

# Noticeboard

## Food for Thought

This Thursday  
September 15th 2.30pm  
Guest Speaker is  
Pauline Reed

## Grill the Pastor

Starts again Monday 12th  
September at 7.30pm  
in the Portable cabin. At this  
meeting you can come and  
ask any questions.

## 'STEPPING-OUT'

### Men's Walking Group

Keeping It Local! Saturday, 17th  
September. Join us for a gentle  
6.5mile'ish circular 'amble'.  
Meet EBC at 08:45 with packed-  
lunch. Names to Bryan a.s.a.p.  
please on 01326-312115 or  
[bryanandhazel@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bryanandhazel@hotmail.co.uk),  
so 'sensible' transport can  
be arranged.  
Next walk: Saturday, 8th October

## Foodbank needs are:

- \* Tinned Potatoes
- \* Tinned Fruit
- \* Tinned Spam
- \* Tinned Cornbeef
- \* Tinned Soup
- \* Small bags of Sugar
- \* Sweet and Savoury treats
- \* Tea
- \* Coffee
- \* Jam
- \* Toilet Rolls

*If you are not receiving emails  
from Emmanuel and wish to,  
please let the office know and  
we can add you to our  
mailing list!*

## If you see any Health & Safety issues

or any repairs needed around the  
church building, please let the  
church office know or contact  
Rick Cookman-  
[roderick@cookman.me.uk](mailto:roderick@cookman.me.uk)

## Sunday 18th September

**10.30am** Coming together to praise, learn and encourage.

**Main Door** Bryan Parr

**Inner Door** Barry & Betty Hearn

**Easy Worship** Vicki Kneebone

**Coffees Before Service** Chris & Kristine Trueman

**After Service** Chris & Kristine Trueman

## Sunday 11th September 2016

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**10.30am** Coming together to praise, learn and encourage.

A warm welcome to you all. We would love to get to know each other better, so please introduce yourself. If you can, join us for refreshments after the service.

**Children and youth groups are out to their classes from the start of the service, with the exception of Nippers (aged 2-4) who will go out at 11am.**

**Parent and Baby Room** available with a visual link to the service.

**Buzz:** Reception to Year 6

**Salt:** Year 7 and up (meets in the Power House)

**7pm** Prayer for Healing Service

## Prayer Ministry

Members of the Prayer Ministry Team wear ministry badges. Please speak to one of them if you would like prayer for any reason.

## The Church office

Open Monday-Friday, 9.30am-12.30pm

**Telephone** 01326 315249

**Email** [mail@emmanuelbaptist.co.uk](mailto:mail@emmanuelbaptist.co.uk)

**Website** [www.emmanuelbaptist.co.uk](http://www.emmanuelbaptist.co.uk)

**Minister** Rev'd Charles Blizzard

## Sermon outline notes:

### Spiritual Warfare part 1—Is the conflict real?

#### Introduction

The idea of spiritual warfare - that is a conflict between good and evil spirit forces, is in many parts of the world not an unusual concept. But in western culture it is a 'foreign' concept.

In our western culture we have a world view that everything has to have a natural cause and scientific explanation. Evil is caused only by psychological, social, economic, family factors, factors that can be changed and therefore in theory at least evil can be eradicated. However with all that has gone on in our world in the 20th and 21st centuries I think that world view may be 'wearing thin'.

The Bible gives an alternative view about the pervasiveness and depth of evil in the world. Evil comes from 'the free will of two races of beings' that God created—angels and humans.

#### The reality of Spiritual Warfare

1. Existence of the Devil/demons is taken with great seriousness in the New Testament. The New Testament records the conflict between two kingdoms, that of God and that of the Devil. 1John 3v8—to remove this element of conflict from the gospels it seems to me would lead to a major misunderstanding of the gospels and the rest of the New Testament.
2. Jesus and the Demonic
  - Tempted by Satan Luke 4 vv 33-37.
  - Deals frequently with the demonic Luke 3 vv33-37 Luke 13 v16.
  - Speaks of Satan as 'the ruler of this world'; ( John 12 v31; 14 v30; 16 v11) as 'murderer' and Father of lies (John 8 v44).
3. Some have interpreted the New Testament reference to the Devil and demons as the 'outward projection on to the cosmic screen of the struggles between darkness and light, which are taking place within people'. Demons are interpreted as a primitive way of what we know now to be mental illness.

However there are some real difficulties with this approach:-

- (i) I do not think it is possible to escape the fact that Jesus believed in the reality of the Devil. He was profoundly aware

not just of a general belief in spirits but of a personal conflict with such powers (see Luke 10 v 18). In what sense can we therefore speak of the Lordship of Jesus and his ability to shape our lives and existence if we reject something which was so clearly part of his own way of believing.

- (ii) If we reject the New Testament witness to powers of darkness it inevitably involves the distortion of other teachings in the New Testament, which are linked to it—see 1John 3 v8.

Michael Green 'I believe the doctrines of God, of Man, and of salvation are utterly untenable without the existence of Satan. You cannot simply write him out of the story and then imagine that the story is basically unchanged.'

#### Conclusion

There is a real conflict, but Satan is defeated and knows it—see Revelation 12 vv7-13 and Matthew 28 v18. Jesus is Lord and we have all the resources we need through Christ and his Spirit to stand against, and resist the attacks of Satan!

#### Points to Ponder

- 1) What are your first reactions to the sermon and the concept of Spiritual Warfare?
- 2) Are you convinced of the reality of Spiritual Warfare. If not, why not?
- 3) What did you think of Michael Greens statement in the notes above?
- 4) 'There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive interest in them. They are equally pleased by both errors and hail a materialist or a magician with same delight.' C S Lewis Preface to the Screwtape Letters.

Is Lewis right or does this view need some qualification?