

## Good news

There is not much good news about today. Newspapers and television remind us of failing talks, crisis in the education and health services, rising debt and increasing suicides. Whatever your situation, your needs, the bible tells us that the most important question that we must answer is "what will you do with Jesus who is called the Christ?"

I want to remind you of some words of Jesus. He said "I am the way, the truth and the life, no man comes to the Father except through me.

We need to know the way because we are lost.

We need to know the truth because we are deceived.

We need to know life because we are dead to God.

### The way

Many have said they had the way, the way to success, to happiness, to greatness.

Richard Nixon, Gorbachev, Margaret Thatcher Donald Trump. All have proven fallible, weak and wrong. The Bible says "there is a way that seems right to a man but the ends thereof are the ways of death."

Sociologists, social workers, psychiatrists say the way is education, good housing, better social services. They will all give a better life. The Bible says "what shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul."

The way we need is God's way and we are far from it because of sin. That is we do not do what God wants us to do but we do what God doesn't want us to do. The Bible says "all we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way." So sin has entered each one of us and blinded our eyes so that we cannot find God's way of peace and contentment. We rebel against the truth of God's word. Jesus says "I am the way"; the only way.

### Truth

Truth is scarce today; many specialise in telling half-truths. Advertising promises a wonderful life if you just buy ....this gadget, this experience, this holiday, this.... Politicians promise all will be well if we vote for them. We are misguided if we believe that we have already won a fortune if only we send some money to such and such address. We fool ourselves if we think that we are good enough for God. In the Bible we read "if we say that they have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." In a changing world where everyone believes that they are right is there something to hold on to? A fixed point of reference. Yes. Jesus said "I am the truth" How do we know? By testing God's word.

"Come on to me all you that are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest.

"And him that comes to me I will never send away".

Jesus Christ the same yesterday today and for ever.

## The life

You may find that life today is hard, uncertain, cheap, a drag or even pointless with the only certainty that it will one day end. Whether you are a teenager, in mid-life or are in the twilight years the Bible warns "it is appointed onto man once to die but after this the judgement." "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."

We know deep in our hearts that death is not the end. Everyone wants to go to heaven but not everyone is walking in God's way. God grieves as we waste our lives walking in the paths of sin and calls us to repent and believe in Jesus, the sinless one who took our place and who paid the penalty for our sins on Calvary's Cross. "There was no other good enough to pay the price of sin. He only could unlock the gate of heaven and let us in."

So we urge you "today if you will hear his voice harden not your heart", and remember that "if we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness"

You can go to heaven without health, without wealth, without fame, without education, without culture but you will never go to heaven without Jesus.

May the Lord bless these truths and give each one the Holy Spirit to open our eyes to see, our ears to hear, and our hearts to receive Jesus, the Saviour of the world.