



April 2022

I remember as a teenager riding on my motorbike from Weymouth to Oldham. My girlfriend and I had spent the night on the boat from Guernsey. After dropping Mollie off at her sister's home in Reading I travelled on towards Oldham. It seemed to rain all the way - I was dead tired and fell asleep on my bike and woke up in hospital. Someone at the scene of the accident said that I was dead. As I reflect on this, one thing that amazes me is that when I came around and stayed in hospital overnight I was not afraid of what might have happened if the person had been right and I really had died. We seldom think about death perhaps, but the truth is that the Lord tells us in the Bible that it is appointed unto man once to die and after death the judgement.

At this time of the year Christians very thankfully remember the death of our Saviour who died after enduring the unspeakable suffering of death by crucifixion accompanied by the hostility of the Jewish leaders crying for His death "Away with Him, crucify Him". But why did He die? The Bible says that death is 'the wages of sin' and we are also told that Jesus was sinless which of course means that HE would not die. But He did die.

If anyone had asked me before I was 19 years of age the reason Jesus died I could not have given a clear answer. Since then I have been able to truthfully say that to me His death is the most important thing that ever happened. Why? Because He did not die for His own sin, since he never sinned, He died for mankind - for their sins and for our sins if we repent and believe in Him. We are told that **God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.** God laid upon Him, the Lord Jesus Christ, the sins of all His people. This is the reason He died. He is our substitute if we believe in Him. He, the one person who never needed to die, died so that we could have everlasting life. He received the punishment that was due to us. We hope you will come to see us not only on Good Friday and Easter Sunday but whenever you can possibly make it. Praying for you and wishing you a very happy Easter and that we will all soon be enjoying lovely warm weather and the delights of spring! What a wonderful God we have!

Warmest greetings,
George Rabey (Pastor)

There is a green hill far away,
outside a city wall,
where the dear Lord was crucified
who died to save us all.

We may not know, we cannot tell
what pains He had to bear;
but we believe it was for us
He hung and suffered there.

He died that we might be forgiven,
He died to make us good,
that we might go at last to heaven,
saved by His precious blood.

There was no other good enough
to pay the price of sin;
He only could unlock the gate
of heaven, and let us in.

O dearly, dearly has He loved,
and we must love Him too,
and trust in His redeeming blood,
and try His works to do.

Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)

Five Ash Down Chapel Services

Sunday services are at 11.00 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
Sundays 11.00 a.m. to 12 noon Good News Group
(Children 3 years and over)

Thursdays 7.30 p.m. Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

Good Friday Service

15th April

11.00 a.m.

Easter Sunday Services

17th April

11.00 a.m. & 3.00 p.m.

Contacts

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