

John Wycliffe's Notebook

No. 3 November 2009

For those exploring Christian Ministry or Theology



WYCLIFFE HALL

- OXFORD -

For all those going through the selection process and perhaps about to have a selection conference we wish you well and our prayers are with you.

Open Day— Our next Open Day is on Saturday March 6th 2010. Full details and a booking form can be found at

www.wycliffe.ox.ac.uk

Not only can you apply online but did you know you can book your interview online too? Our next interview days are on Monday 1st February, Thursday 18th February & Monday 8th March. full details on our website

This month's topic— Lives Jesus Changed - reflections on St John's Gospel by Simon Vibert Vice Principal and Director of the School of Preaching

It is well said that John's Gospel is "a pool where children may paddle and elephants may wade". For some years now I have been revelling in and wrestling with this marvellous Gospel. I have become convinced that John collects together stories of highly colourful individuals, and groups of people, who themselves have come to have life in the Son of God by believing in his name. We have Nicodemus in John 3 – a respected Jewish teacher; the Samaritan woman and outcast in John 4; the healing of a paralysed man in John 5; and the healing of a man born blind in John 9 to name but a few. In each of these encounters the individuals emerge (to a greater or lesser degree) from darkness to light as it dawns on them that Jesus is more than a prophet or a healer, and none other than the Son of God who is worthy of worship. John includes collective encounters with crowds of people who are largely fascinated by Jesus, but more as a celebrity than as Divine; and a hostile and plotting religious establishment.

But, for all the complexity of this Gospel, I commend it again as a series of testimonies to the true identity of Jesus, the Son of God. Yes, John is a record of Jesus' words and deeds during his time as "Word Made Flesh" on earth. But I wonder whether we have overlooked the human drama played out in the lives Jesus changed, as they mirror back for us something of the true identity of Jesus. They invite us to examine him afresh so that we along with Thomas might say "My Lord and My God" (see 20:28).

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The Chavasse Lectures

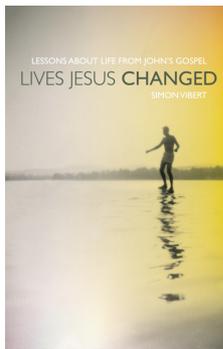
Wycliffe Hall is pleased to announce 'The Chavasse Lectures' for 2009-10. This year's programme will be **MARKETS, MONEY AND MORALS - A Vision for Capitalism after the Crisis** and will be given by Brian Griffiths, Vice Chairman of Goldman Sachs International.



Programme

24 November 2009 Hard Questions for Bruised Bankers
26 January 2010 Restoring Hope for the World's Poor
9 February 2010 Scientific Evidence and Environmental Stewardship
2 March 2010 A Culture of Consumerism

All lectures start at 5 p.m. and are at Wycliffe Hall – for further information please contact laura.wu@wycliffe.ox.ac.uk



Advance News

Simon Vibert's book on John's Gospel – 'Lives Jesus Changed' is due to be published by Christian Focus in January 2010

December 5th—Advent Study Day led by Liz Hoare.

A day to reflect on the meaning and relevance of the Advent Season.

Cost £20 (Lunch of soup and roll available at £3 extra)

Booking essential please contact Susan Worthington on 01865 274212 or susan.worthington@wycliffe.ox.ac.uk

God and One Woman..... One Day Conference Celebrating Women's Ministries

Stories from the past to inspire
Issues from the present to explore
Hopes for the future to pray about

Wycliffe Hall : committed to women in ministry



(God and one woman....taken from a quotation by Josephine Elizabeth Butler (1828 –1906) —'God and one Woman make a majority'. Josephine Butler has been described as one of "the most distinguished woman of the Nineteenth Century" and is undoubtedly an enduring example of Christian social radicalism)

For more information contact John Michaux at
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