

REVIVE!

The LORD is in his holy temple; the LORD is on his heavenly throne. Psalm 11:4

St Paul, writing to the Ephesians warns his readers to be very careful how they live, 'because the days are evil' (Ephesians 5:16). The Greek word for 'evil' derives from another which translates as 'laborious trouble'. It emphasises evil's desire to 'steal, kill and destroy'. I have a growing sense that St Paul's words are very relevant for us today.

I wonder what pain, misery and darkness you may have experienced at evil's influence, or may be experiencing now. The Lord is near to meet you – call out to Him, He will hear your cry. You can also phone in with your name (or someone else's) and we'll pray for you each day for three months, and there is also the option of coming to CCHC, a safe place, to encounter the Lord and seek Him for peace, healing and freedom.

Whatever the season or circumstances we face, learning to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit, so that we may 'seek first the kingdom of God' and 'His will' for our lives, is vital

schooling we continuously need. The Spirit helps in so many ways, not least of all with faith, protection and prayer so that we may STAND confidently in our identity in Jesus Christ.

The truth is, suffering, sin and falling are part of life's experience. We only deceive ourselves to think we might avoid them. This is why Jesus came – to heal, save and help us stand. With the love and grace of God, we can reach the destiny he has for us.

In this REVIVE! Newsletter I'm looking at four lesser-known songs in the Bible. Their background stories include, peace, war, life, death and victory, and share something of people who came through very difficult situations. As you reflect on the stories, and enjoy the songs, be reminded, whatever your circumstances, that God is sovereign and is working His purpose out. He will complete the work He has begun, in you and in the world. This is our hope and our song!

With my love, Steve

Tests and Triumphs!

**The Lord is my strength, my
song, my salvation.
Exodus 15:2**



The Song of Moses, in Exodus 15, is all about God! (It's the first song in the Bible and the first recorded time that Israel prayed together – in song!) Poetically and cleverly woven into the song is the journey of the Israelites and how God defeated the Egyptians. It's a song of God's triumph, and His people's faith. Through some seriously tough times they called out to Him again and again, and He responded at His appointed time!

My three favourite verses from this song are:

- * **The Lord is my strength, my song, my salvation.**
- * **God's unfailing love and strength will lead and guide me to His holy dwelling.**
- * **The Lord reigns, forever and ever.**

As you read the song in Exodus 15, ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you through it. What verses jump out at you and why?

Moving forward to the New Testament, the focus changes to Jesus. As we look at what Christ has done for us by His death, burial and resurrection, we do well to sing. What hymn best stirs your faith and celebrates Christ's victory for you?

Short and so, so sweet!

The two shortest songs in the Bible, are set in completely different circumstances. One is sung in a time of peace and security in a Temple and the other in war and insecurity on a battle field.

As you read the background stories, notice three things. God's people seek Him in prayer; they listen for His answer and then they obey Him.

- * **'God is good!
His love endures forever.'**

2 Chronicles 5:20 (full story is chapter 5:12 to 6:12). As they sang, God's presence so filled the Temple and the service was bought to a standstill! Ask the Spirit to envelope you with Father's loving presence as you sing.

- * **'Give thanks to the LORD,
for His love endures forever.'**
2 Chronicles 20:21 (full reading 20:1-30). The battle was the Lord's, not theirs. In faith the people sang this song, and without lifting a finger their enemy was defeated!

Both songs tell of God's enduring love! We need to know that whether in times of peace, or of war, we are loved by God and in Him 'we live and move and have our being.'



**Your love, God,
is my song, and
I'll sing it! I'm
forever telling
everyone how
faithful you are.
Psalm 89:1
(The Message)**

Moses and the Lamb song ...

Revelation 15 records another triumphant song!

“Great and marvellous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are your ways, King of the nations. Who will not fear you, Lord, and bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed.”

This song is being sung in heaven (now) by followers of Jesus, who have overcome the enemy and the trials of life.

St John writes to encourage people suffering severe persecution. In ‘evil’ days, such as ours, be encouraged as you reflect on the words. Let them minister to you and use them to offer praise to the Lord.

- ▶ God does **‘great and marvellous works.’** He redeemed Israel from Egyptian slavery, and through the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus, offers the world redemption from sin, the evil one and death.
- ▶ He is **‘Lord God Almighty.’** To suffering people this name offers comfort and hope.
- ▶ In the midst of confusion, injustice and dishonesty, God’s ways are, **‘just and true.’**
- ▶ In a world of man-made and human idols God is **‘King of the nations!’**
- ▶ The song rhetorically asks **‘Who will not fear you Lord, and bring glory to your name?’**
- ▶ He is worthy of worship and makes salvation possible because; **‘you alone are holy.’**
- ▶ One day **‘all the nations will come and worship before you.’**

Praise the Lord!

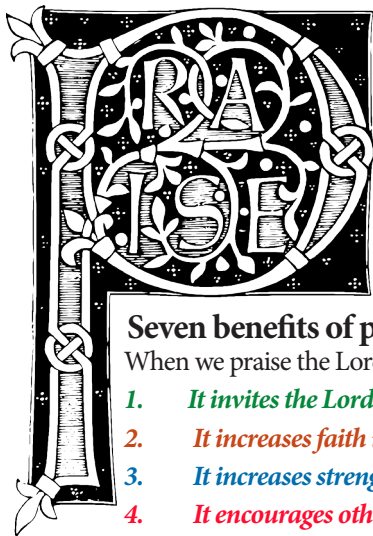
God, you are ...

- * **Omnipotent** – all powerful;
- * **Omniscient** – all knowing;
- * **Omnipresent** – EVERYWHERE!

There are over 185 songs in the Bible. CCHC have a hymn book that contains 3220 songs and we know there are thousands more. What’s this all about?

For thousands of years the Lord has made Himself known to peoples across the globe. He has rescued, delivered, blessed and shown His generous hand again and again. The automatic response is praise.

Take time to reflect on your life and the God-encounter moments. How would you like to respond? You may like to write a few words of praise and thanks to the Lord, or sing a song of joy, for His love for you, is forever!



Seven benefits of praise!

When we praise the Lord our God:

1. *It invites the Lord into our lives.*
2. *It increases faith in Him.*
3. *It increases strength.*
4. *It encourages others.*
5. *It brings us to a place of humility.*
6. *It is health giving – mentally, emotionally, spiritually and physically.*
7. *It causes the enemy to flee.*

Can you think of more benefits of praise?
Please share them with us.

We have seen guests wonderfully touched by the Lord in this last month and have much to sing about and thank our Lord Jesus Christ for!

One lady came to Howard's Well in total despair and was prayed for. She returned a few weeks later and we were overwhelmed by her healing transformation! Another arrived and received prayer and is now regularly visiting Howard's Well (with friends) a visibly different person. Thank you all for your prayers for us and this vital work.

We're delighted to say that the monies for the Tent of Meeting appeal have come in – thank you so much!! We're accessing materials and hopefully it will be erected by mid-October.

At the end of this month Stephen Freeman officially retires. Between Maggie and Stephen, they have served the Lord here for nearly 40 years! We can't say how much they will be missed but we pray for the Lord's blessing on them going forward.

In the last issue, we mentioned our recruitment needs and are delighted that Lorraine has joined the Housekeeping team, with emphasis on Howard's well, and Sarah has temporarily joined Ian as assistant-chef in the kitchen.

We've had pond and wild flower experts advise us as we endeavour to be more environmentally aware – this is exciting for us!

Joy, Laughter & Dreams! (Psalm 126)

Come to a morning of Thanksgiving at CCHC On Saturday October 9th from 10am-1pm and celebrate the great things the Lord has done for us during these past 18 months.

Worship will begin at 10am and will also be live streamed to Youtube for those unable to attend. A ploughman's lunch will be served at 12 noon. **Booking is essential.**



The stained glass window, which features on this mug, is in our Small Chapel and is a beautiful expression of God's glory and the rich abundance of His Kingdom. The window was designed by Maggie Freeman and painted by the CCHC Ministry Team in the 90th anniversary year of the Centre. Each member of the team was given a jigsaw piece and asked to paint it, without being given an indication of what the final picture would be when the pieces were put together. Once the jigsaw of pieces was complete, the result was a beautiful window, which was unveiled in 2018 on Thanksgiving Day to mark the 90th anniversary. (Price is £5.99)

CCHC Prayer Requests

- ◆ The Trustees and the Leadership team meet for a prayer day on the 22nd September and the Prayer Partners meet 8th to 10th October. Please pray that the Lord richly blesses both meetings and that we glorify Him, and hear what He may be saying to us at this time.
- ◆ Keep praying that we are alert and careful in all our doing and for protection for the ministry and all our staff.
- ◆ Pray that the glory of the Lord will be seen and experienced by all who come here, and also for those passing by.

PERSONAL DETAILS

Please contact us if your details have changed, or if you no longer wish to receive these publications.

Contact details: 01424 830204  
Email: enquiries@crowhursthealing.org.uk
Website: www.crowhursthealing.org.uk