

The Droitwich Spa HERALD

ISSUE No. 9

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our heritage?**

• **FREE booklet
offer**

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Distributed **FREE** in Droitwich Spa and the surrounding area

A QUESTION OF PROFIT?

We are sure that every one of our readers is looking to make a profit in life. Some investments are long term - for example, if you bought a house in Droitwich 20 years ago, you will appreciate the benefit of that investment today!

SPECULATIVE?

Some are shorter term. Perhaps with a Bank or Building Society. Some of us are prone to the more speculative approach to profit - the horses, the Lottery etc. Whichever way we approach it, we want to profit - we

certainly do not want to lose out!

Jesus Christ posed a searching question to men and women in his day. What if our gain is huge, beyond our dreams? Jesus even takes it to the extreme - "the whole world!" Many dream of such excesses but what really would be our profit?

FAR MORE IMPORTANT

Jesus is reminding his hearers that they have something far more important to think about than earthly and temporal gain. We have

What will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?

(Mark 8 v 36)

a soul. A soul that is the essence of who we are; a soul which never dies. In the light of this, how telling are these words found in the Bible:-

"... we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain that we can carry nothing out". (1 Timothy 6 v 7)



The Chateau Impney - John Corbett's most famous investment in Droitwich

ARE WE FOOLS?

There is nothing wrong with running our business profitably or investing our money wisely.

We have lives to live and families to care for, but are we fools if we do not make provision for our souls? As well as checking the latest returns on our investments, should we not be looking for profit for our souls?

Often the question is asked about a person who has died - "How much did they leave?" The answer is always the same - **"Everything!"**



WITTON CHAPEL
Bringing the good news of the Gospel to Droitwich Spa for over 80 years



HERALD EDITORIAL COLUMN
**ARE WE LOSING
OUR HERITAGE?**



Many Droitwich people lament the loss of our heritage - the old Brine Baths, the Cinema, The Worcestershire Brine Baths Hotel (pictured above) and the unique Lido Swimming Pool, to name but a few.

You may see these things as relics of a past that you are not really concerned about. You prefer the "New Droitwich" with its trendy flats, supermarket and promised shopping improvements.

Whatever side of the debate you are on, it is evident that we are losing a great deal of our Droitwich heritage.

GREATER ISSUES

But what of the even greater issues of morality, values and spiritual truth? Should we not be even more concerned about these things? In previous generations, our children would learn much to shape their early character at Sunday School. Our country was known as the "Land of the Book" - that book being the Bible. Marriage and the family, as laid out in the Bible were the twin foundations of our society. People knew right from wrong because they knew the Ten Commandments. The meaning of love was clearly defined by the understanding of the love of God for sinful people and the giving of His Son Jesus Christ to die to save us. Maybe the old ways were better - maybe we are losing a tremendous heritage at great cost to us all . . .

- you be the judge!

THOUGHTS ON HEAVEN

The portrayal of the Puritan era of the 16th and 17th century in this country is often of people who were over religious, rigid, sour and kill joys. Nothing could be further from the truth! Puritan Christians were men and women of great spiritual insight and maturity and they had their priorities right! They were people who lived by the truths of the Bible while on earth but looked forward to heaven as their true home. In this issue of the Herald we include some quotations from that era which direct our thoughts to the subject of heaven.



Edward Winslow
One of the most famous of The Puritan
'Pilgrim Fathers' - born in Droitwich in 1595

"It is God alone who makes heaven to be heaven."

Thomas Brooks

"Let it be considered that if our lives be not a journey to heaven, they will be a journey to hell."

Jonathan Edwards

"Heaven's number of glorified saints is made up of justified sinners."

William Gurnall

"Those that are acquainted with God and with Christ are already in the suburbs of life eternal".

Matthew Henry

"Heaven will pay for any loss we may suffer to gain it; but nothing can pay for the loss of heaven."

Richard Baxter

If you have a question that you would like us to answer, write to us at Witton Chapel, Tagwell Road, Droitwich Spa WR9 7BN. or email us at: herald@wittonchapel.fsnet.co.uk

HEART ATTACK!

A PERSONAL TESTIMONY FROM THE EDITOR

Never did I dream that I would have a heart attack; of all people! I was only just turned 50, a non smoker, non drinker, I regularly exercised - it was not on the agenda. But on 13th February 2005 I was proved wrong!

Maybe something similar has happened to you in your life. An illness, an accident, something totally unexpected - and unwelcome! You ask that seemingly unanswerable question - Why me?

The Bible tells us that there is, "A time for every purpose under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3 v 1 - 8). It is all known by God.

Every experience of life is a "learning experience" and particularly when things happen which are out of our control. In my own experience, I was reminded that my life belongs to God and that I cannot take one breath without His help, I cannot live another day without His grace and I have no hope for the future without God. Perhaps you have learned that too.



Worcestershire Royal Hospital

Over my bed in Laurel Ward in Worcester hospital was this text from the Bible:-

"I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress; my God, in Him I will trust" (Psalm 91 v 2)

THE WATCHWORD

A TRUE STORY FROM THE TURN OF THE 20TH CENTURY

In one of the rock galleries of Gibraltar, two British soldiers had mounted guard, one at each end of the tunnel. One was a Christian; the other was seeking Christ but as yet had no peace about the welfare

of his soul. It was midnight; and as the soldiers were doing their rounds, one was meditating on the blood of Christ, which had brought him real peace, while the other was brooding over his doubts and fears.

Suddenly an officer challenged the Christian soldier, and demanded the password. "The precious blood of Christ," the startled soldier called out aloud, forgetting the watchword in the thoughts of his heart. Immediately he corrected himself, and gave the correct watchword; and the amazed officer passed on!

But these words had run through the rock galleries, and echoed by the solid walls, had struck upon the ear of the

doubting and seeking soldier; as if spoken by a messenger from heaven. It seemed as if an angel had spoken with words directly to him.

"The precious blood of Christ." "Yes, that is just what I need," the soldier said to himself. That night he too found the true peace of sins forgiven.

Note: The words that the soldier was thinking about are found in the Bible as part of 1 John chapter 1 verses 5 - 9: *"The blood of Jesus Christ God's Son cleanses us from all sin... If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness"*.



Gibraltar - The location of this true story

WHERE IS GOD WHEN THINGS GO WRONG?

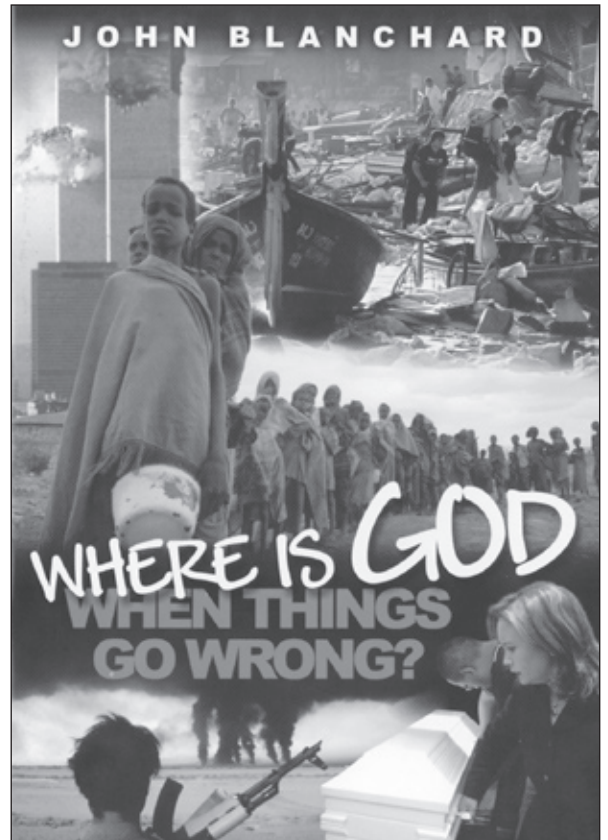
This is a question asked by countless numbers of people over the centuries. Many see no answer, and so turn away from God completely. Personal, national or international tragedy or loss has overwhelmed people and they have despaired of getting any answers to their searching for reasons or explanations.

Yet the Bible claims that God is in sole and sovereign control of everything that happens in the entire universe. He works out everything in conformity with the purpose of His perfect will. He is gracious, full of compassion and abounding in love.

“Where is God When Things Go Wrong?” seeks to bring a clear and definite response to the question it poses. Whether it be “9/11”, The Tsunami or more personal tragedy, the explanation is clearly laid out.

A copy of this booklet will be sent to you free of charge if you telephone or drop us a line to:

The Editor,
Droitwich Spa Herald,
Witton Chapel,
Tagwell Road,
Droitwich Spa,
WR9 7BN.



Note about the Author:

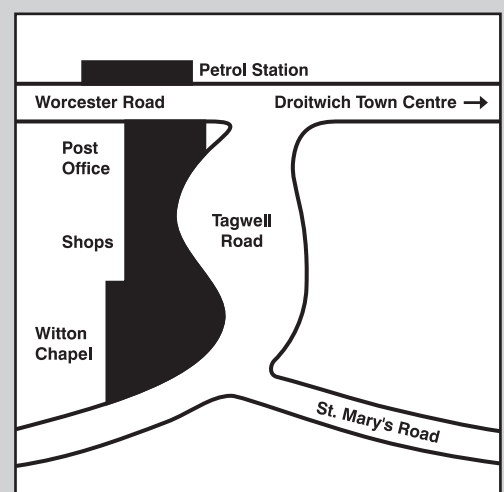
Dr John Blanchard is an internationally known author, teacher and speaker. Nearly 15 million copies of his publications are in print in some forty different languages.

What is the Bible all about?

“There are two central characters, Jesus Christ and you! It tells you a great deal about both!”

When we meet . . . Everyone Welcome

Sunday	9.45am - 10.45am Sunday School age 4 upwards (<i>in school term time</i>) 11.00am Morning Service 6.30pm Evening Service
Tuesday	1.30pm - 3.30pm Mother & Toddler Group (<i>in school term time</i>)
Wednesday	7.30pm Ladies Bible Study & Prayer Meeting (<i>2nd Wednesday in month</i>)
Thursday	8.00pm Bible Study & Prayer Meeting
Saturday	Special Meetings - as announced



For further information or help with transport contact Droitwich 779319 or 794271
Visit our website: www.wittonchapel.fsnet.co.uk



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