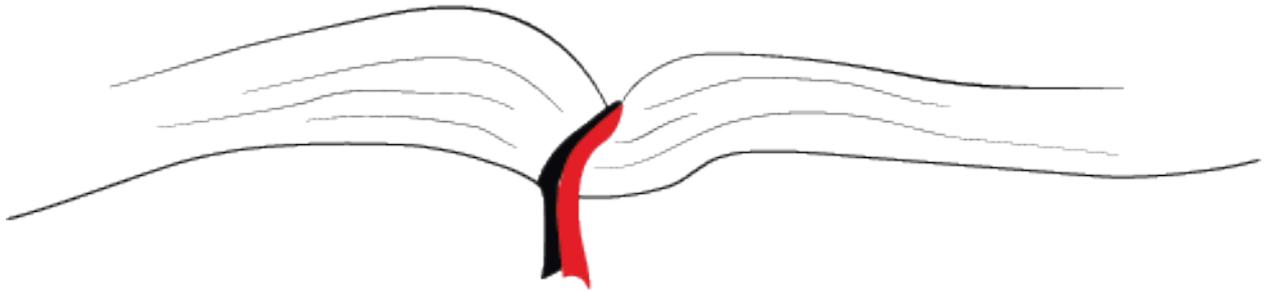


HOPE



BAPTIST CHURCH

*“For whatsoever things were written
aforetime were written for our learning, that
we through patience and comfort of the
scriptures might have hope”.*

Romans 15:4

Welcome to Hope Baptist Church

Sunday 18th of June 2017

531 Elizabeth Dr Sunbury
Service Sundays 10:30am today

Hymn To Remember

Like a River Glorious

Translator: Frances Ridley Havergal

Source: 1874

1 Like a river glorious is God's perfect peace,
over all victorious in its bright increase:
perfect, yet it floweth fuller every day;
perfect, yet it groweth deeper all the way.

Refrain:

Stayed up on Jehovah, hearts are fully blessed-
finding as he promised, perfect peace and rest.

2 Hidden in the hollow of his blessed hand,
Never foe can follow, Never traitor Stand.
Not a surge of worry, not a shade of care,
Not a blast of hurry, touch the spirit there.

Refrain

3. Every joy or trial falleth from above,
Traced upon our dial, by the Sun of love.
We may trust him fully, all for us to do,
They who trust him wholly, find him wholly true.

Refrain

Havergal, Frances Ridley, daughter of the Rev. W. H. Havergal, was born at Astley, Worcestershire, Dec. 14, 1836. Five years later her father removed to the Rectory of St. Nicholas, Worcester. In August, 1850, she entered Mrs. Teed's school, whose influence over her was most beneficial. In the following year she says, "I committed my soul to the Saviour, and earth and heaven seemed brighter from that moment." A short sojourn in Germany followed, and on her return she was confirmed in Worcester Cathedral, July 17, 1853. In 1860 she left Worcester on her father resigning the Rectory of St. Nicholas, and resided at different periods in Leamington, and at Caswall Bay, Swansea, broken by visits to Switzerland, Scotland, and North Wales. She died at Caswall Bay, Swansea, June 3, 1879.

Order of Service

Welcome

Announcements & Prayer

Hymn – Like a River Glorious

Bible Reading Esther 4:1-14

Hymn – Count Your Blessings 370

Sermon – The Book of Esther, a Survey.

Hymn – Just As I Am 249

A word on The Word

“The storehouse of God’s Word was never meant for mere scrutiny, not even primarily for study but for sustenance.”

- Vance Havner

The Book of Esther

Sermon Notes

God Appoints the People (Est 1:22, 2:8-9, 16-18, Prov 21:1)

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God Anoints the Times (Est 3:8, 4:6-14, Eph 5:15-16, Est 4:15-16)

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God Assigns the Circumstances (Est 5:2-8, 6:4-10, 13, Ps 9:16, Pr 12:13, Lk 6:39)

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God Ascribes the Judgements (Est 8:10-1, 9:1)

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Deutero Bible Club

- 18 June 2017 Sun [Matt 7–11](#)
- 19 June 2017 Mon [Matt 12–15](#)
- 20 June 2017 Tues [Matt 16–20](#)
- 21 June 2017 Wed [Matt 21–24](#)
- 22 June 2017 Thurs [Matt 25–28](#)
- 23 June 2017 Fri [Mark 1–4](#)
- 24 June 2017 Sat [Mark 5–7](#)

176 words on 176 Verses.

*“Then shall I not be ashamed,
When I have respect unto all thy commandments.”*

(Ps 119:6)

As is often the case, it is not until we accept what the Lord teaches by faith and act upon that faith, that we come to realize the truth of what he commands.

In our previous verse we note that it will not be until our ways are directed to keep his statutes (v5) that only “*Then shall I not be ashamed...*”. It will only be *then*, when we realize the eternal truth of his statutes that I will “*have respect unto all thy commandments*”, but it will not be until *then*.

Like children who think foolishness is the wisdom of their parents until they have experienced the folly of their own way and their ways *then* directed, they will *then* no longer be ashamed of their parent’s commands. So might we be with the commands of he who ordained the stars to shine, who set the bounds of the seas and laid the foundation of the Earth.

When we respect the wisdom of the one who commands, *then* we will not be ashamed to obey.

Pr Edi Giudetti

The Gospel, Opportunities of Hope.

“He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.”
Jim Elliot.

Anecdotes Of Hope

! A Must Read !

An Incident of the Civil War

After the battle of Murfreesboro, in the Civil War, I was stationed in the hospital. For two nights I had been unable to get any rest, and being really worn out, on the third night I had lain down to sleep. About midnight I was called to see a wounded soldier who was very low. At first I tried to put the messenger off, but he told me that if I waited it might be too late in the morning. I went to the ward where I had been directed, and found the man who had sent for me. I shall never forget his face as I saw it that night in the dim, uncertain candlelight. I asked what I could do for him, and he said that he wanted me to “help him die.” I told him I would bear him in my arms into the Kingdom of God if I could, but I couldn’t, and then I tried to preach the Gospel. He only shook his head and said:

“He can’t save me; I have sinned all my life.”

My thoughts went back to his loved ones in the North, and I thought that even then his mother might be praying for her boy. I repeated promise after promise, and prayed with the dying man, but nothing I said seemed to help him. Then I said that I wanted to read to him an account of an interview which Christ had one night while here on earth with a man who was anxious about his eternal welfare, and I read the 3d chapter of John, how Nicodemus came to the Master. As I read on, his eyes became riveted upon me, and he seemed to drink in every syllable. When I came to the words: “As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up: that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life,” he stopped me and asked:

“Is that there?”

“Yes,” I said.

“Well,” he said, “I never knew that was in the Bible. Read it again.”

Leaning his elbows on the side of the cot he brought his hands together

in a firm grasp, and when I finished he exclaimed:

“That’s good. Won’t you read it again?”

Slowly I repeated the passage the third time. When I finished I saw that his eyes were closed, and the troubled expression on his face had given way to a peaceful smile. His lips moved, and I bent over him to catch what he was saying, and heard in a faint whisper: “ ‘As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.’ ”

He opened his eyes and said: “That’s enough; don’t read any more.”

Early next morning I again came to his cot, but it was empty. The attendant in charge told me the young man had died peacefully, and said that after my visit he had rested quietly, repeating to himself, now and then, that glorious proclamation: “Whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.”

D.L Moody

Evidence For Hope

What greater evidence for hope can one obtain than the declaration from the mouth of a lost person that they believe?

I wonder what greater evidence encourages the brethren, I can’t think of one. When we pray for the salvation of one soul and we are blessed to witness eternal life found in them in a moment, what more evidence do we need to encourage us as to the reality of the truth of Christ?

O let us not be Christians long before we have opportunity to see the salvation of a soul, let’s not refrain from the Gospel long before our thoughts turn to the lost and we can sing with angels over even one sinner that repents.

“He that winneth souls is wise” says the Proverb, indeed more than this is given, *“he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins”* says James.

To think that a word fitly spoken can indeed save a soul from darkness to light, to see death turn to life before our very eyes or hear that one has come to the knowledge of God through the preaching of another whom we may know, what greater joy could we have, what greater evidence could we demand?

Words Of Hope

FLOCK

“**T**hou leddest thy people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron” (Ps. 77:20).

David wrote, “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want” (Ps. 23:1).

The Lord Jesus said to His disciples, “Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom” (Luke 12:32).

Paul said to the elders of Ephesus, “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood” (Acts 20:28).

Peter exhorted elders, “Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; nor for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being lords over God’s heritage, but being ensamples to the flock” (I Pet. 5:2–3).

GOLDEN THOUGHT

Fear not, little flock.

Devotion for Hope

THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD

Scottish Psalter, 1650

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow Me. (John 10:27)

I will commit my way, O Lord, to Thee, nor doubt Thy love, though dark the way may be; Nor murmur, for the sorrow is from God, and there is comfort even in Thy rod.

—*Unknown*

One of the characteristics of the relationship that exists between a shepherd and his flock is that sheep can always distinguish the voice of their particular shepherd. The sheep's responsibility is simply to listen and follow.

As Christians, we worship and acknowledge God as our Creator and Redeemer. But how comforting it is to realize that this same great God is also "my Shepherd." In time of stress, I can rest securely in His strong arms. With the Good Shepherd leading, even death's dark vale need not be feared since death to the believer is simply a release to God's eternal home.

As members of Christ's flock, we too must recognize our heavenly Shepherd's voice. To do so, we must always remain close enough to hear it.

Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you saying, "This is the way; walk in it." (Isaiah 30:21)

This lovely setting of the 23rd Psalm was originally put in stanza form for the Scottish Psalter of 1650, a collection that contained only the 150 psalms arranged in metrical form for congregational singing. The charming and child-like tune has only recently begun to appear in American hymnals. "The Lord's My Shepherd" ... for many children the first Bible verse learned and often the last repeated before entering "death's dark vale." A psalm of priceless heritage!

The Lord's my Shepherd—I'll not want; He makes me down to lie in pastures green. He leadeth me the quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again, and me to walk doth make within the paths of righteousness, e'en for His own name's sake.

Yea, tho I walk thru death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill, for

Thou art with me, and Thy rod and staff me comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnished in presence of my foes; my head
Thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me, and in
God's house forevermore my dwelling place shall be.

For Today: [Psalm 23](#); [78:52](#); [Jeremiah 29:11](#); [John 10:1–6](#); [Hebrews 13:20, 21](#); [1 Peter 5:7](#)

Be sensitive to God's inner voice with directions for your life. Determine to follow wherever He indicates. Abandon yourself to His divine guidance. Sing as you go—

Missionaries Of Hope

Go, Ye Heralds of Salvation

Samuel J. Mills (1783–1818)

Unsung hero of American missions

The father of the American foreign missionary movement never served as an overseas missionary. He was not a brilliant orator or scholar. Today, many people do not know his name.

But in the first decade of the American missions movement, few people proved more important than Samuel J. Mills. Indeed, Mills was responsible for the event that birthed the enterprise. In 1806, Mills organized four fellow students at Williams College into a prayer group. One rainy day the group got caught in a rainstorm and took refuge under a haystack—and the American overseas missions movement was born.

Mills's interest in missions started in childhood. His father was a Congregational minister; his mother, an admirer of John Eliot and David Brainerd, early American missionaries to the Native Americans. Samuel learned the importance of “disinterested benevolence”—doing good for others without caring about personal cost—from his father and heard stories about heroic evangelists from his mother. By the time he went to Williams College, Mills was eager to devote his life to God's service.

Organizing proved to be one way for Mills to serve God and further

the cause of overseas missions. After the haystack meeting, Mills created the Society of the Brethren, a group dedicated to promoting foreign evangelism. When Mills went to Andover Theological Seminary (where he befriended a recently-arrived Hawaiian man named Henry Obookiah) in 1810, he helped found the Society of Inquiry on the Subject of Missions.

But Mills was not content organizing societies to promote missions. He wanted more decisive action. With three friends, he offered himself as a missionary to the Congregational General Association of Massachusetts. In response, the Association created the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, the most important missionary organization before the Civil War.

When the first ABCFM missionaries sailed to India in 1812, Mills was not on the boat. The burgeoning movement needed his talents for promotion and organization in the U.S. As Mills advanced the cause, he became involved in other important reform movements. He helped found the American Bible Society. He went to the Mississippi Valley as a home missionary and worked among the destitute in New York City. He died in 1818 on a return voyage from Africa, where he had gone to purchase land for the American Colonization Society, a group working for the repatriation of freed slaves. He was 35.

During his short life, Mills laid the groundwork for American foreign missions. He helped people who would become “heroes” of the movement—men like Adoniram Judson, a colleague at Andover—to go overseas. And he raised support for the enterprise—support that would enable missionary work to continue long after its founding father was gone.

—*S. J.*

Announcements and Things to Come

Studies and Encouragements.

- Communion, 1st Sunday of Every Month 10am
- **Website Update.** Hopebc.org.au Bible Audio. OT Completed / 1 John.
- **Prayer meeting / Bible Study** (Gospel of John). Every Wednesday Night 8pm See Br Kest or Pr Edi for details.
- **Young Adults Camp** (17-35 years) “MYTH BUSTERS” 6th-8th July. Cost \$ Ministry HBC.
- **Sunday Afternoon Service** August 6th, 20th & 27th. (No Morning Service)

- **Prayer & Praise List**

Missionaries

Sunbury

Government

The Gospel to Friends/Family