

Word For The Week

1 January 2021

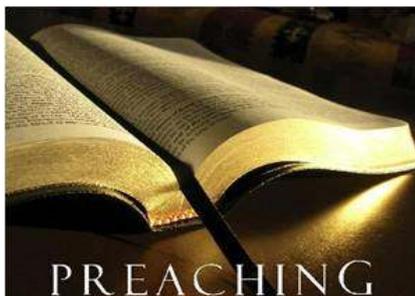
Preaching Dates

Sunday 3 January 2021

Frances Bloomfield (am) at
Giffnock United Reformed Church
Andrew Chalkley (am) at
Campbeltown Community Church
Stephen Ilett (am) at Dingwall Baptist Church

Friday 8 January 2021

Elizabeth de Silva at Aglow
International Britain Zoom Leaders' Summit.



"In Him was life."

By Stanley Bonthron

'In Him was life and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it.' John 1 : 4-5

As we reflect on the year that is about to end, we have witnessed a year of gloom and apparent darkness, a year like no other, at least for our generations. A somewhat similar view was taken by the monarch at the out all over Europe' commencement of the first world war when he observed that 'the lights were going
This compares dramatically with the inspired words of the Apostle John that brings a wholly different perspective which I am sure we all share; speaking of the True light that shines in spite of the darkness of sin and disease, of despair and death and of despondency and doom. Here we hear of the One who has overcome all of that in his incarnation, His life and ministry and His death, resurrection and ascension. He is the 'Light of the World'.

We have each had the privilege and responsibility in these months of sharing the good news of the Gospel to those who would listen – an opportunity to witness and counsel with many who needed to hear of the Light of Life. Many have mourned in these days, some have despaired, known mental illness and isolation, lost employment and business and felt that the future was bleak.

We have had to learn and cope with a new set of skills, the opportunities of social media, of Facebook, of Zoom and of YouTube, to name a few, have become the new media, but that Light has shone, albeit in new ways, and worship is so different. Churches have slowly opened again but constrained to smaller numbers, no corporate worship through singing and social distancing with masks and no handshakes or hugs. An opportunity for urgent prayer and heartfelt intercession?

I wonder has God permitted a spiritual wake up call for a slumbering nation? What is life truly about and what of eternity?

There has been some evidence in the churches that have operated in open media of people asking about this Jesus, this Saviour and Lord, the telling afresh of the One who came to pay a debt He didn't owe because we owed a debt we couldn't pay.

***Light of the world, You stepped
Down into darkness,
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.***

Thanks be to God for his inestimable gift!!