



Welcome

...to Scartho Celebration Church!

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens;
Praise Him in the heights! Praise Him, all His angels;
Praise Him, all His hosts! Praise Him, sun and moon; Praise Him, all
you stars of light! Praise Him, you heavens of heavens, And you waters
above the heavens! Let them praise the name of the LORD,
For He commanded and they were created. He also established them
forever and ever; He made a decree which shall not pass away.

Psalm 148:1-6

November 2017

Welcome to our November newsletter! This month sees a new format for the newsletter, with all the calendar items moved to the back page, and all events now grouped into separate weeks to help us see at a glance what's happening in each week.

Also there's a new feature, with Scripture readings for each week on the right-hand side of the calendar events. These are added to help us in our devotions and to enable us to read through the Bible in one year. They are taken from the Classic reading plan on the *biblestudytools.com* website.

Regarding the building, we have written to NE Lincs Council informing them we are still here and we still desire to purchase the building! We have also asked them to include us in their deliberations over this site.

Please continue to pray into this.

Scartho Celebration Church, meeting at St John Fisher Church Hall,
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This month sees the centenary of the Balfour Declaration, a declaration by the British Government in 1917, in a letter signed by Lord Balfour, the Foreign Secretary, that paved the way for the eventual re-establishment of the nation of Israel, in fulfilment of multiple Bible prophecies. More information can be found on the Balfour100.org website. Here are some extracts to provide us with insight into this historic event:

Christians and the Balfour Declaration

“His Majesty’s government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country”

The Events Britain’s strategic needs, burgeoning alliances with Arab leaders and the clear justice of the Zionists’ dreams coalesced on 31st October 1917, when Britain’s war cabinet agreed the final wording of a letter to Lord Rothschild and the Zionist Federation; a letter which became known as “The Balfour Declaration”. It is notable that most of the British War Cabinet were also evangelical Christians. One other event took place on 31st October 1917, which was key to the intentions in the Declaration. General Allenby won a key battle against the Turks and Germans for the desert town of Beersheva. Without a plan for the future, the victory at Beersheva would have been just another battle in a long and bloody war, a footnote in history. The two events, occurring at the same time yet thousands of miles apart, was a sure sign that this was God bringing His plan for the Jewish people’s restoration to their land closer to its fulfilment.

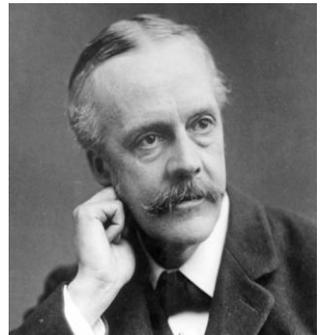
Back story Five hundred years ago the Reformation led to the Bible being translated into English and read by the common man. This led to a greater interest among Puritans in the Hebrew text of the Old Testament. By the 17th Century there was a growing awareness among evangelicals that the Bible prophesied the return of the people of Israel to their historic Promised Land. In the 19th Century many well-known preachers like Bishop J C.Ryle and Baptist preacher Charles Spurgeon taught on the restoration of the Jews to their land. Bible-believing Christians had a huge influence on the governments of the time (such as William Wilberforce and Lord Shaftesbury).

Ryle, Spurgeon and others were influential in presenting the case for the return of the Jews. As Bible students they longed to see the return of Jesus Christ. Before that could happen, the Jews had to be back in their own Land (Israel). This then became the central focus of their prayer and political action. This seemed impossible while the ancient Land of Israel was under Muslim Turkish control and the Jewish people scattered for 2,000 years.

The People In 1896 Austrian Jewish journalist Theodor Herzl, incensed at the anti-semitism he saw around him (especially the Dreyfus affair), wrote a book called 'Der Judenstaat' on the need to re-establish the Jewish State as the only viable long-term solution for the survival of the Jewish people. As Herzl began the movement that became known as "Zionism" he became friends with an evangelical Christian minister, Rev William Hechler. Hechler's high level contacts as a diplomatic chaplain enabled Herzl to gain valuable patronage for Zionsim and helped to envision influential leaders, including the Kaiser of Germany. Historians have noted that if Herzl had not had Hechler's support and encouragement to continue his work, Zionism might never have been birthed as a political movement. Hechler, a spiritual heir of the likes of Ryle and Spurgeon, was one of the first "Christian Zionists". As the 19th Century became the 20th, another partnership between Jew and gentile was developing that was key to the furtherance of the dream of a revived Jewish homeland.

Chaim Weizmann, born in 1874, was one of fifteen children born to a Jewish couple in Belarus. He studied biochemistry in Germany and moved to Manchester, England in 1904. Becoming a leading bio-chemist in the years that followed, Weizmann also became a leader in the Zionist movement in Britain. During World War 1 he developed an important chemical ingredient for gunpowder, which brought him to the attention of the British Government and particularly Lord Balfour, with whom he had already become friends. Born in Scotland, Arthur Balfour became MP for Manchester East (where he first met Weizmann) in 1885, and was Prime Minister from 1902-05. In 1917, when the Balfour Declaration was made, he was Foreign Secretary. This was the partnership that eventually led to the letter known to this day as the 'Balfour Declaration' (Balfour was the signatory). A friendship developed, during which Weizmann, the ardent Zionist, persuaded Balfour, an evangelical Christian, of the case for a homeland for the Jewish people in the then "Palestine."

The Centenary By itself, the Balfour Declaration carried little legal weight. It was simply an expression of intent by the British government of the day. Five years later however, in the aftermath of World War One, its intent and most of its very wording were incorporated into international law in the San Remo Declaration and the British Mandate for Palestine. Christians and biblical teaching were instrumental in the events leading to the Declaration, going right back to the Reformation. This gives Christians who love the Jewish people and the state of Israel a desire to celebrate the centenary of this short but vital document along with the Jewish community.



Arthur Balfour

November Calendar & Readings

<p>Sun. 29th Oct: Sunday Service, 10.30am, Dr Annang Mon. 30th Oct: Prayer meeting, 7pm at Glen & Debbie's Wed. 1st Nov: Coffee morning & dancing, 10.30am at SJF Bible Study, 7.30pm at Glen & Debbie's Thurs. 2nd Nov: Bible study, 10.30am at Margaret's Fri. 3rd Nov: Bible study, 7.30pm at Andy & Karen's Sat. 4th Nov: Men's prayer breakfast, 7am at Paul's</p>	<p>Genesis 1-14 Psalms 1-7 Luke 5:27-8:56</p>
<p>Sun. 5th Nov: Sunday Service, 10.30am, Andy King Mon. 6th Nov: Prayer meeting, 7pm at Margaret's Wed. 8th Nov: Bible Study, 7.30pm at Glen & Debbie's Thurs. 9th Nov: Bible study, 10.30am at Margaret's Prayer for Israel, 7.15pm at Ruth & Tony's Fri. 10th Nov: Bible study, 7.30pm at Andy & Karen's</p>	<p>Genesis 15-21 Psalms 8-14 Luke 9:12-31</p>
<p>Sun. 12th Nov: Sunday Service, 10.30am, Ivan Daniel-Sam Mon. 13th Nov: Prayer meeting, 7pm at Steve & Nicky's Wed. 15th Nov: Coffee morning & dancing, 10.30am at SJF Bible Study, 7.30pm at Glen & Debbie's Thurs. 16th Nov: Bible study, 10.30am at Margaret's Sat. 18th Nov: Men's prayer breakfast, 7am at St.Peters</p>	<p>Genesis 22-28 Psalms 15-21 Lk. 12:32-16:31</p>
<p>Sun. 19th Nov: Sunday Service, 10.30am, Matt Cottingham Mon. 20th Nov: Prayer meeting, 7pm at Jill's Tues. 21st Nov: Ashgrove Nursing Home service, 2.30pm Wed. 22nd Nov: Bible Study, 7.30pm at Glen & Debbie's Thurs. 23rd Nov: Bible study, 10.30am at Margaret's Prayer for Israel, 7.15pm at Ruth & Tony's Fri. 24th Nov: Bible study, 7.30pm at Andy & Karen's</p>	<p>Genesis 29-37 Psalms 22-28 Luke 17-20</p>
<p>Sun. 26th Nov: Creation Sunday Service, 10.30am, A King Mon. 27th Nov: Prayer meeting, 7pm at Ruth & Tony's Wed. 29th Nov: Coffee morning & dancing, 10.30am at SJF Bible Study, 7.30pm at Glen & Debbie's Thurs. 30th Nov: Bible study, 10.30am at Margaret's Sat. 2nd Dec: Men's prayer breakfast, 7am at Steve's Sun. 3rd Dec: Sunday Service, 10.30am, Andy King</p>	<p>Genesis 38-44 Psalms 29-35 Luke 21-24</p>



Scartho Celebration Church

"Behold I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!" John 4:35