



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

17 March 2019

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P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 (NIV) The LORD's Covenant With Abram

15 After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision:

"Do not be afraid, Abram.
I am your shield,
your very great reward."

² But Abram said, "Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?"

³ And Abram said, "You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir."

⁴ Then the word of the LORD came to him: "This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir."

⁵ He took him outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be."

⁶ Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

⁷ He also said to him, "I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it."

⁸ But Abram said, "Sovereign LORD, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?"

⁹ So the LORD said to him, "Bring me a heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon."

¹⁰ Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds, however, he did not cut in half.

¹¹ Then birds of prey came down on the carcasses, but Abram drove them away.

¹² As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and a thick and dreadful darkness came over him.

¹⁷ When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, a smoking firepot with a blazing torch appeared and passed between the pieces.

¹⁸ On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram and said, "To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates—

Philippians 3:17 - 4:1 (NIV)

¹⁷ Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do.

¹⁸ For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ.

¹⁹ Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things.

²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ,

²¹ who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Closing Appeal for Steadfastness and Unity

4 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!

LEAD ME, GUIDE, ME

Lead me oh Lord, won't you lead me
I am tired and I need Thy strength and power
To guide me over my darkest hour
For just open my eyes that I may see
Lead me oh Lord, won't you lead me

Lead me, guide me along the way
For if you lead me I cannot stray
Or just open my eyes that I may see
Lead me oh Lord, won't you lead me
I am lost if you take your hand from me
I am blind without thy light to see

Lord just always let me Thy servant be
Lead me oh Lord, won't you lead me
Lead me, guide me along the way
For if you lead me I cannot stray
Lord just open my eyes that I may see
Lead me oh Lord, won't you lead me

~ Doris Akers (1953)

Memory is more indelible than ink. ~ Anita Loos

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 Ross Davidson
Bruce Jarrett



Memory Lane: On Tuesday please bring along some information about your favourite Bible character - why they appeal to you, or a little bit about what they said or did. If you go for someone a bit unusual, then the chances are that no-one else will have picked them too!



"Happiness is acceptance." ~ anon

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



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for rain.
- We continue to uphold Kevin Hoyt in our prayers.
- We thank God for the improvements in Doss's health, and pray that the improvements continue.
- We pray for Viv Chaffey as she continues to fight the 'flu.
- We pray for the families of our members.

Psalm 27 (NIV)

- 1 The LORD is my light and my salvation—
whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life—
of whom shall I be afraid?
- 2 When the wicked advance against me
to devour me,
it is my enemies and my foes
who will stumble and fall.
- 3 Though an army besiege me,
my heart will not fear;
though war break out against me,
even then I will be confident.
- 4 One thing I ask from the LORD,
this only do I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to gaze on the beauty of the LORD
and to seek him in his temple.
- 5 For in the day of trouble
he will keep me safe in his dwelling;
he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent
and set me high upon a rock.
- 6 Then my head will be exalted
above the enemies who surround me;
at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of
joy;
I will sing and make music to the LORD.
- 7 Hear my voice when I call, LORD;
be merciful to me and answer me.
- 8 My heart says of you, "Seek his face!"
Your face, LORD, I will seek.
- 9 Do not hide your face from me,
do not turn your servant away in anger;
you have been my helper.
Do not reject me or forsake me,
God my Savior.
- 10 Though my father and mother forsake me,
the LORD will receive me.
- 11 Teach me your way, LORD;
lead me in a straight path
because of my oppressors.
- 12 Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes,
for false witnesses rise up against me,
spouting malicious accusations.
- 13 I remain confident of this:
I will see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living.
- 14 Wait for the LORD;
be strong and take heart
and wait for the LORD.



Luke 13:31-35 (NIV)

Jesus' Sorrow for Jerusalem

- ³¹ At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, "Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you."
- ³² He replied, "Go tell that fox, 'I will keep on driving out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.'
- ³³ In any case, I must press on today and tomorrow and the next day—for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem!
- ³⁴ "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing.
- ³⁵ Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Meg's Musings

Psalm 27 talks about the beauty of God. Lots of other adjectives are used in the Bible to describe God - strong, loving, compassionate, wise, forgiving, caring, all-knowing - even vengeful. It can be easy to overlook the beauty of God amongst all those other attributes!

It seems to go with the "mother hen" image which Jesus used when talking about his care for the people of Jerusalem..... quite different from the dominating and demanding "gods" which other people worshipped.

The huge old Methodist church in Goulburn had an arch at the front of the church with the words of the hymn, "O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness". It was large enough to be read throughout the church, and set a slightly different tone to the worship there. It seemed a sort of protection from any "fire and brimstone" preaching.

Does your picture of God include the one who paints glorious sunsets, and creates beautiful rosebuds?

Blessings from Meg



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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|----------|-----------------|
| 12 March | ~ Joyce Dowsett |
| 13 March | ~ Reg Myer |
| 13 March | ~ Doug Crowell |
| 29 March | ~ Bruce Jarrett |

"When one door of happiness closes, another opens, but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one that has been opened for us."
~ Helen Keller

CHURCH SERVICES

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|----------|--------|---------------|--------------|
| 24 March | 8.30am | Gowrie | ~ Meg Mangan |
| 24 March | 11am | West | ~ Meg Mangan |



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| 1st Sunday of the month | 4th Sunday of the month |
| ~ Luncheon @ West | ~ Markets @ Hallsville |
| 3rd Sunday of the month | 24 March |
| ~ Trading Table @ West Tamworth | |

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