

Sunday Services	11.00 am Worship 5:40 pm Prayer Meeting 6:00 pm Worship
Sunday School.	11.00 am. (during the service)
Prayer Meeting and Bible Study.	Wednesday 7:30 pm.
Friday Club	Friday 7:00 - 8.00 pm.
Minister	Rev. Fachie Renwick (caretaker minister) Croft-na-Creich North Kessock Inverness IV1 3ZE. Tel: 01463 731659
Communion Weekends.	3 rd Sunday in March, last Sunday in June and last Sunday in November

FRIDAY CLUB - For P4 - S2. This meets at the Cornerstone between 7.00 and 8.15pm. Friday Club **resumes on 5th September.**

LADIES BIBLE STUDY - An hour long informal study - meeting at the Cornerstone every second Thursday at 2.00 pm. **Resumes 11th September.**

KILTEARN FREE CHURCH

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2014

And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. (1 John 3: 23 ESV)



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TWO JUDGES

About 2000 years ago a man from the back streets of the town of Nazareth in the land of Israel was condemned to death by crucifixion on the outskirts of Jerusalem by a Roman judge by the name of Pilate. Nothing unusual about that you may say, after all the Romans could be pretty ruthless when they wanted to be. What is unusual though is that this judge kept on saying that he could find nothing wrong in the life of the man crucified - a man by the name of Jesus of Nazareth. Very unusual when we consider how Roman Law has been admired by so many over the centuries. The question we are left asking is why; why did he engage in such a manifest act of injustice?

The answer to that question is even stranger than Pilate's conduct. He did what he did because he was afraid of the church authorities of the day. He was so afraid of not giving the church authorities what they wanted that he was willing to engage in the cowardly act of crucifying an innocent man. But that raises the question as to why the church authorities wanted him crucified in the first place. Amazingly it was because he said he was not just human but divine as well. That to the powers that be was just beyond the pale. And so he was crucified and to all intents and purposes a thorn in the side of those powers was eliminated. Or so they thought.

The problem for them was this. Jesus said he would rise from the dead on the third day as proof that what he was saying was actually true. And that's what happened! And for the next 2000 years that event has been impacting people all over the globe. But why? What was it all about? The answer lies in what was really happening on the day Jesus was crucified. Here God's take on it was that it was a substitutionary death. He died in the place of sinners who trust in him so that they might be reconciled to God. In other words Jesus paid the penalty for their sins. He, so to speak stood in their stead; he was their substitute. It's a very simple proposition but that is why many miss it. It's just so simple, they fail to believe it. But that is the heart of the Gospel. Jesus dies in order to reconcile his believing people to God. What Pilate probably didn't realise on that day was that he was not the only judge around. He was representing Roman Law but there was another judge representing God's Law. That other judge was God himself and what is happening is that the innocent dies on behalf of the guilty so that the guilty can be rendered innocent in God's sight. The story of Jesus is good news!

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