REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES 2014

An extra special effort is going into organising this year's Remembrance Day services, in particular for the evening meeting. As a result of contacts made by Mr Tommy Gilmore, an impressive number of dignitaries will be present to lay wreaths in memory of the fallen. Letters of invitation have been sent to No.6 and No.10 Districts of the Orange Order; cards will soon be available to enable you to invite your family and friends. Once again, this will be a significant outreach opportunity for our church: may the Lord help us to use it to wisely.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Monday evening (8pm), 27 October: **HARVEST SERVICES 2014**.
- Friday, 31 October @ 8pm:

EPS REFORMATION RALLY

with Rev. Ron Johnstone: 'The Truth Shall Set You Free – Standing Firm in the Faith in Days of Confusion.'

• Lord's Day, 9 November (11.30am & 7.00pm:

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES

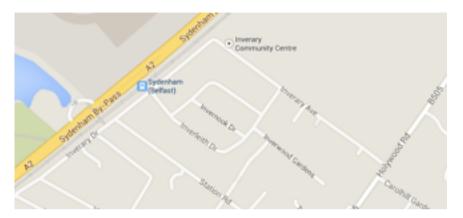
MEETINGS TODAY

- Sunday School & Bible Class 10.15am
- Morning Worship 11.30am (Rev. Kenneth Elliott)
- Adult Bible Class 3.10pm (with Rev. Ian Kenny)
- Evening Service 7.00pm (Rev. David Brown)

INSPIRATION IN A SENTENCE

"Through this window, opened in Christ's side, you may look into His heart, and see love flaming there, ... see our names written there." – Matthew Henry





MISSION SYDENHAM 2015

At the request of Mr Philip Knowles, one of the students who was assigned to the Martyrs outreach team during the first week of September, we visited Sydenham on Friday, 5 September 2014. Following a most encouraging round of door-to-door visitation, our amplification equipment was pressed into service for an open-air meeting. The Lord certainly granted us favour with the people that afternoon and we are persuaded that at least part of the reason for this is the time and effort this church invested in the Sydenham area in previous years.

In an attempt to 'keep the door open' and focus our petitions and actions for a harvest in this area, the Kirk Session has approved a three-night mission in *Inverary Community Centre*, scheduled for Monday 13–Wednesday 15 April 2015. We plan to hold a Kids Club on each of the three nights before the mission time. Can I encourage you to be much in prayer for this venture, from now until April of next year?

"Lord, send the old time power, the Pentecostal power ... That sinners be converted and Thy name glorified"

SEEDS OF PROMISE HARVESTED 3 O.T. PROPHECIES FULFILLED

[Reading: John 19:23-37].

When a farmer sows out his fields, he expects his crop to be ripened and ready for harvesting several months down the line.

God, the great "husbandman" in Scripture, planted seeds of promise in the Old Testament that, hundreds of years later, ripened to their grand fulfilment in New Testament times.

In these notes we will confine ourselves to **3 prophecies** from the Old Testament Scriptures – 'seeds of prediction' – that only came to their full harvest when our Lord Jesus Christ was dying under the curse of our sins on Calvary.

FULFILLED PROPHECY #1: CRUCIFIXION CLOTHES.

The actions of the Roman soldiers with the clothes of Christ fulfilled to the letter the prophecy found in **Psalm 22:18**. It is obvious from John's account that the soldiers divided four pieces of Christ's clothing between them (most likely a head-dress, sandals, belt and an outer garment); but they cast lots for the final piece of clothing – a seamless robe – to determine which of them should take it home. The **22nd Psalm** is clearly Messianic (it points to Christ) and was composed by David 1000 years before Christ was born. Those soldiers had no knowledge of the biblical prophecy, but with canny precision, ended up fulfilling it. This is proof positive of the divine inspiration of the Bible.

Christ's seamless robe carried tremendous significance. It is the type of garment worn by Israel's high priest (**Exodus 28:39**; cf. Josephus' *Antiquities of the Jews*, 3.7.4:203). It therefore pointed to Christ's redemptive role as the One who would make atonement for His people by His sacrifice on the Cross (cf. **Hebrews 3:1, 4:14, 9:11**).

The Roman soldiers, in their ignorance, engaged in a deeper round of gambling at the cross: they gambled that Jesus was not the Christ, the Son of God. If we turn our backs on Christ today, we gamble, not from a backdrop of ignorance, but knowledge.

FULFILLED PROPHECY #2: UNBROKEN BONES.

In not breaking the Saviour's bones in order to speed His death, the Roman soldiers fulfilled **Psalm 34:20** and **Psalm 32:17**. This means that Christ answers to the requirement concerning the Passover lamb, because while it was to be slain so that its blood was shed, not a bone of its body was to be broken (**Exodus 12:46**). Had the Jews succeeded in their demand for Christ's bones to be broken (**John 19:31**), they would have made it impossible for Christ to be identified with the Passover sacrifice (cf. **John 1:29, 36**).

However, God's plan stood (**Proverbs 19:21**), for, as Marcus Loane comments, "He had been kept by the shield of ancient type and prophecy" Thus Paul could write: "Christ our passover is sacrificed for us" (**1 Corinthians 5:7**).

Unbroken bones also point to a mighty Saviour: the strength of the body is in the bones. Sin breaks our bones (cf. **Psalm 51:8**); but Jesus stood firm under the burden, still mighty to save.

FULFILLED PROPHECY #3: PIERCED SIDE.

The spear thrust that is noted in **John 19:34** was exactly as per Zechariah's prophecy (**Zechariah 12:10**, cf. **Psalm 22:16** and **John 19:37**). Therefore John could later write, "Every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced Him" (**Revelation 1:7**). It is vital that we look to Him now for salvation (**Isaiah 45:22**), those who do not will finally bow before Him under judgment.

Some scholars have calculated that Christ perfectly fulfilled 33 distinct Old Testament prophecies in the final 24 hours of His earthly life. We have considered only 3 of these. How completely dependable is God's own holy Word!