



April 2018

Relief and Thanksgiving!

Late one night Frederick noticed light shining from a castle window. Entering the building he knocked at the door of the illuminated room. There was no reply. Quietly entering he saw a uniformed man asleep at a table. By his arm was a list of money transactions totalling a large sum; alongside were the words *An awful debt - who can pay?* Taking the pen, the King signed his name and left.

On awaking, the despondent man, to his amazement saw his monarch's signature. Shortly afterwards someone brought the money needed to pay the debt. You may well have heard this story before. The king's compassion transformed the man's despair into relief.

I too have a debt that I cannot pay. God says in the Bible that *the wages of sin is death*. This applies to me because I have sinned. Jesus defined the '*first and great commandment*' in this way: *you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind*. I have not obeyed this law. God has not always been central in my life. Nor have I always treated others with the love and respect God requires of me. I am a sinner. And the wages of my sin is death. Unless God has mercy on me I should be terribly afraid of the coming Great Judgment Day.

But the wonderful truth is that God's compassion has completely removed the penalty due to everyone who repents of (forsakes) their sins and believes that His eternal Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, died in their place on the cross. The Bible says *the Lord has laid on Him* (Jesus) *the iniquity of us all*. Jesus was, to use the words of John the Baptist, '*the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.*' He died to pay the penalty of everyone who comes to Him.

Please join us on Good Friday as we thank God for what He has done for us! We would love to welcome you to any of our services.

Sincerely,
George Rabey,

Pastor

There is a green hill far away,
outside a city wall,
where the dear Lord was crucified
who died to save us all.

We may not know, we cannot tell
what pains He had to bear;
but we believe it was for us
He hung and suffered there.

He died that we might be forgiven,
He died to make us good,
that we might go at last to heaven,
saved by His precious blood.

There was no other good enough
to pay the price of sin;
He only could unlock the gate
of heaven, and let us in.

O dearly, dearly has He loved,
and we must love Him too,
and trust in His redeeming blood,
and try His works to do.

Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)

Five Ash Down Chapel Services

Sunday services are at 11.00 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

Sundays 11.00 a.m. to 12 noon Good News Group
(Children 3 years and over)

Thursdays 7.30 p.m. Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

Good Friday Service

30th March

11.00 a.m.

Easter Sunday Services

1st April

11.00 a.m. & 3.00 p.m.

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