

# **Friston Circular**

April 2024



**Your Heavenly Father Feedeth Them**

One of the smaller birds, that grace the trees and hedges in the towns and cities and in the country too, do not appear to lack courage. The little robin illustrated on our front cover seemed to be quite happy, and showed no anxiety as various pedestrians stopped to look and admire. Perhaps our pretty little feathered friend knew from experience the safety of the perch. It was certain that those who were passing the tree wished the little robin no harm.

Those who trust in the Lord Jesus, trust Him because of the experience they have of God's Gracious Spirit working in their lives, but they also trust His Word which reveals His exceeding great and precious promises. Important promises, that reassure us our sins are forgiven. (1 John 1.9)

Jesus, when instructing his disciples to have confidence in the providence of God, declares: "Behold the fowls of the air for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?" (Matthew 6.26)

Watch the birds; they have no worries about the supply of their wants; in innumerable flocks they fly, filling the air with their music, from the early light of the morning until the sun sets in the western sky. They pour their songs upon us, not at all anxious about the supply of their wants: yet how few die with hunger! how regularly are they fed from the hand of God! How He attends to their unnumbered wants!

In effect the Saviour tells his disciples and in the wider sense, his people, that they are of more consequence than the fowls of the air. A Bible commentator says "Shall God who feeds them in such numbers suffer them to want? It cannot be. Put confidence then in that Universal Parent that feeds all the birds of the air, and do not be afraid, for He will also supply all your needs."

*Selected from "Cheering Words" magazine*

Do you believe the world was created or do you believe in evolution? The Bible says one thing, many scientists say another. The Bible spells out creation in detail. Many (but not all) scientists believe in evolution but many scientists believe creation is fact.

The Bible says that creation happened over six days. The Lord Jesus Christ, who surely knew, speaks of creation. The knowledge of even the cleverest of men is limited, whereas Jesus knows all things, if He is (as the Bible says) from everlasting to everlasting.

Going to church and Sunday School is out of fashion. It was not always so, and it could be argued that our land would be in a better state than it is now if the truths of Christ as revealed in the Bible were better known, as once they were.

If we could muster three or four children from the village we would be glad to restart our Sunday School. Any parents wishing to meet us for their children's sake could contact us at [fristonchapel@gmail.com](mailto:fristonchapel@gmail.com). Or you could come with them to our 2pm service. You could stay and meet us all after the service. The children stay with us all for the first few minutes and then go into Sunday School while the service continues. Our teachers are all experienced either at day school, Sunday School or both.

Pastor Michael Harley

### **He Paid the Cost**

All too often we hear of poor souls who, wishing to escape their own country, cross the sea in overloaded and unseaworthy boats, often resulting in the boat sinking and lives lost. Others cling to the underneath of aeroplanes and some fall to their death.

Two hundred years ago, before the days of immigration

control and passports, little Charlie wanted to travel across the Atlantic Ocean. Both his parents had died and he was hungry and alone in the world. But he had heard that in Canada there was employment and food for all, and besides he had a brother there. So, he went to the shipping offices of Liverpool docks and asked to be allowed to work his passage to Canada; but no captain would accept him on those terms.

He then hovered about the docks looking with wistful eyes at a huge steamship being loaded with cargo and when no one was looking he crept on board and hid himself. After some days the ship was off the coast of Ireland, near to the last port of call before crossing the Atlantic, and Charlie, exhausted with hunger was compelled to come from his hiding place. Being brought to the captain he pleaded, "Oh sir, I do want to go to Canada and will do anything you tell me and work hard, if only you will let me go." The captain shook his head, said he was unable to take him and that he must alight at the next port. The little boy's eyes were filled with tears and he was unable to say anything.

Just at that moment a gentleman came to the captain's cabin to enquire of Charlie, and after hearing the boy's tale said. "If what the child says is true, I will pay his fare to Canada." Tears came again to Charlie's eyes, but this time tears of delight, and turning to his benefactor he said, "Oh thank you, thank you sir, I shall go to Canada and see my brother." And to Canada he went.

What a splendid illustration of Bible Truth. Those who seek a "better country" find they cannot get there by their own good deeds or any effort of their own, but there is One who has paid the cost; Jesus, with His own life's blood, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God. (1 Peter 3.18)