

Yateley Baptist Church, Sunday 29 November 2020

Opening Prayer

Hymn: Praise! 857

Jesus calls above the tumult
of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day his voice re-echoes,
saying, 'Christian, follow me!'

4 In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
'Christian, love me more than these!'

2 As of old, apostles heard it
by the Galilean lake,
turned from home and toil and kindred,
leaving all for his dear sake.

5 Jesus calls us! By your mercies,
Saviour, make us hear your call,
give to you our heart's obedience,
serve and love you best of all.

3 Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store,
from each rival that would claim us,
saying, 'Christian, love me more!'

Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)

Reading: James 3:13-4:10, ESV

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. ¹⁵ This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. ¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸ And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

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4 What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? ² You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. ⁴ You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵ Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? ⁶ But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." ⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Prayer

Hymn: Praise! 811

O for a closer walk with God,
a constant, heavenly calm;
a light to shine upon the road
that leads me to the Lamb!

2 Where is the blessing that I knew
when first I saw the Lord?
Where is the soul-refreshing view
of Jesus and his word?

3 What peaceful hours I once enjoyed!
How sweet their memory still!
But they have left an aching void
the world can never fill.

4 The dearest idol I have known-
however much adored-
help me to tear it from your throne
and worship you as Lord.

5 So shall my walk be close with God,
my mind serene and calm;
so purer light shall mark the road
that leads me to the Lamb.

William Cowper (1731-1800)

Sermon: James 3:13-4:10 – On Wisdom and Worldliness

1. Two Ultimate Motives

2. On Worldliness

3. On Wisdom

4. Pursuing the Right Path

Hymn: Praise 2! 24

Blessed be your name in the land that is
plentiful

Where the streams of abundance flow

Blessed be your name

Blessed be your name when I'm found in the
desert place

Though I walk through the wilderness

Blessed be your name

*Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to
praise*

When the darkness closes in, Lord

Still I will say

Blessed be the name of the Lord

Blessed be your name

Blessed be the name of the Lord

Blessed be your glorious name

Blessed be your name when the sun's shining
down on me

When the world's "all as it should be"

Blessed be your name

Blessed be your name on the road marked with
suffering

Though there's pain in the offering

Blessed be your name

*Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to
praise*

When the darkness closes in, Lord

Still I will say

Blessed be the name of the Lord

Blessed be your name

Blessed be the name of the Lord

Blessed be your glorious name

Blessed be the name of the Lord...

Beth & Matt Redman

Closing Prayer