

Spring Series: September to November, 2023 - Evidence

Spring Series

“Alternate Responses to God’s Word”

Evidence of God’s Presence in Our Lives

Windsor, 12th November, 2023

Welcome to Church

“That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven,
and things in earth, and things under the earth” **Phillipians 2 :10**



*“be ready always to
give an answer to
every man **that**
asketh you a
reason of the hope
that is in you with
meekness and fear”*
1 Peter 3:15



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God's Presence in Our Lives **Alternate Responses**

“That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth” Phillipians 2:10

5th
November

- **The Renewing of Your Mind**

12th
November

- **Alternate Responses to God's Word**

19th
November

- **Being After God's Own Heart**

26th
November

- **Benefits of a Godly Life**

Ancient of Days

Blessing and honour, glory and
power

Be unto the Ancient of Days
From every nation, all of creation
Bow before the Ancient of Days

Every tongue in heaven and earth,
shall declare your glory
Every knee shall bow at your
throne, in worship
You will be exalted Oh God, and
your kingdom, shall not pass
away,
Oh Ancient of Days

Blessing and honour, glory and
power

Be unto the Ancient of Days
From every nation, all of creation
Bow before the Ancient of Days

Every tongue in heaven and earth,
shall declare your glory
Every knee shall bow at your
throne, in worship
You will be exalted Oh God, and
your kingdom, shall not pass
away,
Oh Ancient of Days

Your kingdom shall reign over all
the earth

Sing unto, Sing unto the Ancient
of Days

None can compare, For none can
compare to your matchless worth,
sing church sing

Sing to the Ancient of Days

Blessing and honour, glory and
power

Be unto the Ancient of Days

From every nation, all of creation

Bow before the Ancient of Days

Every tongue in heaven and earth,
shall declare your glory

Every knee shall bow at your
throne, in worship

You will be exalted Oh God, and
your kingdom, shall not pass
away,

Oh Ancient of Days

Facing a Task Unfinished

Facing a task unfinished
That drives us to our knees
A need that, undiminished
Rebukes our slothful ease
We, who rejoice to know Thee
Renew before Thy throne
The solemn pledge we owe Thee
To go and make Thee known

Where other lords beside Thee
Hold their unhindered sway
Where forces that defied Thee
Defy Thee still today
With none to heed their crying

For life, and love, and light
Unnumbered souls are dying
And pass into the night

CHORUS

We go to all the world
With kingdom hope unfurled
No other name has power to save
But Jesus Christ The Lord
We bear the torch that flaming
Fell from the hands of those
Who gave their lives proclaiming
That Jesus died and rose

Ours is the same commission
The same glad message ours
Fired by the same ambition
To Thee we yield our powers

CHORUS

We go to all the world
With kingdom hope unfurled
No other name has power to save
But Jesus Christ The Lord
We bear the torch that flaming
Fell from the hands of those
Who gave their lives proclaiming
That Jesus died and rose

O Father who sustained them
O Spirit who inspired
Saviour, whose love constrained
them
To toil with zeal untired
From cowardice defend us
From lethargy awake!
Forth on Thine errands send us
To labour for Thy sake

CHORUS x 2

Trust In You

Letting go of every single dream
I lay each one down at Your feet
Every moment of my wandering
Never changes what You see
I've tried to win this war, I confess
My hands are weary, I need Your
rest
Mighty warrior, King of the fight
No matter what I face, You're by
my side

Chorus

When You don't move the
mountains
I'm needing You to move
When You don't part the waters
I wish I could walk through
When You don't give the answers

As I cry out to You
I will trust, I will trust
I will trust in You

Truth is, You know what tomorrow
brings
There's not a day ahead You have
not seen
So in all things be my life and
breath
I want what You want, Lord, and
nothing less

Chorus

I will trust in You

You are my strength and comfort
You are my steady hand
You are my firm foundation
The rock on which I stand
Your ways are always higher
Your plans are always good
There's not a place where I'll go
You've not already stood

Chorus

When You don't move the
mountains
I'm needing You to move
When You don't part the waters

I wish I could walk through
When You don't give the answers
As I cry out to You
I will trust, I will trust
I will trust in You
I will trust in You
I will trust in You
I will trust in You

Songwriters: Lauren Daigle / Michael Farren / Paul
Marbury

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LLC

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.

Give us day by day our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

Luke 11: 2-4

This Series of Services is about Evidence.

- How do we know?
- Can we be sure?
- Can we trust the information presented to us?

The evidence we use to justify conclusions that we reach can be based on different criteria, and can satisfy different levels of scrutiny.

- Evidence that satisfies our inward understanding, independently of any other evidence, to our personal satisfaction.
- Evidence which through a mixture of physical events and an inward conviction satisfy an issue beyond reasonable doubt.
- Evidence through observable physical events that provide a basis for proof of the issue beyond all doubt

Today we are talking about evidence of God's presence in our lives.

Who was Agrippa?

At the time of Jesus' birth Herod the Great (37-4BC) ruled the whole coloured area as a puppet king under the Romans. Upon his death the kingdom was divided to be ruled by his 3 sons.

Agrippa II mentioned here was the great grandson of Herod the Great by a different marriage.

He ruled from 44-66AD. He began to reign at age 17. At first, he had limited power, but this grew over time.

He was educated in Rome and was considered an Hellenistic Jew. He supported some Jewish teaching but was mostly subject to Rome.

In the Jewish revolt in 70AD he left the city and returned to Rome

https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Agrippa_II and https://www.conformingtojesus.com/charts-maps/en/map_of_israel_at_the_time_of_jesus.htm



Who was Festus?

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Porcius-Festus.html>

- Porcius Festus was a Roman procurator, succeeding Antonius Felix somewhere between AD 55 and 60. Festus was governor for only two or three years before he died.
- Josephus had favorable things to say about Porcius Festus. He recorded that Festus took action to solve a problem with Sicarii bandits who were disturbing the peace. He also allowed the Jews to petition Nero regarding a wall they had built to stop Agrippa and the Roman soldiers viewing activities in the Temple.
- In a way, Porcius Festus was to Paul what Pontius Pilate was to Jesus. He valued peace with the Jews more than justice and, despite determining his prisoner was innocent, sent him to judgment. In his quest for political control, Festus dismissed Paul's situation as a "dispute . . . about their own religion" (Acts 25:19). At one point when Paul was speaking before Agrippa, "Festus interrupted Paul's defense. 'You are out of your mind, Paul!' he shouted. 'Your great learning is driving you insane'" (Acts 26:24).

Who was Paul? AD 5 – 67

- Initially trained as a Pharisee and proud of his Jewish tradition he persecuted the first generation of Christians mercilessly.
- After his miraculous conversion he was compelled to struggle to establish his own worth and authority.
- He also had many enemies and detractors, and his contemporaries probably did not accord him as much respect as they gave Peter and James.
- In time he became a major figure within the very small Christian movement and now is possibly considered the most important person after Jesus in the history of Christianity.
- His surviving letters have had enormous influence on subsequent Christianity and secure his place as one of the greatest religious leaders of all time.

Who was Paul? AD 5 – 67

<http://www.whosefaithfollow.org/Pauline%20Timeline.html>

- **A. D. 5** (btwn 6BC & 10AD) Saul is born in Tarsus.
- **A. D. 18**
 - Trained under Gamaliel.
- **A. D. 36**
 - Stoning of Stephen and the conversion of Saul of Tarsus.
- **A. D. 36-45**
 - Visited various sites in Syria and Cilicia, and 2 visits to Jerusalem.
- **A. D. 46-49**
 - Paul's first missionary journey.
- **A. D. 50**
 - Paul's third visit to Jerusalem. (Council at Jerusalem).
- **A. D. 50-53**
 - Paul's second missionary journey.
- **A. D. 54**
 - Paul's fourth visit to Jerusalem.
- **A. D. 54-57**
 - Paul's third missionary journey.
- **A. D. 58-60**
 - Paul visits Jerusalem for the 5th time, before Pentecost. He is arrested in the temple—brought before Ananias and the Sanhedrim—sent by Lysias to Caesarea, where he is 'kept in bonds' for two years.
- **A. D. 60**
 - Paul heard by Felix and Festus. He appeals unto Caesar -preaches before Agrippa, Bernice, and the men of Caesarea.
 - [Autumn] Paul sails for Italy. [Winter] Shipwrecked at Malta.
- **A. D. 61-62**
 - [Spring] Arrives at Rome—stays two years in his own hired house.
- **A. D. 63**
 - [Spring] Paul acquitted and released so takes another journey.
- **A. D. 64-67**
 - Paul arrested and sent to Rome. Deserted and solitary.
- **A. D. 67**
 - Paul's martyrdom.

Acts 26:1-21

26 Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Thou art permitted to speak for thyself. Then Paul stretched forth the hand, and answered for himself:

² I think myself happy, king Agrippa, because I shall answer for myself this day before thee touching all the things whereof I am accused of the Jews:

³ Especially because I know thee to be expert in all customs and questions which are among the Jews: wherefore I beseech thee to hear me patiently.

⁴ My manner of life from my youth, which was at the first among mine

own nation at Jerusalem, know all the Jews; ⁵ Which knew me from the beginning, if they would testify, that after the most straitest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee.

⁶ And now I stand and am judged for the hope of the promise made of God, unto our fathers:

⁷ Unto which promise our twelve tribes, instantly serving God day and night, hope to come. For which hope's sake, king Agrippa, I am accused of the Jews. ⁸ Why should it be thought a thing incredible with you, that God should raise the dead? ⁹ I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.

¹⁰ Which thing I also did in Jerusalem: and many of the saints did I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I gave my voice against them.

¹¹ And I punished them oft in every synagogue, and compelled them to blaspheme; and being exceedingly mad against them, I persecuted them even unto strange cities. ¹² Whereupon as I went to Damascus with authority and commission from the chief priests,

¹³ At midday, O king, I saw in the way a light from heaven, above the brightness of the sun, shining

round about me and them which journeyed with me. ¹⁴ And when we were all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

¹⁵ And I said, Who art thou, Lord? And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest. ¹⁶ But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; ¹⁷ Delivering thee from the people, and from

the Gentiles, unto whom now I
send thee, ¹⁸ To open their eyes,
and to turn them from darkness to
light, and from the power of Satan
unto God, that they may receive
forgiveness of sins, and
inheritance among them which are
sanctified by faith that is in me.

¹⁹ Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I
was not disobedient unto the
heavenly vision: ²⁰ But shewed
first unto them of Damascus, and
at Jerusalem, and throughout all
the coasts of Judaea, and then to
the Gentiles, that they should
repent and turn to God, and do
works meet for repentance.

*We will leave the story here for the
moment and sing Hymn 103*



103.—L. M.

(Acts 4/12; Heb. 12/2; Matt. 3/16,17; John 1/17)

SALVATION is for ever nigh

That man who loves and trusts the Lord ;
 His Spirit, descending from on high,
 Will now fresh hopes of life afford.

Mercy and truth on earth did meet,

When Christ to Jesus came from heav'n,
 By whose obedience, so complete,
 Justice is pleas'd,—atonement giv'n.

Now truth and mercy will abound,

Religion dwell on earth again ;
 An heavenly influence bless the ground,
 In the Redeemer's peaceful reign.

His righteousness is gone before,

An access given to Isr'el's God ;
 Their wandering feet will stray no more,
 But mark His steps and keep the road.

Continuing now with our reading.

Acts 26:21-32

²¹ For these causes the Jews caught me in the temple, and went about to kill me.

²² Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come:

²³ That Christ should suffer, and that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles.

²⁴ And as he thus spake for himself, Festus said with a loud voice, Paul, thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad.

²⁵ But he said, I am not mad, most noble Festus; but speak forth the words of truth and soberness.

²⁶ For the king knoweth of these things, before whom also I speak freely: for I am persuaded that none of these things are hidden from him; for this thing was not done in a corner.

²⁷ King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? I know that thou believest.

²⁸ Then Agrippa said unto Paul,
Almost thou persuadest me to be
a Christian.

²⁹ And Paul said, I would to God,
that not only thou, but also all that
hear me this day, were both
almost, and altogether such as I
am, except these bonds.

³⁰ And when he had thus spoken,
the king rose up, and the
governor, and Bernice, and they
that sat with them:

³¹ And when they were gone
aside, they talked between
themselves, saying, This man
doeth nothing worthy of death or
of bonds.

³² Then said Agrippa unto Festus,
This man might have been set at
liberty, if he had not appealed
unto Caesar.

Phillipians 2:1-13

2 If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,

2 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

¹⁰ That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

¹¹ And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

¹³ For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

Psalm 69:16-19

¹⁶ Hear me, O LORD; for thy lovingkindness is good: turn unto me according to the multitude of thy tender mercies.

¹⁷ And hide not thy face from thy servant; for I am in trouble: hear me speedily.

¹⁸ Draw nigh unto my soul, and redeem it: deliver me because of mine enemies.

¹⁹ Thou hast known my reproach, and my shame, and my dishonour: mine adversaries are all before thee.

Message

“ That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven,
and things in earth, and things under the earth” **Phillipians 2 :10**

142.

ST. PETER—C.M. *A. R. Reinagle.*



142. C.M.

(Matt. 1/21; Phil. 2/10)

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
In a believer's ears ;
It calms his sorrows, heals his wounds,
And drives away his fears.

It makes the wounded spirit whole,
It soothes the troubled breast ;
'Tis manna to the hungry soul,
And to the weary rest.

Blest Name—the rock on which we build,
Our shield and hiding-place,
A never failing treasury fill'd
With boundless stores of grace.

Thou art our Shepherd, Saviour, Friend,
Our Prophet, Priest, and King—
Our Lord, our life, our way and end,
To Thee our thanks we bring.