**Aflame Sunday Celebration Message – 29 April 2018**

**Speaker       :   Pastor Dr Margaret Seaward
Theme         :   The Longing of GOD’s Heart**

**Introduction :**

**~ Communion and Fellowship**

**~ Longed for a Family of sons and daughters,**

**~ To lavish HIS Love upon them.**

**~ Created Adam and Eve**

**~ Came down in the cool of the day**

**~ To walk and talk with them**

**~ Sin entered and marred the relationship**

**John 3: 16**

For GOD so loved the world, that HE gave HIS Only Begotten SON, that whosoever believeth

in HIM should not perish, but have everlasting life.

**~ GOD so loved the world – you and me.**

**~ HE sent HIS Only Begotten SON.**

**~ To die for each of us, in order to bring us back into HIS Family,**

 **And Restore the Relationship.**

**John 14: 6**

JESUS saith unto him, I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life: no man cometh unto the FATHER, but by ME.

**John 6: 35**

And JESUS said unto them, I am the Bread of life: he that cometh to ME shall never hunger; and he that believeth on ME shall never thirst.

**~ He that cometh to ME shall never hunger :**

* **Spiritually satisfied and full.**
* **Not a one time thing.**
* **Cometh = Continuous ; Come regularly.**

**~ He that believeth on ME shall never thirst :**

* **Believeth = Faith (continues to believe).**
* **Living, Walking, Abiding by Faith.**
* **Not mental assent.**
* **But, the Faith of JESUS… that HE gives.**

**Acts 3: 16**

And HIS Name through faith in HIS Name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by HIM hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

**This is a Relationship. Not just the purchase of**

**~ Life Insurance policy**

**~ Fire Insurance policy**

**~ Protection from hell**

**Then, attitude of “I can get on with my life…” ?**

**~ my plans, purposes.**

**~ my agenda, aspirations.**

**2 Corinthians 5: 15**

And that HE died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but

unto HIM which died for them, and Rose Again.

**HE Paid the FULL Price.**

**1 Corinthians 6: 19 – 20**

What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the HOLY GHOST which is in you, which

ye have of GOD, and ye are not your own?

For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify GOD in your body, and in your spirit, which

are GOD's.

**1 Peter 1: 18 – 19**

Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;

But with the Precious Blood of CHRIST, as of a Lamb without blemish and without spot.

**~ Relationships must be nourished.**

**~ Like a plant or garden**

* **Watered and weeded**
* **Cared for and looked after**

**Genesis 2: 15**

And the LORD GOD took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

**~ To dress it = Care for it.**

**~ To keep it = Guard it, protect it from satan, sin and self –**

 **which will hinder and mar the relationship.**

**Must live in the Light of Eternity.**

**Hebrews 11: 27**

By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing HIM

Who is invisible.

**1 John 3: 1**

Behold, what manner of Love the FATHER hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of GOD: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew HIM not.

**1 John 3: 2**

Beloved, now are we the sons of GOD, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but

we know that, when HE shall appear, we shall be like HIM; for we shall see HIM as HE is.

**Hebrews 11: 24 – 27**

By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of GOD, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

Esteeming the reproach of CHRIST Greater Riches than the treasures in Egypt: for

he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing HIM

Who is invisible.

**The Blessed Hope**

**1 John 3: 3**

And every man that hath this hope in HIM purifieth himself, even as HE is pure.

**~ Must not live for the moment**

* **The now, the today.**

**~ When we live the now, moment, today,**

 **So easy to become satisfied and complacent**

* **Our needs are met**
* **We are happy and satisfied**
* **We begin to settle down**
* **We feel we have arrived**

**2 Timothy 1: 9**

Who hath saved us, and called us with an Holy Calling, not according to our works, but according to HIS Own Purpose and Grace, which was given us in CHRIST JESUS before the world began.

**~ In CHRIST JESUS before the world began**

* **Before man was created**
* **Grace = HIS Life, Power, Ability**
* **Not by works of righteousness**
* **Not by might nor by power**
* **But by MY SPIRIT**
* **Purpose = To Commune and Fellowship**
* **Hymn = In the Garden**
* **And HE walks with me**
* **And HE talks with me**
* **And HE tells me I am HIS Own**
* **Purpose = To become the Bride of CHRIST**

**~ Song of Solomon 2: 9 – 13 > Rise up and Come away**

* **Must not settle down in complacency**
* **Spiritual Journey – follow HIM**
* **Toward our land = Heaven**
* **This world is not my home**
* **Marriage = Needs preparation**
* **Development**
* **Maturity**

**~ Song of Solomon 2: 14 > Not a question of “Are you saved?”**

* **Condemnation**
* **You are in the Place of Safety**
* **Asking for Fellowship, Trusting, Daily Communion.**

**Song of Solomon 2: 14**

O my dove, that art in the clefts of the rock, in the secret places of the stairs, let me see thy countenance, let me hear thy voice; for sweet is thy voice, and thy countenance is comely.

**JESUS is the Bread of Life**

**John 6: 51**

I am the Living Bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this Bread, he shall live for ever: and the Bread that I will give is MY Flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

**John 6: 52**

The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, How can this Man give us HIS Flesh to eat?

**John 6: 53**

Then JESUS said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the Flesh of the

Son of Man, and drink HIS Blood, ye have no life in you.

**John 6: 54**

Whoso eateth MY Flesh, and drinketh MY Blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.

**John 6: 55**

For MY Flesh is meat indeed, and MY Blood is drink indeed.

**John 6: 56**

He that eateth MY Flesh, and drinketh MY Blood, dwelleth in ME, and I in him.

**John 6: 57**

As the Living FATHER hath sent Me, and I live by the FATHER: so he that eateth Me, even

he shall live by Me.

**John 6: 60**

Many therefore of HIS disciples, when they had heard this, said,

This is an hard saying; who can hear it?

**John 6: 66**

From that time many of HIS disciples went back, and walked no more with HIM.

**~ JESUS is the Bread of Life**

* **Eateth – Flesh = Life**
* **Drinketh – Blood = Death**
* **Not just referring to the Communion**

**~ What we eat and drink**

**~ Assimilates into our Body and life**

**~ Becomes part of us**

**~ Good = We are what we eat**

**~ Bad = Looks good, tastes good, but,**

 **Immediately the body becomes sick.**

**Exodus 12: 5**

Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats:

**Exodus 12: 6**

And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening.

**Exodus 12: 7**

And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it.

**Exodus 12: 8**

And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; and with bitter herbs they shall eat it.

**Exodus 12: 9**

Eat not of it raw, nor sodden at all with water, but roast with fire; his head with his legs, and with the purtenance thereof.

**Exodus 12: 10**

And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall burn with fire.

**Exodus 12: 11**

And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the LORD's Passover.

**~ Exodus 12: 5 – 11 = Our example and type**

* **Not just kill the Lamb, and**
* **Apply the Blood, but also**
* **Feed on the Lamb during the night**
* **Dressed and ready to leave Egypt**

**~ How did JESUS live HIS Life ?**

* **By seeing and hearing the FATHER**
* **By Obedience to the FATHER**

**~ What was the meaning of HIS Death ?**

**Romans 6: 10**

For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto GOD.

**Romans 6: 11**

Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto GOD through JESUS CHRIST our LORD.

**~ Died unto sin and self**

**~ Assimilates this into our own life …**

**~ Feed on HIS Life by the 4 Gospels**

**~ What would JESUS do ?**