

Are you good at puzzles?

Sunday 26th March 2017

Who are these people?

Who is this?



HM the Queen

Who is this?

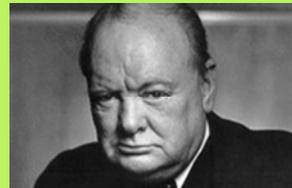


Who is this?



Winston Churchill

Who is this?



Who is this?



Eric Morecambe

Who is this?



Who is this?



Me!

Who is this?



Here's another puzzle:

How can humans do so much good:

- Composing superb music,
- Working out how to combat diseases,
- Building useful buildings,
- Designing groovy clothes,
- Creating magnificent paintings,
- Holding a worried hand,

How can humans do so much good:

- Composing superb music,
- Working out how to combat diseases,
- Building useful buildings
- Designing groovy clothes,
- Creating magnificent paintings,
- Holding a worried hand,

And yet people:

- Kill, wound, hurt, lie, degrade, steal, cheat.....



PC Keith Palmer (1968-2017)



Serious things have happened in London this week.

Wednesday probably started of as just another day for Keith.... and then it ended brutally, unexpectedly and heartbreakingly.

This world needs a transformation!



The need of the world has been answered and sorted out already. Many people may not have thought of the answer I know to be true.

Be transformed by Jesus today

Christ didn't, and doesn't, wait for us to get ready. He presented himself for this sacrificial death when we were far too weak and rebellious to do anything to get ourselves ready. And even if we hadn't been so weak, we wouldn't have known what to do anyway. We can understand someone dying for a person worth dying for, and we can understand how someone good and noble could inspire us to selfless sacrifice. But God put his love on the line for us by offering his Son in sacrificial death while we were of no use whatever to him.

Romans 5:6-8 [*The Message*]

Being forgiven is the basis for beginning the Christian life. We recognise that we need Jesus. He comes not as an advisor, a first-aider or guide, but as the Saviour who endured the cross in order to save us from our sins. We can't just casually shake Jesus' hand and say "Thanks for what You did for the world." We have to bow our metaphorical knee and say, "Jesus, be my Saviour! Be my Lord today!" We have to let Him transform us, as we live a life of repentance.

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*This is not
a puzzle, a conundrum,
nor a riddle:*

This is a mystery!

Sin *was* and *is* a barrier to God. Only Jesus' death could sort it out.

This is the reason we're here today. Alan has decided that despite a good and happy life with a great family, he needs Jesus to be his Saviour and Lord – not just in the distant future, but today. Like many of us in the past, he has recognised that he needs to be transformed. Baptism is a symbol. Baptism doesn't make you a Christian – it shows that you're a Christian. It's saying that I intend to die to myself and live for God. I want to make God Number 1 in my life and not myself. Alan is dedicating his life to pleasing God.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine -
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

*This is not
a puzzle, a conundrum,
nor a riddle:*

This is a mystery!

What will be your next step of
obedience to God?

Baptism is near the start of the Christian journey. It is not the end of it. If you were baptised years ago, what are you doing now in the way that you walk with Jesus? What will your next step of obedience be? How will God continue to transform you this week?