

"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 16th of December 2018

531 Elizabeth Dr Sunbury Service Sundays 10:30am today

www.hopebc.org.au

Hymn To Remember

O Come All Ye Faithful

Author: Isaac Watts (1674 – 1748)

Scriptures: Ps 30:4, Ps 95:6, Isa 7:14, Mt 1:23, Lk 1:34-35, Jn 1:1-18, 1 Tim 3:16, Heb 1:2-7, Rev 7:9-17

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem! Come, and behold Him, born the King of angels!

Refrain:

O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

2 Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation; sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest![Refrain]

3 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n! Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! [Refrain]

John Francis Wade (1711 – 16 August 1786) was an English hymnist who is sometimes credited with writing and composing the hymn "Adeste Fideles" (which was later

translated to "O Come All Ye Faithful"), even though the actual authorship of the hymn remains uncertain. The earliest copies of the hymn all bear his signature.^[1]

Born either in England or in <u>Douai</u>, <u>Flanders</u>, <u>France</u>, Wade fled to France after the <u>Jacobite rising of 1745</u> was crushed. As a Catholic layman, he lived with exiled English Catholics in France, where he taught music and worked on church music for private use.



Order of Service

Welcome

Announcements

Hymn – O Come All Ye Faithful

Prayer Time

Bible Reading-Phil 2:1-11

Hymn – Silent Night 85

Sermon – Br Phillip McKenzie

Hymn – What Child Is This 94

A word on The Word

"From a child I was taught to love and reverence the Scripture, the oracles of God."

John Wesley

Sermon Notes
CHRIST: THE MIND OF HUMILITY
CHRIST: THE MOTIVE OF HUMILITY
CHRIST: THE MODEL OF HUMILITY
CHRIST: THE HUMBLE MAGNIFIED

176 Words.

"Let my heart be sound in thy statutes; that I be not ashamed."

(Ps 119:80)

We too often think it is the mind that must be sound in understanding, but scripture frequently teaches it is the heart. It's the heart that needs to have sound knowledge, the heart that needs convincing of the truth of the statutes of the Lord. The mind certainly gives acceptance to that which it has seen and heard, but it is and will always be the heart that needs to be convinced, that needs to have sound, desired, willful trust of the word of the Lord.

The statutes of the Lord will always prove themselves true, they do stand absolute and will stand resolute. They are written with an iron pen and no denial of them, in word or deed, will stand against them.

If we are found to deny them in our heart and make decisions by sight and not by the faith we profess, we will certainly be ashamed. Too often even I have lived ashamed, unsound in heart: Let us turn, trust, believe and live rejoicing in the truth of his word daily.

Pr Edi Giudetti

A Proverb For Memory

"An hypocrite with *his* mouth destroyeth his neighbour: but through knowledge shall the just be delivered."

Proverbs 11:9

Words Of Hope

VESSEL

- "I am like a broken vessel" (Ps. 31:12b).
- "But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel" (Acts 9:15).
- "And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory" (Rom. 9:23).
- "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us" (II Cor. 4:7).
- "That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour" (I Thess. 4:4).
- "But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. If a man purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work" (II Tim. 2:20–21).

GOLDEN THOUGHT

He shall be a vessel unto honor, meet for the Master's use.

THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

John Bunyan

THIS WORLD TO THAT WHICH IS TO COME

ENTERTAINED AT THE HOUSE OF GAIUS

Gaius also proceeded, and said, I will now speak on the behalf of women, to take away their reproach. For as death and the curse came into the world by a woman, (Gen. 3), so also did life and health: "God sent forth His Son made of a woman" (Gal. 4:4). Yea, to show how much those that came after, did abhor the act of the mother, this sex, in the Old Testament, coveted children, if happily this or that woman might be the mother of the Saviour of the world.

I will say again, that when the Saviour was come, women rejoiced in Him before either man or angel (Luke 2). I read not, that ever any man did give unto Christ so much as one groat; but the women followed Him, and ministered to Him of their substance (Luke 8:2, 3). It was a woman that washed His feet with tears, and a woman that anointed His body to the burial (Luke 7:37, 50; John 11:2; 12:3). They were women that wept, when He was going to the Cross, and women that followed Him from the Cross, and that sat by His sepulchre, when he was buried (Luke 23:27; Matt. 27:55, 56, 61). They were women that were first with Him at His resurrection-morn; and women that brought tidings first to His disciples, that He was risen from the dead (Luke 24:22, 23). Women, therefore, are highly favoured, and show by these things that they are sharers with us in the grace of life.

Now the cook sent up to signify that supper was almost ready, and sent one to lay the cloth, the trenchers, and to set the salt and bread in order.

Then said Matthew, The sight of this cloth, and of this fore-runner of the supper, begetteth in me a greater appetite to my food than I had before.

GAIUS. So let all ministering doctrines to thee, in this life, beget in thee a greater desire to sit at the supper of the great King in His kingdom; for all preaching, books, and ordinances here, are but as the laying of the trenchers, and as setting of salt upon the board, when compared with the feast that our Lord will make for us when we come to His house.

So supper came up; and first, a heave-shoulder, and a wave-breast (Lev. 7:32–34; 10:14, 15), were set on the table before them, to show that they must begin their meal with prayer and praise to God (Psa. 25:1; Heb. 13:15). The heave-shoulder, David lifted his heart up to God with; and with the wave-breast, where his heart lay, with that he used to lean upon his harp when he played. These two dishes were very fresh and good, and they all eat heartily well thereof.

The next they brought up, was a bottle of wine, red as blood (Deut. 32:14). So Gaius said to them, Drink freely; this is the juice of the true vine, that makes glad the heart of God and man (Judg. 9:13; John 15:1). So they drank and were merry.

The next was a dish of milk well crumbed; but Gaius said, Let the boys have that, that they may grow thereby (1 Peter 2:1, 2).

Then they brought up in course a dish of butter and honey. Then said Gaius, Eat freely of this; for this is good to cheer up, and strengthen your judgments and understandings. This was our Lord's dish when He was a child: "Butter and honey shall He eat, that He may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good" (Isa. 7:15).

Then they brought them up a dish of apples, and they were very good tasted fruit. Then said Matthew, May we eat apples, since they were such, by, and with which, the serpent beguiled our first mother?

Then said Gaius—

Apples were they with which we were beguil'd

Yet sin, not apples, hath our souls defil'd.

Apples forbid, if eat, corrupt the blood;

To eat such, when commanded, does us good.

Drink of His flagons, then, thou church, His dove,

And eat His apples, who are sick of love.

Then said Matthew, I made the scruple, because I awhile since was sick with eating of fruit.

GAIUS. Forbidden fruit will make you sick but not what our Lord has tolerated.

While they were thus talking, they were presented with another dish, and it was a dish of nuts (Song. 6:11). Then said some at the table, Nuts spoil tender teeth, especially the teeth of children; which when Gaius heard, he said—

Hard texts are nuts (I will not call them cheaters),

Whose shells do keep their kernels from the eaters.

Ope then the shells, and you shall have the meat;

They here are brought for you to crack and eat.

Then were they very merry, and sat at the table a long time, talking of many things. Then said the old gentleman, My good landlord, while we are cracking your nuts, if you please, do you open this riddle:

A man there was though some did count him mad,

The more he cast away, the more he had.

Then they all gave good heed, wondering what good Gaius would say; so he sat still awhile, and then thus replied—

He that bestows his goods upon the poor,

Shall have as much again, and ten times more.

Then said Joseph, I dare say, Sir, I did not think you could have found it out.

Oh! said Gaius, I have been trained up in this way a great while; nothing teaches like experience; I have learned of my Lord to be kind; and have found by experience, that I have gained thereby. "There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet; but it tendeth to poverty" (Prov. 11:24). "There is that maketh himself rich, yet hath nothing; there is that maketh himself poor, yet hath great riches" (Prov. 13:7).

Then Samuel whispered to Christiana, his mother, and said, Mother, this is a very good man's house, let us stay here a good while, and let my brother Matthew be married here to Mercy, before we go any further.

The which Gaius the host overhearing, said, With a very good will, my child.

So they staid there more than a month, and Mercy was given to Matthew to wife.1

¹ John Bunyan, *The Pilgrim's Progress*, (Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software, 2006), 3:219–220.

SILENT NIGHT! HOLY NIGHT!

Joseph Mohr, 1792–1848 English translation by John F. Young, 1820–1885

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:11)

When this beloved hymn was written by two humble church leaders for their own mountain village parishioners, little did they realize how universal its influence would eventually be.

Joseph Mohr, assistant priest in the Church of St. Nicholas in the region of Tyrol, high in the beautiful Alps, and Franz Gruber, the village schoolmaster and church organist, had often talked about the fact that the perfect Christmas hymn had never been written. So Father Mohr had this goal in mind when he received word that the church organ would not function. He decided that he must write his own Christmas hymn immediately in order to have music for the special Christmas Eve mass. He did not want to disappoint his faithful flock. Upon completing the text, he took his words to Franz Gruber, who exclaimed when he saw them, "Friend Mohr, you have found it—the right song—God be praised!"

Soon Gruber completed his task of composing an appropriate tune for the new text. His simple but beautiful music blended perfectly with the spirit of Father Mohr's words. The carol was completed in time for the Christmas Eve mass, and Father Mohr and Franz Gruber sang their new hymn to the accompaniment of Gruber's guitar. The hymn made a deep impact upon the parishioners even as it has on succeeding generations.

When the organ repairman came to the little village church, he was impressed by a copy of the Christmas carol and decided to spread it all around the region of Tyrol. Today it is sung in all major languages of the world and is a favorite wherever songs of the Christmas message are enjoyed.

Silent night! holy night! all is calm, all is bright round you virgin mother and Child, holy Infant, so tender and mild—sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night holy night! shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar; heav'nly hosts sing alleluia—Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night! holy night! Son of God, love's pure light radiant beams from Thy holy face with the dawn of redeeming grace—Jesus, Lord at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.

For Today: Matthew 2:9, 10; Luke 1:77–79; Luke 2:7–20

Allow the peaceful strains of this carol to help you worship in awe with the shepherds and sing alleluia with the angels for God's "redeeming grace"—²

² Kenneth W. Osbeck, *Amazing Grace: 366 Inspiring Hymn Stories for Daily Devotions*, (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 1996), 383.

ON THIS DAY

The Earthquake

December 16

On **December 16, 1811** a massive earthquake rocked the southern United States, its tremors and aftershocks spreading so far as to make church bells ring in Philadelphia. Tennessee's Reelfoot Lake was formed by the upheaval. Methodist preacher Peter Cartwright, one of America's most colorful itinerant evangelists, recorded several earthquake experiences in his autobiography. Cartwright, who had been converted through the Cane Ridge revival and subsequently traveled throughout the South and Midwest for almost 70 years preaching, spreading revival, and starting churches, wrote:

It seemed to stop the current of the Mississippi, broke flat-boats loose from their moorings, and opened large cracks or fissures in the earth. This earthquake struck terror to thousands of people, and under the mighty panic hundreds and thousands crowded to and joined the different churches. There were many interesting incidents connected with the shaking of the earth at this time. I had preached in Nashville the night before the second dreadful shock came, to a large congregation. Early the next morning I arose and walked out on a hill near the house where I had preached, when I saw a Negro woman coming down the hill to the spring, with an empty pail on her head. When she got within a few rods of where I stood the earth began to tremble and jar; chimneys were thrown down, scaffolding around many new buildings fell with a loud crash, hundreds of citizens suddenly awoke, sprang into the streets; loud screaming followed, for many thought the day of judgment was come. The young mistresses of the above-named Negro woman came running after her, and begging her to pray for them. She raised the shout and said to them, "My Jesus is coming in the clouds of heaven, and I can't wait to pray for you now; I must go and meet him. I told you so, that he would come, and you would not believe me. Farewell. Hallelujah! Jesus is coming, and I am ready. Hallelujah! Amen." And on she went, shouting and clapping her hands, with the empty pail on her head.

When you hear about wars and threats of wars, don't be afraid. These things will have to happen first, but that isn't the end. Nations and kingdoms will go to war against each other. There will be earthquakes in many places, and people will starve to death. ... No one knows the day or the time. ... So watch out and be ready! *Mark* 13:7,8,32,33a³

³ Robert J. Morgan, *On This Day: 365 Amazing and Inspiring Stories about Saints, Martyrs & Heroes*, electronic ed., (Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1997).

Protests in Bulgaria as religious minorities threatened by proposed changes to the law

11 December 2018

Concerned for religious liberty in Bulgaria, <u>Christians gathered in Sofia for three consecutive Sundays</u> on 11, 18 and 25 November, protesting planned amendments to the Law on Religious Communities.

If passed, the amendments would place restraints on evangelising, bans on worship outside officially recognised buildings, restrictions on training denominational ministers and a membership threshold of 300 people required for official recognition of religious groups. Financial donations are also being targeted, with the state demanding greater control over "international donations for religious purposes".

Alarm has been raised by the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom who supported the Baptist World Alliance in a letter to the Prime Minister of Bulgaria, Boyko Borissov, writing, "No state, we believe, should be in a position to control the training and activities of ecclesiastical ministers, nor should a state favour one faith expression over another ... our concern [is] that the implementation of this law could lead to unintended restrictions on religious freedom and the direct persecution of churches and individuals of faith."

The National Assembly of Bulgaria where Christians have been gathering to protest in defense of religious freedom

Christer Daelander, religious freedom representative of the European Baptist

Federation, wrote to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe outlining that the proposed amendments to Bulgarian law would violate the United Nations Convention on Freedom of Religion as well as similar European conventions.

The Bulgarian constitution itself guarantees freedom of religion stating, "The practising of any religion shall be unrestricted."

Announcements and Things to Come

Studies and Encouragements.

- **Communion**, 1st Sunday Each Month 10am.
- **Prayer meeting / Bible Study** Wednesday nights 7:30pm at Pr Edi's Home. TOPIC 'Reading and Studying The Bible'.
- Birthdays:
 - o Joe (Pino) 31/12/2018 ...not sure how old but if I had to guess I'd say ... 35yrs
- FBC Christmas Dinner. TONIGHT 5.30 p.m.

• Prayer & Praise List

Missionaries (Bell Family)
Sunbury
Government
The Gospel to Friends/Family
Christian Persecution.