
**
** **John Wycliffe's Notebook** **
** No. 3 December 2009 **
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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— (above) lunch at our last Open Day. Our next one 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

John the Baptist and Christmas by Simon Vibert

The announcement of John the Baptist's birth is greeted by Zechariah in the words we know as the Benedictus. The thing that is most striking about this song of praise is the way in which it points in two directions at the same time. John is the last of the Old Testament prophets, anticipating God's promised rescue of Israel from the hand of their enemies.

But as we read through Luke 1 it begins to dawn on us that a climactic day has arrived in the birth of John. Now with John's coming we shall see that he will prepare the way for one who will finally bring these promises to fruition. He 'brings the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of sins' (Luke 1:77).

It is this description of the significance of Christmas which I find striking. As Jesus is anticipated by John's ministry we are told: '... the rising sun will come to us from heaven to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace.'

The imagery used here is very dramatic. In the same way that we can look towards the glow of an emerging sunrise in the east and anticipate all the freshness and opportunity of a new sunny day, so in Jesus Christ, we have a new day dawning which will bring about forgiveness and peace. The rising of the sun (Son) of God is truly the dawning of a new day. It is a day which Zechariah got a first glimpse of. But we have the great privilege of basking in the glory of the Son of God – enjoying his presence and peace.

Christmas Day is a great day – a Son day. But it anticipates a great rising of the Son of God. Having died on the cross to buy peace and forgiveness of sin he rose again on the third day. The rising Son is the same Emmanuel – God with us now.



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The Chavasse Lectures

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

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

God and One Woman.....
One Day Conference
Celebrating Women's Ministries
Saturday May 8th 2010, 10.00 — 4.00

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

Booking is essential for this conference—book online at www.wycliffe.ox.ac.uk
There is a charge of £20 payable on the day by cash or cheque.

School of Preaching Conference & Consultation Monday 14th June—Friday 18th June 2010

- Wycliffe Hall will host a 5 day Preaching Conference for preachers and pastors designed to enliven faithful biblical preaching in England. This will be co-led by Revd Dr Simon Vibert, Director of Wycliffe Hall's School of Preaching and the Principal of Sydney Missionary Bible School, Revd. David Cook.
- At the same time Wycliffe Hall in conjunction with the Langham Partnership will host international guests for a consultation on teaching preaching in seminary and Bible college contexts.

To book and for more details please see our website www.wycliffe.ox.ac.uk

Wycliffe Hall Summer School 2010 (27th June—3rd July)

This year we will be exploring the theme of 'Great Awakenings'. Renewal, rebirth, revival, awakening – these are all words to describe the sovereign work of the Holy Spirit, bringing new life to God's people. Each day we will be looking at this vital, life-changing topic from a different angle as we study the Bible together and learn from Christian history.

More details on our web site www.wycliffe.ox.ac.uk

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