him in faith than our fathers would refuse us earthly things.' This is exactly what the Shorter Catechism teaches us. We are to approach God in holy reverence 'and confidence, as children to a Father able and willing to help us, and that we should pray for and with others.' Our Lord not only exhorts us to fear God, he also wants to give us confidence.

The Catechism teaches us to come to the Father with the confidence that children have. Remember what Jesus teaches, right after the Our Father, in Luke: 'If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!' (Luke 11:11-13).

I think our problem is that in the course of our lives we lose this trust. The older we get, the more often we are disappointed. People do not keep their word. Since all people are affected by the Fall, they cheat and lie. Therefore we teach ourselves not to trust them. This mistrust often creeps into our prayer life as well. We no longer trust God to give us what we need. It is a consequence of sin. In the garden, the serpent planted Eve's distrust of God.

But we do not come to a human father. We come to our heavenly Father. We

need to regain that childlike trust. Children ask their father for something because they know he can and will do it. It is with this knowledge that we may come to God. Jesus reminds us that we can trust our Father in heaven. Jesus deliberately uses the comparison between earthly fathers and God because every father wants to give good things to his child. If our parents do not deny us, how much more will God give us good things.

The confidence in our prayer becomes even stronger when we think of what God can do. He is able and willing to help us. Remember, our Father is 'in heaven'. This means that He not only *wants* to give us all good things but *can* give them. For no one is like God, nor can anyone stop God. He alone is all-powerful. 'The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein. For he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters' (Psalm 24:1-2). God sovereignly reigns over all and therefore can do all his holy will.

Knowing this, we come to God. Our parents cannot do some things. Sometimes they cannot help us. But our heavenly Father can do everything. Therefore, pray with confidence, trusting in your heavenly Father and knowing that he can do all his holy will.

WE PRAY FOR EACH OTHER AND WITH EACH OTHER

In Luke 11:1 we read, 'And it came to pass, that he was in a place praying;

and when he had ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.' Rabbis in Jesus' time taught their disciples how to pray. This included pre-written prayers. John the Baptist apparently also taught his disciples how to pray. He probably gave them a prayer. When the disciples see their Master praying, they use the opportunity. They want to pray as John's disciples prayed. Jesus gives them the Lord's Prayer.

The Shorter Catechism says 'that we should pray for and with others.' The preface to the Lord's Prayer shows us that we are not alone. We pray to 'our' Father, not your Father, or my Father alone – God is the Father of all of his children. Jesus has given us this prayer so that we pray together.

Unfortunately, among many evangelical Christians one finds a reluctance to pray the Lord's Prayer together. After all, one does not want to stop spontaneity and one wants to protect oneself from empty rituals and traditions. But what prayer should we say together, if not the Lord's Prayer? When do we have such unity in prayer in our services?

But it also reminds us that we are to pray together. That is why the prayer meetings of the local churches are so important. We need to come together to pray together. Not only the Lord's Prayer, but all our requests should be brought before the Lord together.

The words 'Our Father' show us

another important truth. We pray together and we pray for each other. The Catechism shows us an important truth of the church. We belong together and this prayer reminds us of it. We are also there for each other. We see this witness everywhere in Scripture. Acts 4 shows us the church in Jerusalem. 'And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any man that any of his goods was his own, but all things were common unto them' (Acts 4:32). When Paul collects funds, it is as a love offering for brothers and sisters. We are called to love and serve one another.

How better to be there for one another than to pray for one another. Our powers are few and limited. But God is all-powerful. Are you wondering how to help your brother or sister? You can pray together and ask God for help.

The Lord's Prayer is more than just an old prayer that has been handed down. It is the perfect prayer that our Lord and Master taught us. It is the prayer from which we learn. But it is also the prayer that we pray together. Therefore, be encouraged to pray. Come with childlike, holy reverence for God, confident that he hears your prayer. Trust that he can give you what you ask for. Have the certainty that he wants to give you everything good. Pray together with your brothers and sisters, as the Psalmist reminds us: 'Behold, how good and how pleasant it is when brothers are together in harmony!' (Psalm 133:1). ○



REV. DR PETER J. NAYLOR

THE Seed AND THE Serpent

PART 1

In Genesis 3 we first meet the serpent. As we read on, we meet him in other parts of Scripture, and finally at the end, in Revelation 12 and 20. In this article we are looking at Genesis 3.

THE SERPENT SPEAKS TO THE WOMAN

We must notice several things in Genesis 3.

First, the serpent speaks. He does not bite the woman, to inject venom into her body and kill her. No, he speaks! Here immediately we see the nature of our warfare. It is spiritual. We do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers (Eph. 6). Words are the weapons, it seems. Later Scripture shows us Christ having a sharp two-edged sword coming out of his mouth (Rev. 1:16; 19:15). And in the same revelation to John, the fire, smoke and sulphur from the locusts' mouths symbolize the *doctrines of devils* (Rev. 9:18). Their power to hurt is in their mouths, by what they speak (9:10).

Second, the serpent speaks to the woman. In doing so, he subverts the order that God established in creation. Adam was formed first, and then Eve (1 Tim. 2:13). Adam was the head. But Satan did not respect the headship of the man. Instead, he approached his wife. The consequences for womankind have been devastating throughout history. Contemplate Genesis 3:16. What pain was brought upon all women. Contrary to the notions of present-day feminists, God did not create woman to rule over her husband. Indeed, when Isaiah says 'women shall rule over them', he

indicates that it is a judgment of God on them (Isa. 3:12)

Third, the serpent questions the Word of God. He casts doubt on it. He implies that God has dared to impose a restriction on man, has limited his freedom; he dared to withhold something good from Adam and his wife. He is denying the goodness of God.

Fourth, the serpent denies the truth, contradicts the Word of God. He teaches them to disobey God, to eat the fruit forbidden to them. He denies the warning that was given: he says, 'You will not die!' On the contrary, you will be like God knowing good and evil. He promises that good will come from disobedience. We can be sure that no good will ever come from disobedience to God..

WHO IS THE SERPENT?

The serpent is the devil, Satan. Revelation 12:9 and 20:2, leaves us in no doubt about this. He is described as a great fiery red dragon – the ancient serpent of Genesis 3, the devil, Satan, the deceiver of the whole world (Rev. 12:3,9).

Our Lord says of him that from the very beginning he is a murderer and a liar, the father of lies (John 8:44). He murders by means of deceiving, lying. Furthermore, this tempter is also

the accuser of the brethren. He tempts to sin, and then accuses of sin, with the necessary sentence of death to follow. The words *diabolos* (Greek) and *Satan* (Hebrew), underline the legal nature of his assault against men. He is an adversary, and an adversary at law.

Revelation 12:4 reveals an event that took place even before the temptation of Eve. Satan drew down a third of the stars, that is a third of the angelic host. He led a rebellion in heaven before he came to entice mankind into rebellion.

WHAT IS THE SERPENT'S AIM?

He had as his target Adam and the whole of mankind. The Larger Catechism asks 'Did all mankind fall in that first transgression?' to which the answer is, 'The covenant being made with Adam as a public person, not for himself only, but for his posterity, all mankind descending from him by ordinary generation [and that excludes the Lord Jesus Christ, who came from heaven by virgin birth], sinned in him, and fell with him in that first transgression.' He was aiming at the entire human race. He made us all his target.

“

Immediately we see the nature of our warfare. It is spiritual. We do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers (Eph. 6).

“

The chief aim of the ancient serpent was to rob God of his glory in his own world. Christ, the true image of God, the Beloved Son, the Obedient one, who lived to honour God – he became the target of the devil's temptations.

But we must look closer. Adam was God's creation, made as his own image, in his likeness, placed on the earth with dominion, to subdue creation as the servant of his Creator. Therefore, Satan's assault on Adam, his attack on Adam's original righteousness, was an attack on the servant of God, and thus his attempt to 'steal away' the whole creation from God.

The chief aim of the ancient serpent was to rob God of his glory in his own world. Thus also we can say that his target was Christ Jesus, the Son of God. The man whom he had formed from the dust, into whose nostrils he had breathed the breath of life, was enticed away from his Lord, and captured to serve a new master, the devil himself.

And when Christ came into this world, the devil made him his mark. Christ, the true image of God, the Beloved Son, the Obedient one, who lived to honour God – he became the target of the devil's temptations. Consider Matthew 4 and Revelation 12:5.

GOD SPEAKS – GENESIS 3:15

To this evil serpent, God addresses these words:

'And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.'

וְאֵיבָהּ אִשִּׁית בֵּינְךָ וּבֵין הָאִשָּׁה
וּבֵין זְרַעְךָ וּבֵין זְרַעָהּ
הוּא יְשׁוּבְךָ רֹאשׁ
וְאַתָּה תְּשׁוּבֶנּוּ עֲקֵב: ס

Because these words are found at the beginning of the Bible, they are very concise. They announce in embryonic form what will unfold and be developed across the pages of Scripture. They are poetic in form, and very rich in content. What is here spoken will span the entire course of history.

Enmity! Hostility! There will be war. War between the woman and the serpent. Consider that. The woman will hate you, Satan! She will be hostile towards you. This is hugely significant. The cunning deceiver had persuaded Eve to take his side against God. But she would change sides again. This little word enmity signals the overthrow of all that Satan had just accomplished. It would be undone. This points to the recovery of Eve to God. It is in fact the promise of redemption.

'Between your seed and her seed' - others are involved. The word seed is grammatically singular; but it is also a collective term. It can signify one man or many. Soon, in Genesis, we will read of the seed of Abraham who will be as many as the stars of heaven, or the grains of sand on the seashore, or

the dust of the earth – too many to be numbered – a multitude. But also that seed is one person; that Seed is Christ (Gal. 3:16).

So then there will be two multitudes at war: Eve's children (the redeemed) will be at enmity with Satan's children, the fallen.

But that is not all. He will bruise you in the head. There is one Seed – Christ – who will inflict upon the devil a fatal blow. Satan, you are to be defeated and destroyed. Revelation 20:10 tells of his final removal, consigned to hell for ever.

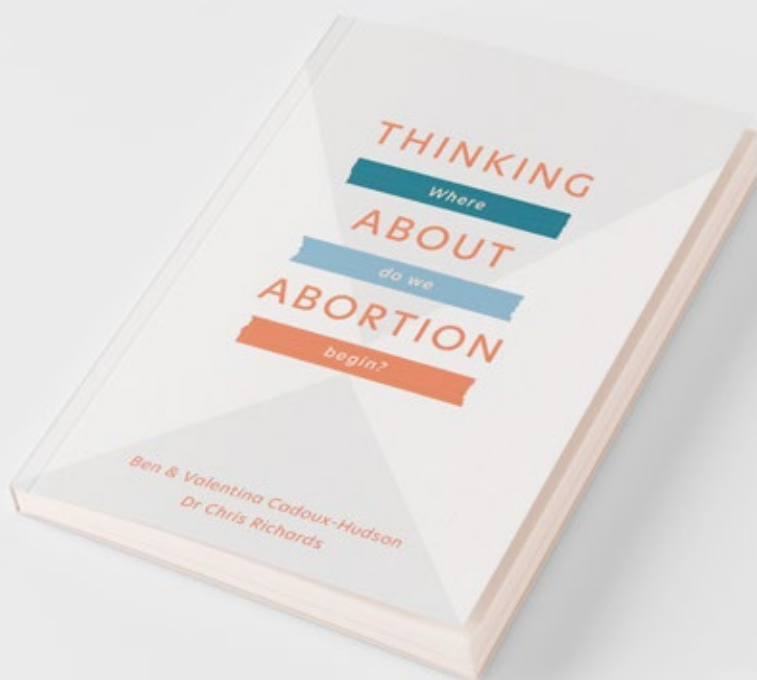
But you will bruise him in the heel. He will be wounded, but it will not be fatal. This was seen in the death of Christ at Calvary followed by his resurrection from the dead on the third day. Death did not defeat Christ; he conquered death.

In this single verse, this one word of God, we have:

1. The incarnation of the Son of God, his true and complete manhood.
2. The cross, the atonement for sins, the resurrection of Christ and the victory of eternal life.
3. The unassailable righteousness of Christ.
4. The recovery, the redemption of man.
5. The kingdom of Jesus Christ and the glory of God.
6. The reality of hell and eternal torment. ○

To be continued.

Book Recommendation



THINKING ABOUT ABORTION

Where do we begin?

Dr Chris Richards and
Ben and Valentina Cadoux-Hudson



DR JOHN MACEE,
SALISBURY

When I was given a copy of the book, *Thinking about Abortion*, my first thought was that the book cover is attractive. My second thought was that I did not want to think about abortion very much. The subject was too great and too distressing. Then I remembered what C. S. Lewis had the demon say in the Screwtape Letters: 'It is funny how mortals always picture us as putting things into their minds: in reality our best work is done by keeping things out. 'What had been kept out of my mind were the words of Christ

in Matthew 22: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' Also the words of the mother of King Lemuel in Proverbs 31: 'Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy.' This book provides excellent guidance to how we should think and act in the context of prevalent abortion.

Few who read the first chapter, listing common abortion-related scenarios, will be able to sustain the fiction that we can be certain of staying distant from this topic. Yet our ethical thinking could have been poisoned by the world's ethical atmosphere. This book wisely, in two brief chapters, contrasts how the world views ethics and the revolutionary thinking that is Christian ethics.

Whilst the situation is grievous, the authors are compassionate in their words. Women who have had an abortion can safely be encouraged to read this sensitively written book. Even the fact that abortion is usually the second sin in a sequence, beginning with sex outside marriage, is dealt with without condemnation. And for those readers who have not had personal experience of abortion, the centrality of this subject, linking as it does, sex, contraception, death, life, women's roles and responsibilities, children, the family, personhood, and utilitarianism with the duties of Christians and of

the Church, makes this book vital.

If looking towards this vast range of abortion-related topics is overwhelming, and it is, the authors take us into the Scriptures where alone we will find good answers to hard questions and where we will find

no contradictions. I strongly recommend this section for its application of biblical truth not only to abortion but to the linked issues of miscarriage, stillbirth, and congenital abnormality.

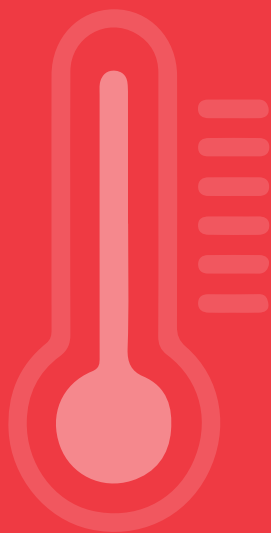
It would scarcely be possible to survey the staggering abortion situation followed by the teachings of Scripture without proceeding to lay out the right response. This section is the most helpful and challenging part of the book. The list of things that we need to confess as Christians regarding our response or lack of response

to abortion (page 88), and what we ought subsequently to pray for, (pages 89 and 90) is worth the price of the book.

With this vast subject, a book exhaustively covering abortion would be enormous. At 150 pages, this book is not a long read; however, the generous provision of references substantially augments the text. I highly commend this book, *Thinking about Abortion*, and the authors: Ben and Valentina Cadoux-Hudson and Dr Chris Richards. [o](#)

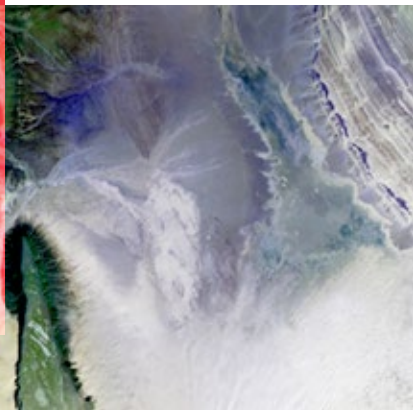
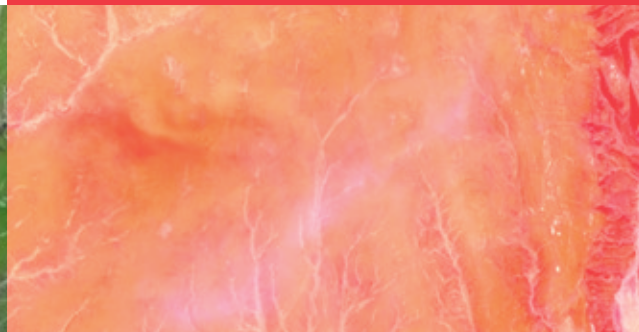


Whilst the situation is grievous, the authors are compassionate in their words. Women who have had an abortion can safely be encouraged to read this sensitively written book.



CLIMATE EMERGENCY?

'Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, that an abundance of water may cover you?' (Job 38:34). Our God, the Creator of Heaven and Earth, alone can do that. He stretched out the heavens like a curtain and laid the foundations of the earth (Psalm 104:2,5). He spoke and it was done (Psalm 33:9). He gives snow, sends out his word and melts it, causes winds to blow, and waters to flow (Psalm 147:16-18). Ba'al's prophets may rave on, but rain and drought come by command of the one true and living God, the LORD our God alone (1 Kings 17-18). Christ upholds all things by the word of his power (Heb. 1:3).



On 15 January, deep under the Pacific, the Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai volcano erupted, causing a tsunami, a sonic boom that circled the Earth twice, and sending up a plume of superheated steam over 30 miles into the stratosphere. NASA scientists, who measure the gases in the atmosphere using the Microwave Limb Sounder on the Aura satellite, said, 'We've never seen anything like it...'; the water vapour readings were 'off the charts' (Luis Millàn, on CBS News). This single event increased the total amount of water vapour in the stratosphere by 10% (adding 146 megatonnes).

Water vapour in the atmosphere has a far greater effect on Earth's temperatures than CO₂. And this release of water vapour on just one day was equivalent to many years of the CO₂ emissions for the whole world. All this is completely beyond man's control. It puts IPCC schemes (net zero, banning fossil fuels and

beef farming, putting up windmills, and such like) into perspective. How ineffective to wreck lives and ruin economies when the Earth's climate is entirely in the hands of our omnipotent God. King Canute could not hold back the tide and governments today cannot control the climate. Yes, the climate does change. The Romans had vineyards by Hadrian's Wall. Richard Baxter commented on the frozen winters in his time. But man cannot control it.

The world's 'climate crisis' narrative leaves out God. There would indeed be an emergency if the world lay in the hands of men. But 'the winds and the waves still know the One who rules them here below'. Be still my soul! He has promised that the seasons will continue until this world is no more. The cattle on a thousand hills are his, and he has given them to us for food (Gen. 9:3). The Earth is the Lord's and he has given us all things richly to enjoy (1 Tim. 6:17). ○



THE WORLD'S 'CLIMATE CRISIS' NARRATIVE LEAVES OUT GOD. BUT 'THE WINDS AND THE WAVES STILL KNOW THE ONE WHO RULES THEM HERE BELOW'. BE STILL MY SOUL!

THE EVANGELICAL BOOK SHOP

The home of Reliable, Reformed
Resources for Church and Christian Living



ERNEST BROWN

The Evangelical Book Shop in Belfast was opened in the middle of 1926 by the Presbyterian Bible Standards League, a body formed within the Presbyterian Church in Ireland to campaign against modernism, which the League considered to have strongly infiltrated teaching at the Church's Seminary. The book shop was the League's campaign headquarters. Soon after the founding of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC) in October 1927, a key outcome of the modernism battle, the shop and its premises passed to members of the EPC. In 1946 they drew up a Trust Deed by which the premises and assets were held in trust for the EPC.

The book shop's first manager, W. J. Grier, was one of the EPC founding fathers. He had studied at Princeton 1924-26, where he formed a close friendship with Dr J. Gresham Machen. Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, has archived 50 letters that passed between them, 1925-1936, of which 22 were Machen's and 28 Grier's. Most of the content concerned the modernism issues we have referred to.

At first, the shop had just a few trestle tables, advertising by window notices and chalking the pavement! It applied itself to the need of the hour – the combatting of German Rationalism

and Modernism. Mr Grier sourced Reformed books from the USA, and when they became hard to get during and after World War 2, the shop grew into a distribution hub for the United Kingdom. Before the advent of publishers like *The Banner of Truth*, the shop provided support for men in all denominations who treasured the Reformed faith. This has continued and has proved highly influential through the years. Although severely damaged twice during the Northern Ireland 'troubles', the shop continued to operate in temporary accommodation.

The trustees, managers and staff have a clear vision - to provide Christian resources which accord with the Westminster standards: 'EBS, through its literature and witness, promotes the Reformed Faith in agreement with its Trust and in harmony with the doctrinal standards of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC) which are aligned to the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms.' This governs our range of books, which we advertise as 'reliable resources for church and Christian living.' A recent book entitled, *By Honour and Dishonour - the Story of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church*, 2016, gives a fuller picture of the shop's history and development. EBS opened Mound Books, Edinburgh, in 2019 to extend our witness to Scotland.

For close on 100 years, we have laboured to provide the Church with books that

would inform, challenge and help to grow the faith of our readers. We have an extensive range of 13,000 competitively priced new titles, spread across Apologetics, Bibles, Bible Characters, Bible Languages, Biography, Children, Christian Life and Devotion, Church History, Commentaries, Puritan, and Mission. In addition, we have a large used books department, with some 10,000 volumes available at the shop. These are being progressively listed on the website, which gives information about our stock, our contact details, book reviews. This enables customers to purchase books online. We support seminaries, provide bookstalls for churches, conferences throughout the British Isles. Many *Network* readers will have seen our book stall at the conferences run by Westminster Presbyterian Theological Seminary, at All Saints in Newcastle.

Our relationship with publishers means we can provide an expansive range at one location. So, no need to browse around. If the title you are after is not on the website let us know and, if it is available, it will appear. We recently took delivery of a consignment of Westminster Seminary Press (WSP) titles normally available only in the USA. We endeavour to bring the most reliable titles the publishers produce. [o](#)



For close on 100 years, we have laboured to provide the Church with books that would inform, challenge and help to grow the faith of our readers.



[See back cover for some recommended publications.](#)



EPCEW Church Directory

BARRY - CHRIST CHURCH

Christ Church Presbyterian, Jerusalem Chapel,
Tynewydd Rd, Barry, CF62 8HB.

Sun. 11am & 5pm, Wed. 4pm

Minister: Rev. Drew Goodman

☎ 07888 638224

✉ agoodman@christchurchbarry.org.uk

🌐 christchurchbarry.org.uk

BERLIN

Luisenstrasse 39, 10117 Berlin, Sun. 11am & 2pm

Kettinger Strasse 131, 12305,

Berlin. Midweek. 8pm

Minister: Rev. Johannes Müller

☎ +491763102904

✉ johannes.mueller@epkd.de

🌐 www.epkd.de

BLACKBURN

Fecitt Brow, Blackburn,

Lancashire BB1 2AZ

Sun. 11am & 6.30pm, Wed. 7.30pm

Minister: Rev. Norman Green

BURY ST EDMUNDS

Newbury Community Centre

St. Olaves Rd, Bury St Edmunds IP32 6RW,

Sun. 11am & 5.30pm, Wed. 7.30pm

Minister: Rev. Matthew Jolley

☎ 07891 201748

✉ matthewjolley@mac.com

🌐 bse-pc.org

CAMBRIDGE

Queen Emma Primary School, Gunhild Way (am)

Resurrection Lutheran Church, Westfield Lane (pm)

Sun. 10.30am & 6pm, Thu. 7.45pm

Minister: Rev. Douglas McCallum

☎ 07855 130526

✉ dmccallum1981@gmail.com

🌐 cambridgepres.org.uk

CARDIFF - BETHEL

Michaelston Rd, Culverhouse Cross, Cardiff CF5 4SX

Sun. 11am & 6pm, Wed. 7.30pm

Minister: Rev. Andrew Graham

☎ 029 2059 5000

✉ andrew.graham@bethelpcr.org.uk

🌐 bethelpcr.org.uk

CARDIFF - IMMANUEL

Heol Trelai, Caerau, Cardiff CF5 5LJ

Sun. 10.30am & 6pm, Wed. 7.30pm

Minister: Rev. Dr Peter Naylor

☎ 029 2040 5750 / 07773 093738

✉ peter.naylor@immanuel.org.uk

🌐 immanuel.org.uk

CARDIFF - ELY

Archer Road, Ely, Cardiff CF5 4FR

Sun 10:30am & 5:30pm, Wed 7:00pm

Minister: Rev. Philip Haines

☎ 029 2059 6410/07703 859 258

✉ philiphaines@live.com

🌐 epcreformed.org

CHELMSFORD

Hall Street Methodist Church

Chelmsford CM2 0HG

Sun. 11.30am & 6pm, Thu. 8pm

Minister: Rev. Darren Moore

☎ 01245 690559

✉ darrenmoore@chelmsfordpres.co.uk

🌐 chelmsfordpres.org.uk

CHELTENHAM - NAUNTON LANE

23 Naunton Lane, Leckhampton

Cheltenham GL53 7BJ

Sun. 10.30am & 6pm, Wed. 7.45pm

Minister: Rev. Matt Faux

☎ 07929 527 631

✉ MattFaux@cheltenhampres.org.uk

🌐 cheltenhampres.org.uk

CHELTENHAM - NORTH

Whaddon Road E.P. Church

Rear of Claremont, Whaddon Rd,

Cheltenham GL52 5LZ

Sun. 11am & 6.00pm

Minister: Rev. David Pfeiffer

☎ 07846 858766

✉ drpfeiffer85@hotmail.com

🌐 whaddonevangelicalchurch.org

DURHAM

The Chapel, Laburnum Avenue
Durham, DH1 4HA
Sun. 10.30am & 3.30pm, Thu. 7.45pm
Minister: Rev. Phil Baiden
 07714 340 892
 philbaiden@yahoo.co.uk
 durhampresbyterian.church

GLOUCESTER

10:30am The Farmers Club (Greville Cl, GL2 9RG)
5pm St Mary's Congregational Church (GL1 2QS)
Minister: Rev. Michael Cochran
 07810 268 284
 mcochran@worldwitness.org
 gloucesterpres.co.uk



HEXHAM

The Torch Centre, Corbridge Rd (near hospital)
Hexham NE46 1QS
Sun. 10am & 5pm, Wed. 7:30pm
Contact: Mr John Cook
 01434 609691
 johncookatmca@hotmail.com
 hexhampres.uk




HULL

Rear of 336 Holderness Road,
Hull, HU9 3DQ
Sun. 10.30am
Contact: Rev. Chris Kavanagh
(Naunton Lane)

LINCOLN

Location: Please contact us for details.
Minister: Rev. Dr Kevin Bidwell
 07954 546487
 lincolnepc.org.uk




NEWCASTLE - ALL SAINTS

Church address: Pilgrim Street,
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 2ES
Office: All Saints Church Office, Third Floor,
Alderman Fenwick's House, 98-100 Pilgrim
Street, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 6SG
Minister: Rev. Benjamin Wontrop
 0191 261 6933
 contact@allsaintspres.org.uk
 allsaintspres.org.uk

OXFORD

10:30am at St. Luke's Chapel (OX2 6HT)
5pm at the Friends Meeting House
(43 St. Giles', OX1 3LW)
Minister: Rev. Andy Young
 07963 139683
 andy@oxfordpres.co.uk
 oxfordpres.co.uk




SALFORD, MANCHESTER

River View Primary School,
1 Wheaters St, Salford, M7 1QZ
Sun. 11am & 5pm.
Minister: Rev. Chris Statter
 07914 048085
 salfordEPC@gmail.com
 salfordEPC.org.uk

SHEFFIELD

Hill Top Chapel, Attercliffe Common,
Sheffield S9 2AD
Sun. 10am (SS), 11am & 5pm
Minister: Rev. Dr Kevin Bidwell
 0114 2431720 / 07954 546487
 kevinjbidwell@me.com
 sheffieldpres.org.uk



SOLIHULL

Tudor Grange Academy, Dingle Lane,
Solihull B91 3PD
11am and 5pm.
Minister: Rev. Dr Stephen Dancer
 0121 707 1826
 info@solihullpres.org.uk
 solihullpres.org.uk

SUNDERLAND

Fulwell Community Centre,
Sunderland, SR6 8HS
Sun. 10:30am & 5pm
Minister: Rev. Nathan Hilton
 07960 677510
 contact@sunderlandpres.org.uk
 sunderlandpres.org.uk

TRANÅS

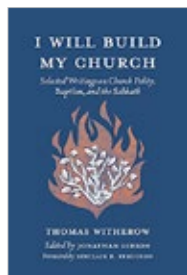
Höggatan 8, 57333, Tranås, Sweden
Sun. 10am
Contact: Trygve Lundblad
 +46 (0)70 238 70 75
 trygve.tranas@gmail.com

ZÜRICH

Minister: Pfr. Florian Weicken
 +41763080787
 florian.weicken@zuerichpres.ch
 zuerichpres.ch

CLERK OF PRESBYTERY

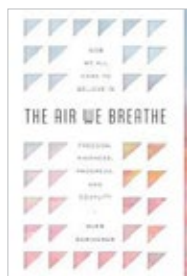
Dr Falko Drijfhout, 63 Larchwood, Keele,
Newcastle-under-Lyme, ST5 5BB
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 f.drijfhout12@gmail.com



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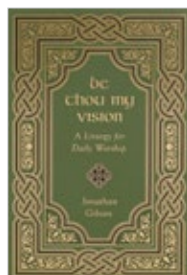
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