KESWICK IN WALES CONVENTION

Llandrindod Wells

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February, 2023.

Dear Friends of the Keswick in Wales Convention.

Chairman's Letter - February, 2023

Greetings in our Saviour's dear Name.

I am writing to bring you up-to-date with events past and future.

Firstly, to tell you of our 2022 Convention and then to mention our forthcoming Convention in 2023. God Willing.

We are thankful to the Lord for His blessing on our meetings during July 2022. The Lord was very gracious to those of us who were there, and fellowship was, as usual, a great blessing in the Lord. We are thankful for the blessing of being able to "stream" our meetings live over the internet, but to be honest the greatest blessing is to meet with the people of God face to face. We will (D.V.) continue to stream our services for those who are unable, for whatever reason, to attend physically.

The morning sessions were led by Rev. Brian Edwards (Dunstable), who helpfully took us through Isaiah chapter 40. The evening sessions were taken by Rev. John Treharne (Pontarddulais) on Romans chapter 8. We were really blessed both morning and evening. We had reports from various Missionary Organisations, and we were challenged and encouraged with what the Lord is doing in the UK and throughout the rest of the World.

On Tuesday afternoon our "Coffee, Cup Cakes and Chat Session" was held when I interviewed Pastor John Funnell of Noddfa Church (Abersychan, in the Pontypool area), where the Lord is doing a remarkable work of grace.

On Thursday afternoon Rev. Adrian Blake (Carmarthen) spoke challengingly on Revival from Psalm 63 with illustrations from past times of revival.

The children's work was ably led by Megan Stone of Child Evangelism Fellowship'

Every morning we had a prayer meeting at 9.30 am led by the chairman, who spoke briefly from Lamentations chapter 3 urging folk to take God's precious promise to the

Throne of Grace and plead with our heavenly Father to have mercy upon us in these dark and dismal days.

As usual there was precious fellowship between meetings – it's always good to renew such, albeit on an annual basis.

We give the Lord all the praise and honour.

As we move forward to this year's Convention, in the Will of the Lord, we have a few problems but the Lord has overruled thus far. We will be meeting from **31**st **July to 4**th **August, 2023,** and please note dates which are a little later than last year.

Our expected speakers are morning Rev. Alasdair Macleod (Inverness) who will be delivering our Bible Readings, and Rev. Paul Mallard (formerly from Bath), who will be our evening preacher. On Thursday afternoon, Rev. Chris Rees (Narberth, Pembrokeshire) will be preaching.

We will be meeting, God Willing, in the Pavilion Mid Wales and trust all the usual facilities will be available to us.

As ever, if you have any queries please contact our secretary John Mitson (contact details at the head of this letter and at the end). If you want to contact me personally, my details are at the end of this newsletter.

One additional word regarding our secretary; his dear wife Ann was diagnosed with breast cancer last year. She has had surgery and other treatments, and has now been declared free of cancer. Please pray for John and Ann and the girls at this time that the Lord Himself will draw near to them as a precious little family in the Lord.

Finally, as the apostle Paul wrote in Philippians chapter 3 v 1 and then went on for another 2 chapters!! I have often remarked in my newsletter about the state of Wales and the world at large and have often mentioned that it appears to me that there are 2 main factors at work.

1, Romans chapter 1 where the Apostle Paul talks of the great sin of Rome and elsewhere, and speaks of God's judgement in terms of "and God gave them up/over......".. God's judgement upon sin is sometimes to let sinners go wild and unchecked, and it seems to me that this is exactly what is happening. This morning, as I was thinking about this newsletter, I read a news item that the Senedd in Wales are thinking of amending the rules regarding Trans Gender in a similar way to that of Scotland which as you know has been challenged by the United Kingdom Parliament - the world is going mad!!

This strikes not just at the Christian Gospel, not just the Law of Moses but at the heart of Creation itself. Our Lord put it simply and absolutely:

Matthew chapter 19 v 4 'And he answered and said unto them, have ye not read, that He which made *them* at the beginning made them <u>male and female'</u>

I personally believe this is a master stroke of the Enemy. It's purely devilish. And no we are not being homophobic and anti LGBT+, we are concerned for their precious and immortal souls. We love them in Christ and long that they be saved.

2, Some of us believe we are living "in the last days" yea, the last hours of the last days and the events prophesied in the Old and New Testament regarding our Lord's Second Coming appear to be rapidly coming to pass.

What is the answer to these things? I dare to say it's either Revival or Return.

Unless a Sovereign God intervenes in one way or another, we have no hope.

Therefore, we cry with Habakkuk chapter 3 v 2, O LORD, I have heard thy speech, and was afraid: O LORD, revive thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy.

Amen and Amen.

Blessings be upon you all.

Yours by His Grace,

Colin Leyshon

(Chair: Keswick in Wales)

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