

Great Questions of the Bible (3)

I thought I would continue the theme I started two issues ago, by considering some of the questions asked in scripture. This time, I delve into one of my favourite parts of scripture, The Psalms.

"How long, O LORD?"

Psalm 13 begins with four questions, each of which is translated in the English Standard Version (ESV) as, "How long?" The first, in verse 1 is, "How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever?"

David cries out to the LORD. "How long will you hide your face from me" (v.1b), "How long must I keep counsel in my soul?" (v2a), "How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?" (v2b).

David wants an answer to his questions, and asks God to, "Consider and answer me, O LORD my God ..." (v3a).

Many of us ask these same questions of God. When we are down, when troubles come, when sorrow strikes — and God seems far away. How long, O LORD? — God, have you forgotten me? — I am still here. — I need help!

We may feel that we are shut off from God. We fear what others

may do to us — our thoughts can become confused and agitated, so that we are unable to "think" our way out of our situation. Thus we sink under the pressure of our troubles.

David reminds himself that he has, "trusted in your (God's) steadfast love." He says that, "my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the LORD" (v5b-6a).

Trust in the LORD leads to prayer. This whole psalm is a prayer. David is able to take his doubts, his fears, his frustration, and his questions to God. The LORD knows us (and knew David) even before a word is on our tongue (see Psalm 139:4).

As one writer puts it, "Deliverances come in answer to prayer ... he who moans at the beginning of prayer may sing at the end of it." "I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me."

How long? — Paul writes, in his letter to the Philippians, "The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God. And the peace of God which passes all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:6-7).

Colin R. Vine



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JUNE 2019



There will be no Evening Service at Hebron on Sunday, 9 June

Churches TOGETHER

This event will take place at the Tees Valley Church (TVC) on 9 June 2019, when all local congregations are invited to worship together at their evening service.

The organisers are limiting numbers and you will need a ticket to attend. Please speak to Graham.

KESWICK CONVENTION 2019



Week 1 — 13-19 July, Bible Reading Speaker — John Risbridger

Week 2 — 20-26 July, Bible Reading Speaker — Vaughan Roberts

Week 3 — 27 Jul - 2 Aug, Bible Reading Speaker — Ray Ortlund

SUNDAY MORNING GOOD NEWS SERVICES

We have our continuing study in:

Acts of THE APOSTLES

Come and join us at our Good News Service at 11.15 a.m as we study some of the events, themes, and lessons from this wonderful book of the New Testament.

Need another copy of this bulletin? Would you like to read it on your smart phone, a tablet, or your computer? It is available now on our website www.hebronstockton.org.uk. Navigate to the Bulletin page and select the edition you would like to view. Enjoy!

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

2 June — Family Service
9 June — Koen Hellendoorn — Acts 2:14-24
16 June — Colin Vine — Acts 2:32-41
23 June — Graham Edwards — Acts 2:42-47
30 June — Ian Jacobs — Acts 3

Ladies Meeting Monday — 2.30 pm

3 June — Jen McKie
10 June — Sandy Fitting
17 June — Paul Clayton
24 June — Trip to Skipton

Evening Service Sunday — 6.30 pm

2 June — Colin Vine, Hebron
9 June — No Service — (Service at TVC (See front page))
16 June — John Little, Reeth
23 June — TBC
30 June — Paul Clayton, Stockton

Coffee & Chat Thursday 6th - 10.00 am

Christine Walker
Leprosy Mission

Just for Fun (Answers, if you need them, next month)

1. Without looking in your Bible, rearrange these books in the order they appear in the New Testament?
Colossians, Ephesians, Galatians, Philippians.
2. Who was the first of the Old Testament Judges?
3. Who rides upon the White Horse of Revelation?

Answers from March:

1. After Jesus' resurrection, when Peter entered the empty tomb, he found the linen clothes lying there, and the face cloth which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen clothes but folded up in a place by itself (John 20:6-7 (ESV)).
2. On the Day of Pentecost, about 3,000 souls were added (to the church) (Acts 2:41 (ESV)).
3. The only domestic animal not mentioned within the pages of scripture is the cat (for obvious reasons, no reference is given).



Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person (Colossians 4:6)

"TO ENCOURAGE OUR CONGREGATION TO SIT IN THE FRONT PEWS, I'VE INSTALLED CELL PHONE CHARGING STATIONS IN THE FIRST THREE ROWS."