

RIVERSIDE QUARTERly



Issue

04.

Winter 22/23

WHERE
DOES MY
HELP
COME
FROM?

HEAVEN
SENT
SAVIOUR





Welcome

Welcome to the Winter edition of the Riverside Quarterly! Its been one year since we opened our doors at 20 Twin Spires, and during that time we've been delighted to meet many of you, our neighbours. Looking ahead, there are lots of perfect opportunities to drop in and find out more, if you haven't already. Whether its one of our weekly services, special festive events, the new monthly community lunch (starting January 2023) or any of our regular activities. Everyone is most welcome, and all activities are free of charge. Please drop in or get in touch if you would like more information.

What we believe about...

The Local Church...

- **Is a group of baptised Christians:** *'those who received his word were baptised'*
- **Gather weekly to remember Christ:** *'They devoted themselves... to the breaking of bread'*
- **And for Bible Teaching:** *'They met with the church and taught a great many people'*
- **Tells others the good news of Jesus Christ:** *'striving side by side for the faith of the gospel'*
- **Prays together:** *'earnest prayer was made to God by the church'*
- **Uses spiritual gifts:** *'As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another'*
- **Is led by recognised elders:** *'the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God'*

**All words in italics from The Bible (ESV)*

Whats on?

SUNDAY

- **9:30am** Breaking of Bread

Coffee @11:15am

**BIBLE
FOR
ALL**

11:30am

Creche available

- 4:00pm Bible Teaching
- 4:00pm Sunday School

MONDAY

- 10.00am Toddlers
- 8:00pm Prayer Meeting

WEDNESDAY

- 6:30pm Kids Club
- 8:00pm Bible Teaching

THURSDAY

- 10:00am Toddlers

We also run fortnightly studies for young people, monthly men's study breakfasts, community lunches and other regular activities. Please contact us for more information.

Heaven Sent Saviour



On the 25th December many people will be unwrapping gifts they have been given. Some recipients will have a welcome surprise, receiving something that they know will be useful, whilst another group will be wondering what to do with their gift!

Christmas is a time when most people give gifts or, perhaps it would be more accurate to state, exchange presents. Unfortunately, a significant number of people, due to material or relational poverty, do not receive gifts. But at Christmastime we can remember, and respond to, the fact that God has given a gift to this world, that excludes no one, is beyond price and meets everyone's greatest need.

As God looks upon mankind, He does not see a glorious picture of people who love Him and love their neighbour. The general scene is of a people who have abandoned Him and sought to live independent of Him. Instead of looking to God for wisdom and direction, mankind makes their own rules, which vary according to time and culture. This is not a new development but something that has marked this world for millennia.

Having been created to enjoy a relationship with God and to show some of His characteristics, mankind's forsaking of God is not without consequences. Some of these are presently seen, in the sorrow and suffering that we all experience. Although God does have every right to execute His final judgement on this world at any time, He has not done that yet.

Although we are not as bad as we could be and undoubtedly something of the image of God can be seen in those who live in rebellion against Him, we do all fall short of being what we were designed to be and there is a coming punishment for all individuals who live apart from God. But the great news is that, by God's amazing grace, salvation is possible.

For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved" (John 3:17).

Two thousand years ago God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, into this world. The One who was, and is, God became a man and dwelt here. He came not to condemn this world but to provide and secure salvation.

The very name "Jesus" means "Jehovah is salvation" or "Jehovah, the Saviour", and it was God's name for the child as it reflected His mission. God came to earth to save people from the penalty of sin, from the power of sin, and eventually from the very presence of sin.

Although we, ourselves, can do nothing to avoid the coming condemnation, heaven has sent a Saviour. Because Jesus bore the punishment for sin on the cross, every individual who repents of their sin, confesses Him as Lord and trusts Him as their Saviour can know and enjoy God's eternal salvation.

God has sent His Son so that you might be saved. He is a gift of infinite value and meets your ultimate need. The great question is: "How will you respond to heaven's gift?"

Written by
Paul Coxall for
www.understandingthegospel.org

Watch Paul's
story here



**"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!"
(2 Corinthians 9:15)**

WHERE DOES MY HELP COME FROM?

THE END OF THE YEAR AND THE START OF A NEW YEAR IS OFTEN A TIME OF REFLECTION AND ANTICIPATION. REFLECTION OF A YEAR THAT HAS FLOWN BY, REFLECTION OF THINGS THAT HAVE GONE WELL AND PERHAPS NOT SO WELL. ANTICIPATION OF WHAT A NEW YEAR MAY HOLD, POSSIBLY A NEW JOB, A NEW START, A FRESH BEGINNING.

For 2022, it may well be that we sum up the year with that famous phrase that her late majesty the Queen uttered 30 years ago – an *annus horribilis*. Seemingly one issue after another, some close to home, others not too far away. And as the year ends, there is a familiar refrain that we can't escape from, the cost of living crisis.

That may cloud any thoughts of a bright new year and leave thoughts of worry, concern and trepidation. The book of Psalms in the Bible is a collection of writings by a number of individuals, some well-known and others anonymous. Psalm 121 is a song that was sung by pilgrims travelling to worship God. The song asks the question "From where does my help come?" The resounding conclusion is that help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth.



“MY HELP COMES FROM THE LORD WHO MADE HEAVEN AND EARTH”

Psalm 121



This is something that every Christian can attest to having experienced. During difficulties and the challenges that life throws at us, help comes from God. This does not mean a Christian is untouched by the challenges of life, be it cost of living, ill health or any manner of other issues that vex us from time to time. What it does mean, is a rock solid confidence in the God who is above all. Those that love Him, and trust in His goodness and power to work out all things for our good. That is what Paul reminds Christians of in Romans 8v 28: ***“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.”***

Perhaps in the last year, you have not considered the God that the writer of the Psalm knew. Consideration of a creator God is often perceived as something strange in the intellectually savvy and scientifically advanced age that we live in.

And yet, when people reach a point of extremity, it is often a calling out to God that awakens within. This should not surprise us as the Bible unfolds that the true and living God is continually revealing Himself to mankind. Through the creation of the world (Romans 1v20), through the existence of our conscience (Romans 2v14-15) and in particular through Jesus Christ (Colossians 1v15). He does so because He wants us to be restored to a right relationship with Him, a relationship that has become broken because of our sin.

2023 could be a year of great confidence, if you personally come to know the Lord from whom all help comes. Then no matter what is in store, you too can lay hold on His promise to never leave or forsake those who have put their trust in Him (Hebrews 13v5).

Written by Phil Cherrie
Riverside Christian Assembly

PROMISED

Predictions made thousands of years earlier...

His Unique Arrival

Promised from the beginning of history

Born to a virgin, of royal descent

Genesis 3:15 | Isaiah 7:14 | 2 Samuel 7:8-13

His Humble Childhood

To be born in Bethlehem

To experience poverty

He would not seek a high place

Micah 5:2 | Isaiah 53:2-3

His Great Purpose

Arriving as Messiah in Jerusalem on a donkey

Coming to save people from their sins

Zechariah 9:9 | Daniel 9:25-26

His Shocking Rejection

Betrayed by a friend and rejected by the crowds

Suffering like a criminal

Pierced and lifted up for all to see

Psalms 41:9 | Isaiah 53:3-10 | Zechariah 12:10

His Lasting Victory

Death would be temporary

He would secure lasting victory

He would become the Saviour of all men

Psalms 16:10-11 | Psalm 110:1-2 | Isaiah 53:12



SAVIOUR

... were perfectly fulfilled by Jesus Christ

Born of Mary, a virgin

An arrival unlike any other

Descendant of King David

Matthew 1:18-23 | Matthew 1:1-16

Arriving to Poverty

Born outdoors in Bethlehem

Grew up and worked as a carpenter in Nazareth

No home or possessions of His own

Luke 2:1-7 | Matthew 2:23 | Luke 9:58

Named Jesus

Eternally the Son of God

He became the Saviour of the world

Luke 1:32 | Matthew 1:21

Crucified at Calvary

Betrayed by Judas and rejected by His people

Condemned by mistrial to execution

Crucified outside Jerusalem

Luke 22:47-48 | Luke 23:13-35

Rising from the Dead

Three days after His burial, He rose again

Witnesses brought the good news to the world

Transforming the lives of millions

Luke 24:18-48 | 1 Corinthians 15:3-8



Focus on...

COMMUNITY LUNCH

NEW



Come along to our new community lunch starting on the **27th of January 2023**. This will be held in our main hall, free of charge on the **fourth Friday of every month at 12:30pm.**

WHEN?

WHAT IS IT?

We hope that our community lunch will provide an opportunity for residents of our local area to meet and get to know each other over a light lunch. There will also be a chance to hear about the Bible, and discover the Bible's answers to life's big questions.



Riverside Christian Assembly is made up of people spanning a range of ages. We are sure you will find someone to chat with, or feel free to bring friends or family with you! All will be made very welcome.

WHO ARE WE?

If you would like more information or to reserve a space please contact us:



07709246606



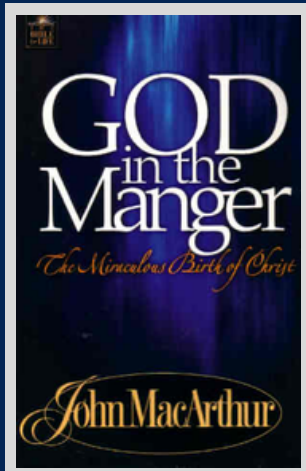
contact.riversideassembly@gmail.com

What can we do for you?

Please get in touch if you would like us to

- send you a free Bible
- pray for you
- meet with you to discuss what we believe

contact.riversideassembly@gmail.com



John MacArthur unravels the intricacies of the event that changed the face of human history



Children's Book



Unit 20
Spires Business Park
Mugiemoss Road
AB21 9BG



Contact us for your free copies!

Giveaway!



riverside_rca



riversidechristianassemblyaberdeen



theriverside.church



Riverside Christian Assembly

