

A very warm welcome to everyone joining us today.
It's great that you're here this morning. We hope that you enjoy today's service.

Sunday 10.30am services during October

We will be continuing to share communion each week. Please have you bread and wine (or alternatives) ready each Sunday.

Sunday 4th October

All Ages Harvest Celebration

Reading: Romans 8:18-30 ESV

Sunday 11th October

Morning service led by Jon Stark

Reading: Galatians 3:1-14

Sunday 18th October

Morning service led by Gary Taberner

Reading: Galatians 3:15-29

Sunday 25th October

Morning service led by Steve Ansell

Reading: Galatians 4:1-20

Coffee after the service

This will be held on alternate weeks. The meeting ID remains unchanged.

Zoom coffee dates during October:

Zoom Prayer Meeting

This will continue weekly, using the meeting details sent by Steve Ansell.

Readings for October 2020

Sunday 4th October

Romans 8:18-30 ESV

Future Glory

¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Sunday 11th October

Galatians 3:1-14 ESV

By Faith, or by Works of the Law?

³O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. ²Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? ³Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? ⁴Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? ⁵Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith— ⁶just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”?

⁷Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. ⁸And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.” ⁹So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

The Righteous Shall Live by Faith

¹⁰For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.” ¹¹Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for “The righteous shall live by faith.” ¹²But the law is not of faith, rather “The one who does them shall live by them.” ¹³Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”— ¹⁴so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

Sunday 18th October

Galatians 3:15-29 ESV

The Law and the Promise

¹⁵To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified. ¹⁶Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, "And to offsprings", referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your offspring", who is Christ. ¹⁷This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterwards, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. ¹⁸For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise.

¹⁹Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary. ²⁰Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one.

²¹Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. ²²But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

²³Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

Sunday 25th October

Galatians 4:1-20 ESV

Sons and Heirs

⁴I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, ²but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. ³In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Paul's Concern for the Galatians

⁸Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to those that by nature are not gods. ⁹But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world, whose slaves you want to be once more? ¹⁰You observe days and months and seasons and years! ¹¹I am afraid I may have laboured over you in vain.

¹²Brothers, I entreat you, become as I am, for I also have become as you are. You did me no wrong. ¹³You know it was because of a bodily ailment that I preached the gospel to you at first, ¹⁴and though my condition was a trial to you, you did not scorn or despise me, but received me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus. ¹⁵What then has become of the blessing you felt? For I testify to you that, if possible, you would have gouged out your eyes and given them to me. ¹⁶Have I then become your enemy by telling you the truth? ¹⁷They make much of you, but for no good purpose. They want to shut you out, that you may make much of them. ¹⁸It is always good to be made much of for a good purpose, and not only when I am present with you, ¹⁹my little children, for whom I am again in the anguish of childbirth until Christ is formed in you! ²⁰I wish I could be present with you now and change my tone, for I am perplexed about you.

Notices

House groups

This might seem a surprising notice during this time of covid restrictions, but have you considered joining a housegroup?

To go alongside our preaching series on Galatians it would be wonderful for as many of the church as possible to study together what this letter might be saying to us individually and to us as a church. There is space in some of the groups and I know some are continuing to meet online and some may even be able to meet, as a church meeting, socially distanced on our premises.

If you are interested, speak to me and I will put you in touch with a group leader.

Congratulations

We are delighted to share the news that Ellie H and her boyfriend, Will, have recently become engaged. We send our warmest congratulations to them both.

Contact

As you know, we are currently in the process of recruiting a new Lead Administrator. Until that appointment is made, the Office email account may not be checked as regularly as normal and there may be a delay in responding to your emails. For matters of urgency, please email the following:

Pastoral support: steveansell@herefordbaptist.org.uk

Finance: treasurer@herefordbaptist.org.uk

Admin: churchsecretary@herefordbaptist.org.uk

Could you be our new Lead Administrator?

As most of you know, Sarah Godwin will be finishing in her role as our current Administrator on Wednesday, after nearly four years of service to our church community. We cannot thank her enough for the integrity and diligence with which she has served us, not least during the last few months which have made her role especially difficult. We wish her well in her new role with Vennture.

Of course, Sarah's departure leaves a big hole in our church team, and it is one that we should like to fill as soon as possible. Perhaps you, or someone you know, could be our new lead administrator? If you would like to know more, or for details about applying for the role, please go to: <https://www.herefordbaptist.org.uk/resources/>