

VICTORIA

Life

Sunday 20th April 2025

HE
IS
RISEN





Resurrection Day – 1 Corinthians 15:50-58 – So What?

“We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed – in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.” (1 Corinthians 15:51)



The morning Jesus was raised from the dead is the most important morning in the history of the world. What the disciples initially considered to be unthinkable, soon became the source of their greatest joy: Jesus was alive, sins could be forgiven, and death had been conquered.

Often, on Easter Sunday, we look at the evidence for the resurrection, this time we’ll look together at what it means. This morning we’ll answer the question, ‘so what if Jesus is raised from the dead?’ Together we’ll see that the resurrection of Jesus gives us new hope, new values and a new purpose for our lives.

I hope that you’ll be able to join us but trust that, wherever you are, you have a very Happy Easter.

This Evening

Our regular fortnightly Prayer Meeting will be taking place at 6.30pm

Next Week (27TH)

Jez Taylor will be bringing God’s Word to us next Sunday at our 10am service. He will be continuing with the “Sermon on the Mount” series.

STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

The church office will be closed on Monday.

Staff movements for next week

Chris off Tues

Colin

Kevin off Sat

Tim in Wed am & Fri am

Nadine in Thurs

Sandra off Thurs

Phil in Tues am, Wed, Thurs pm

Simon off Tues

Julie in Thurs

Lucy in Wed am, Thurs, Fri am

Jez in Wed & Fri

Senior Minister

Chris Short

PA to Senior Minister

Sandra Taylor

Family Ministries

Simon Grimes - Children

Church Administrator

Colin McMahon

Caretaker

Kevin Virgo

CAP Debt Centre Manager

Phil Papps

CAP Debt Coach

Nadine Crawford-Piper

Treasurer

Mark Evason

Finance Assistant

Julie Hanks

Ministry Assistants

Tim Nunn (Discipleship)

Lucy Craggs (Women)

Life Group Coordinator and interim Youth Leader

Jez Taylor

Staff contact details:

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(eg *chris@victoriabaptist.org.uk*)

VBC Bank Details

Account Name:

Victoria Baptist Church Trust

Account Number: 00010297

Sort Code: 40-52-40

01323 737974

Eldon Road, Eastbourne BN21 1UE

helpdesk@victoriabaptist.org.uk

www.victoriabaptist.org.uk

- Sun 20 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' office
 10.00am Easter Service with Chris Short
 6.30pm Prayer Meeting
- Mon 21 OFFICE CLOSED
- Tue 22 10.00am World Religions with Jez Taylor
 7.30pm World Religions with Jez Taylor
- Wed 23 7.00am Prayer Meeting
 8.15am Community Fridge
 10.00am Vicky Bees
 6.30pm Boys Brigade
- Thu 24 7.30am Prayer Meeting (men only)
 10.00am Ladies Bible Study with Creche
 7.30pm Ukraine Prayer Meeting
 evening Omega 18-35 (for timing/venue contact Tim Nunn)
 7.30pm CAP Money Coaching Course
- Fri 25 10.00am Vicky Bees
 10.00am Outreach Prayer Meeting
 5.00pm Kids Club
 7.00pm Xpect
- Sat 26
- Sun 27 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' office
 10.00am Live @ 10 with Jez Taylor
 7.00pm Xcav8

Church Members Meeting - Wed 30th Apr, 7.30pm (see below)

Alpha Course - starts 30th April, running for 9 weeks

Men's non-Curry Night - 7th May (see Keith Pamphilon for info)

Ladies Away Day - 17th May (tickets available in the Welcome Centre)



CHURCH MEMBERS MEETING - the agenda for this meeting is displayed in various places in the Welcome Centre and the Sanctuary.

BRAD GREENING

Brad's Thanksgiving Service will be held here at VBC on Friday 2nd May at 1pm. If you would like to join Nancy & the family afterwards for refreshments, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Welcome Centre.

HENRY KIRKMAN - we have a provisional date of Thursday May 8th for Henry's Thanksgiving Service (1pm) - still to be confirmed.

PRAYER DIARY : 21ST - 27TH APR

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.' John 14:1

Monday Thank You, Lord, for the joy of celebrating Your resurrection on Easter Sunday, as a family. As our risen Lord, we remember Your comforting words; *'I will come back and take you to be with me that you may also be where I am going.'* John 14:3. May these words bring us peace and hope in the most challenging of days we may face.

Tuesday *'I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me.'* John 14:6. Praise You, Lord, for revealing to us our Heavenly Father and the way to Him. We pray for our neighbours, that they may know the truth and have an abundant life walking with You. Helps us, Lord, to share the truth with our friends and family.

Wednesday *'But the Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.'* John 14:26. Thank You, Lord, that we have a Counsellor to be with us forever, the Spirit of Truth. The Holy Spirit lives in us and reminds us of You, Jesus, and Your words. May we continue to ask to be filled with the Holy Spirit and be salt and light in our places of work, study and recreation.

Thursday *'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.'* John 14:27. Thank You, Lord, that we can read about the peace You have given to us. May our hearts not be troubled as we replace fear with trust in You. Give us courage each day to walk by faith and not by sight.

Friday *'I am the vine and you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.'* John 15:5. Lord, please help us to bear much fruit. May our lives, connected to You, demonstrate a love for others and a servant heart. Help us to grow the fruit of the Spirit, a character refined by You.

Saturday *'Love each other as I have loved You.'* John 15:12. Lord, we ask for forgiveness for the times we have not shown love in the way You have loved us. Love is patient, love is kind ... love never fails. Let us live in the most excellent way, which You have shown us. And may our community see us caring for each other, in love.

Sunday *'May they be brought in complete unity to let the world know that You sent me and have loved them even as You have loved me.'* John 17:23. We gather together today to worship You, our Lord and Saviour. May Jez know Your leading as he brings Your word to us today. Please help and guide us in all our conversations today and through the week; may our words and actions bring complete unity and not division.

FUEL FOR PRAYER

Seeing CHRIST IN THE BOOK OF PROVERBS WITH THE HELP OF TIM KELLER

Part 13: Finding strength to carry on

'A bruised reed he will not break...' Matt.12:20

1. There is a **danger as Christians of being too simplistic when trying to help others** going through difficult times. The Bible acknowledges this difficulty and Proverbs in particular has much wisdom to understand the issues at stake and how best to respond.

2. It firstly recognises **how complex suffering can be** and it can't be solved by glib words, random Biblical verses or external factors alone. This is because of the different facets that can be

involved such as its depth, reaching our inner spirit and desire to live (*'a crushed spirit who can bear?'* 18:4), its uniqueness to the sufferer as well as physical, moral and philosophical aspects. The following verses from Proverbs illustrate each of these: *'Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down, but a good word makes him glad.'* 28:1. Guilt, real or imaginary, can dampen what little joy a person has, *'The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.'* 28:1 or as Paul put it, *'My conscience is clear but that does not make me innocent...'* 1 Cor.4:4. There is loneliness to suffering to which it is dangerous to say, *'I know what that is like.'* Even the sufferer might be struggling to make sense of it. *'The heart knows its own bitterness, and no stranger shares its joy.'* 14:10. A feeling that life is meaningless, even at its best, and especially in the light of death. *'Even in laughter the heart may ache, and the end of joy may be grief.'* (14:13)

3. How do we respond to such 'suffering' with its multifaceted causes for our own benefit and to help others? The Bible does not shy away from this complex challenge but seeks to answer it with a solution that goes to the heart of the problem and meets all those causes. **Its answer is the cross of Christ and, especially, the one to be found there.** In Genesis and Revelation we read of 'the tree of life' that God offers as a panacea for all our problems. Unfortunately, access to it is barred by the *'flaming sword of the cherubim'* because of man's disobedience in the garden of Eden. However, Christ died on another tree; in the New Testament there is repeated reference to Jesus dying on a tree, synonymous with the cross, eg Acts 5:30, 10:39 & 1 Peter 2:24. There He experienced physical suffering, loneliness, emotional distress, spiritual separation from God i.e. **all the complex aspects of suffering we noted earlier.** In doing this He endured the Cherubim's sword of judgement to reconcile us to God and make a new way to the 'tree of life.' Our deepest longings find fulfilment



... in that tree. *'Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life.'* (13:12) It is interesting to note that Proverbs is the only other book in the Bible where the 'tree of life' is mentioned. George Herbert captured the efficacy of the cross in one stanza of his poem on the passion of Christ -

O all ye who passe by, behold and see;

Man stole the fruit, but I must climbe the tree;

The tree of life to all, but onely me:' (That is, only Christ could do it!)

4. One final point; **this is no quick fix**. For this truth to be effective we need to keep reminding ourselves of the benefits of the cross and what Jesus did there. To help us, God has given the sacrament of the Lord's supper as a visual reminder and also a church family to get alongside and provide physical and verbal encouragement and teaching. Both minister to the inner being and heart of the problem. *'Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed.'* (Ja.5:16). The degree to which we use these means of grace, the greater the effect will be. - Listen to the whole sermon at: [The Wounded Spirit – Gospel in Life](#)

John Demetriou

christians
against
poverty
CAP

**Don't miss
money coaching**

At Victoria Baptist Church, Eldon Road, Eastbourne, BN21 1UE

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) are running a **free money coaching course** looking at things like balancing a household budget, prioritising spending and keeping your finances stable into the future. **Sign up to book your free place!**

**Use the QR Code above or the link
below to SIGN UP TODAY!**

24 April 2025 at 7:30pm
1 May 2025 at 7:30pm
8 May 2025 at 7:30pm
15 May 2025 at 7:30pm
22 May 2025 at 7:30pm

<https://tinyurl.com/Eastbourne-CAP-Money-Coaching>

Flower Ministry

The flowers last week were donated by
John & Ruth Simmonds,
celebrating John's 90th birthday on 15th April



Thank you church family for your love and prayers. These flowers are so beautiful , thank you so much Love JK x

I would like to say thank you so much for the lovely flowers and card kindly delivered to me yesterday. Thank you also for your prayers for me and my family. NH



Many thanks for the lovely flowers that I came home to on Monday. They were so much appreciated. CW