

13 April 2020

To all members of the St James Traditional Services

A Weekly Word of Encouragement: Do not be afraid

Today is Easter Day. Hallelujah!

Psalm 118:19-24 is the psalm for today. Read it reflectively, together with Matthew 28:1-10, and rejoice!

Fact is often stranger than fiction. Who could have believed that our lives could be turned upside down within weeks by a virus – a world pandemic? But it is a fact, not fiction.

Easter – earthquake, angels, stunned soldiers, women coming and going, empty tomb: a strange, unexpected almost chaotic scene, but fact not fiction. Jesus is alive: fact of history; Jesus is alive: fact to be experienced. Easter is the day that turned everything upside down and inside out eternally. Life as we know it will never be the same.

“Do not be afraid” is the great message of Easter. What is there to be afraid of if our greatest enemy is dealt with: death itself. Why should we be afraid of anything if Jesus has been raised from the dead – the old world has broken apart and a new world has begun.

Jesus is alive: we meet him personally, take hold of Him by faith, worship Him and live in His presence daily. This is His day. “The Lord has done this and it is marvellous in our eyes. The Lord has done it this very day.” (Psalm 118:23, 24)

Make this day yours as well.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, we praise you because you have defeated death, you are Lord over all, and you are with us. Help us never to be afraid to meet the rejection of an unbelieving world, and to demonstrate the evidence of our new life in you by who we are and what we do and say.
Amen.

Remember:

- keep praying daily
- keep reading God's Word
- keep in touch with one another, and know that I am only a phone call away: 0438 455 493.

With Christian love,

Robert