

A Word in Season . . .

I recently read a report in *Release International* (the voice of persecuted Christians), November 2017, in which it related the experience of six Indian Christians who paid a heavy price for praying for someone to be healed. They were praying over a woman who was sick when Hindu extremists attacked them. When the police arrived, these Christians were summoned, two of them were severely beaten by the officers. They were all falsely charged and thrown into prison for a month! Yet, during their time in prison they praised God and that resulted in leading several of their fellow inmates to Christ.

This reminds me of the experience of Paul and Silas when they were in the ancient city of Philippi (Acts 16:11-40). They were publicly flogged for proclaiming the way of salvation; and then they were thrust into the local jail with their feet secured in the stocks. They too, like those six Christians in India, prayed and sang praises to God. The outcome was rather dramatic with the jailor asking how he could be saved. Both he and his entire family were converted and baptized. What a witness!

Christians have always suffered for their beliefs and, no doubt, will continue to do so until Jesus returns in glory; but their sufferings are not without witness. It was Tertullian who stated that “the blood of martyrs is the seed of the church”, signifying that non-believers recognized they had something worth dying for, and this led many others to become believers. It is a fact that in spite of attempts throughout history to wipe out Christianity, it has survived and grown!

As Christians, we do have something to die for and something to live for. That something is of eternal benefit to all who believe. At the end of this month, the Christian Church will be celebrating that great redemptive act when Christ gave His life on Calvary’s cross for everyone; and then rose again from the dead. He too had something to die for and something to live for. That something is the human race. He

Paid the price for all our sins and redeemed us by His blood. The fact He rose again grants us the assurance of having peace with God and eternal life. “He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised to life to make us right with God” - Rom.4:25, *New Living Translation*. - *Michael I Walker*

Food for Thought . . .

“Many think the Christian religion has run its course and that the gloom of Good Friday is now settling over the long history of the church. But they are wrong. The reality of the resurrection cannot so easily be undone. In truth, it is the world of unbelievers that remains on notice of judgment” - *Carl F.H. Henry*.

Talk about Exercise . . .

“You have to stay in shape. My grandmother, she started walking five miles a day when she was sixty. She’s ninety-seven today and we don’t know where on earth she is!” - *Ellen Degeneres*

Those Mathematical Problems . . .

There are three kinds of people in the world. Those who can count, and those who can’t.

Have you heard that 9/8ths of people are hopeless at fractions?

Services of the Church . . .

Bible Study/Discussion . . . Saturday 10:00 am
Children’s Class . . . Saturday 10:00 am
Family Worship . . . Saturday 11:15 am
Bible Study & Prayer . . . Monday 7:30 pm
We operate a child protection policy.
Marriages – Child Dedications –
Believers Baptisms – Funerals

The Link is produced by your local Seventh-day Adventist Church in Burnt Lane, Gorleston, NR31 0PG as a community service.

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2018 ADRA UK Appeal
31 March to 15 April

In 2018, with your help, we will support projects overseas and in the UK which focus on:

- Food security
- Livelihoods
- Health
- Disaster relief
- Advocacy
- Education

BECAUSE OF YOU

All our collectors are volunteers bearing an official permit to collect door-to-door. We ask that you please give generously. You may also send your donation by cheque, postal order or charity vouchers to ADRA-UK, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts, WD25 9JZ or donate online. Contact details: - Telephone: 030 30 40 10 17 Website: adra.org.uk Email: info@adra.org.uk Thank you! We are registered with the Fund-Raising Regulator and we never, ever sell or pass your details on to third parties or other charities. We promise!



It is worth Knowing

A word of assurance from
Bert Smit, ADRA (UK) Director

The current safeguarding crisis facing the development sector is one to take seriously. People at the lowest level of their existence are so often desperate they will do anything to provide food for their families. This opens opportunities for ‘wicked people’ to take advantage.

As an aid agency, we need to ensure that our behavior is beyond reproach; and, it places an even greater responsibility on ADRA, as we are a charity that follows the ethos of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, to bring hope and healing to the world! That hope and healing can only happen if there is complete trust between the beneficiary and the organization providing help.

ADRA-UK has all the policies and procedures in place that should safeguard against any misuse of the trust placed in us. We just need to ensure that these are not just committed to ‘paper’ but are written in our ‘heart’.

Everything we do as ADRA needs to have compassion to help us focus. What we do as ADRA encompasses more than just caring or reaching out. It is a little like Jesus sharing a meal with lepers and outcasts: “I was a stranger and you welcomed me” (Matt.25:35); but, that brings a great responsibility to make sure our work rises above ‘the everyday’. Perhaps our risks are even greater because in our work we want to actively help people discover the meaning of life.

Rest assured that, while there can never be guarantees that our Church background will prevent exploitation of children, women or other vulnerable groups in our projects, we are continuously monitoring our performance and keeping the well-being of our beneficiaries at the centre of our work. For us at ADRA, our Christian faith, with its vitality, and sustenance, is the foundation of helping people living in poverty and distress. Registered charity 1074937

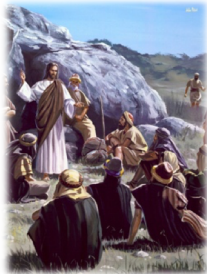
Editorial

This last winter has been a long haul and more recently has given us a hint of arctic conditions as we met “the beast from the east”. Here’s hoping the dawn of Spring will bring better temperatures!

In several previous issues of *The Link*, we have featured the sterling work of our humanitarian agency ADRA. At the end of this month, our annual door-to-door charity collection will take place. The front cover of this issue draws attention to this event. You will appreciate knowing that 92% of funds go directly to projects, 7.4% to fundraising, and 0.6% for governance. We trust you will find it reassuring to read the statement issued by the ADRA-UK director, Bert Smit. Our hearts were moved by the terrible disaster that struck the island of Dominica. As an emergency response, ADRA-UK contributed £70,000 towards the rebuilding of the island. Contributions made by hundreds of people in the UK have made it possible for a further donation to rebuild houses affected by the hurricane.

Our new minister, Pastor Paul Borrett, invites you to a series of presentations by various speakers on the *Beatitudes* from Christ’s famous *Sermon on the Mount*. You are welcome to attend. Please see the advertisement below. You may also like to avail yourself of the benefits offered by our *Health Education department* by having a free health check and enjoying a free vegetarian meal - see the adverts on this page.

- Editor



Did you know that “Beatitude” means Supreme Blessedness?

*Come and listen to a series
that explores Jesus’ dramatic
teaching on the eight
beatitudes from his Sermon
on the Mount.*

**Commencing Saturday April 7th,
during the main service that starts at
11:15am
at the Seventh-day Adventist Church,
Burnt Lane, Gorleston
All are welcome!**

**Why not join us for our
Easter Service?
11:15am Saturday 31 March
Speaker: Pr Mark Borrett:
‘The Empty Tomb’**



Lighthouse Bible Treasures



Culled from a magazine and
submitted by Val Ruddick

Try designing a genealogy from fact which meets the following criteria: -

- 1) The number of words must be divisible by 7 evenly.
- 2) The number of letters must be divisible by 7 exactly.
- 3) The vowels and consonants must be divisible by 7.
- 4) The number of words that begin with a vowel must be divisible by 7.
- 5) The number of words that begin with a consonant must be divisible by 7.
- 6) The number of words that occur more than once must be divisible by 7.
- 7) The number of words that occur in more than one form must be divisible by 7.
- 8) The number of nouns that occur in only one form must be divisible by 7.
- 9) The number of nouns must be divisible by 7.
- 10) Only 7 words shall not be nouns.
- 11) The number of names in the genealogy shall be divisible by 7.
- 12) Only 7 other nouns shall be permitted.
- 13) The number of male names shall be divisible by 7.
- 14) The number of the generations shall be 21 (Also divisible by 7).

These have all been met in the Greek genealogy of Jesus Christ in the first 11 verses of the Gospel of Matthew.

The last verses of Mark’s Gospel has 75 such heptadic or sevenfold features identified.

It would take millions of super computers, millions of drafts per second, and millions of years to complete half that number. The Word of God certainly endures forever and doesn’t rust or wear out.

It is of an uncompromising design and can be viewed as the ‘authenticating fingerprint’ of the Author Himself.

HOW WONDERFUL TO BE MADE IN HIS IMAGE!

**Public Health Screening
At Market Gates
Shopping Mall
Great Yarmouth
Sunday 29 April 2018
Between 10 am and 4 pm**

**A Free Health
Check
Blood Pressure
Blood Sugar
Body Mass Index
Carbon Monoxide
Advice by qualified
personnel**

What & Why Adventists’ Believe



The Judgement

- We shall all have to stand before the judgement bar of God (Rom.14:10-12; 2 Cor.5:10).
- We shall all be judged according to the Law of God’s 10 Commandments (Eccl.12:13,14; James 2:8-13).
- The Judgement scene in heaven is revealed when the books are opened (Dan.7:9,10).
- Records are kept in heaven: -
 - God keeps an account of our sufferings (Psa.56:8);
 - There is a Book of Remembrance (Malachi 3:16-18);
 - There is a Book of Life (Phil.4:3);
 - The Book of Life contains the names of the saved (Dan.12:1);
 - The unrepentant will be blotted out of the Book of Life (Exod.32:33);
 - Those who remain faithful will be retained in the Book of Life (Rev.3:5).
- God has appointed a time for the judgement (Eccl.3:17; Act.17:30,31).
- The apostle Paul warned about the coming Judgement (Act.24:24,25).
- The declaration that the Judgement has come (Rev.14:6,7).
- The Judgement is in 3 phases: -
 - Pre-advent phase begins with those who claim to be God’s followers (1 Pet.4:17);
 - Millennial phase when saints will examine the lost (Rev.20:4-6; 1 Cor.6:2,3) - c.f. The Millennium in issue number 57 of *The Link*, December 2017.
 - Executive phase when all the lost are called to account and destroyed (Rev.20:11-15).
- Soon the verdict will be announced and then Christ will return (Rev.22:11,12; Matt.16:27).
- Our only safety is in being truly united with Christ Who saves us by His redeeming grace. Then we may stand without condemnation before God (Rom.8:1, 31-39).



You are Invited To the Next Vegetarian Cookery Demonstration

**And Afterwards to Sample the Food
at 12.30 pm on
Sunday 15 April 2018
In the Function Room
Seventh-day Adventist Church
Burnt Lane, Gorleston, NR31 0PG
For further information
Phone Pearl on 01493 720930
Free Admission**

