



26th May 2019

Roger Winson writes...

I am mid-way through an interesting ten-week course in Oxford looking at the English Evangelical Tradition. We learned that there were fast growing periods, for example the 18th Century Evangelical Revival under Wesley and Whitefield, but there were also periods of sad decline. Sometimes the decline happened when Christians started to think less of Christ, believing Him to be less than truly God.

It was at this point on the course that a fellow student said, "I don't believe Jesus is God – just that He is God's Son." The lecturer asked us for comments. I knew that Jesus never said in so many words; "I am God." But I also knew that He made many other statements that cannot properly be interpreted to mean anything else, yet my faltering reply could have been better than it was. What would you have said? This discussion taught me that what we were studying was not just an historical problem of the past. Even today, it is vital we understand the truth about Christ, which is why I am so glad we are looking at Colossians during our evening services at Emmanuel Church.

Last Sunday evening during his talk, Nigel pointed to a verse I could have quoted to the person on our course. Col.2:9 *In Christ, all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form.* He told us that it was one of the most amazing verses about Jesus. It describes Him as the place where, and the One in whom, the living God has come to dwell – the true temple or tabernacle of God – fully human and yet also divine. If you missed Nigel's talk – listen to it on the website once it has been loaded. Do come along to the rest of the series. April is continuing in Colossians chapter 2 for us in the evening in a talk entitled "What about the Old Ways?"

As you will have noticed, ECB is running two series at present. In the mornings we are looking at the work of the Holy Spirit. Last week's talk looked at how the Holy Spirit works to point people to Jesus and our privileged role in praying for those who do not yet know Christ. Today Katie will be speaking about the Holy Spirit's work in the world through renewal and revival. The history of God's church is still being written and in that we are called to play our part – for another revival perhaps – but certainly to be faithful to Christ as revealed in the scriptures.

Every blessing, Roger

Notices

BICESTER BIG LUNCH

There is **NO** service here at Emmanuel on the morning of Sunday 2nd June. Instead we will be gathering together with other churches in Bicester for a service at 11am in Sheep Street followed by the Big Lunch.

SCOTT DALTON

Scott Dalton will be visiting us here at Emmanuel and preaching at the evening service on Sunday 2nd June. Come and hear what God has to say through him.

ISRAEL—MAY 2020

Join Helen and Clive as they lead a 9 day tour of Israel in the footsteps of Jesus.

Places are limited to 35 and you can reserve your place from now on. For more info talk to Clive or Helen and also visit, www.israel2020.co.uk

CAP MONEY COURSE

Starting on Monday 10th June 10-12noon here at Emmanuel. A 3 week course to help you manage your money better. To book visit, capmoneycourse.org

CLIMATE JUSTICE WORKSHOPS

Join us at ECB in Meeting Room 1 on 3 June and 1 July at 7.45pm to discuss and plan ways to reduce the worldwide effect of global warming.

BEN BISCOE—CHURCH PLANTING

Ben is seeking a Religious Worker visa for the United States of America for 5 years, so that he can stay in California to plant the Refuge Long Beach church. The plan is that he will be paid by his work editing a church planting magazine/blog. In order for this to happen, the New Breed network are applying for sponsorship status. Once that is granted Ben can apply for a Religious Worker visa, but he needs \$3,500 ASAP to pay for it. Please pray that the sponsorship is obtained and that the visa is granted. For more info, contact Roger or Debbie Winson.

GILL GIFFORD CONFERENCE— The Anointing

Saturday 15th June 10.30am-3.30pm (Doors open at 9.30am) here at Emmanuel. All welcome. For more details contact carolhill@hotmail.co.uk

OASIS SMALL GROUP

Please note that Oasis will **NOT** be meeting on Wednesday 29th May.

ROTAS: If you need to check rotas please log on to Church Builder. Contact the church office if you need help doing this.

ECB DIARY

SUN 26th MAY	10.30am	Communion Service Holy Spirit Week 2, In Renewal and Revival Leader: Carol Hill Preacher: Katie Jenkinson
	7.00pm	Evening service (café open at 6.30pm) Colossians –What about the old ways? Leader: Adrian Stone Preacher: April Beckerleg
TUES 28th MAY	9.00am	Prayers
	7.30pm	Prison Fellowship
FRI 31st MAY	9.30am	Cherish Group
	7.00pm	Prayers
	7.30pm	Contemplative Compline
SUN 2nd June	11.00am	NO MORNING SERVICE AT ECB Bicester Big Lunch– Churches in Bicester Service in Sheep Street
	7.00pm	Evening service (café open at 6.30pm) Colossians –Living in the New Way Leader: Phil Trout Preacher: Scott Dalton

Website: www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk

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All notices to Admin Team by 7pm Wednesday

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