A list of the prophetic words given from March 2020 through to November 16th 2020

These words are not necessarily in chronological order, but I believe there is an overall pattern within them. Similarly, having looked at the sermons in passing too, it was quite noticeable how many talks made mention of the Holy Spirit and the importance of the Spirit moving in this church. I will leave these with you to ponder on...

Thanks.

Simon

Three prophetic pictures

The verses we were looking at, at the time, were Psalm 1v2-3, and the focus was on the idea of 'deep roots.' Here are the three 'pictures' that I believe the Lord gave me, although I was given these images many weeks before I spoke on this psalm - which for me, shows God's hand at work. I believe these three pictures that I have been given, represent The Church generally, but that includes us here at Aldwick Baptist, and they are like three different *positions* people find themselves in.

Picture 1 – distractions and wrong beliefs

The first picture was of a maze, and at the very centre of the maze is Jesus – he is at the very centre of it. But in that maze were many people, and all of them were Christians – they were in Christ. But even though they were believers, their *experience* of Jesus was like being in a maze. One person would be up one path, and another would be up another path in the maze. Yet others would walk one way, then get caught up in a different path, but whatever the paths were, it was like being trapped in a cul-de-sac. And as I thought about this, I believe these paths represent certain things.

First, I think the paths are 'distractions'. I believe there are many Christians who get caught up with distractions - distractions that the world around them offers. They find themselves going off in various directions – getting caught up in the various paths of life, and so they never really enter into that deeper experience.

Second, I think people are also distracted by wrong beliefs too. For example, some people may be subtly believing things like: 'Some Christians might be able to experience God, but that can never happen to me.' Another might be: 'God only ever speaks to certain believers, but I will never hear him.' Another might be, 'it is dangerous to let the Holy Spirit move in my life' and another might be, 'God can never be like a Father to me.' It could be that someone is caught up in wrong unbiblical teaching. These wrong beliefs are also distractions. Nevertheless, whatever they are, people get caught, trapped and hemmed in by them, inside the maze.

I believe Jesus would say, 'Let those things go – repent, turn around and surrender these things to me'. And I believe he would also, say 'a straight path to me is always there, you just have not been able to see it because the distractions have affected the way you 'see' things. So, trust my Word, believe it and live it, for I want you in that central place with me.'

<u>Picture 2 – keep pressing in</u>

The second picture was one of a circle, and again Jesus is in the centre of it. But this circle was made of a substance a bit like a balloon. If you pressed against it, it would bend inwards, likewise, if you let go of it, it would return to its normal shape. Similarly, if you threw something against it, it would just bounce off. Again, I believe this is about our experience of God. Many of us keep coming to Jesus, but often when we do, it is like we either bounce off, or we push in so far, but then seem to get no further. I believe the Lord would say to you and me, 'Keep pressing into me by faith. Keep pressing in, be persistent and determined, for soon you will move into a greater sense of relationship with me - now is the time.'

<u>Picture 3 – turn around</u>

And finally, the last picture. I saw a picture of people standing within our Church building. And at the centre of the room, was Jesus. But then I noticed that a number of those people were not looking at him.

They actually had their backs turned away from him, and they were doing things like looking at the physical walls, the windows, the sound desk and other physical things in the building. It seemed that they were distracted by and interested in the physical. They did not mind 'coming to Church' so to speak, but they did not really want the spiritual – they did not really want Jesus - or at least they only wanted Jesus on their *own terms* and preferences. Again, I believe the Lord would say, 'repent, turn around, for this is not my purpose for you. It is time to enter into that relationship with me, for enough time has been wasted already.'

Prophetic words from another member

At the start of the lockdown I talked about deep roots from Psalm 1, as mentioned above. The following is a word that another member of this church was given, and it ties in with the deep roots theme and those 3 prophetic pictures above.

First of all, they were given 2 other verses - Jeremiah 17v7-8, Psalm 92v12-15, [alongside Psalm 1v3, the verse that I spoke on]. The cedar and pine trees in these verses, symbolise permanence and strength; the palm living to be a very old tree. Being 'rooted in the Lord', is a very important part of this, based on v13 of Psalm 92.

That person also had a picture of a lift in a tall building. The lift was full of people who all got off on different floors; some stayed on the lift though, until it reached the basement. Basements are stereotypically awful places, but when they got off, they were amazed because of the beauty of the place. This is how it is with deeper roots. As we journey with Jesus, it is tempting to try and get off early, walking off in another direction, one that he never intended for us. In so doing we could miss his best. But actually, he wants to lead us to the shelter of Psalm 91v1 – into 'that place'. The lower down we go, the deeper into the things of Christ we find ourselves. And like all lifts, it requires 'waiting' to get to the bottom. It takes time to develop that relationship with Jesus, to reach the place where we can dwell with him. But this is what is needed – this kind of intimacy. We need to be patient, and abide in him, so that we can dwell in the place he has for us.

Two other separate words

Another member also gave a word about sowing and reaping, that it is time to start evangelising and reaching out; now is the time. It is harvest time. They also later gave a word about trusting Christ in the darkness, that he is the light ahead, and that we need to keep focussed on him.

A prophetic word - waves

15 years ago, I was on holiday in Cornwall. Emily was 6 months old and, in her pushchair, and we went to Porthleven. I looked at the sea and I believe the Lord spoke to me, quite out of the blue. As I watched the waves crashing down, I believe he said to me:

> 'Many people see the waves, but they do not see the currents at work underneath'. I believe he then said to me, 'there are many currents at work in the world, spiritual ones and physical ones – Simon the enemy is dangerously moving within the world; the currents are moving and swirling.' But then he said to me, 'Simon, it will not be long before they converge together, and when they do, like a mighty wave, they will crash upon humanity.' But then I believe he said to me, 'look up and see, for a mightier wave yet, will fall. My Kingdom is coming, and my Kingdom will last, and my Kingdom will smash and uproot all others, for I am the living God.'

Three prophetic words – Maranatha, come Lord Jesus

1. Asleep

I also believe the Lord spoke to me a very challenging word, about the fact that there are many in his Church who are asleep, and not aware of the times in which they are living, even those in leadership. I believe I saw a picture of a row of people, representing God's Church, and some of them in the row had their eyes shut. I then saw a huge, vast calendar, with dates and events written on it – past events and present events – and it was in front of this row of people. It had events in the future on it too, the ones mentioned in God's Word. I believe the Lord would be saying, that because many of his people are asleep, they cannot see the times they are living in. Indeed, they cannot even see what is happening in the world at this present time, and how that is in keeping with the scriptures. I believe the Lord made it very clear to me, that his Church needs to wake up, because unless she does, how on earth will the world ever wake, and know Christ.

2. Telescopes and microscopes

I believe the Lord is saying, 'for so long, my church has looked at me, as it were, through a telescope. It is as though, they see me as some far away person or object, a trillion miles away'. But I believe the Lord would be saying that, 'it is time for my Church to throw away their telescopes, to throw away their distant view of me, because this is not who I am or what I am doing. Indeed, my Church needs to recognise that I am coming back, for I am the God who promised to return - therefore I am coming closer than ever before. So, I call upon my people to exchange their telescopes for microscopes, and see me for who I really am, in detail! For I am close, and I will yet be closer still, when my Son returns. Are you truly ready?

3. Filters

As I thought about the telescope further, I became aware again that there are many Christians in the West, and the world. In so doing, I believe the Lord showed me that some Christians have placed a darkened filter on the end of their scope, and as that is so, their view of God is obscured, and they cannot see who Jesus really is, let alone trusting in his return or being interested in it. There were others, who had another

type of filter on the end of it, which coloured their view of Christ, and thus did not see things the way they should. And finally, there were yet others who had placed nothing on the end of their scopes, and thus they can see Jesus in all his wonder, and see who he really is, through his Word. I believe the challenge is that Christ is calling his people to truly look at him as he is and let nothing get in the way of that. We are to expect his return.

Prophetic word – the wall

I believe I was given a picture of a bright, white wall. It was so bright and white; it was almost beyond white. It was so clean. And I stood looking at it, from some distance, and it was just there – just as it was.

But then I moved further in and looked at it and I began to see shapes of people against this wall. It was an extraordinary thing, because you could not see them from a distance, but when you moved in closer you could begin to see the shapes of these people at the wall. And, they all looked very, very similar indeed. I then moved in even closer and I noticed something quite amazing. Some of the people had their hands in their pockets – others had their hands just in front of them. And they were all standing there, sort of milling about – looking somewhat disinterested.

But then I looked, and I saw some other people, but these had their arms and hands raised in the air – their arms were *absolutely stretched* skyward. It was as though they were giving everything within themselves, to God in heaven above. They were also receptive to God.

Then I felt the Lord say to me, 'Simon, see all these people, do you see all these people?' and I said 'yes, Lord I see them,' [and I counted 50]. And he said to me, 'I only see 25 of them – I only see the 25 with their hands stretched into the air. I only see *them* because I only know *them.* I do not know the others, for they are not interested in me – they have never known me and so I do not know them…

But those with their arms stretched high, those in full surrender to me, those who are seeking my name – that is my true church – it is those I *see.'*

A prophetic word - mist

Just so you know the background, I went out on one of my extended prayer walks, but, having spent time with the Lord, I had not received anything specific. So, I decided to get in the car and go home. I then went down a particular road, at the end of which was a left turn to go to Chichester and a right turn to go to the scenic viewpoint, near the Goodwood stadium. I am sure you will know it.

As I got to this turning, I had this incredible sense that I needed to turn right and go to the viewpoint. And when I got there, I knew exactly why the Lord had brought me there. It was stunningly beautiful up there, the sun was shining, the trees were amazing, and it was so picturesque, with the rolling hills. But then I noticed something...

At the bottom of the two hills in front of me, dense mist was trapped and unmoving. It was then I felt the Lord speak to me. I believe what he said was that there are those within his Church who are asleep and not aware of the time they are living in. It is as though they live on top of the hill in sunshine and are unaware of the mist that is there; the darkness that is approaching. I believe he told me about the importance of adjusting their thinking and recognise the times in which they live.

But then in my mind I had this kind of switching around of the image, and I saw the church under the mist instead. It was an image of the church struggling; that it is going to be difficult for the Lord's Church in the days ahead - she will feel like she is under the dark mist.

But then, suddenly, the Lord impressed upon me that above that mist the *sun is still shining,* and one day the light of Christ will pierce through that mist and that mist will open up and part, and then the Church will see Jesus returning on a white stallion, for them! So, 'hold on my people', I believe the Lord would say that to us today. 'For I will not let you go, for I am for you and not against you.'

Grasses as Pagham

Down at Pagham Harbour, I was praying about being in the palm of Jesus' hand – the Good Shepherd – and I noticed something. I looked at the grasses blowing in the wind, and as I looked it was as though the wind would come sweeping across the grasses and ripple them in the wind. And as I looked more closely, I noticed that the wind would catch an individual grass and bend it down so far, another grass would be bent a little more, and others were bent over even further, right down to the ground. I believe the Lord showed me something through this...

No matter how hard the wind blows, no matter how strong it may be, when the wind stops blowing, the grasses will always stand up straight again. And that is how it is for you and me. Indeed, some people may be touched by the wind more than others, some may be bent right over by the wind of life, even down to the ground, but no matter how much we may be buffeted, we are in Jesus' hand, and he holds us secure.

Jigsaw

I saw a massive and vast jigsaw, with billions of pieces in it. Indeed, for every piece I could see, it was almost as though I could see down to the molecular level. All these pieces represented everything in our lives - everything. But as the pieces came together, the picture that formed was one of a giant hand – it was the hand of God! This meant that the hand of God was sovereignly over every tiny aspect of our lives, past, present and future. But as I looked more closely, the hand turned into the face of Jesus. I could not see his actual face, but I knew it was him.

I believe God is telling us that this is his plan - that all that we go through, is to make us more like Jesus – to conform us into the image of his Son – and all of it is under his sovereign hand.

And the text for the day was, 'And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him...' Romans 8v28.