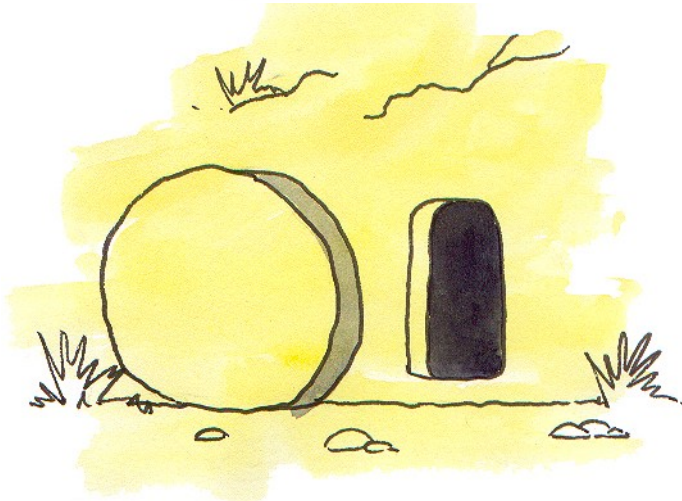
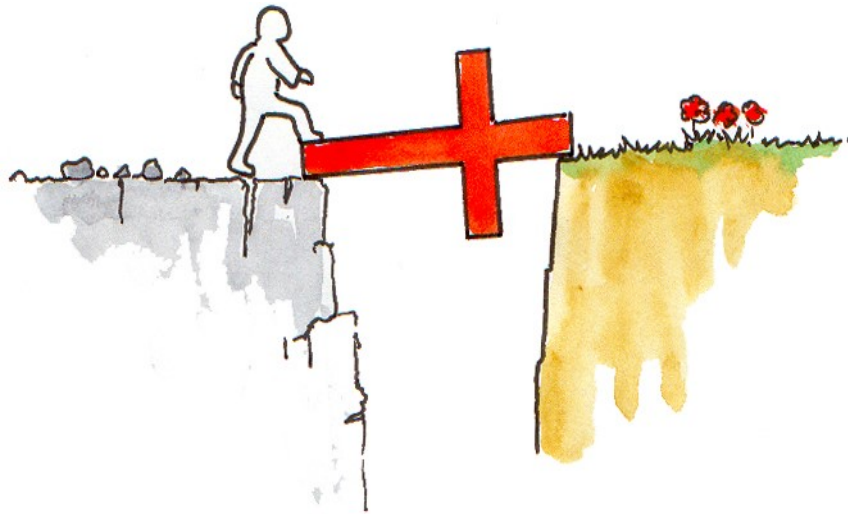
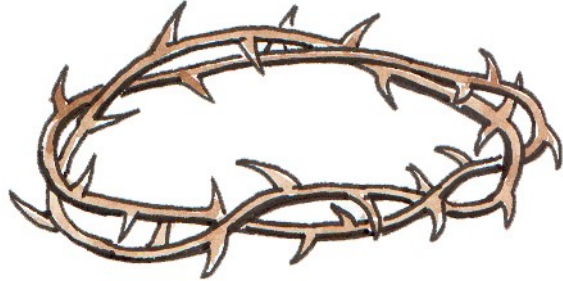


## Easter is Coming



## NEWS FROM MOUNT PLEASANT GOSPEL HALL



WITHOUT THE LORD ALL IS IN VAIN

April 2020

We have suspended all our Meetings for the time being in accordance with Government instructions.

It's easy at a time like this to be overwhelmed with anxiety and to be downcast and to feel isolated. We need to get into God's word and find help and encouragement from it. Our theme this month is Joy with our Scripture being Isaiah 12.

At a time when we need to practice social distancing let us draw closer together in prayer, keeping in touch and looking out for those in special need. A verse in Ecclesiastes has a special relevance today, "...a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing." (3.5). This is a time to refrain from an embrace, a handshake or a kiss. The warmth of Christian love continues to be expressed in other ways.

Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say Rejoice Phil 4.4

Website:-[www.mountpleasantgospelhall.co.uk](http://www.mountpleasantgospelhall.co.uk)

You will say in that day:  
“I will give thanks to you, O LORD,  
for though you were angry with me,  
your anger turned away,  
that you might comfort me

<sup>2</sup> “Behold, God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid;  
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation.”

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.  
And you will say in that day:

“Give thanks to the LORD,  
call upon his name,  
make known his deeds among the peoples,  
proclaim that his name is exalted.

<sup>5</sup> “Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;  
let this be made known in all the earth.

<sup>6</sup> Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,  
for great in your<sup>l</sup> midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

Isaiah 12, printed opposite, helps us to understand what joy is. These 3 characterises of joy run through these verses.

**A settled conviction that God is in control**

**A confidence and trust in God**

**A choosing to praise Him whatever the situation**

This settled conviction that God is in control is seen in v1. We have sinned and therefore God's anger against sin should fall on us. The incredible fact is that Christ in His death on the cross bore the judgment that we deserved and by simple faith in Christ we receive not His anger but His comfort. He is in control-my strength, song, and salvation.

With God as our salvation it is with joy that we draw on all the vast resources of His love and grace. With exultant joy we draw water from the wells of salvation. Appreciate and value all that God has done for us in Christ and revel in it.

A confidence and trust in God. Commit v2 to memory

Behold, God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid;

A choosing to praise Him. Whatever the situation, whatever comes my way I will praise Him.