



Philippians 3:4b-14

If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless.

But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. I want to know Christ, yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 21:33-46

“Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit.

“The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said.

“But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

“Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?”

“He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

“‘The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvellous in our eyes’?

“Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

THE WEEK AHEAD

- TUE 10 OCT** 9.30 a.m. Morning Prayer in the Church - all welcome
- WED 11 OCT** 10.00 a.m. Visits of Ludlow Junior School to the Church - “Looking at Baptism”
11.30 a.m.
- SAT 14 OCT** 11.00 a.m. Licensed Lay Ministers’ Licensing Service (Maurice Keys and Carolyn Jennings) at Winchester Cathedral
- SUN 15 OCT** **18TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**
10.00 a.m. Worship Together Service at Pear Tree
2.00 p.m. Baptism in the Church
3.00 p.m. Baptisms in the Church
4.00 p.m. Baptism in the Church

PEAR TREE PRAYER TREE

Today, as part of our cycle of prayer, we pray for all those who live in Chine Avenue and Cornel Road; Ludlow Junior School; our Servers and Sidespersons.



In your prayers today, please remember the bereaved and the housebound, all those known to you who may be ill at home or in hospital and all those who care for them.

In particular, please continue to pray for the Ockelford family, Les Beard, Dave and Joanne Isaacs, Win Stead, Mary Stone, Rosemary Nutburn, Arthur Collins, Mary Hallerton, John Burrows, Bethany Mullen, Bill Kerr, Alan and Margaret Harding, and baby Leo.

~~ THANK YOU ~~

..... to those who supported our Harvest Appeal last Sunday and brought tinned goods for Basics Bank, a Christian Mission who provide food for those in need in Southampton.

Remember we have a permanent box in the church for donations to Basics Bank, who are always very appreciative of our support.