



Rehoboth Baptist Church

*R
E
H
O
B
O
T
H*

**Newsletter
April 2007**



**By his wounds
you have been
healed**

1 Peter 2:24

**Visit our Website -
www.rehoboth.org.uk**

Cross Purposes

We've all experienced it, perhaps embarrassed by it – finding that we've been talking or acting at cross purposes with someone. Many a comedy drama has relied on the device, the results of which are usually hilarious.

Whether such mistakes and misunderstandings are amusing or embarrassing in real life is arguable, but there is one situation, over which we may well be at cross purposes, that is deadly serious:

People are at cross purposes about the purpose of the cross.

Everyone knows that around 2000 years ago a man, Jesus, was hung on a cross outside Jerusalem. It's history. At this time of the year we can read in the papers various 'experts' ideas of what it was all about. Usually they would seem to denigrate the 'traditional' teaching of the church. Nevertheless many will accept that Jesus was a good man who was put to death unjustly; some will even acknowledge that somehow he died for the sins of the world. But so often there appears to be a misunderstanding of what really happened and why. People are at cross purposes over it.

Even churches can be in error in what they teach about the cross. One prevalent teaching seems to be that Christ merely suffered in order that he could align himself with those who are suffering in the world. Well, he can certainly empathise with us in that, but so much more was accomplished on the cross than that. Look at these verses:

1 John 4: 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice (turning aside God's wrath) for our sins.

and 1 Peter 2: 24 He himself (Jesus Christ) bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

Isn't that quite clear – we are sinners, not loving God; Christ came to be the sacrifice for our sins to turn away God's rightful anger against sin. I, believing he bore my sins in his body on the cross, may count myself dead to sin and alive to God's righteousness. That's the truth – the purpose of the cross. Forgiveness and new life for all who believe by faith.

But perhaps you know that already – yet you can still be at cross purposes with God until, in your heart you turn to him in repentance, believing Christ's death was for you personally, to bear your own sin in his body on the tree.

Getting the purpose of the cross right brings new purpose in our lives.

Wishing you a blessed Easter.

Steve Piggott

Mobile: 07712 685 336

Email: stevepiggott@gmail.com

Fellowship news - Please continue to pray for Gill Beadle's father who remains very poorly.

Please remember Paul Phillips' father in your prayers. He is in hospital in Swansea with a serious condition. Remember the family too.

A number of us will be at Spring Harvest this month. Please pray for spiritual and physical refreshment for each one.

While some of the Fellowship will be on holiday over Easter, please pray for, and attend if you can, our Good Friday Service 10 -10.45am and Easter Sunday Services, and encourage your friends and family to come and share in our times of praise and worship to our risen Lord.

Congratulations to Penny Newton on her 'special' Birthday.

Congrats, too to Stuart & Gill on their 'Pearl' Anniversary this month.

Preaching out this month

(as advised by 29.03.07)

April 8th : David Ansell—Charlwood PM

April 29th : David Ansell—Kirdford PM

April 29th : Steve Piggott—Charlwood 3pm

Good Friday April 6th : Service at Charlwood 3pm

Preacher : Mr D Strudwick from Dorking

(Refreshments to follow, some transport available)



Praying and caring for the Community

May we continue to pray for those living in the roads and streets around us at Rehoboth. During April, we are focusing prayer on

Victoria Street and Stanley Walk,
including the **Jehovah Witnesses' Kingdom Hall.**

In your hearts set apart Christ as Lord

1 Peter 3:15

India again!

We have recently returned from the State of Kerala situated at the southern tip of India bordered by Tamil Nadu which was struck by the Tsunami 2 years ago. Kerala is the land of coconut palms, the nut provides food and milk, the husk is used for rope and mat making, the wood for boats and canoes.



There are spice and tea plantations and three types of bananas grow everywhere. The climate is warm, the beaches sandy and long and the sunsets stunning.

The warm Arabian sea provides an abundance of fish some 4-5ft long, huge tiger prawns, lobsters and crabs.



The fishermen use traditional methods, casting vast nets out to sea which take 2 hours to haul ashore, they sing as they work. Fish eagles, kites and terns wheel overhead eager for a free meal.

Kerala is famous for its back waters, 600 miles of canals and lakes. We hired a houseboat and glided past villages, temples and paddy fields.

Hindus, Muslims, Buddhists and Christians co-exist but some intolerance exists.

Pray for India that the Spirit of the Living God will bring its people from darkness into the glorious light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

By John and Val Howberry-Gale

Men, please note - Men's Breakfast 8.30am Saturday 14th April at the church. Speaker: Ray Pountney from Wandsworth. Ray will be sharing with us something of his church's experience in ministering to the gang culture in his area

HEAVEN.....

One day, when Jesus comes again,
Or calls us home to heaven's peace,
The care and toil, the stress and strain,
Will all be past, and we will feast
On all the joys He has prepared
For those who love Him.

We're promised streets aglow with gold
With countless jewels, all shining bright.
No need of sun to ease the cold,
No need of moon - there'll be no night.
A mansion will be waiting there
For those who love Him.

A river flowing, crystal clear
From God's great throne will ceaseless pour,
With fruit trees bearing fruit all year.
Where all is free from fault or flaw,
Nothing will spoil what He has planned
For those who love Him.

This hope brings joy to everyone -
To meet with Jesus face to face!
But what of those who have not come
To understand and know His grace?
Consider well, do you belong
With those who love Him?

By Delia Piggott

ALWAYS LEARNING

There will never come a time when you are no longer learning. This week I passed my driving test, that doesn't mean I am no longer learning to drive. I am, although I have reached a standard where I no longer need to be instructed. It's the same with the Bible, you may know many of the stories in the Bible, and have a good understanding, but it doesn't stop there, and different people will bring different views on the same passage. You will never know everything, which makes life more interesting because there is always more to learn. Highway, decided that we were going to only meet fortnightly, learning from the fact that some Friday's, members have other commitments. I'm sure many of us have made mistakes, but then learnt from the experience. I would just say to everyone, take note of other's around you because they may indirectly be teaching you something you didn't know before.

By Bethan Borrett

APRIL CALENDAR

PALM SUNDAY	1st	10.30am 6.30pm	David Ansell + Communion Rick Warner
Wednesday	4th	8.00pm	Prayer & Bible Study :18 Swan Close, Southwater
Thursday	5th	10.00-12.30pm	OPEN HOUSE : Rehoboth
Friday	6th	10.00am	Family Worship for Good Friday – Steve Piggott
Saturday	7th	8.30am	Early Prayer Meeting : Rehoboth
SUNDAY	8th	10.30am 6.30pm	Steve Piggott Easter Praise – John Polson
Wednesday	11th	10.30am 8.00pm	Gillett House Service Prayer & Bible Study : 18 Robinswood Court, Rusper Road
Saturday	14th	8.30am	Men's Breakfast – Ray Pountney
SUNDAY	15th	10.30am 6.30pm	David Piggott Steve Piggott + Communion
Tuesday	17th	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship : Mary James
Wednesday	18th	10.30am 8.00pm	Greenways Service Prayer & Bible Study : Littlehaven Cottage, Rus- per Road
Thursday	19th	10.00-12.30pm	OPEN HOUSE : Rehoboth
Friday	20th	10.00am 8.00pm	WAM Bible Study : 4 Kings Plalt, Shipley Pathfinders & HighWay
Saturday	21st	8.30am	Early Prayer Meeting : Rehoboth
SUNDAY	22nd	10.30am 4.15 for 4.30pm 6.30pm	Steve Piggott Service at Horsham Hospital David Ansell
Wednesday	25th	8.00pm	Quarterly Church Members' Meeting
Thursday	26th	10.00-12.30pm	OPEN HOUSE : Rehoboth

Friday	27th	10.00am 11.00am 8.00pm	WAM Coffee : 18 Swan Close Page Court Service Pathfinders & HighWay
Saturday	28th	8.30am	Early Prayer Meeting : Rehoboth
SUNDAY	29th	10.30am 6.30pm	Brian Moody (Epsom) Brian Moody (Epsom)

CHURCHES ON THE ASSOCIATION PRAYER DIARY

1st April — CLAPHAM (J Gardner) Please pray for Paul and Ruth Reed in their retirement and for Jonathan and Abigail Gardner and their family as they settle into the church. Pray also that the church will know the Lord's rich blessing.

8th April—BASILDON (M Drury) We thank our Lord God for the way in which he has blessed the church. Pray for our Pastor and his wife as they lay down their ministry here and for the Lord's guidance for them and the church for the future.

15th April—ASSOCIATION OF GRACE BAPTIST CHURCHES: SOUTH EAST (Office) Please pray that we will seek the glory of God and the blessing of the churches in all that we do.

WATFORD, DERBY ROAD (T Forryan) Pray for fruit from our recent Holiday Bible Club. Pray also for our anniversary with E Porter.

22nd April—COLCHESTER (P Shirtcliffe) Encouraged by two recent baptisms. Please pray for: mission weekend this summer, ongoing contact and evangelistic outreach. We long to see souls won for Christ.

29th April—TWICKENHAM (C Clarkson) We praise God for the continued contacts with people via the children's clubs and special services (Sunday School Anniversary is on 13 May) and pray that people hearing the gospel may be challenged and respond as prompted by the Holy Spirit.

WOOD GREEN (B King) We praise the Lord for the continued growth and development of the church. We are especially encouraged by the progress of the students in our ministerial training program and the expanding opportunities for them to serve the Lord in London and beyond. We request prayer for our workers in China and our efforts to plant a new church there in a city of some 1.7 million people. There is a wide door of opportunity but there are many adversaries. Pray for wisdom and courage.

