

Keswick in Wales Convention

Newsletter December 2019

Review of Convention 2019

“Oh, that Thou wouldst rend the heavens and come down... that the mountains might flow at Thy Presence.” Isaiah: 64 v 1

We closed last year’s newsletter with the above quote and mentioned R.B. Jones’ book “Rent Heavens” as being so appropriate and relevant to today’s sad spiritual and moral state in our Land.

We did have many “mercy drops” at Llandrindod this year but we still long for the “showers of blessings”. Thank God He is ever faithful. Indeed, Great is His Faithfulness and new are His Mercies every morning.

On Monday afternoon we had a “Welcome” Meeting and were introduced to the main speakers Rev Mike Moore and Dr Alec Passmore together with Ruth Glover who looks after the childrens’ work. Mike and Alec shared a little of their testimonies of the Lord’s work in their hearts and lives and gave a brief outline of the messages they were expecting to bring to us.

From Tuesday to Friday morning, Mike took us through some passages in the Old and New testaments under the general title, “The Lamb of God”, expounding the great truths of our Lord’s Person and Work.

In the evenings, Alec spoke on several characters from both testaments, including the Lord Jesus Himself, David, Abraham and Stephen, seeking to apply principles from their lives to ourselves today.

Ruth’s Children’s Meetings followed the theme of “Funky Farm” and Bible stories, linked to farming, were used, including: Tuesday – the Sower; Wednesday – the Lost Sheep; Thursday – the Weeds in the Field; and Friday – the Lost Son. The children thoroughly enjoyed their time in the Bible Club.

During the evening services Tuesday to Thursday we had interviews with three representatives of Missionary organisations: Fiona Sorbala, from Chosen People Ministries, telling of her work among Jewish people; Paul Davies spoke on the Albanian Evangelical Mission, where the Lord is doing an amazing work amongst the Albanian folk; Keith Lynsey told us of the work of the Acre Gospel Mission in Brazil, Portugal and the Canary Islands.

All the missionary speakers were both encouraging and challenging. “The fields are white already to harvest.” “Pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest.”

On Tuesday afternoon we had a “Coffee, Cup Cake and Chat” session, which was a very informal time when the chairman interviewed a Christian worker. This year it was Paul Davies (the representative of the Albanian Mission). Paul spoke of his life growing up as a “son of the manse”, his dad was a well-known preacher “back in the day”, of his own conversion, then very movingly of his own personal trials and difficulties within his family. How we need to pray for Christian families these days, when the Enemy seems to be increasingly attacking them on every front.

On Thursday Rev John Macleod spoke on “Don’t Quit...Keep going”, encouraging us not to be despondent but to persevere in the service of our Lord.

Every morning between 9.30 and 1030 there was a prayer meeting led this year by one of our council members Mike Beresford. Each year there seems to be an increasing need to really pray and “storm the gates of heaven” as did our forefathers and mothers!! Somehow, there is not the passion for prayer that once was known amongst the people of God, especially in Wales, and it’s not just “Celtic Hywl”.. but arises out of a sense of the great need for God to be Glorified, the Lord Jesus Christ to be exalted, and The Holy Spirit to fill us and have His Sovereign way in our hearts and lives.

One aspect of Keswick in Wales which always amazes me is the generosity of the congregation in giving to the work of K.I.W. and the Missionary organisations. This year we were able to give £2,500 to each of the 3 missions represented.

We were especially pleased with the arrangements in the Pavilion and several of the past difficulties were resolved for which we thank the Lord.

The future of the Pavilion is still precarious, and we continue to seek the Lord’s will for its future and ours relating to suitable premises.

Next year, God Willing, the dates are: Monday, 27th July, to Friday, 31st July, 2020

and the **main speakers are: Bible Readings – Rev John Shearer, Scotland;**

Evening Preacher – Rev John Kirkpatrick, Portrush Presbyterian Church, N. Ireland;

Thursday afternoon – Dr Gareth Edwards, Christian Institute, speaking on current issues affecting Christians and the Church.

With the following missions being represented:

Christian Witness to Israel;

AIM International (Africa Inland Mission);

SASRA (Soldiers’ and Airmen’s Scripture Readers Association)

So please make plans to join us next year especially if you live in Wales; I hesitate to mention Brexit but, come what may, if you are from across the border you will not need a passport and we will always give you a warm welcome to Wales.

Finally, in the midst of all the confusion, bareness and spiritual poverty that abounds in the land, remember our Gracious and ALL victorious Saviour has promised,

“I will build MY church and the gates of Hell will not prevail against it”. Hallelujah, may it be so in Wales and through the whole of the UK... until He comes.

Blessings

Colin Leyshon

(Chair Keswick in Wales Convention)