



Manchester Arena... and London Bridge...

The tragic event in Manchester Arena last month, when a suicide bomber killed at least 22 people and injured more than 60 others, horrified the entire country - as did the awful atrocity on London Bridge more recently.

One day Jesus was told that some Galileans offering sacrifices in the temple had been massacred. He answered: *"Do you suppose that these Galileans were worse sinners than all other Galileans, because they suffered such things? I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish."*

Jesus knew the imminent danger every human being is in - because *It is appointed unto man once to die, and after death, the judgment.* It was a tender warning - to His hearers and to us as well.

Jesus then illustrated the importance of conversion. For three years, the owner of a fig tree looked for fruit - but found none. Finally he ordered: *Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil? His gardener pleaded Sir, leave it alone this year also while I dig around it and put on manure. Then if it bears fruit - he pauses - then simply says - but if not, you may cut it down.* He longs for it to survive.

Jesus' solemn lesson is clear. God instructs us to repent. He is patient and - for a limited time - gives us the opportunity to do so. Today He urges each of us to come to Him for mercy and forgiveness. *Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thought; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God for He will abundantly pardon.*

A tender appeal from our merciful God!

When I survey the wondrous cross,
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the death of Christ my God:
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

His dying crimson, like a robe,
spreads o'er His body on the tree:
then am I dead to all the globe,
and all the globe is dead to me.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Contacts Details and Service Times

George Rabey (Pastor)

Tel: 07884 968241

Elwyn Sweetman (Secretary)

Tel: 01825 733391

www.fiveashdownchapel.org.uk

george.rabey@talktalk.net

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



Five Ash Down Chapel 1784 - 2017

Anniversary Services

Chapel's 233rd & Pastor's 16th Anniversary Services

Saturday 17th June, 2017 @ 3pm & 6pm

Guest Speaker - Mr John Saunders

All are welcome

Tea provided between the services