



Snippets From The Secretary

'Manchester – Messengers Of Hope

The link is:-

<https://youtu.be/LtUeAne0FSQ>

28 May

Gordon Dickey am at Selkirk Baptist Church

Douglas Inglis am at
Campbeltown Community Church

Philip Usher am at Sanquhar Baptist Church

Andrew Swanson am at
Cambuslang Baptist Church.

Graham Horne am at
Uddingston Baptist Church

Chris Townsend am at
Strathendrick Baptist Church, Balfron

Jim McNulty am + pm at Islay Baptist Church

29 May

Aubrey Jamieson at funeral service,
Lerwick Methodist Church.



The Challenging Subject Of Suffering In Our World By David Holdsworth

It seems to me in our attempt to worship God, we think of Him as Sovereign in a twisted way, almost like a dictator with absolute power, micro managing everything and every detail of the world. But that would be a world without free will, a world we humans didn't choose (humans, angels, demons, creatures have varied degrees of free will). We forget the child in a stable and poor man on a cross bit. The suffering saviour suffers with our world.

There are no easy answers to suffering, and pat answers won't do. But, what if God was suffering with us incarnationally in a crucified world.

"Where is God now?"

And I heard a voice within me answer him:

"Where is He? He is--He is hanging here on this gallows..."

Wiesel wrote that about a boy with an angelic face hung by the Nazis. Wiesel's story is a reminder of the cross.

"God lets himself be pushed out of the world onto the cross. He is weak and powerless in the world, and that is precisely the way, the only way, in which he is with us and helps us. Matt. 8:17 makes it quite clear that Christ helps us, not by virtue of his omnipotence, but by virtue of his weakness and suffering." (Dietrich Bonhoeffer)

"He took up our infirmities and bore our diseases." (Matt 8:17)

So what can we do, what is our role in a suffering and broken world? It is to be His hands and feet in this world. To be His and His agents of love. "For true evangelical faith is of such a nature that it cannot lay dormant; but manifests itself in all righteousness and works of love..." (Menno Simons)

If we can even help a suffering world a little then we should, in whatever way we can, even if only by helping one person at a time and little by little.