

Sounding the Trumpet

January - March 2012



Annual General Meeting 2012

Fellowship of Evangelistic Ministries

By kind invitation our AGM will be held at:

Boundary Street Evangelical Church
Fernley Road
Birkdale
Southport
Merseyside
PR8 5AU

28 April 2012

AGM: 1:30 - 2.30 pm

Refreshments provided

Report and Celebration Meeting: 4:00 pm

All members of the Fellowship of Evangelistic Ministries are invited to the AGM. Why not bring a friend so that they can be introduced to the work and ministry of FEM!

The Word for the Last Days

“God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high ... Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house. For this man was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house. For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God. And Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after; But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end. Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness: When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years. Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways. So I swear in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.) Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God” (Hebrews 1:1-3, 3:2-12).

The world seems to be in such a mess these days, and we wonder how long it can continue before the Lord returns. It does not seem as though anyone is in control any more. Christ is ridiculed and His church appears too weak to stand up for the faith. Preachers are happy just to indulge their congregation with sentimental drivel rather

than teach the Scripture. The Hebrew Christians to whom the apostle wrote were undergoing similar circumstances; they were exhausted, discouraged and were becoming cynical. Their faith was wobbling and they were on their spiritual last legs. Many were giving up because they believed that Christianity did not work for them, so they drifted back to Judaism.

Paul did not offer them a counselling session in his office to figure out what was behind their ever-decreasing faith, but instead uplifted Christ and pointed out that He was the only way of salvation. In this letter he presents a Christ who is with believers throughout their every trial, in their every peril, and gives them hope in this world and for that which is to come.

The apostle begins his letter in a very strange way, for within a couple of verses he speaks of the beginning and the end, and reveals that Jesus Christ is the last word of God concerning salvation. If Christ is not the Saviour for them, then they have no other. In the Old Testament God spoke through mere men and sometimes angels, but now His final word is Jesus. This statement proves that he believed that Jesus was God in human flesh and it is similar in thought to John 1:1, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." He is the perfect word of God for the last days of world history.

Man searches the heavens, in rocks and in the depths of the seas to find the answer and meaning of life, while the solution is staring him in the face. Others wonder where everything is headed because of the chaos in the world, but they refuse to accept that they will one day have to stand before Christ. "Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead" (1 Peter 4:5). The sorry state of society, the church and humanity in general, has made cynics out of people. They do not believe that there is a God in Heaven who knows everything man does, says and thinks. When things go wrong or there is some major disaster, man asks why God did not intervene, but they ignore Him when everything is going good for them.

Jesus Christ is the Creator and He "is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist" (Colossians 1:15-17). He has not given up on the world or His church, so despite the terrible conditions we often face, He will remain true to us, for He has promised "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Hebrews 13:5). He remains faithful to the plan and purposes of the Godhead for both the church and the world; therefore we can trust Him with our lives. We have a Saviour who is fully aware of what we go through. "For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted" (Hebrews 2:18).

It is important that we carefully take note of the signs of the times to see if they line up with the prophecies of Scripture, but we have to beware of losing sight of Christ as we do so. We must not allow anything, even the personal tragedies we often have to face, to unsettle our faith in Christ, for we have the promise of better things to come. "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18) ... "Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach. For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come" (Hebrews 13:13-14).

Many have given up on their faith in Christ because they think it is just too hard to be a Christian in these days, but they put themselves in a very dangerous position. All who refuse to believe in or drift away from Christ have "an evil heart of unbelief" and have hardened their hearts according to the writer of Hebrews. Yes, we are in the last

days and have been since the birth of Christ, but let us be ever found “Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God ... Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever” (Hebrews 12:2, 13:8).

Gary J. Hall

Glad Tidings of Good Things

‘And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the Gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!’ (Romans 10:14-15).

If you preach the Gospel of Christ, God says through His word, that your feet are beautiful! It is such a wonderful calling, such a wonderful privilege to expound the scriptures, and deliver a message of salvation - the ‘Good News.’

In this scripture the Apostle Paul makes a direct statement - ‘As it is written’. Referring the readers back to the Tanach, in the same way the Lord Jesus Christ did on many occasions. For these verses refer back to Isaiah 52:7, ‘How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, thy God reigneth’ and Nahum 1:15, ‘Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace!’

So never consider it a chore or an inconvenience to preach the Word of God. It is a wonderful privilege! Sometimes we maybe in larger congregations, sometimes just the few brothers and sisters present, but what matters is our faithfulness to ‘go’ and deliver God’s Word. As we go, we must be shod. Paul explains this in Ephesians 6:15, when instructing us on the whole armour of God, ‘And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.’

Richard Hardy

The Silver Finger of the Saviour

"But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not. So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her. And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground" (John 8: 6-8).

In Judaism, an ornate silver pointer is used to follow the text in the Torah scrolls during a reading in synagogue. The Torah is handwritten on parchment, and human touch would eventually erase the letters and damage the scroll. The yad is usually finely decorated, with a miniature hand and a pointing finger at one end. When not in use, it hangs over the front of the dressed scroll.

In this dramatic incident, we have the only reference to Jesus actually writing in the Bible. His writing style is unique it is beautifully basic - in fact it is down to the ground! It was His preferred method of writing. He writes quietly almost in silence, and His hand with an outstretched index finger writes in the very ground He first

created. We all here today believe that “in the beginning God created the heaven and the earth” (Genesis 1:1). He had more right to write on the ground than we have to walk on the ground. Not only is that a fact that the entire world created in every colour was highlighted even more on the day Jesus left heavens majesty and glory and came to live among humanity. And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ" (John 1:14 – 17).

He stooped down and wrote on the ground. The Almighty One became the artist, designer; he sketched with a finger of purity and power on the palette on the ground. Can you see with sanctified imagination the setting in the sunshine. Of course the finger and hand of Jesus is much more than the Yad of Judaism. This incident in John’s gospel a pointer not only to the law of Moses but to the law of the Kingdom of Heaven. Israel and the Church each have their place and purpose in the pleasure of the Lord. To spiritualize a historical account or add in a double-meaning not clearly stated in scripture is to do injustice to the Word of God. I most certainly do not wish to do this. One is to interpret Scripture literally, grammatically and historically, always led and guided by the Holy Spirit.

Frank Rowley

Jonah

A Series by David Moody

3:6. “For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and: covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.” The message was so strong and direct it reached the ears of the King. The king came from his throne, took his royal robes off and covered himself in sackcloth. This cloth is made of coarse hair [Mat. 3:4], rough and unsightly [Zec. 13:4], of a black colour [Re 6:12], and was worn by God’s prophets [2 Kings 1:8]. It was usually worn next the skin in deep afflictions [1 Kings 21:27], and as a sign of repentance [Matt. 11:21]. Mostly it was over the whole person [2 Kings 19:1,2], and ashes on the head [Est. 4:1]. It was a symbol of mourning [Job 16:15] and also the animals were also covered at a time of national mourning, verse 8.

3:7. “And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste any thing: let them not feed, nor drink water.” Here we see the King proclaiming the message of God and proclaiming also a fast to show their repentance. Fasting should be to God. “Speak unto all the people of the land, and to the priests, saying, When ye fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh month, even those seventy years, did ye at all fast unto me, even to me?” [Zec 7:5].

Be practised to show mourning. “Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning:” [Joel 2:12]. And humiliation. And I fell down before the LORD, as a the first, forty days and forty nights: I did neither eat bread, nor drink water, because of all your sins which ye sinned, in doing wickedly in the sight of the LORD. [Deut 9:18]. It should be accompanied by confession of sin “And they gathered together to Mizpeh, and drew water, and poured it out before the LORD, and fasted on that day, and said there, “We have sinned against the LORD.” [1 Sam. 7:6]. This often took place to endeavour to halt the judgements of God “Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly,

gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land into the house of the LORD your God, and cry unto the LORD,” [Joel 1:14; 2:12]. And approaching danger. “Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish.” [Est. 4:16]. The Ninevites also caused the animals to fast as well.

3:8. “But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands. When fasting the only person we can call upon is God. ”I will cry unto God most high; unto God that performeth all things for me.” [Psalms 57:2]. There are many unusual ideas abounding today about fasting. I have heard people say “I am fasting today” when offered food or drink, but they are still going about their daily routine. When we fast it is to enable us to spend time before God in confession and communion and not to be distracted by eating. When we fast not only must we cry unto God but turn from all sin and evil. “When heaven is shut up, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against thee; if they pray toward this place, and confess thy name, and turn from their sin, when thou afflictest them.” [1 Kings 8:35].

3:9. “Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not?” God will forgive those who repent and turn away from their sin. He is looking for clean obedient lives “Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; yea, our God is merciful”. [Psalms 116:5]

3:10. “And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not.” Have we repented of our sin and called upon the Lord asking Him to forgive? Are we willing to be obedient to the Word of God and to follow His ways? Here we read that “God saw their works” and He showed compassion, He had mercy on the repentant people that He turned from the evil that He said He would do unto them “and he did it not.” This means that the generation of Ninevites to whom Jonah preached were saved from judgement”... “the LORD thy God turned the curse into a blessing unto thee, because the LORD thy God loved thee” [Deut.23:5]. “Our God turned the curse into a blessing” [Neh.13:2]. However God’s judgement was only deferred, it fell 188 years later. After the passing of Jonah the succeeding generations turned to even greater wickedness, and in 612 B.C. the city was so totally destroyed that even its location was forgotten. The prophecy of Nahum warned of that terrible judgement.

How many observe Christ's birthday! How few, His precepts!

O! 'tis easier to keep holidays than commandments.

Benjamin Franklin

Nahum

Nahum is a book of contrasts with some awful revelations of God’s wrath and vengeance, coupled with some wonderful statements about how good God is and His deliverance/restoring of Israel. We shall look at some of these later and see how they relate to Britain in 2012 even though the book of Nahum was written some 2600 plus years ago. There is little known of the prophet/poet Nahum. His name means ‘comfort’ - strange that the Lord should choose someone with such a name to give the

message Nahum was called to deliver. He is identified as the 'Elkoshite' but the location of Elkosh is unknown. Apart from these sketchy details no other information is available about the man Nahum. He is almost the invisible man and God sometimes uses those who are unknown in the eyes of the world to deliver earth-shattering messages. Here is encouragement for those of us who may never grace the inside of Buckingham Palace to meet the Royal Family and receive an honour from them, yet we can be used mightily by God. Even though the book of Nahum is only 3 chapters it is a unique book for it is the only prophetic work to be called a "book" (see 1:1). For such a small book it is known by two other names for types of work – firstly it is called an 'oracle' or a "burden" – a term used for a prophecy spoken against a nation under judgement. It is also called a "vision", a description it shares with Isaiah and Obadiah – this probably means a literary presentation of an inspired experience of being in the heavenly Court of God, to observe how God deals with nations and people in history.

The book can be portrayed in two sections. Firstly Chapter 1, a portrayal of 'The Avenging God of His people will destroy Nineveh and bring peace to Judah. This is split into (a) 1:2 – 8: A poem, the Lord takes vengeance, (b) 1:9=11: The leaders of Nineveh are addressed and (c) 1:12–15: Good news for Judah: no more invaders. Secondly Chapters 2 and 3. Nineveh's enemies are triumphant (a) 2:1-12: The last battle: (b) 2:13-3:6: The Lord's curse on Nineveh and (c) 3:7–19: A taunting song over the doomed city.

The book of Nahum does not make pleasant reading for the people of Nineveh. Let us look at the privileges and perils of Nineveh and how they relate to Britain and us today. Nineveh was a privileged people, remember the story of Jonah, how the Lord sent him to preach and tell the people that they would be destroyed if they did not repent and turn away from their wickedness and turn to the Lord God. Remember how when Jonah preached, the Holy Spirit was upon his preaching and the people were not only convicted but they responded to the message and turned to God for salvation. God did not only hear them and deal with their spiritual need by forgiving their sin, but He also turned His promised wrath away and did not destroy them. This last act of God of course did not please Jonah, for he wanted God to carry out His threat, but while God is a God of justice He is also a God of mercy.

The people, when they turned to God, were given a relationship with God that dealt with their spiritual and their physical needs of escape from destruction. What a privilege these people were given. Nahum records the following about Nineveh, (1) 1:12: 'Though they are safe and likewise many, they were a secure and large people' (2) 2:8: 'Though Nineveh of old was like a pool of water', they were a people who were not disturbed, they were at peace.

Like Nineveh, Britain has been a privileged people. Look back in history and see how the Lord has sent His servants to the nation with the message of salvation. We can name many who have been used to bring revival to this country, Wesley, Spurgeon, Moody, Gypsy Smith, Billy Graham, Eric Hutchins, etc. there are so many who have faithfully preached and led thousands to the Lord. See how the Lord undertook for this nation when it was threatened by Hitler, how when the leaders called the nation to prayer God heard and delivered us physically from the tyrant and his allies. We have a privileged background; the Lord has dealt kindly with us as a nation through our history as a 'Christian' country. We have been exposed to the message of salvation from our childhood and God allowed our nation to prosper. Indeed we have prospered so much over the centuries that we are known as 'Great' Britain, no other nation as far as I am aware has or has had the title Great in its name, yet the Lord saw fit to make

this nation great. How similar was Great Britain to Nineveh, for we were a nation that conquered the world. The sun never set on the British Empire, and this country was in control and prospered.

The privileged people of Nineveh, the people who by their repentance had changed the mind of God and escaped the destruction promised forgot their privilege and turned their backs on God and returned to their idols, false gods and evil practices. God said to Nahum, "I relented and delivered them before but they have in effect 'spit in My face, they have turned against My people', therefore they will receive their just deserts." The Lord said in 1:2, "God is jealous and the Lord avenges, the Lord will take vengeance on His adversaries, and He reserves wrath for His enemies" and repeatedly He tells of the fate of Nineveh in the rest of the chapter 1 and 2. Then to crown it all in 3: 7-19 God gives a song that would be sung about Nineveh. It taunted them saying how once they were great, but after the judgement of God was poured out they were to be pitied, and the once great people would disappear from sight. The great people of Nineveh had been given so much by God and as our text says much would be required of them. What a terrible fate awaited Nineveh for defying the Lord God Jehovah.

When we look at Britain today we can see a parallel with Nineveh, for this once great Christian nation has turned from God and returned to its idols and false gods and turned to all sorts of perversions. God is looking at Britain and I believe that He is saying to our nation, 'you were once great but you have become weak, you have turned away from me and even though I made you a nation to be feared and respected- you have become the laughing stock of the world and are no longer respected as a great nation. Other nations will look at you with derision and ride rough shod over you. You have left Me therefore I will leave you and your evil will multiply, and you will become no more a nation but your name will disappear just like Nineveh's did.

If you don't believe this just look at what the European Community is doing and the way in which they impose their will on us and override our laws and parliament. They want the EU to become one massive nation and get rid of national identities. Look at the way in which we are governed by the leaders of all the political parties who have said that they do not believe in God or show by their actions that they are anything but followers of the Lord God. How can Britain be a 'Christian country' if it's most senior leaders do not believe in Christ? This is not a political speech but a plain statement of fact. This country is allowing all kinds of activities and practices to be acceptable that are directly opposite to the Word of God. Britain is no longer a great nation, as we have allowed ourselves to become a God defying instead of God fearing nation. God will take His vengeance on Britain. Britain was given much by God and as such much is required of it, but, it is failing to deliver what God requires.

Nahum 1:7 says, 'The Lord is good. A stronghold in the day of trouble; And He knows those who trust Him. Then in 1:15, God says, 'Behold, on the mountains. The feet of him who brings good tidings. Who proclaims peace! O Judah, keep your appointed feasts. Perform your vows. For the wicked one shall no more pass through you; He is utterly cut off. Judah was reminded who their God was He was 'Yahweh, The mighty God Jehovah, The Great I Am. He was not some piece of stone or wood, or some weak wishy washy god who was dreamt up by man, no He was the Creator not the created. The God that Nahum was talking about not only promised to destroy Nineveh and protect His people; He was a God who actually did what He said He would. In 612 B.C. Nineveh was destroyed and God's word became fulfilled. The God of Nahum is the same God we serve, and through Jesus Christ, God the Son, we

have been given much. We have been given our salvation and our certain hope of spending eternity with Him.

We have a heritage that stretches back through all the saints who have preached and/or lived out the Gospel of Salvation through Christ over many centuries back through Wesley, through Luther, through Paul, through the other apostles right back to the Lord Jesus Himself. All those saints who have served the Lord faithfully and who are now in the presence of their Lord and ours encourage us to remain faithful in our witness, to seek those who are lost in sin and going to a Christless eternity, to live lives that are holy and righteous in the midst of evil. God used Jonah to reach the people of Nineveh for Him and when Jonah was obedient and faithful in his work for God, God turned away his anger from the whole people and did not destroy them. Let us pray that God will raise up someone as a modern day Jonah who will be so effective for God that He will turn away His wrath from this land of ours. If this country does not turn back to God, He promises to us that there is a day coming when He will show the nations who is the true God but He will keep us from spiritual harm until that day if we let Him.

Michael Hewison

FEM Member News

I was forced due to loss of funding to leave the Manchester City Mission where I enjoyed over 10 years of sports ministry and took up a position in education. I was employed as a PE teacher with the sports partnership with responsibility of improving sporting opportunities within all primary schools connected with Buile Hill High School in the Salford area. The government in their infinite wisdom have closed down the nationwide sports partnership; however I have managed to develop my own programme of sporting initiatives throughout primary schools leading into the high school and on into college and further education programmes. I also still work with the Football Association on adult education and therefore have been kept very busy spinning all these employment plates that keep the wolves from the door! On reflection then the negative aspects are that I have been unable to fully commit to anything outside these areas of involvement simply because of time factors.

The positive aspects are that I still link my employment to helping the local church both with opportunities and qualifications. Football Focus, the football ministry that we created, still runs and is still supported by Christian coaching staff and local churches. Also many of the Football Focus staff I once developed now run a Christian ministry called Street Soccer, which has developed and grown to national status, and I have been involved in the training and equipping of staff for that purpose.

I am also the team manager of the very first Christian football club to play at semi professional level giving everyone concerned huge opportunities.

Finally I am now a lay preacher in the Methodist Circuit and preach most Sundays. In fact the preacher structures the whole service within this denomination, something I am really enjoying. I have also been asked to conduct bible study groups for the Stretford and Urmston circuit, something again that compliments my teaching and interacts with the R.E programmes that I still have involvement with in our High School.

I still firmly believe in faith with works and the example of that in society and the workplace with the demonstration, of our Christian faith in natural environments. I also strongly respect my ordination with the F.E.M., which is invaluable to my

credibility and complements my role both in education and supporting the local church.

Andrew Nelson

The spirit of Christmas needs to be superseded by the Spirit of Christ. The spirit of Christmas is annual; the Spirit of Christ is eternal. The spirit of Christmas is sentimental; the Spirit of Christ is supernatural. The spirit of Christmas is a human product; the Spirit of Christ is a divine person. That makes all the difference in the world.

The implications of the name "Immanuel" are both comforting and unsettling. Comforting, because He has come to share the danger as well as the drudgery of our everyday lives. He desires to weep with us and to wipe away our tears. And what seems most bizarre, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, longs to share in and to be the source of the laughter and the joy we all too rarely know.



The giving of gifts is not something man invented. God started the giving spree when he gave a gift beyond words, the unspeakable gift of His Son.

Robert Flatt



Update

January - March 2012

Fellowship of Evangelistic Ministries = Fully Effective Membership

FEM Foundation

"For God who commanded the light to shine out of darkness; hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" (2 Corinthians 4:6) ... "Ye are the children of light, and children of the day, we are not of the night, nor of darkness" (1 Thessalonians 5:5).

FEM Praise and Prayer

We praise the Lord for every member and friend of FEM and welcome those who are interested in linking up with our great work.

Our believing positive prayer continues for Paddy Flynn, David Moody, Eddie Turner, Ian Rowley. and Andrew Nelson. May the Lord bless the ministry of our members and the churches and communities they are involved in.

FEM Facebook

FEM is operating on Facebook. Our designated page is exclusive to members only and can be accessed via www.femonline.co.uk.

FEM e-Pub and Kindle Library

We have over 700 free Christian books available. These books can be read on electronic readers such as Sony and Kindle. Save yourself a fortune visit www.LWBC.co.uk and download those of your choice free of charge.

FEM AGM Celebration and Rally 2012

Rev Richard Hardy has confirmed arrangements with Pastor Paul Bass the minister of Boundary Street Evangelical Church, Fernley Road, Birkdale, Southport, Merseyside PR8 5AU. This will be the venue of FEM AGM Rally. (See display). Saturday 28th April 2012 is the planned date. The Lord will be exalted and glorified in the ministry. Please note this event in dairy and prayer list.

FEM Executive Meeting

Will be conducted at the FEM Registered Office. Hunslet Church of the Nazarene Lupton Street Hunslet LS10 2QR on Saturday 28th January 2012 at 10.30 am.

Please contact us with matters that concern you, we can work together on all aspects of our Fellowship of Evangelistic Ministries.

Facing Up to Facebook

Frank Rowley

Introduction

A number of my Christian friends are seeking to come to terms with the use of Facebook. I trust this brief article will provide help for them. Fundamentally the Christian's Facebook is the old, old story found only in the pages of Bible. The word face is mentioned three hundred and eighty times, it really is the original Facebook. One is brought face to face with sinner and with saint. The good the bad and the ugly are all there. Satan's face is seen lurking in the darkening shadows and the radiant face of our Redeemer and Saviour the Lord Jesus Christ is shining with the Father's glory. His face is the light of the world as well as the glory of the eternal heaven.

Use it or refuse it

One can love or hate the Facebook. Since 2004 800 million people across the world have actively used Mark Zuckerberg's Facebook technology. I have read some parents have used it to name their children. On February 22nd 2011 an Egyptian baby was called Facebook to celebrate the part Facebook played in the battle of the revolution. May 16th 2011 an Israeli couple named their daughter Facebook because of the meaning behind the name. I am glad I was born a little before 2004 or Frank might have been Facebook.

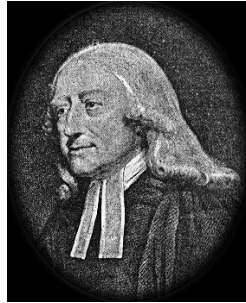
Love it or loathe it

Scripture helped me to make my choice in the matter. "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." The personal and national implications of 2 Chronicles 7:14 have a connection with my involvement and witness on Facebook.

Perhaps you would consider linking up with members of the Fellowship of Evangelistic Ministries and promote our work and witness on the pages of Facebook.

Be a friend to someone on Facebook today.

A Man of One Book



Wesley was an evangelist who was sure of his message; he displayed no haziness or hesitation in the preaching of the gospel because the gospel had laid hold of him. No man could have been more certain what he had to say for it burned in his heart and mind in dramatic personal experience.

Wesley was a biblical preacher par excellence. What John Wesley had to say to the masses of people was not a human theory, but a divine revelation. His message was not from below but from above. It did not echo the latest theological innovation, but the everlasting and unalterable truth of God. Of course its language and application was suited to the age in which he lived, but the central core and foundation was the timeless offer of redemption in Jesus Christ.

Wesley's message was taken straight from the authoritative record of salvation – history to be found in the pages of Holy Scripture. He was not ashamed to be known as a Bible preacher, this, indeed, was the secret of his power and effectiveness.

Wesley went out of his way to make it clear that the basis of his ministry of preaching was the Word of God. It was by accepting this Scriptural standard that he himself had entered into the knowledge of Salvation and it was from this fountain that he derived all his refreshing, soul-converting, life giving messages. The sermons which changed the life of a nation came straight from the Book of Books.

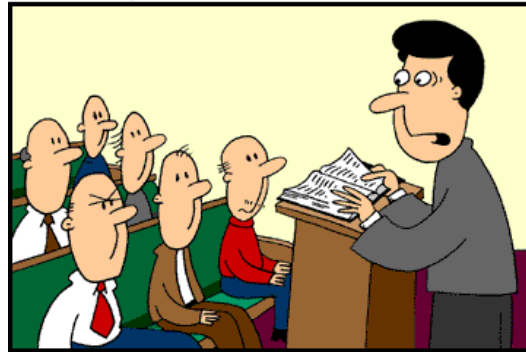
Wesley rejoiced to present himself as “a man of one book”. He used the phrase everywhere, but its most significant occurrence was the Preface to his ‘Sermons’. Here he puts himself in the place of a seeker after truth. “I am a spirit come from God, and returning to God: Just hovering over the great gulf; till, a few moments hence, I am no more seen; I drop into an unchangeable eternity! I want to know one thing—the way to Heaven; how to land safe on that happy shore. God Himself has condescended to teach the way; for this end He came from heaven. He hath written it down in a book. O give me that book! At any price, give me the book of God! I have it: here is knowledge enough for me. Let me be homo unius libri” – a man of one book.

He received the Bible as from God Himself. Beside it all other literature faded into insignificance. “In the language of the sacred writings we may observe

the utmost depth, together with the utmost ease; all the elegancies of human composure sink into nothing before it; God speaks not as man, but as God. His thoughts are very deep, and thence His words are of inexhaustible virtue.”

The words of God must not be treated as if they are the words of man. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God. Consequently all Scripture is infallibly true, nothing which is written there can be censured or rejected for the Scriptures are the oracles of God.

Frank Rowley



Thanks to Dad Hengeveld (See Matthew 10:29-31) 12-02-1999

TODAY'S READING IS MATTHEW 10:30 ...
"BUT THE VERY HAIRS OF YOUR HEAD ARE ALL
... ER ... NUMBERED"

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