



Welcome

...to Scartho Celebration Church!

Then He (Jesus) said to them, "With fervent desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I say to you, I will no longer eat of it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you."

Luke 22:15-20.

March 2018

Newsletter & Calendar

Scartho Celebration Church, meeting at St John Fisher Church Hall,
Waltham Road, Scartho, Grimsby, NE Lincs, DN33 2NA.

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As we prepare for our fellowship move from St John Fisher to Scartho Library in the next few weeks, I've been thinking about God's timing, and about the upcoming Biblical dates.

This is a busy month of Biblical dates. At the beginning of the month there's the Festival of Purim, the story of Esther & Mordecai, used by God to bring deliverance for the Jews from the Persian threat of destruction. Then there is the Biblical new year, which for us this year falls on 17th March. This period of time is also the time of year that Joshua led the nation of Israel across the Jordan into the Land of Israel.

Then of course there is the major and fundamental feast of Passover, which lasts for eight days and includes the Feast of Unleavened Bread and the Feast of First-Fruits during this period. This last one, First-Fruits, always falls on the Sunday (the first day of the Biblical week) of Passover week, which is significant as it's the day Jesus rose from the dead during that Passover week.

There's much we can say about all this, but it's important we understand that Jesus, in His Heavenly Father's perfect timing, died as the Passover Lamb of God at the actual time of Passover, and that He rose again on the actual feast of First-Fruits, Resurrection Sunday!

God put all these feasts and festivals in place in the history of Israel at their specific timings for a reason – they all shadow and point to Jesus' work of salvation in His death, resurrection and return! He is the fulfilment of all the feasts, both in His first coming and in His second coming! He is the substance, the Feasts are His shadow!

God's timing is always perfect! I think that's a lesson we begin to learn as we trust Him through the various difficulties we face. He is never late, His ways are always the right ways and His grace is always sufficient for us in the 'waiting rooms', so to speak, the times of waiting for His purposes to be outworked in our lives.

Bless you, Andy.

Here is an article about **God's Timing**, taken from Gotquestions.org:

The first thing we need to understand about God's timing is that it is perfect, just as all of God's ways are perfect ([Psalm 18:30](#); [Galatians 4:4](#)). God's timing is never early, and it's never been late. In fact, from before our birth until the moment we take our last earthly breath, our sovereign God is accomplishing His divine purposes in our lifetimes. He is in complete control of everything and everyone from everlasting to everlasting. No event in history has put so much as a wrinkle in the timing of God's eternal plan, which He designed before the foundation of the world.

One would think, then, that by understanding the sovereignty of our Creator, patience and waiting would come a little more easily. Unfortunately, however,

that's not always the case. Our human nature can make waiting for God's perfect timing a difficult thing to do. In fact, in the hustle and bustle of our frenzied lives, we often find it difficult to wait for anything or anyone. We want what we want *now*. And with our modern technological advances, we're often able to get what we want now. As a result, we are not only losing our patience, but also finding it increasingly difficult to discern God's timing.

Patience is a spiritual fruit ([Galatians 5:22](#)), and Scripture makes it clear that God is pleased with us when we display this virtue: "Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for Him" ([Psalm 37:7](#)), for God is good to those who wait for Him ([Lamentations 3:25](#)). And our patience often reveals the degree of trust we have in God's timing. We must remember that God operates according to His perfect and foreordained eternal schedule, not ours. We should take great comfort in knowing that, when we wait on the LORD, we receive divine energy and strength: "But those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint" ([Isaiah 40:31](#)). The psalmist reiterates: "Wait on the LORD; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; wait, I say, on the LORD!" ([Psalm 27:14](#)).

Another key to understanding God's timing is trust. In fact, our ability to wait on the Lord is largely related to how much we trust Him. When we trust in God with all of our heart, forgoing reliance on our own, often erroneous understanding of circumstances, He will indeed give us direction ([Proverbs 3:5-6](#)). "The LORD's unfailing love surrounds the man who trusts Him" ([Psalm 32:10](#)). To fully trust God, however, we need to know God. And the best way to know Him is through His Word. God's divine energy is released in our lives through His inspired Word ([1 Thessalonians 2:13](#)). The work of God's Word includes saving ([Romans 10:17](#); [1 Peter 1:23](#)), teaching and training ([2 Timothy 3:16-17](#)), guiding ([Psalm 119:105](#)), protecting ([Psalm 119:114,117](#)), strengthening ([Psalm 119:28](#)), and making us wise ([Psalm 119:97-100](#)). If we study and meditate on His Word daily, His timing will also become clear to us.

When we question God's timing, it is often because we are looking for guidance or deliverance from a difficult situation. We can rest assured, however, that our heavenly Father knows exactly where we are in our lives at every moment. He either put us there or is allowing us to be there, all for His own perfect purpose. In fact, God often uses trials to strengthen our patience, allowing our Christian faith to mature and become complete ([James 1:3-4](#)). And we know that all things – including these difficult trials – work out for the good of those who love God ([Romans 8:28](#)). God does indeed hear the cries of His children and will answer those cries according to His perfect will and timing. "A righteous man may have many troubles; the LORD delivers him from them all" ([Psalm 34:19](#)). The plans God has for His children are good plans – to help us, not hurt us ([Jeremiah 29:11](#)).

March Calendar & Readings

<p>Sunday 4th: Sunday service, 10.30am: Andy King</p> <p>Mon.5th: Prayer meeting, 7pm at Andy & Karen's</p> <p>Wed. 7th: Bible Study, 7.30pm at Glen & Debbie's</p> <p>Thurs.8th: Bible study, 10.30am at Ann's</p>	<p>Judges 10 - 19</p> <p>Job 39 - 42</p> <p>Acts 19 - 23</p>
<p>Sun. 11th Sunday Service, 10.30am, Dr Annang</p> <p>Mon. 12th: Prayer meeting, 7pm at Steve & Nicky's</p> <p>Wed. 14th: Bible Study, 7.30pm at Glen & Debbie's</p> <p>Thurs.15^h: Bible study, 10.30am at Ann's</p> <p>Prayer for Israel, 7.15pm at Ruth & Tony's</p> <p>Sat. 17th: Men's prayer breakfast, 7am at Paul's</p>	<p>Juds 20 – 21, Ruth 1 – 4 & 1Sam. 1 - 3</p> <p>Psalms 45 - 51</p> <p>Acts 24 - 28</p>
<p>Sun. 18th: Sunday Service, 10.30am, Andy King</p> <p>Food donations for local charities</p> <p>Mon. 19th: Prayer meeting, 7pm at John & Hilary's</p> <p>Tues.20th: Ashgrove Nursing Home service, 2.30pm</p> <p>Wed. 21st: Coffee morning & dancing, 10.30am at SJF</p> <p>Bible Study, 7.30pm at Glen & Debbie's</p> <p>Thurs.22nd: Bible study, 10.30am at Ann's</p> <p>Fri. 23rd: Bible study, 7.30pm at Andy & Karen's</p>	<p>1Samuel 4 - 13</p> <p>Psalms 52 - 58</p> <p>Romans 1 - 4</p>
<p>Sun. 25th: Sunday Service, 10.30am, John Lavric</p> <p>Mon. 26th: Prayer meeting, 7pm at Ann's</p> <p>Wed. 28th: Bible Study, 7.30pm at Glen & Debbie's</p> <p>Thurs. 29th: Bible study, 10.30am at Ann's</p> <p>Prayer for Israel, 7.15pm at Ruth & Tony's</p> <p>Sat. 31st: Men's prayer breakfast, 7am, TBA.</p> <p>Sun. 1st April: Resurrection Sunday Service, 10.30am, Andy King. Location to be confirmed.</p>	<p>1 Samuel 14 - 20</p> <p>Psalms 59 - 65</p> <p>Romans 5 - 11</p>

Significant Bible dates this month:

Festival of Purim (Esther)	1 st & 2 nd March (14 th & 15 th Adar)
New Year's Day	17 th March (1 st Nisan)
Passover (which includes Feast of Unleavened Bread & Feast of First-Fruits)	30 th March to 7 th April (14 th to 22nd Nisan)



Scartho Celebration Church

For as the earth brings forth its bud, as the garden causes the things that are sown in it to spring forth, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations. Isaiah 61:1