

The Watford Word

www.watfordchurchofchrist.org

What's on

Sunday 09 July - Service 10:30AM. *Christian Xavier will be our visiting speaker.*

Sunday 16 July - 10:30AM. *Malcolm speaking.*

Sunday 23 July - 10:30AM. *Mike Desouza speaking*

Sunday 30 July - 10:30AM. *Malcolm speaking.*

Sunday 27 August - 10:30AM. *Barry Lamb speaking.*

Sunday 17 September - 10:30AM. *Dr Andy Boakey speaking*



Men and Women in the Bible

Our next class on intriguing passages about men and women in the Scriptures is on 5th July. We will be pulling together a number of passages such as Gal 3:26-29; Col 3:18-19; Eph 5:21-33; Titus 2:3-5; 1 Peter 3:1-7 as well as some perhaps surprising insights about Phoebe and Junia. Here are the Zoom details: Time: Jul 5, 2023 07:30 PM London.

<https://iccmisions-org.zoom.us/j/92574004463?pwd=SU5GZW94SmdFSWxxdjV2WUNkZ2lIUTo9>

Meeting ID: 925 7400 4463

Passcode: 810569

thewatfordchurch@gmail.com

Farewell on 9th July



Next week will be Tanya, Roman and Anya's final Sunday service with us. They return to Ukraine and Alex with our prayers. After church on 9th July we will eat together, so please plan to stay after the service.

'Awesome Anna' part 6



The Anna podcasts can be found [here](https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/malcolm-cox/id429885944): <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/malcolm-cox/id429885944>

www.watfordchurchofchrist.org

Introduction

In this final article about Anna we wrap up the series with a review of her status and calling.

The Text

“There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped night and day, fasting and praying. Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.” (Luke 2:36–38 NIV11)

How can we sum up Anna’s relationship with God?

Anna recognised Jesus as Messiah and it delighted her.

Mary the mother of Jesus was the first person to have the good news announced to her. Simeon recognises Jesus as the Messiah he was promised to see. But Anna is the first person to understand fully and proclaim the good news — and she is a woman. God chose the unexpected to see and delight in his son.

Anna is the only woman in the New Testament explicitly described as a “prophetess.” She is one of the many women in Jesus’ life highlighted by the gospel writers. Those in his genealogy include Tamar, Bathsheba, Ruth, Rahab and Mary. Anna stands here as the first evangelist, but we also read about Mary — who we know better than Joseph — the women disciples, those at the cross and the tomb.

Anna is also one of several widows highlighted by Scripture. Jesus calls attention to the widow and her coins (Luke 21.2), references a widow as a teaching point (Luke 4.26), he raises the son of

the widow (Luke 7.12), and has a widow as the hero of a parable (Luke 18.3). Ruth has an entire book of Scripture named after her.

Applications

- You are a valid witness. It does not matter what other people think of you. If you have come to know Jesus as Messiah, you can tell people about him.
- What will help you to have the confidence God wants you to have? In what way does Anna’s devotion inspire your own?

Conclusion

As someone once said, "Anna, the prophetess of faith, stood as a testament to the power of perseverance and devotion. In her eyes, she saw the promise of redemption, and in her voice, she echoed the divine grace. Like a guiding star, she illuminated the path of those who sought truth, reminding us that in every age, there are those who carry the light of prophecy and inspire us to embrace hope."

God bless, Malcolm

AIM UK&I

If you are interested in the programme please email courses@aimukandireland.com.
www.aimukandireland.com

Watford Media

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCj9Qa8D9zumJZdoAtARDUww>

Podcast: <https://www.podbean.com/pu/pbblog-aiinq-raef9o>