

"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 17<sup>th</sup> of November 2019

531 Elizabeth Dr Sunbury Service Sundays 10:30am today

www.hopebc.org.au

#### **Hymn To Remember**

#### **Tell Me The Old Old Story**

**Author: Kate Hankey** 

Year: 1866

**Scriptures:** Mrk 5:19, 16:15, Jn 3:16, Rom 3:24, Tit 2:14, 1 Jn 4:19

Of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and his glory,
Of Jesus and his love.
Tell me the story simply,
As to a little child;
For I am weak and weary,
And helpless and defiled.

#### Refrain:

Tell me the old, old story, Tell me the old, old story, Tell me the old, old story, Of Jesus and His love.

2 Tell me the story slowly,
That I may take it in That wonderful redemption,
God's remedy for sin.
Tell me the story often,
For I forget so soon;
The early dew of morning
Has passed away at noon. [Refrain]

When you have cause to fear That this world's empty glory Is costing me too dear. Tell me the story always, If you would really be, In any time of trouble, A comforter to me. [Refrain]

#### **Order of Service**

Welcome

Announcements

Hymn – Tell Me The Old Old Story

Prayer Time

Hymn- Amazing Grace 236

Sermon – Bro Phil McKenzie

Hymn – Blessed Be The Name 32

### A word on The Word

"To this end is directed the whole aim of the Divine and Holy Scriptures, that that inner man may be purged of that which hinders us from the sight of God."

- Augustine

Sermon Notes

### 176 Words.

# "I *am* thy servant; give me understanding, that I may know thy testimonies."

(Ps 119:125)

They are only the humble in heart that wilfully and voluntarily submit themselves as servants to their lords, none more so humble than those who know the Lord God and give to him the worship due. "*I am thy servant*" says David the King, it is profound to consider a king bowing his knee and to whom that must be.

Understanding is his plea and that only for the sake of his service to the Lord. Solomon, the son of David, learnt well from his father; "Give me now wisdom...for who can judge this thy people, that is so great?" (2 Chron 1:10), this needs to be the heart of all such as lead people, none more so than the leader of a nation.

There is a purpose however to the request for understanding, it is that which comes to 'know thy testimonies'. For it is in and through the words of the Lord that we gain knowledge and understanding. His words are 'pure words' (Ps 12:6), "acceptable words ... upright, even words of truth" (Eccl 12:10), those are the words that lighten our path (Ps 119:105).

Pr Edi Giudetti

# A Proverb For Memory

"The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute."

Proverbs 12:24

## The Word Of Hope

#### GO

- "And God spake unto Noah, saying, Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee. (Gen 8:15-16)
- "And they called Rebekah, and said unto her, Wilt thou go with this man? And she said, I will go." (Gen 24:58)
- "And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt? And he said, Certainly I will be with thee;..." (Exo 3:11-12)
- "I will go in the strength of the Lord God" (Ps. 71:16).
- "Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee.... They go from strength to strength" (Ps. 84:5, 7).
- "Whither shall I go from thy spirit?" (Ps. 139:7).
- "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations" (Matt. 28:19).
- "I go to prepare a place for you" (John 14:2).
- "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit" (John 15:16).
- "Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach. For here we have no continuing city, but we seek one to come" (Heb. 13:13–14).

#### **GOLDEN THOUGHT**

I will go in the strength of the Lord God.

## Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice

(Philippians 4:4)

## **Results From the Gospel**

"And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord; and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed." (Acts 13:48)

WHEN Paul and Barnabas ministered the Gospel in Antioch in Pisidia, the Jews rejected the Gospel. So Paul and Barnabas turned to the Gentiles. Our verse speaks of the results of Paul and Barnabas giving the good news to the Gentiles. There was gladness from the Gospel, glorifying form the Gospel, and gain from the Gospel.

Gladness from the Gospel. "When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad." They were glad when they heard that the Gospel was going to be given to them. The Gospel brings joy to mankind. In fact it brings the greatest joy of all. Nothing so gladdens the heart of man as the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The world has many pleasures to offer, but they all pale into insignificance when compared to the joys from the Gospel.

Glorifying from the Gospel. "Glorified the word of the Lord." When people receive the Gospel they will indeed glorify the Word of God. And this glorifies God; for if you want to really glorify God, believe what God says in His Word. And by believing, we mean more than simply giving mental assent to the Word; but guiding your behavior accordingly. The unbelievers do not glorify God or His word. They bring shame to God and mock the Word. With so much profaning of God and criticizing of His Word today, it is most evident that unbelief, not faith, is dominant in society.

Gain from the Gospel. "As many as were ordained to eternal life believed." The greatest gain anyone can experience is to gain eternal life. The world, however, only measures gain in terms of material and earthly gain. But Jesus said, "What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" (Mark 8:36). Do not get hung up by the words "as many as were ordained to eternal life believed." Arminians want to skip over this sentence, and Calvinists want to park on it. What this sentence says is that God is running the show. Election simply attests to God's Sovereignty. It does not change the message of salvation.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> John G. Butler, *Daily Bible Reading: Sermonettes*, (Clinton, IA: LBC Publications, 2004), 2:321.

## **Persecuted For Righteousness Sake**

(Matt 5:10)

## Xi Jinping Thought Invades Religious Venues

For the CCP, it's not enough to replace the Ten Commandments with the president's portraits and quotations. It is now mandatory for believers to study his work.

by Li Guang 10/18/2019

For members of the Chinese Communist Party, studying *Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics* – a political theory that China's president launched after he came into power – is an obligatory political task. Though based on atheism and utterly incompatible with religion, the theory is now becoming compulsory to study for religious communities across the country.

Following the path of <u>Mao Zedong</u>, President Xi is attempting to ascend the "divine altar" and be worshipped by the masses. Religious venues are no longer the places for believers to practice their faith but have been turned into indoctrination bases for the <u>CCP</u> to promote its ideology.

#### "Xi Thought" broadcasted daily in a temple

Since July, Xi Jinping's speeches have been emanating from a large screen, installed at a Buddhist temple in Qinhuangdao, a <u>prefecture-level city</u> in the northern <u>province</u> of Hebei.

A local monk explained that the state demanded the temple to install the screen at its own expense. "The government now requires that religious venues study government policies and Xi Jinping's speech at the 19th CCP National Congress; the <u>core socialist values</u> must also be promoted," the monk said, adding that officials conduct inspections frequently, and the temple would run into trouble if it didn't comply with their demands.

According to the monk, it is now compulsory for the temple's congregation to listen daily to the president's speech at the 19th National Congress. As per the local Religious Affairs Bureau's requirements, believers have to write an essay with at least 2,000 characters on what they had learned listening to the speech.

"The Religious Affairs Bureau arranges an exam each month. Its content isn't about the knowledge of Buddhism – but rather the Chinese Constitution and religious policies," said the monk. He added that only those monks and nuns who pass the political assessment are eligible to stay at the temple.

#### President's books replace the Bible

In government-run Three-Self churches throughout China, the <u>Ten Commandments are</u> being censored and changed or are <u>substituted with Xi Jinping's quotes</u> and <u>other propaganda texts or portraits of communist leaders</u>.

And the invasion of communist ideology into religious venues is expanding.

There is not a single Bible in sight in libraries of some Three-Self churches in Henan's Zhengzhou city: they have been replaced with books about Xi Jinping that are displayed in the most prominent places.



Books about Xi Jinping in the library of a Three-Self church in Zhengzhou city.

As it turned out, in late May, the local Religious Affairs Bureau demanded every religious venue to set up a library room and stock it with Xi Jinping's speeches and books, state laws and regulations, texts on traditional Chinese culture, and similar topics for believers to read and study.

The bookcases in the library are now filled with more than 1,000 books unrelated to religion, including *Xi Jinping: The Governance of China, Classical Words Quoted by Xi Jinping,* biographies of Mao Zedong and his successor Deng Xiaoping (1904-1997). According to believers, the church spent over 10,000 RMB (about \$ 1,400) to complete this "political task," and the government threatens to shut down any church that doesn't cooperate in setting up a library room.



"Red" books displayed in the bookcase in the library room of a Three-Self church in Zhengzhou.

## Over 400 preachers convened to study "Xi Thought"

As the propagators of Christianity, preachers in churches have become key targets of "transformation" by the CCP. On June 11, the Luoyang city government in Henan organized a five-day training for

more than 460 preachers to study "Xi Thought" and the core socialist values. Specially-assigned personnel supervised and recorded training sessions.

The preachers were also taken to the museum of history and the memorial hall dedicated to Jiao Yulu (1922-1964) – a devoted Mao Zedong follower who later became the "symbol of the honest Party cadre" and was posthumously awarded the title of "Revolutionary Martyr." All the participants were demanded to write a text depicting the "gains in understanding" after the visit.

"The government's aim in conducting this training session was to indoctrinate us, prevent us from preaching about the Bible, and make us talk about nothing but atheism and related issues," said a preacher who took part in the training. "The state is replacing the Bible with secular things, which is destroying the foundation of the church."

Another preacher said that the CCP wants to attain a higher status than God so that everyone will revere it as the "greatest," and will believe in and follow it.

## ...Be Ready Always To Give An Answer...

1 Peter 3:15

#### Bombardier Beetle-The Arsenal Insect<sup>2</sup>

by Karin Viet on August 15, 2017

#### Life as a Bombardier Beetle

The sinister toad closes in on the beetle. Instead attempt to scurry away, the beetle waits, as surrendering. Just before the toad's tongue flicks its victim, the beetle fires its cannon. Pop! Pop! shoots burning gas. The emissions fire in 500 times per second, but the defensive attack is before one second passes. Rather than getting a the defeated toad hops away with a mouthful of gasses.



of a futile though out to snag Pop! Out pulsation, complete tasty snack, noxious

twin "spray

The bombardier beetle's tail end is equipped with nozzles" (or gland openings) to shoot its gaseous ammunition. The gas comes from two reactant chemicals—hydrogen peroxide and hydroquinone. When the beetle contracts its sphincter muscle, these two chemicals mix with catalytic enzymes. The ensuing chemical reaction brings the temperature up to water's boiling point. While the one-way valve closes to protect the beetle's organs, out fires the mixture of gas and steam at 212 degrees Fahrenheit (100°C). Some types of bombardier beetles can swivel their gland openings and shoot in nearly all directions using deflection plates. All types hit their target with a marksman's precision.

By examining the design of the bombardier beetle's defense spray mechanism, scientists have built a similar nozzle<sup>3</sup> to improve fuel, medical, and agricultural technology. The Bombardier Beetle certainly seems to have been equipped with an intricate defense structure<sup>4</sup>.

How could the "ammunition" and "cannon" have evolved, since all the specific ingredients and mechanisms would need to be present at once to work properly? From the evolutionary worldview, the functionless machinery would have been selected against, since it would add no survival value until all of the necessary components were in place.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://answersingenesis.org/creepy-crawlies/insects/bombardier-beetle-arsenal-insect/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://answersingenesis.org/creepy-crawlies/insects/lessons-from-a-beetle/

https://answersingenesis.org/evidence-for-creation/design-in-nature/how-did-defense-attack-structures-come-about/

# Go Ye Into All The World And Preach The Gospel

Mark 16:15

#### Are there none who will go?

As DL Moody was preparing to attend to a conference in Edinburgh he was encouraged by a young man who had attended the same meeting a year earlier in 1866, who relayed this account.

"Doctor Duff made a speech that set me all on fire. I shall never forget the hour I spent in that meeting."

Doctor Duff had been out in India as a missionary; he had spent twenty-five years there preaching the Gospel and establishing schools. He came back with a broken-down constitution.

He was permitted to address the General Assembly, in order to make an appeal for men to go into the mission field. After he had spoken for a considerable time, he became exhausted and fainted away. They carried him out of the hall into another room. The doctors worked over him for some time, and at last he began to recover. When he realized where he was, he roused himself and said:

"I did not finish my speech; carry me back and let me finish it."

They told him he could only do it at the peril of his life. Said he:

"I will do it if I die."

So they took him back to the hall. My friend said it was one of the most solemn scenes he ever witnessed in his life. They brought the white-haired man into the Assembly Hall, and as he appeared at the door every person sprang to his feet; the tears flowed freely as they looked upon the grand old veteran. With a trembling voice, he said:

"Fathers and mothers of Scotland, is it true that you have no more sons to send to India to work for the Lord Jesus Christ? The call for help is growing louder and louder, but there are few coming forward to answer it. You have the money put away in the bank, but where are the laborers who shall go into the field? When Queen Victoria wants men to volunteer for her army in India, you freely give your sons. You do not talk about their losing their health, and about the trying climate. But when the Lord Jesus is calling for laborers, Scotland is saying: 'We have no more sons to give.'"

Turning to the President of the Assembly, he said:

"Mr. Moderator, if it is true that Scotland has no more sons to give to the service of the Lord Jesus Christ in India, although I have lost my health in that land and came home to die, if there are none who will go and tell those heathen of Christ, then I will be off to-morrow, to let them know that there is one old Scotchman who is ready to die for them. I will go back to the shores of the Ganges, and there lay down my life as a witness for the Son of God."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Moody, D. L. (1898). Anecdotes, Incidents, and Illustrations (pp. 41–42). Chicago; New York; Toronto: Fleming H. Revell.

## Announcements and Things to Come

#### **Studies and Encouragements.**

- **Communion,** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Each Month 10am.
- Prayer meeting / Bible Study Every Wednesday. Please see David for further details.
- Birthdays:
  - o Vanessa Brereton 1<sup>st</sup> November
  - o Wade Kereopa 10<sup>th</sup> November
- GETTING DEEPER STUDIES TBA.
- Apt To Teach Begins again next year (Unless he comes!)
- **General Business Meeting** 15<sup>th</sup> December, 1pm.
- Christmas Luncheon 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 1pm.
- Prayer & Praise List

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