

- Exodus 5-6 paints a picture of natural Christian life, growth and progress

1. Expect it to be difficult – ch 5

- Everything goes well (4:29-31), then things get worse, not better – v2, 7-14
- Has God failed us when life gets hard? 3 things to factor in:-

a) God doesn't promise instant triumph

- Moses blames God but God hadn't predicted an easy ride (3:19, 4:21)
- We've selective hearing, for God warns that following is hard - Jn 16:33
- Don't be surprised at difficulty, it's for your good & God's glory (6:1)

b) Satan doesn't let go easily

- Exodus is a picture of life, we are enslaved at various levels
- Behind all is Satan, a cruel master who doesn't want to let us go.
- Jesus came to set us free. Satan doesn't want God's people to enjoy the freedom that is theirs. He brings trouble to discourage us

c) We don't obey fully

- Moses doesn't carry out his instructions to the letter (3:16, 4:21, 5:1-3)
- Full obedience may not change the outcome, but brings peace of mind
- 6:9 – People make it hard for themselves by focusing on difficulties
- The Christian life is hard enough without tripping ourselves up

2. Expect God to keep his Word – ch 6

- Do we complain (5:15)? Blame others (5:20)? God (5:22)?
- Moses takes his complaint to right place – God – then listens (ch 6)

a) Remember God is in control - v1

- The difficulties were preparation for something greater
- God has a purpose – will we trust him?

b) Remember God never forgets his covenant – v2-5

- God stakes his honour on keeping his word. He has more to lose than us
- If he fails to bring even one of us through difficulty to Heaven...

c) Remember God's great salvation – v6-8

- He frees (v6), redeems (v6), adoptions (v7), rewards (v8)
- Christian, Christ has turned these "I wills" into "It is finished"

d) Remember God's past answers – v13-27

- Genealogy is a record of answered prayer - Shaul (Prayer's answer), Elzaphan (God has treasured), Eleazar (God has helped)
- Do you remember God's past faithfulness and celebrate it?

e) Remember God is the one who does the work – 7:1-7

- Not Moses' job to convince Pharaoh. Moses' task is to be faithful.
- We can't change people/circumstances; we serve, trusting God to do it

Milford RPC

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Sabbath 28th March 2010

Notices

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|------------------------|--|-----|
| Sun | Evening service at Mark & Judith's | 8pm |
| Wed | AGM - including election of Trustees | 8pm |
| Sun 4th | Mark will be away - Service here will be taken by Rev Ian Morrison, if you are able to provide lunch, please speak to Mark | |
| Sun 11th | Evening meeting - Debbie Pinkerton will be speaking about our mission work in Sudan | |
| April 17 th | Family Day Conference - Keeping our Children in the Church in the 21st Century
Cullybackey RPC, 10:30 - 15:00 - Cost: £5 per adult, Childcare provided
Bring a packed lunch. For application:
Email details to: rpfamilyconference@googlemail.com | |
| May | The Choir of Geneva College, Beaver Falls, USA - Alley Theatre Strabane
Overnight accommodation required for the weekend 14 – 17 May. Speak to Mark if you are able to offer accommodation | |

getting to know the WIDER CHURCH

Congregation: Cullybackey
 Presbytery: Northern
 Location: near Ballymena
 Pastor: Philip Moffet
 Attendance: 95



Prayer points

- Warren Peel is taking 3 special services on 21-23 April.
- Pray that the elderly and sick who are unable to be at worship would know the peace of God
- Pray for people who come to church who are not yet trusting in Christ as saviour. Pray that God would work in their lives in bring them to faith in Christ.

Next passage: Exodus 7-10

Opening Psalm: 59:6-10

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