

# Breaking Bread

## Newsletter –

The Brisbane Society of The New Church,  
Brisbane and South-East Queensland

**May, June, July 2019**



Art Work By Lenore Sandow

## ***SPECIAL EDITION – EASTER MESSAGE***

*This edition of breaking bread is a special edition with the Easter Sunday message 2019. Thus, it is a little longer than usual. I hope those who were present, and others spread more widely, will welcome the opportunity to read it in print.*

### In this issue

1. Address from Rev. Darren Brunne ‘Hope – The Message of Easter’
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## HOPE, THE MESSAGE OF EASTER

### Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday

In this article, we are going to cover the last seven days of the Lord for two reasons –

1. This time of year, it helps us to lift our heart towards the Lord and remember His life and work to save humanity.
2. Each of these seven days carries themes and cycles that our lives pass through as we follow our Lord into Rest, Resurrection and New Life.

As we move through these seven days, I want you to reflect on the meaning for your own spiritual journey. One way you can ‘connect the dots’ is to correlate these seven days to phases that a marriage moves through.

# Day 1: Triumphal Entry on Palm Sunday

## Acknowledgment of the Lord

This first stage/cycle refers to an area in our lives where we are learning to look to the Lord for His strength instead of trying to accomplish things in our own strength/will power. We recognize that 'worldliness' (Roman occupation) and cloaked veiled selfishness in the guise of Godliness (Israel's religious leaders) have taken over our inner life and we need deliverance. The triumphal entry points to our willingness to let Him lead us and take control of our situations. It also means that things will now undergo a rapid process of change and challenges until we come through into newness.

## Matthew Chapter 21

*1 And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem and were come to Bethphage, unto the mount of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples,*

*2 Saying unto them, Go into the village over against you, and straightway ye shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her: loose them, and bring them unto me.*



*3 And if any man say ought unto you, ye shall say, The Lord hath need of them; and straightway he will send them.*

*4 All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying,*

*5 Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass.*

*6 And the disciples went,*

*and did as Jesus commanded them,*

*7 And brought the ass, and the colt, and put on them their clothes, and they set Him thereon.*

*8 And a very great multitude **spread their garments in the way**; others cut down branches from the trees, and strawed them in the way.*

*9 And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, **Hosanna to the Son of David**: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.*

Now let's look at what is being held up to us here when we start unpacking the inner, spiritual meaning.

***Clothes - truths that fit us well and we wear them to accomplish different outcomes.***

When our mind is lifted into higher things, we soon realise our priorities are changing.

Things that once served us now pale in comparison to life's real purpose – *to know the Lord and fulfil His mission for our life*. In married life, this may be the realization that you can and should depend on your partner. In fact, failure to do so will most likely cripple, if not destroy the relationship.

In Matthew quoted above is a prophecy from Zechariah 9:9. Most Jewish people would have been familiar with this prophecy. The Israelites viewed Jesus as the 'now coming King' who would drive out the Roman oppressors and restore Israel's former glory. However, the Lord had a very different plan. How often do we expect something from the Lord and things seem to go in a very different direction? How often do relationships take unexpected turns? Real faith and trust can look past externals and believe in long term deliverance, peace and spiritual happiness.

*HOSANNAH means 'save us'.*

*These same people, on the following Friday, will cry 'Barabbas' asking for this murderer and thief to be released while Jesus is condemned and sentenced during His unwarranted trial. The reminder for us is that praising and trusting God in the good times comes easy while holding on to trust in the Lord during our most difficult combats is the real test.*

### **Secrets of Heaven 3696**

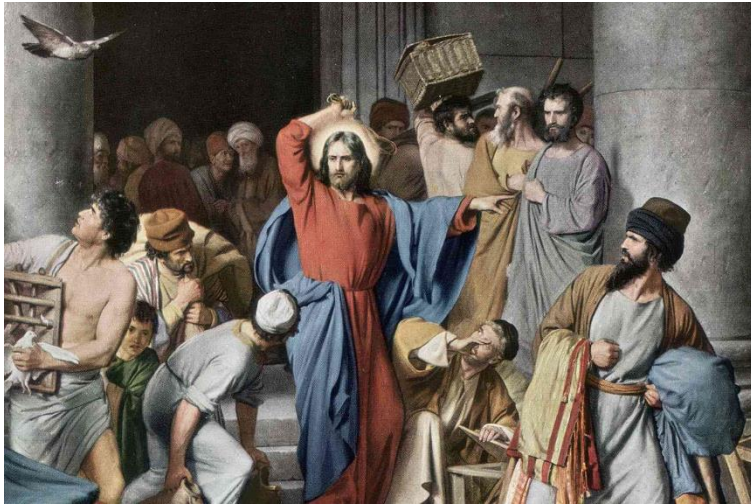
*The case is almost the same with the new life in the man who is being regenerated: at first he is in a state of tranquillity; but as he passes into a new life, he also passes at the same time into an untranquil state; for the evils and falsities with which he had before become imbued emerge and come forth, and disturb him, and this at last to such a degree that he is in temptations and vexations inflicted by the diabolical crew, who are continually striving to destroy the state of his new life. Yet inmosty the man is in a state of peace, for unless this were with him inmosty, he would not combat, for in his battlings he is continually looking to this state as the end, and unless he had such an end, he would in no wise have power and strength to combat. This moreover is the reason why he overcomes; and because this is the end in view, he also comes into this state after the combats or temptations. This is like the state of spring, which succeeds the state of autumn and winter; or it is like the state of dawn, which succeeds evening and night.*

At the end of this first day, Jesus leaves Jerusalem and sleeps the night on the edge of the city, two miles away, in Bethany at the house of Mary, Martha and Lazarus (v17). The only place the Word can truly find rest within us is where real lasting affections for Him are forming in the advancing soul.

## **Day 2: On Monday, Jesus Clears the Temple**

### **Acknowledgment of Evil**

At this stage, the 'honeymoon' period continues; however, we are noticing issues arising that need our attention. Failure to address them will only lead to further pain.



On Monday of the Passover week, the Lord visited the temple and drove out the money collectors (The groom is fighting for His bride - the King has come to free His Queen).

There are stages in our relationships where the celebration or honeymoon phase still lingers in the background while a deeper work begins as the couple remove unhealthy blockages. For the advancing

soul, it is expected that after a period of joy and peace a time of soul searching will follow.

*And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves,*

*And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer, but ye have made it a den of thieves.*

*And the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple, **and He healed them.***

*And when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the **children crying in the temple, and saying, Hosanna to the Son of David,** they were sore displeased.*

Again, let us draw from the inner meaning –

***Children – undeveloped states of innocence within the advancing soul.***

States of Innocence within us welcome the leading of the Lord especially those that are childlike. On the other hand, cynicism from life's evil moments can scar the soul and lead to self-willed behaviour like that of the religious leaders.

### SEEDS OF BETRAYAL ARE SOWN

This is the moment where the religious leaders could no longer tolerate the Lord and sought for a way to put Him to death. Deep within the advancing soul, evil is stirring and is seeking a way to stop the regenerative process. These are the moments in a relationship where real doubt awakens concerning the future.

## Day 3: On Tuesday, the Lord's authority is questioned

**Tuesday Morning** – The day previous, Monday morning, Jesus, on His way into Jerusalem City cursed the fig tree which had no fruit. On day three, this very same tree stands withered before the disciples (v20). They are amazed and so Jesus teaches about the power of prayer.

## Acknowledgment of the power of Doctrine



Jesus goes into the temple and His authority is questioned by the religious leaders (v23). He tells parables and answers questions and then explains the end of the Age (ch24). Throughout this day, the Lord is reaffirming His authority, identity and deity.

Most marriages come to a significant moment where '*love*' and '*going with the flow*' are no longer enough to sustain the relationship. A real strain is placed upon both partners to



understand each other and the dynamics of married life. These are the moments when we seek help on how to make our relationships healthier from those in authority who have the training. For the advancing soul, this stage is one of deeper soul searching and questioning the belief systems one

has lived by. There is a hunger and search for real answers and for real power to overcome life's challenges.

## Day 4: Holy Wednesday, Discovering the Lost Treasure.

**Wednesday** – The Lord and the disciples rest before the coming Passover feast.

### **Acknowledgment of the Word**

#### **In Bethany at the house of Simon the leper**

Mary breaks the alabaster box and anoints Jesus' head for burial with expensive perfume. (Ch26 v6). Only days earlier, Lazarus had been raised from the dead. As a result, many present were now believing in the Lord as the Messiah. This is also the moment where the Lord declared - "*Now the hour has come for the Son of man to be glorified*" (*Jn 12:23*). The Lord Himself confirms for us that His final work on the Cross was about glorifying His human (even His physical body) rather than a presupposed idea coming from modern Christianity that 'God was punishing the Son for our sakes'.



In every marriage, there is a need at times for couples to withdraw from other responsibilities and focus in on their love for one another. Such times are essential if partners are to remain in love and appreciation for the other. In our spiritual life, such times are highlighted by an increased need and appreciation for the Word. The advancing soul can only find comfort and refuge in

reading, studying and meditating upon the Word. Spiritually speaking, we sense our grip upon the Word is slipping as something 'new', inward, and living emerges from the text, promising greater power to those who 'stay' with the process rather than running from the test about to come.

## Day 5: Passover and Last Supper on Forlorn Thursday

**Thursday** – The Disciples prepare for Israel's most holy of celebrations commemorating their freedom from slavery in Egypt.

### Acknowledgment of Communion

From Bethany, Jesus sent Peter and John ahead to the Upper Room in Jerusalem to make the preparations for the Passover Feast. That evening after sunset, Jesus washed the feet of his



disciples as they prepared to share in the Passover and thus demonstrated how believers should love one another.

Then, Jesus shared the feast of Passover with his disciples, saying:

***"I have been very eager to eat this Passover meal with you before my suffering begins. For I tell you now that I won't eat this meal again until its meaning is***

*fulfilled in the Kingdom of God."* (Luke 22:15-16, NLT)

Relationships require outside influence if they are to thrive in the good times and survive in the tests and combats. What better communion can be offered to a younger couple than a mature couple who have also weathered the storms of life together? We all at times perceive the need for community and the richness it affords. However, these periods are often a mixture of sadness and happiness. Sadness comes from the inner awareness that the past is dying and must give way to new future states and experiences. Happiness comes from deep down within as the advancing soul realises that newness and fresh life will soon be born.



At the end of this feast, Judas departs the group to betray the Lord.

Sometime after this Jesus and the remaining disciple leave the Upper Room for the Garden of Gethsemane where the Lord suffers in agony while in prayer.

Again these periods of deeper communion often lead to higher realisations and the hunger for greater spiritual advancement. The soul can only find comfort in times of

prayer seeking the Lord and His strength.

## Day 6: Trial, Crucifixion, and Death on Good Friday

**Friday** is the most challenging day of the Holy Passover week. Six is the number of trials and combats –

*Secrets of Heaven 737*

*As regards the number “six” in particular that it signifies combat is evident from the first chapter of Genesis, where the six days are described in which man was regenerated, before he became celestial, and in which there was continual combat, but on the seventh day, rest. It is for this reason that there are six days of labour and the seventh is the sabbath, which signifies rest*

### Acknowledgment of Temptation test and trials

All of us without question would prefer a life without suffering and unnecessary battles, but most people would agree that we need challenges, that life would be empty and meaningless without mountains to climb and adversaries to overcome. Those who are genuinely committed to a relationship will give the time, effort, and sacrifice necessary to ensure the survival of the marriage. The advancing soul too understands that the Lord is Love and has



only good in view for His beloved children. The soul warrior needs the courage to battle on when all appears lost and doubt seeks to drain the very life from the soul. We need to find peace within, the Lord's peace which the world cannot steal –

*...the truth of peace is the Divine Truth itself present in heaven and coming from the Lord; it influences all there without exception and causes heaven to be heaven. Peace holds within itself trust in the Lord, the trust that He governs all things and provides all things, and that He leads towards an end that is good. When a person believes these things about Him he is at peace since he fears nothing and no anxiety about things to come disturbs him. How far a person attains this state depends on how far he attains love to the Lord. – Secrets of Heaven 8455*

The Lord faced His final glorification test which involved: –



False accusations – *accusing God of evil.*  
Beatings – *making the Word say what it does not say*  
The Thorn of Crowns – *Afflicting one's thoughts and stealing clarity from the Word through lies.*  
Mocking – *questioning the authority of the Word.*  
Carrying the cross in public display – *Making open fun of the literal sense of the Word.*  
Crucifixion – *Unqualified judgments concerning the Word.*  
Gambling over His garments – *Risking one's eternal life by ignoring the Word.*  
Tearing the outer garments – *Creating*

*division amongst the believers.*

Offering vinegar and gall to drink – *Accusing the Word of containing lies and unjust judgments.*

Death of the body by suffocation – *Loss of complete trust and faith in the Word as God's truth.*

All earthly relationships are fraught with painful times where hurtful things are said and paths travelled that we later regret. We mistreat the ones we love and sometimes the consequences are fatal.

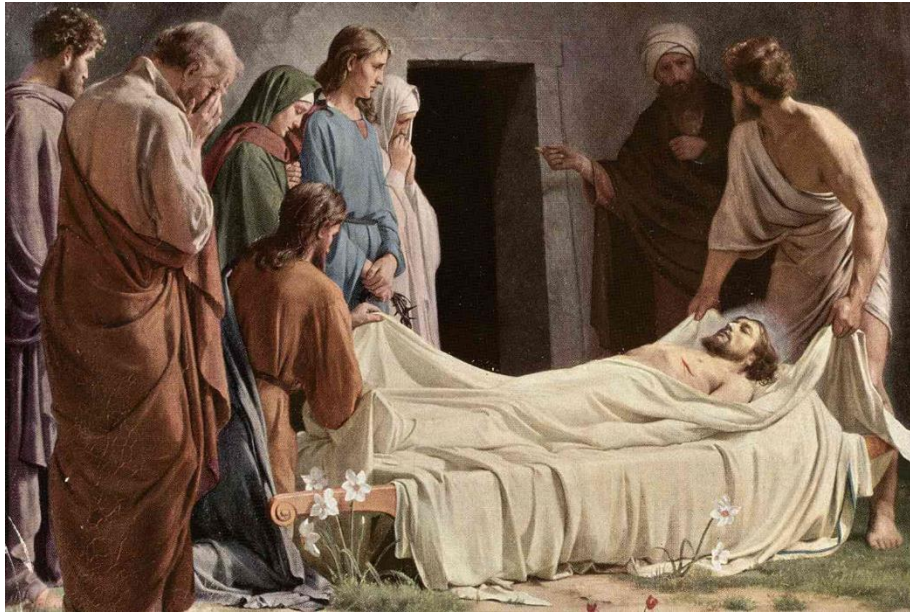
At times, our own mind will mistreat the testimony of the Word, accusing it of lies and falsities. Or perhaps we doubt that God could love us. The Lord's great desire is to move us on from these states into rest and permanent regeneration.

## Day 7: Saturday, burying the Lord in the Tomb

**Saturday** -This day was a Sabbath day of rest, therefore the disciples had to wait until dark (around 6 pm) before they could offer the Lord a proper burial according to Torah –

## Acknowledgment of Rest





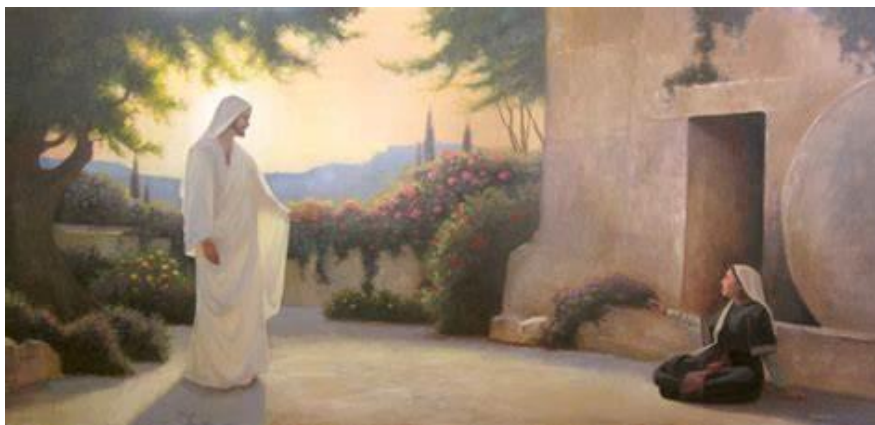
*"He brought about seventy-five pounds of perfumed ointment made from myrrh and aloes. Following Jewish burial custom, they wrapped Jesus' body with the spices in long sheets of linen cloth." (John 19: 39-40, NLT)*

The entire time, the Lord's body was under a strict Roman guard.

There comes a time in every mature relationship where words are not necessary, and a couple can rest in the presence of each other. Equally, our relationship with the Lord requires no special action or response. The soul and the Divine can rest in each other's company.

## Day 8: Resurrection Sunday

### Acknowledgment of Regeneration and New Birth



On Resurrection Sunday, or Easter, we reach the culmination of Holy Week and the beginning of the Feast of First-fruits. We are again at the first day of the week and according to Levitical law, Israel had to celebrate the Feast of First-fruits on Sunday immediately

following the sabbatical week of Passover (Lev 23:9-14).

*But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep (I Cor 15:20).*

This feast signalled the beginning of the harvest when the people in thanksgiving would present the first fruits of the barley harvest to God at the Temple. It also points to why we, who are followers of the Lord, now gather together on Sunday to acknowledge the Lord and share in fellowship. We come together to celebrate all the wonderful fruitful harvests the Lord has and will bring into our lives.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ occurred early Sunday morning. Several women, Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Salome, and Mary the mother of James, went to the tomb only to discover that the large stone covering the entrance had been rolled away. An angel announced:

*Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly, and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead; and, behold, He goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see Him: lo, I have told you.*

Throughout the day the Lord made at least five appearances with Mary Magdalene being the first. He also appeared to Peter and later that day to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, followed by an appearance to all of the disciples except Thomas, during prayer at the home of one of the disciples. It is our spiritual affections for the Lord (Mary Magdalene) that can find Him in resurrection power contained in the inner sense of His Word

**Conclusion** – Through the Easter message, the Lord is telling us even as He told His first Disciples after the resurrection – ‘*And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*’ (Matt 28:18-20). We have this promise of HOPE, that He is always with us along with His power to heal our lives and bring us into rest and newness.

AMEN

May your courage reach new levels,  
Rev Darren Brunne



## ***The Months Ahead Unpacked***

*An explanation of the upcoming events from May to July and a little beyond*

### ***Adventures in the Apocalypse***

The family service in May will see us continuing the series – *Adventures in the Apocalypse – Chapter Nine*.

In this series, we explore one chapter of the Book of Revelation each month, drawing out a number of practical goals for us to work on.

### ***North-side Swedenborg Reading Group***

**May - Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>**

**June - Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>**

**July – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>**

On the third Thursday evening of the month from 6 pm to 7:30 pm at Bracken Ridge Library, the North-side Swedenborg Reading Group meets together to discuss '*Divine Providence*'. To all our north-side community (or our south-siders if you don't mind the travel), if you would like an additional spiritual boost to the month come join the stimulating discussion.

### ***South-side Swedenborg Spiritual Support Group***

**May - Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>**

**June - Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>**

**July – Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>**

Once a month, on an alternating Thursday evening from 6 pm to 7:15 pm at Capalaba Library, the South-side Swedenborg Spiritual Support Group meets together to discuss principles for spiritual stability and growth. To all our south-side community (or our north-siders if you don't mind the travel), if you would like spiritual support, come join the stimulating discussion.

### ***NEW CHURCH DAY***

Our New Church Day Celebration date every year is June 19<sup>th</sup>. This year the 19<sup>th</sup> falls in between the third and fourth Sunday of June. Therefore, our society, the Lord willing, will celebrate New Church Day on the 16<sup>th</sup>.





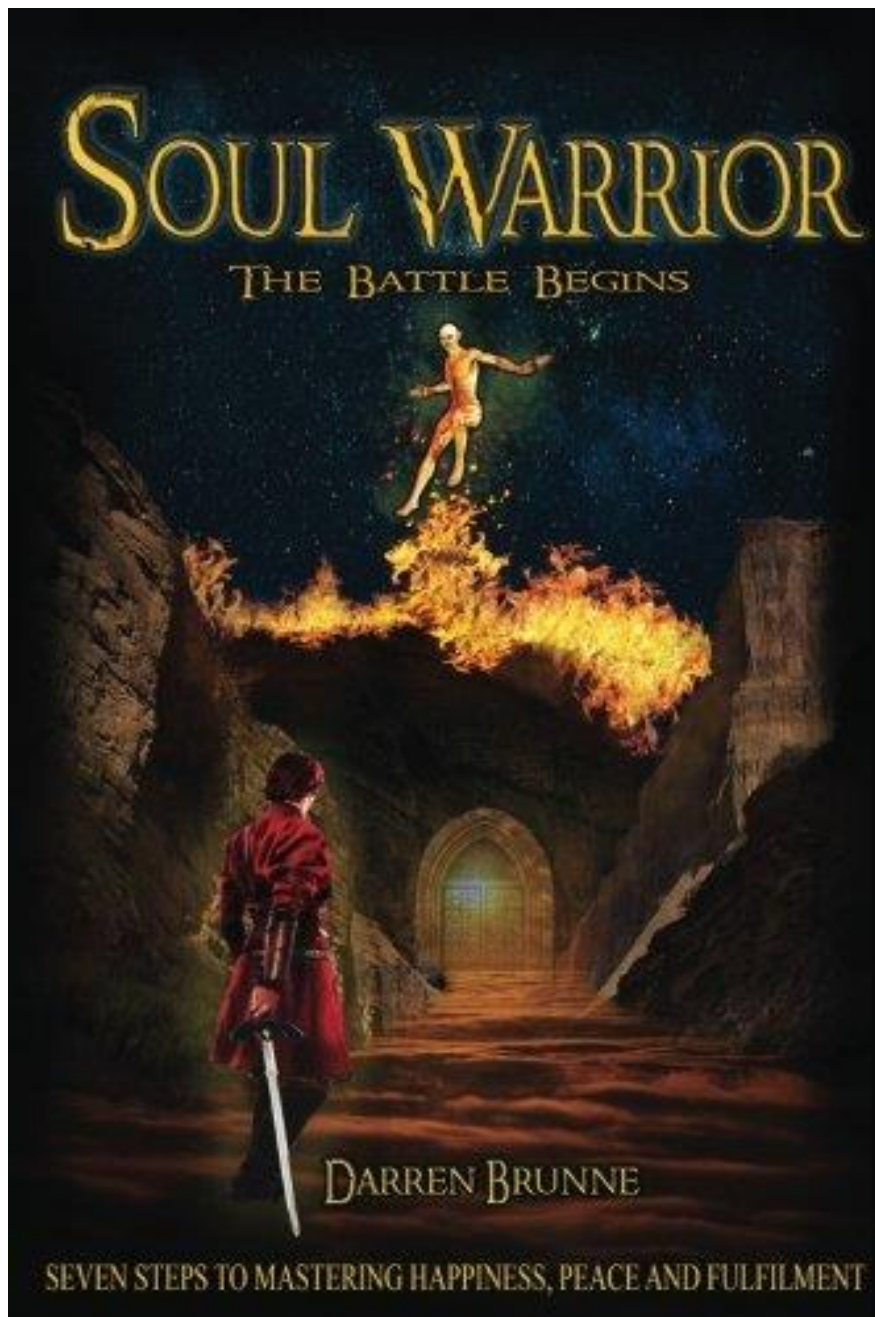
### ***SOUL WARRIOR***

Late last year, I completed the novel 'Soul Warrior' in which you, the reader, are taken on a journey of discovery into the practice of spiritual warfare. Follow apprentice Mathetis on his own awakening as he learns to use the whole armour of God. You will be introduced into all seven stages of the armour through a part story, part parable approached.

You can purchase the book through Amazon for \$15.99 US

[https://www.amazon.com/Soul-Warrior-Mr-Darren-Brunne/dp/1981445838/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1514376979&sr=1-1&keywords=soul+warrior+darren+brunne](https://www.amazon.com/Soul-Warrior-Mr-Darren-Brunne/dp/1981445838/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1514376979&sr=1-1&keywords=soul+warrior+darren+brunne)

or pick up a copy from our Brisbane Centre for \$20.00 when attending one of our services. Alternatively, you can contact me via [darren@eternitynow.net](mailto:darren@eternitynow.net) and I can post you a copy of 'Soul Warrior' for \$20 AUS + postage.



## Hot Food & Birthday Cake Roster for First Sunday Lunches

Feb	Fran
March	Bev
April	Renee
May	Gaye
June	TBA
July	Rae
Aug	Ruth
Sept	Fran
Oct	Vivian
Nov	Bev
Dec	We all pitch in for Christmas luncheon

### **Birthdays**

*To all our friends celebrating birthdays throughout these months, we wish you birthday greetings and blessings.*

#### **May**

4<sup>th</sup> Alexis Evans, Oliver Barns, 7<sup>th</sup> Helen Arnold, 13<sup>th</sup> Darren Lawler, 15<sup>th</sup> Tasha Lee, 18<sup>th</sup> Kevin Attwater, John Sandow, Susan Heldon, Marna Heldon

#### **June**

5<sup>th</sup> Rachael Arnold, 16<sup>th</sup> Shane Heldon, Glenn Alden, 20<sup>th</sup> Ainsley Heldon, 23<sup>rd</sup> Tori Barns, 24<sup>th</sup> Georgie Duff, 28<sup>th</sup> Benedict Barns

#### **July**

2<sup>nd</sup> Margaret Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ben Arnold, 3<sup>rd</sup> Elijah Brunne  
4<sup>th</sup> Jayden Heldon, 19<sup>th</sup> Angus Glenn, 20<sup>th</sup> Amy MacFarlane, 25<sup>th</sup> Saxon Heldon, 30<sup>th</sup> Greg Lee

### **CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS**

Our services are held at our Centre – 1/24 Railway Terrace, Dutton Park.  
Always check the last page of the Calendar for services.

**Pastor:** Rev. Darren Brunne, contactable on 0421 319 252

**Treasurer:** Mr Brian Heldon, contactable on 07-5577 8772

**Secretary:** Mr Darren Lawler, contactable on 0402 086331 or [darren@inneractivelearning.com.au](mailto:darren@inneractivelearning.com.au)  
Address: 53 Leslie Parade, Slacks Creek, Qld, 4127

**For activities on the Gold Coast and Mt. Tamborine meetings** contact Mrs Gaye Heldon on 0419 778 717

**Sunday School Co-ordinators:**

Bev Sheppard, contactable on 07-3844 7187 or [revshep@tpg.com.au](mailto:revshep@tpg.com.au)

**CALENDARS**

**May 2018**

**Sun 5<sup>th</sup>**

**1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICE** including **HOLY SUPPER**  
led by Rev. Brunne at 10.30 a.m.  
– *‘Adventures in the Apocalypse - Chapter 9’*

**Fri 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Mt Tamborine Discussion Group at  
***Brian and Gaye Heldon's at 11 am.***

**Sun 12<sup>th</sup>**

***Sacred Circle, 10.30 a.m.***

**Sun 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Abiding in the Vine** led by Rev. Brunne at 10:30 a.m.

**Sun 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Free for Home Church Visitation**

**June**

**Sun 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICE** including **HOLY SUPPER** led by  
**Rev. Brunne at 10:30 am**

– *‘Adventures in the Apocalypse - Chapter 10’*

**Sun 9<sup>th</sup>**

***Sacred Circle, 10.30 a.m.***

**Fri 21<sup>st</sup>**

Mt Tamborine Discussion Group at  
***Brian and Gaye Heldon's at 11 am.***

**Sun 16<sup>th</sup>**

**New Church Day** led by Rev. Brunne at 10:30 a.m.

**Sun 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Free for Home Church Visitation**

**July**

**Sun 7<sup>th</sup>**

**1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICE** including **HOLY SUPPER**  
led by Rev. Brunne at 10.30 a.m.  
– *‘Adventures in the Apocalypse Chapter 11’*

**Sun 14<sup>th</sup>**

***Sacred Circle, 10.30 a.m.***

**Fri 19<sup>th</sup>**

Mt Tamborine Discussion Group at  
***Brian and Gaye Heldon's at 11 am.***

**Sun 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Abiding in the Vine** by Rev. Brunne at 10:30 a.m.

**Sun 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Free for Home Church Visitation**