

# KINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH ONLINE NOTICE BOARD - 2

PALM SUNDAY: Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup>.

Today is Palm Sunday. On this day Jesus entered Jerusalem, on his way to the Cross. Today the crowds welcomed him. Soon they would turn against him. Today they shout 'Hosanna'. Soon 'Crucify' will be their cry.

The change, from welcome to rejection is, we are told, because this was 'the hour of the power of darkness'. It was Satan who desired to 'shift the disciples like wheat'; it was Satan who overcame Peter so that he denied his Lord and Master; Satan who put it in the heart of Judas to betray Jesus.

All this is the clearest proof that, as Paul says, 'we do not wrestle against flesh and blood but principalities and powers'. We believe God is Lord of all and reigns over all. But that truth should not hide from us the truth that we are caught up in a real and tremendous battle, between the Kingdom of Light and Truth and the kingdom of darkness and destruction.

The suffering inflicted on the world, whether because of Coronavirus or any of the plagues that create turmoil in the world, is living evidence of this battle. The suffering of bereaved families, of illness, of fear, poverty, hunger, destitution, confusion, turmoil, separation – these are hallmarks of the works of Satan, his kingdom of darkness and destruction.

While Palm Sunday led to Good Friday, Good Friday led to Easter Day! The storm on the lake, in which the disciples feared for their lives, was overcome by the all-prevailing word of the Lord Jesus: 'Peace be still'. The waves were stilled and the storm became calm. So it will be in this heavenly conflict with the powers of darkness, disease and destruction – 'the light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot put it out'. 'He must reign until all his enemies are put beneath his feet'. Pray the day will be hastened – ***'Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as in heaven...'***

***Thought for the Day*** – if you go to the KBC website recordings of a short daily 'Thought for the Day' are now available to listen to.

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

Carole has passed on this poem (by Ivan Stringer) for our encouragement:

## **This is it?**

1.

Hard work must redeem my life.  
Self's been at the head;  
Words too quickly said  
And deeds bringing turmoil and strife.

*My child, you have nothing to do:  
Christ died for your sin,  
Turn, let him in,  
I've put things right for you.*

This is it, Lord? Only the Cross?  
*Yes, my child, your efforts are dross.*

2.

Lord, show me the best Church to join;  
Foretaste of glory,  
Singing one story,  
United in love, work and joy.

*My child, in my Church you will find  
The faulty and frail  
Who stumble and fail  
To show a lost world my true mind.*

This is it, Lord? Your people so weak?  
*My child, be led by the meek.*

3.

So often I've failed in my task;  
I faltered and fell,  
Deserve nothing but hell.  
Your mercy is all that I ask.

*Child, come receive your 'Well done',  
A mansion of light,  
And for ever the sight  
Of the glory of God and the Son.*

This is it, Lord? How can it be?  
*This is it, my child. Come, live with me.*