



September 27th 2020



HOMILY ON THE DECLINING FROM GOD

A note from the Rector:

As it's the school holidays, this Sunday we're taking a break from our Bible Overview series and are looking at Homily 8, which is entitled HOMILY ON THE DECLINING FROM GOD. After that I'm taking a couple of weeks off and so, on the long weekend, Ernie Carnaby will be preaching and then, in the final weekend of the holidays, Arthur Adeney will be preaching.

I'm thankful for the handful of faithful volunteers who turn up each week to assist us in being able to put on a service. We've all been on a learning curve but now I feel confident to leave Sundays to them to run the service whilst I'm away. However, there are some things that won't happen whilst I'm away, including the recording and uploading of the service. This means that, after today, you will not be able to listen to the Sunday services till I return. Now, whilst that's a little bit disappointing, that's just how it has to be. And so, in light of this, my encouragement to you is to book in to attend the next two services OR to set things up so that you can join us next week via Zoom. If you're not willing or able to take up either of these options then know that in next week's news sheet I'll give you a couple of suggestions of where you might like to for church.

Allan

This week's Zoom links:

Sunday Morning Church via Zoom 9.00am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89163303726?pwd=MjRxbW5HNWU2OVIEYWlrVzZ5TW9DQT09>

(Meeting ID: 891 6330 3726, Passcode: 687242, or dial 8015 6011)

Tuesday's Prayer meeting 9.00am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/787794144?pwd=YmdML1h5ZG81dXJDC3NjbFNkTmNEdz09>

(Meeting ID: 787 794 144, Passcode: 813312, or dial 8015 6011)

If you listen to the recording of the service, which will be available at **noon on Sunday**, then please begin by listening to this song, as we remind ourselves of how Jesus has won our hearts through His everlasting love:

Won my heart https://youtu.be/Sh-DRAjRg_E

Then click on this link to hear this week's message: <https://kincumberanglican.com/sermons/>

Isaiah 5.1-7 (NIV)

5 I will sing for the one I love a song about his vineyard:

My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside.

2 He dug it up and cleared it of stones and planted it with the choicest vines.

He built a watchtower in it and cut out a winepress as well.

Then he looked for a crop of good grapes, but it yielded only bad fruit.

3 “Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and people of Judah,
judge between me and my vineyard.

4 What more could have been done for my vineyard than I have done for it?

When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad?

5 Now I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard:

I will take away its hedge, and it will be destroyed;

I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled.

6 I will make it a wasteland, neither pruned nor cultivated,
and briars and thorns will grow there.

I will command the clouds not to rain on it.”

7 The vineyard of the LORD Almighty is the nation of Israel,
and the people of Judah are the vines he delighted in.

And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed;
for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.

Hebrews 6.1-12 (NIV)

6 Therefore let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God, **2** instruction about cleansing rites, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. **3** And God permitting, we will do so.

4 It is impossible for those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit, **5** who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the coming age **6** and who have fallen away, to be brought back to repentance. To their loss they are crucifying the Son of God all over again and subjecting him to public disgrace. **7** Land that drinks in the rain often falling on it and that produces a crop useful to those for whom it is farmed receives the blessing of God. **8** But land that produces thorns and thistles is worthless and is in danger of being cursed. In the end it will be burned.

9 Even though we speak like this, dear friends, we are convinced of better things in your case—the things that have to do with salvation. **10** God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them. **11** We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, so that what you hope for may be fully realized. **12** We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

Some questions to ponder:

1. Have you gained any new insights about your life as a disciple of Jesus from listening to the Homily on the danger of falling away from God? If so, what are they?
2. Do you think it is possible to neglect your relationship with God?

As you listened to the homily, were you challenged in ways that you may possibly be neglecting your relationship with God?

3. Do you think it is possible to so neglect your relationship with God that you may risk even losing your salvation?

What warnings, if any, do you take from Hebrews 6.4-8, regarding your salvation?

4. List some of the assurances that God has given you about the salvation that you have gained through in Jesus. E.g. Jesus said, 'Nothing can snatch you out of my Father's hands.'

How might these promises of assurance help you to continue to turn towards God and to live your life for Him?

Today we have heard warnings about falling away from God. As we conclude let us encourage one another as we recommit ourselves to following Jesus and living our lives in service of Him:

PARISH PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for those in need: Lisa Landale, Ian Fraser, Remi Carnaby, Lettie Brown, Renee Effield (Garrick), Jill Jones, John Brook, Pat Fox, Marcia Groom, and Clarice Grose.
- We give thanks for answered prayers regarding our SRE teachers. Please pray for our teachers as they take a break and pray for Trish as she recovers from ill health and prepares for knee surgery.
- Being a farmer can be very difficult, but, thankfully, many farmers have learnt that they need to rely on God to provide the right conditions to harvest a successful crop. This week I spoke to a someone who told me about their Christian farmer relative who has a farm near Temora. They had been celebrating and thanking God for the healthy canola crop that they were about to harvest. But then, last weekend, whilst we were celebrating the rain that fell in Broken Hill, they were hit by a crop destroying hailstorm. Please pray for them and continue to pray that God may continue to grant the right weather conditions to maximise the crop and, at the same time, prevent lightening strikes, hail and pests, so that a good crop may be harvested.
- Pray for the Morrison family, and for our state leaders, as they seek to faithfully serve our nation during these troubled times. Pray for wisdom regarding the opening of State and National borders and wisdom for our leaders as to how and when to take some time off.
- Pray for revival – that, in His grace, God may pour out His Spirit on the people of our nation and our world through this pandemic. Pray that the Holy Spirit may empower God's people throughout the world, including us, to be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation so that, in living under God's rule, others may be drawn to join us in worshipping our God.

SAMARITANS NEWS. The Wyoming Emergency Relief Centre is distributing food parcels Monday & Friday 10-1pm. Pantry items may be left with Val & Harry Dibley at 9 am service or with Lil Bennetts.



Parish Contacts



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MISSIONARY PRAYER POINTS

Our link missionaries: Brownings, Buchanans, Dousts, and Kyngdons

CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY - AUSTRALIA

CMS International Director, Peter Rodgers, writes about COVID-19 and its impact on CMS missionaries and missions.

'Most of the world is in some form of self-isolation or lockdown, with shared concerns about the spread and impact of the coronavirus. This is true for almost all CMS missionaries. As this crisis worsened, the welfare of our missionaries was – and remains – of enormous importance. It was critical to bring home those in a high-risk medical category and living in contexts where medical care was limited. But most have remained on location and will have the privilege of sharing this experience alongside those whom they have gone to serve.'

'CMS mission – to see a world that knows Jesus – is not in lockdown. God is using new circumstances, albeit tragic ones, to grow his church. From our missionaries I am hearing wonderful stories of God's mission moving forward in unexpected and surprising ways. In Argentina, more students than ever are joining the on-line Bible study groups. In Cambodia those now unemployed and living in fear have a new openness to the message of our hope in Christ. In the Northern Territory, Aboriginal Christians are making on-line recordings of the Kunwinjku Bible. People are coming to faith. God is growing his church. Mission is continuing around the world and we continue to be encouraged.'

'.....This pandemic will end, and I believe that when it does, we will see that God has been at work rescuing and saving people in new and amazing ways.'

'Please pray for all our missionaries, that the Lord will sustain and protect them, provide for their needs and grow them through this time. Our missionaries are in good heart, making the most of every opportunity, and rejoicing in the ways they see God at work. With our great God we have every reason for hope.'

The **CMS Coastal Mission Day** is still going ahead this year but it will be online. The event will be held on Saturday October 17 from 9.30am till 11.30am. Joel Attwood will be the main speaker but we will also be hearing from Kylie Zietsch (serving in South Africa), Howard and Michelle Newby (serving in the Philippines) and Peter and Sarah Sholl (ex Mexico). Whilst CMS is encouraging groups to meet in venues, our time limit of one hour means that we cannot meet in our building. To learn more and to register click on this link: [CMS Coastal Mission Day](#)

Giving to the work of the Parish

Thanks to everyone who has continued to contribute financially for the work of the Parish at this time. If you would like assistance in giving electronically then please contact your bank or Allan. To give online use the following account:

Kincumber Anglican Parish, BSB: 705077 (Indue), Acct No: 00040910