

Finding Stability in a Time of Turmoil

It seems that every time I turn round there is another piece of disturbing news. Whether it is in this country, or in places around the world, everything seems to be in turmoil. How do we make sense of it? How might we sift through all the bad news to find something to give us hope? How do we make sense of the problems impacting us on a personal level? Sometimes, it all seems too much. I remember, many years ago, going to the theatre with my sister to see a performance of "Stop the world, I want to get off!" That is a sentiment that some want to embrace today.

When Joshua took the leadership of the Jews in the wilderness, after the death of Moses, God said to him, "Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you" (Joshua 1:5). It was a difficult time for Israel. The Jews would face many trials and battles under the leadership of Joshua, but Joshua knew that, come what may, God was with him.

I will not leave you or forsake you

At a time of great turmoil for Jesus and his disciples, he told them, "Let not your hearts be troubled ... if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to myself" (John 14:1 ... 4). He also told them, "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you" (John 14:18). The disciples would face many hardships and challenges in their lives from here on in, but they were able to face them because they knew, with absolute certainty that the Lord was with them.

Amid all the uncertainty and the troubles of this world, we can know for sure that our God will never leave us or forsake us. We know that God loves us and cares for us and that whatever may befall us, He is always with us – *his rod and staff comfort us* (Psalm 23:4).

May you find peace, and comfort, and stability

As 2019 sparks into life, may you find peace, and comfort, and stability in this world full of turmoil.

Colin R. Vine



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JANUARY 2019



Welcome, 2019

As we move into another New Year, remember that you can:

Let Go of what is gone

Be Grateful for what remains

And

Look Forward to what is to come

... forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:13, 14 (ESV)).



202 BOXES

Shoe Box Appeal

We would like to extend a big THANK YOU to everybody who contributed to our Shoe-Box Appeal on behalf of the Samaritan's Purse. We collected two hundred and two shoe boxes, plus Two hundred and seventy-five pounds in cash. We know that many children will benefit from your generosity, and on their behalf we say thank you again.



£275 contributed



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Weekly Schedule

(*See the panels on the right for details)

Sunday

10.00 am — Breaking of Bread
11.15 am — Good News Service*
6.30 pm — Evening Service*

Monday

2.30 pm — Ladies Meeting*
8.00 pm — Bible Study

Tuesday

10.00 am — Carpet Bowls
6.00 pm — Carpet Bowls

Wednesday

10.00 am — Food Bank

Thursday

10.00 am — Coffee and Chat*
(First Thursday of the month only)
6.00 pm — Pathfinders
7.30 pm — Midweek Meeting

Friday

10.00 am — Food Bank
6.00 pm — Pathos

First Saturday of the month only

8.30 am — Prayer Meeting

Speakers

Good News Service Sunday Morning — 11.15 am

6 January — Family Service
13 January — Barry Laidler — Mark 14:27-42
20 January — Ian Jacobs — Mark 14:43-65
27 January — Graham Edwards — Mark 14:66-72

Ladies Meeting Monday — 2.30 pm

7 January — Happy New Year
14 January — Mavis Howe
21 January — Pat Fellows
28 January — Bob Brown

Evening Service Sunday — 6.30 pm

Colin Vine will present a four-week series titled,

“Blessings”

6 January — Character
13 January — Blessings
20 January — Influence
27 January — Standing

Coffee & Chat Thursday — 10.00 am

3 January — Steve Mitchell — Tour of Scotland

Just for Fun

(Answers, if you need them, next month)

1. According to Jesus, where do you not put new wine, and why?
2. Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, of the tribe of Judah were renamed. What were their new names?
3. Of the plagues inflicted by God on Egypt before the Exodus, what plague came immediately before the death of the firstborn?

Answers from November:

1. **Zechariah** was the father of John the Baptist (Luke 1:5, 13, 17)
2. The Angel Gabriel said, “Greetings, O favoured one, the Lord is with you” to **Mary**, the mother of Jesus (Luke 1:26-28)
3. The Prophet **Micah** foretold that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2)

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.
Proverbs 3:5, 6 (ESV).



(See Genesis 3)

12-30-2013

REMEMBER THAT NEW YEAR RESOLUTION YOU MADE TO TRY NEW THINGS?