

Dorset South and West Circuit

Printed service for Sunday 18th. July 2012 - Rev. Michael Barber

(Please use your own bible for the scripture readings)

Hymn SF 567 We are here to praise you
Lift our hearts and sing
We are here to give you the best that we can bring
And it is our love
Rising from our hearts
Everything within us cries Abba Father
Help us now to give you
Pleasure and delight
Heart and mind and will that says
I love you Lord.

Whenever we meet someone the first thing to do is to put right anything we did or said wrong, or failed to do at or since our last meeting. This means that on coming to worship God the first thing to do is confess all our sins and failings since our last prayer or worship time. Let us take a time of silence for detailed personal examination and then confess our sins and the sins of society and any part we may have played in them.

Take a time of silence for repentance and resolve to live according to the will of God.

Hymn SF 129 God forgave my sins in Jesus name,
I've been born again in Jesus name
And in Jesus name I come to you
To share his love as he told me to.

He said freely, freely you have received
Freely, freely give
Go in my name and because you believe
others will know that I live.

Scripture readings and thoughts: Jeremiah ch.23 v 1-6

Message: Hope for the future for the Jews.

This is a passage many politicians and others today need to read. The land of Israel has been invaded by many people and groups since it was given to the Jews by God. The last restoration was after the first world war when Britain was given a mandate to control the land until the Jews were ready to assume government. This was confirmed by the International conference in San Remo in 1920 and signed by 54 nations. This was accepted by the League of Nations and United Nations when they were formed.

Reading Ephesians 2 v 11- end.

Message: Paul reminds the gentile Christians of how much they owe to the Jews and that in God's family we are all equal members . I think that I probably only really accepted this after I had been to Israel and met and worshipped with Jews.

There are what we might like to call "Old Testament" Jews and others who accept Jesus as the long promised Messiah and are generally referred to as Messianic Jews. They are all one people . In the Christian church today we can have fellowship across denominational divides and I found that I could have fellowship across the divides in Judaism and that they had a lot to teach me.

Reading: Mark ch 6 v 30-34 & 53 - end. Jesus feeds 5000 and heals many.

Message: The setting for this well known event seems to vary in each Gospel but it is clear that by this time Jesus and his miracles were so well known to so many people that where ever he went crowds followed Him. But who were all these people. A careful reading of the Gospels makes it clear that they were not all Jews and that there were people of different descent who lived in Israel at that time. Jesus would not have used the Parable of the Good Samaritan if it was rare for a Samaritan to have been going down from Jerusalem. In Mark 5 v 11 we learn that close to the lake there was a great herd of swine and presumably these were not owned by Jews who considered them unclean. It thus becomes clear that Jesus ministered to others as well as to Jews. Thus it becomes clear that Jesus cared for all people and so we too should care for all including the Jews many of whom accept Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

We may not know any Jews but there are plenty of people who live near us who need help but never turn to Jesus to help them. Why? Because we have never told them what God can do for them if they will turn to Him and learn from Him .

Let us Pray

Let us ask God to bring into our minds those whom he wants us to pray for and invite into his church.

Let us pray especially for young people for without them there is no future for the church.

Let us pray for those who are spiritually hungry and offer ourselves to Him.

Let us pray for all those in leadership in the church that they may be guided by God in all that they do and say.

Let us pray for all those in Government that they will be open to the guidance of God's Holy Spirit.

Pray for the Jews that God will guide and protect them for all the assaults of the enemy.

Hymn SF 738

Go forth and tell!

O church of God awake

God's saving news to all the nations take

Proclaim Christ Jesus, Saviour, Lord and King,
that all the world, his worthy praise may sing.

Go forth and tell! God's love embraces all

He will respond in grace to all who call.

How shall they call if they have never heard -
the gracious invitation of His word?

Go forth and tell where still the darkness lies,
in wealth or want, the sinner surely dies;

Give us, O Lord, concern of heart and mind,
a love like yours, compassionate and kind.

Go forth and tell!

The doors are open wide;

Share God's good gifts - let no one be denied

Live out your life as Christ your Lord shall choose
your ransomed powers for his sole glory use.

Go forth and tell, O church of God arise;
Go in the strength which Christ the Lord supplies.
Go tell all nations his great name adore -
and serve God and King, his great name adore.