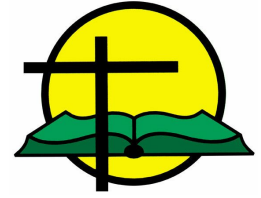


Westview Baptist Church



Sunday 8th May 2016

Hebrews 7: Christ the Eternal Priest

For Jewish believers in the first century facing persecution and hardship, being certain of your faith was pretty important. To have doubts, to be anxious about your faith made you even more vulnerable since you had to decide if you could rely on what you had been told was truth as you faced death in many instances. You had to decide if you would rely on the dependable, stable old Jewish religion or the new way of following Jesus.



Central to the old religion was the role of the priest, an intermediary between the people and God. The new way proposed that Jesus was the only one needed to intercede for all believers, but what to believe? This is why the concept of priesthood is central to the book of Hebrews.

But for believers in the twenty first century these concepts seem strange and remote. And then to make matters even more perplexing for people today who have no tradition or connection with a priesthood of the old covenant, the writer of the letter to the Hebrews decides to pluck from history one of the most obscure characters in an effort to convince us of the superiority of Jesus' priesthood.

Welcome to Hebrew 7, where Old Testament characters point the way to new covenant principles, where obscure encounters thousands of years ago encourage believers today to put their trust in Christ, where more of the eternal, perfect and complete nature of our Saviour and our salvation are revealed, even if it is through difficult, challenging illustrations and language. But what the word of God always reveals is that Christ is supreme and his eternal priesthood guarantees our access to the very presence of God Most High.

Family News

The Passing Of Our Dear Sister: June Davies

Our dear sister June passed away peacefully Friday morning. We are glad that she is now out of pain and in the arms of her Lord and Saviour after battling illness for many years.



Please pray for her family during this difficult time. Details will be sent about the funeral when available. A big thank you especially to Tony and Lynne who have cared so well for our dear sister over so many years. I know this has been their joy but it has been a wonderful help and blessing to June and to all of us.

Happy Mother's Day to All Our Wonderful Mums!

We are blessed with so many wonderful Mums here in our church community! A very special mother's day to each of you and to those who are like mothers to so many of us! We are thankful to God for the mothers and for the mother like figures He puts in our lives! Have a wonderful day and know you are appreciated!

Westview Vision Feedback

Your Feedback? Do you have any more thoughts about any of these 541 devotional days of reflection on our Purpose, Mission, Values and Vision that you would like to share? Why not share them (anonymously)



by following this link: www.tinyurl.com/541ReflectionFeedback (Please select 'Overall Feedback' for the question about which day the feedback is for). You can also speak to one of our Elders or Deacons. Let's continue to pray and seek God's leading together in this as we seek to bring Him glory as community of faith in western Sydney! - Tony, Lee and JJ

Missed a week? Why not listen online?

Just a reminder that all the teachings/sermons are available on: www.westviewbaptistchurch.com.au



Thanks so much to Bill for his help with this over so many years! If you would like a copy of something and do not currently have access to the internet please speak to JJ or Bill.

Our Online Profile

On facebook? Friends or family that have Facebook? Why not 'like' us or get others too. This is one more way to let people know about our church, what's happening, and for them to hear the good news of Jesus! Find us on:

www.facebook.com/westviewbaptistchurchdoonside

We're also on [Twitter.com/westviewbaps](https://twitter.com/westviewbaps) and on [Instagram.com/westviewbaptist](https://www.instagram.com/westviewbaptist). If you have any ideas for our online profile or any questions please speak to JJ or Tony.



What's Coming Up?

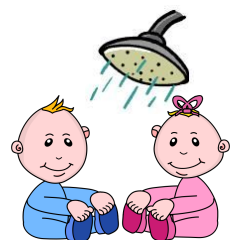
Soccer in the Park – Sunday 15th May – 2PM

All welcome for some soccer in the Park.
Charlie Bali Reserve, Doonside from 2pm.
Bring your friends!



Sujin's Baby Shower – Saturday May 14th

All Westview ladies are invited. 10-12pm.
Speak to Becky for gift ideas and more details.



Sunday Prayer Night – 22nd May – 7pm

All welcome, Sunday 22nd May from 7pm at the church property to praise and thank God for Who He is, to ask Him to continue to work in the lives of our church community, to empower the work of spreading His gospel and in the wider community, our government and our world. This usually goes for about an hour.

Pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters

Country: North Korea

Leader: Kim Jong-Un **Population:** 25 million

Main Religion: Atheism/Traditional Beliefs

Government: Communist Dictatorship

Main Source of Persecution: Communist Oppression

Impossible to worship Jesus

For the fourteenth year running, North Korea is at the top of the World Watch List. The Communist Dictator, Kim Jong Un, has maintained tight control of the country since 2011 and continues to persecute Christians. It is virtually impossible for believers to worship or share their faith and owning a bible is illegal.

Revival and War

Christianity first came to Korea in the 1700s, when Koreans in China converted and returned home. In 1907, the Great Pyongyang Revival began; hundreds of churches sprang up and many people were saved.

Japan took control of Korea in 1910 and the Church was increasingly persecuted. After the Japanese were defeated in World War II, Korea was divided into North and South. Kim Il Sung came to power in the North, imposing a communist regime. Tens of thousands of Christians were killed, imprisoned or banished to remote areas and the remaining church went underground.

Pressure against Christians at highest level

The church is almost entirely underground and most believers dare not share their faith with anyone, including family. Anyone discovered to be a Christian is punished, along with their families, for following a 'dangerous foreign influence'. A large number of believers are imprisoned in North Korea's penal labour camps.

Please Pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ in North Korea

Pray:

- > For the estimated 50,000-70,000 Christians imprisoned in labour camps; ask God to sustain them.
- > For the many Christians who don't have enough food to survive and are forced to flee.
- > That Christians may stand strong in their faith under extreme pressure.



www.westviewbaptistchurch.com.au



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www.twitter.com/westviewbaps



www.instagram.com/westviewbaptist

Eldership Contact: Lee Arundel 02 9621 6907; leearundel@yahoo.com

Electronic Giving: 'Westview Baptist Church' BSB: 704 922 Account:100003291

Address: Corner of Crawford Road & Coveny Street, Doonside NSW 2767

Post: PO Box 965 Kings Langley NSW 2147