



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

4-6 December 2015

Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

Malachi 3:1-4 (MEV)

The Coming Messenger

3 I will send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple, even the messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight. He is coming, says the LORD of Hosts.



² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap.

³ He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the sons of Levi, and refine them like gold and silver, and they will present to the LORD offerings in righteousness.

⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be

Luke 1:68-79 (MEV)

⁶⁸ "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
⁶⁹ for He has visited and redeemed His people,
⁷⁰ and has raised up a horn of salvation for us
in the house of His servant David,
⁷¹ as He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets of
long ago,
⁷² that we should be saved from our enemies
and from the hand of all who hate us,
⁷³ to perform the mercy promised to our fathers
and to remember His holy covenant,
⁷⁴ the oath which He swore to our father Abraham,
⁷⁵ to grant us that we, being delivered out of the hand
of our enemies,
might serve Him without fear,
⁷⁶ in holiness and righteousness before Him all the
days of our lives.
⁷⁷ "And you, child, will be called the prophet of the
Highest;
for you will go before the face of the Lord to
prepare His ways,
⁷⁸ to give knowledge of salvation to His people
by the remission of their sins,
⁷⁹ through the tender mercy of our God,
whereby the sunrise from on high has visited us;
to give light to those who sit in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace."

Philippians 1:3-11 (MEV)

Paul's Prayer for the Philippians

³ I thank my God for every reminder of you.

⁴ In every prayer of mine for you all, I have always made requests with joy, ⁵ due to your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now.

⁶ I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Jesus Christ.

⁷ It is right for me to think this of you all because I have you in my heart, since both in my imprisonments and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are fellow partakers of my grace.

⁸ For God is my witness, how I long after you all with the affection of Jesus Christ.

⁹ And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all discernment, ¹⁰ that you may approve things that are excellent so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,

¹¹ being filled with the fruit of righteousness, which comes through Jesus Christ, for the glory and praise of God.

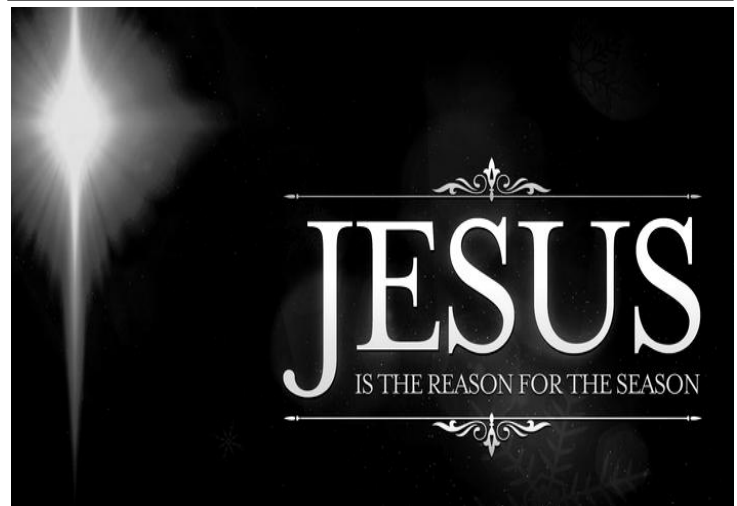
Christmas gift suggestions:

- To your enemy, forgiveness.
- To an opponent, tolerance.
- To a friend, your heart.
- To a customer, service.
- To all, charity.
- To every child, a good example.
- To yourself, respect. ~ Oren Arnold



1st Sunday of the month
~ Luncheon @ West
3rd Sunday of the month

4th Sunday of the month
~ Markets @ Hallsville



He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree.
~ Roy L. Smith

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

6 December ~ Jane Morris

We are only young once. After that we need some other excuse. ~ unknown

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



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We remember Gillian Jarrett in our prayers. Gillian is having another round of cancer treatment at the moment.
- Pat Hoyt would also appreciate our prayers for her continued healing.
- Barbara and John Murray would also appreciate our continued prayers for their health.
- We pray for those students who have just completed courses, and are wondering what the next stage will bring in their lives.

Meg's Musings

Each week at the moment, there are more Agapanthus blooms on display. They can be quite stunning. The first time that they were drawn to my attention they were referred to as "Stars of Bethlehem". I guess that is because, in the southern hemisphere, they coincide with Christmas. Of course, lots of other things also coincide with Christmas - shopping, sending and receiving cards, cooking, eating and more eating, parties etc. But, just like the Agapanthus blooms, these things are not an integral part of Christmas. Each year it seems to get a bit more difficult to separate the "extras" from the basics, or the true reality of Christmas. As we travel through Advent this year, may we be truly tuned in to the reality of Christmas - Christ!

Blessings from Meg



A special welcome

to Lauren, Jeff, Charlie and Olivia Gardner. Charlie and Olivia will be baptised at Gowrie this weekend. We hope that it will be a special time for them, and all of their family.



May you always have
 A sunbeam to warm you
 Good luck to charm you
 And a sheltering angel
 So nothing can harm you
 Laughter to cheer you
 Faithful friends near you
 And whenever you pray
 Heaven to hear you



"Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before! What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas...perhaps...means a little bit more!" ~ Dr. Seuss

"My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: loving others. Come to think of it, why do we have to wait for Christmas to do that?" ~ Bob Hope

When one wishes "A Happy Christmas" without the meaning behind it, it becomes nothing more than an empty formula. And unless one wishes for peace for all life, one cannot wish for peace for oneself. ~ Ghandi



Luke 3:1-6(NIV)

The Preaching of John the Baptist

3 In the fifteenth year of the reign of Caesar Tiberius, Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip was tetrarch of Iturea and the region of Tracoonitis, and Lysanias was the tetrarch of Abilene.

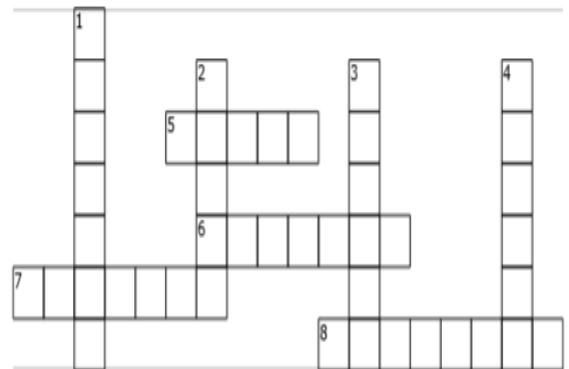
² Annas and Caiaphas being the high priests, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He came into the region surrounding the Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. ⁴ As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, saying:

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
 'Prepare the way of the Lord;
 make His paths straight.
⁵ Every valley shall be filled
 and every mountain and hill shall be brought low;
 and the crooked shall be made straight
 and the rough ways shall be made smooth;
⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Company Is Coming

A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. Luke 3:4b (NIV)

Based on Luke 3:1-6



ACROSS

- 5. Having an irregular, course, or shaggy surface
- 6. Having bends, curves, or angles.
- 7. To grant a pardon for sin.
- 8. Having no bends or curves.

DOWN

- 1. To make things one oneself ready.
- 2. What we use to speak.
- 3. To turn away from one's sins.
- 4. Having a surface free from roughness

CHURCH SERVICES

11 December 6pm **Hallsville**
 13 December 8.30 am **Gowrie**
 13 December 11am **West**

~Trevor Forrester
 ~ Trevor Forrester
 ~Trevor Forrester

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