

KINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH ONLINE NOTICE BOARD - 25

Please visit our website for the KBC spoken word Thought for the Day

<https://www.kingtonbaptistchurch.org/>

We are delighted KBC has re-opened for worship and fellowship.

We meet on **Saturday morning at 10.30am.**

Safe-guarding measures are in place to be carefully observed.

Come ready to share with us – a hymn, a verse or Bible passage,
something from the past week to encourage and lift us.

It's been a while since we circulated a 'Noticeboard' and while some things have changed a number of the same concerns are still with us. But what has not changed is what is most important of all: *our hope in Jesus*. This hope does not change, because Jesus does not change. It is the hope that survives and triumphs over our fear. That may sound a bit puzzling, because *hope* is the very thing that leaves us when *fear* takes over. *Fear* is the opposite of *hope*. When we fear we lose our sense of hope. That's why we need to look a little more closely at the hope we have in Jesus.

Our hope in Jesus is not a 'feeling', it is not an emotion. Our hope in Jesus is something solid, dependable and certain in a way feelings never can be. Feelings change but he changes never! The truth is that *Jesus himself* is our *hope* – *Christ in you the hope of glory* (Colossians 1.27). And what are we told about Jesus? 'Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever'! (Hebrews 13.8) *All may change but Jesus never. Glory to his name!*

As Christians our peace, hope and joy depend on having our hearts and minds set on Jesus – most of all set on where Christ is seated. We are told to 'set our minds on the things above, where Christ is seated and not on the things of earth. In other words we're not to invest our hope in this world but in heaven. That's where our treasure is. This world is passing away and it may pass away in turmoil and distress – the very things that bring fear. It is for just that reason that we're told to 'set our minds on the things above' (Colossians 3.2). The world and the things of the world are passing away. We do not know when – no one knows that. But there is enough in what we see and hear to convince us that the world is indeed passing way. Strengthened with the hope we have in Jesus we are to care for those who suffer and struggle. Because we look to Jesus, crowned with glory and honour, who from heaven cares for us. While our expectation is not limited to this world but is rooted in the hope we have of what is to come! And this hope brings

freedom from fear. It completely changes the way we think about death. Because Jesus has been there, and he will be with us as we pass through that valley and into the heavenly light, joy and peace 'reserved in heaven for us who are kept by the power of God' (1 Peter 1.4).

*Ask the Saviour to help you,
Comfort, strengthen and keep you.
He is willing to aid you;
He will carry you through!*