



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

4-6 September 2015

Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 (MEV)

22 A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches,
and loving favour rather than silver and gold.
2 The rich and poor have this in common,
the LORD is the maker of them all.
8 He who sows iniquity will reap vanity,
and the rod of his anger will fail.
9 He who has a bountiful eye will be blessed,
for he gives of his bread to the poor.
22 Do not rob the poor because he is poor,
neither oppress the afflicted in the gate;
23 for the LORD will plead their cause,
and spoil the soul of those who spoiled them.

James 2:1-17 (MEV)

Warning Against Partiality

2 My brothers, have faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, without partiality. **2** For if a man with a gold ring, in fine clothing, comes into your assembly, and also a poor man in ragged clothing comes in, **3** and you have respect for him who wears the fine clothing and say to him, "Sit here in a good place," and say to the poor, "Stand there," or "Sit here under my footstool," **4** have you not then become partial among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

5 Listen, my beloved brothers. Has God not chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He has promised to those who love Him?

6 But you have despised the poor. Do not rich men oppress you and drag you before the judgment seats? **7** Do they not blaspheme that worthy name by which you are called?

8 If you fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. **9** But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as sinners.

10 For whoever shall keep the whole law and yet offend in one point is guilty of breaking the whole law. **11** For He who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not kill." Now if you do not commit adultery, yet you kill, you have become a lawbreaker.

12 So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty. **13** For he who has shown no mercy will have judgment without mercy, for mercy triumphs over judgment.

Faith and Works

14 What does it profit, my brothers, if a man says he has faith but has no works? Can faith save him?

15 If a brother or sister is naked and lacking daily food, **16** and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," and yet you give them nothing that the body needs, what does it profit?

17 So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Psalms 125 (MEV)

1 Those who trust in the LORD shall be as Mount Zion,
which cannot be removed, but abides forever.
2 As the mountains are around Jerusalem,
so the LORD surrounds His people,
from now and forever.
3 For the sceptre of the wicked shall not rest
upon the land allotted to the righteous,
lest the righteous put forth
their hands to do iniquity.
4 Do good, O LORD, for those who are good,
and to those who are upright in their hearts.
5 As for those who turn aside to their twisted ways,
the LORD shall lead them away with the other workers
of iniquity.
Peace be upon Israel!

The key to friendship

Is not in the hand you hold
But how you hold the hand
It's not in the tears you dry
But all the reasons why

It's not how you make a person smile
But whether or not it's worthwhile
It's not in the conversation
But in the way you listen

It's not in the laughter
But what comes before but everything after
The key to friendship
Is not in two people relating
But in two hearts communicating

Thank you for being that special friend
Who understands the key to friendship
And how to unlock everything within

Coincidence is God's way of remaining anonymous.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

13 September ~ Viv Chaffey

May God grant you always...

A sunbeam to warm you,

A moonbeam to charm you,

A sheltering angel, so nothing can harm you.



PEEL VALLEY CONGREGATION

Our goal: "To be transformed communities, experiencing, enjoying & sharing the gift of the friendship of Jesus."

Mission: "Called to be Free, Gifted to Serve."

Pastoral Care: Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

Elders: Margaret Crowell Doss Wark
Barbara Murray

Ross Davidson
Gillian & Bruce Jarrett



..... enjoy & share the gift of the friendship of Jesus



IN OUR PRAYERS

- Judy Watts and Nancye Forrester have had surgery this week. We pray for their recovery, as each has a number of medical issues. We pray too for Beulah's upcoming surgery and travel to Sydney.
- Glenda Whitten and Bruce Jarrett have both left hospital following heart surgery. We praise God for the skill of surgeons, and the care of nurses. Thanks too for the family members who have supported them through it all.
- Phyll Bylund remains in Tamara, but is hoping to return home soon.
- Fay Monckton has the 'flu at the moment. We pray for her, and for everyone else dealing with end-of-season colds, 'flu, and hayfever.
- Thanks and praise for Church on a Bus last week. Everyone had a lovely time at Manilla, and also enjoyed the stopover at Hallsville church on the return journey. Thanks too, to Joyce Dowsett for the wonderful job she does with the garden at Hallsville. It was much-admired, and many people took cuttings to strike for their own gardens.

Meg's Musings

Last Thursday we travelled north along the New England Highway. It was beginning to drizzle as we left Tamworth, and it was still raining when we arrived at Stanthorpe.

In parts it was light rain, sometimes misty drizzle and sometimes quite heavy, soaking rain. It was nice to see so much rain falling.

In some of the higher areas of the ranges, the cloud base was at ground level. That meant that, as well as rain, there was misty fog. Everything seemed to blend into greyness - the cloud, the rain, the grey-green of the eucalypts and the outcrops of rock. There was only one element in the landscape which showed out distinctively - the bright yellow of the wattle blooms.

I think that Jesus was a bit like those bright, colourful wattle blooms. In the drab religious landscape of Jesus day, no-one was prepared to take a different stance. Everything, and everyone, was bound up by the Jewish religious rules. Then along came Jesus, always ready to see through the issues to the heart of the matter. He was able to see past the rules, and to add God's colour to the mix. No wonder people followed him, listened to him and talked about him.

Jesus was able to add new meaning and colour to the lives of the people.



Blessings from Meg

The Choice

That which we persist in doing
will in time bless our pursuing;
but that which we insist on doing
often leads to endless ruing---

Sir, my concern is not whether God is on our side; my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right. ~ Abraham Lincoln

CHURCH SERVICES

4 September 6pm **Hallsville** ~ Meg Mangan
6 September 8.30am **Gowrie** ~ Meg Mangan **HC**
6 September 11am **West** ~ Meg Mangan **HC**



Bible Readings ~ 6 September

Proverbs 22:1-2,8-9,22-23 **Psalms** 125
James 2:1-17 **Mark** 7:24-37



1st Sunday of the month
~ Luncheon @ West

3rd Sunday of the month

~ Trading Table @ West Tamworth

4th Sunday of the month
~ Markets @ Hallsville



Mark 7:1-8, 24-37 (MEV)

The Tradition of the Elders

7 The Pharisees and certain scribes who came from Jerusalem gathered around Him.

² When they saw some of His disciples eat bread with defiled, that is, ritually unwashed hands, they found fault.

³ For the Pharisees and all the Jews, unless they wash their hands ritually, do not eat, keeping the tradition of the elders.

⁴ When they come from the market, unless they wash, they do not eat. And there are many other traditions which they have received and observe, such as the washing of cups and pitchers and bronze vessels and dining couches.

⁵ So the Pharisees and scribes asked Him, "Why do Your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashed hands?"

⁶ He answered, "Well has Isaiah prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written:

'These people honor Me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from Me.

⁷ In vain do they worship Me,
teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.'

⁸ For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men—the washing of pitchers and cups, and many other such things you do."

The Syrophenician Woman's Faith

²⁴ From there He arose and went to the region of Tyre and Sidon. He entered a house and would have no one know it. Yet He could not be hidden.

²⁵ For a certain woman, whose young daughter had an unclean spirit, heard of Him, and came and fell at His feet.

²⁶ The woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by race. And she begged Him to cast the demon out of her daughter.

²⁷ Jesus said to her, "Let the children first be filled. For it is not fitting to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."

²⁸ She answered, "Yes, Lord. Yet the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs."

²⁹ Then He said to her, "For this answer, go your way. The demon has gone out of your daughter."

³⁰ When she had come to her house, she found the demon had gone out, and her daughter lying on the bed. **The Deaf and Mute Man Healed**

³¹ Again, departing from the region of Tyre and Sidon, He came to the Sea of Galilee, through the region of the Decapolis.

³² They brought to Him one who was deaf and had difficulty speaking. And they pleaded with Him to put His hand on him.

³³ He took him aside from the crowd, and put His fingers into his ears, and spat and touched his tongue.

³⁴ Looking up to heaven, He sighed, and said to him, "*Ephphatha*," that is, "Be opened."

³⁵ Immediately his ears were opened, and the impediment of his tongue was loosened, and he spoke correctly.

³⁶ He ordered them to tell no one. But the more He ordered them, the more they greatly proclaimed it.

³⁷ They were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He makes both the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

..... enjoy & share the gift of the friendship of Jesus