



Parish of Newton Abbot and Ogwell

WEEKLY NEWS

21st September 2025.

FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear Friends,

Over the last couple of weeks, we've looked at why we have the Bible read and explained in our services, and the reasons behind not using the lectionary. If you missed those articles, do go and find them and have a read!

Of course, underlying both of these articles is the assumption that we can, in fact, trust the Bible to tell us the truth about God and how we should relate to him and live in his world. But how do we know that to be true?

This is a huge topic, and plenty of books have been written about it. I recommend several at the end of this article. But in case you don't feel like reading something longer, let me give you 5 quick reasons to trust the Bible- and especially the Old Testament.

1: God's character.

God is good, and as the Bible tells us, He cannot lie. So, if the Bible is God's revealed Word to us, we can trust Him to tell us the truth. Not only that, but God doesn't change. Unlike some of the technology in our homes, the Bible is never out of date. We obviously need to understand and apply the Bible rightly, but because of God's character we can trust and rely on the Bible as God's Word true to us today.

2: God's Power.

2 Peter 1:21 says this about the origin of scripture: *For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.* So the inspiration for the Bible isn't human but divine. But how can we have confidence that the dozens of different authors who wrote down the various parts of the Bible got it right? Because God is almighty in power! If He was able to create the world with just a word of command, then having people write down exactly what God wanted them to write is a far easier miracle! God is almighty after all!

3: The Bible's Consistency.

Throughout the Bible God does not change. He is just as loving, kind, gracious, patient and merciful in the Old Testament as He is in the New. In the same way, God is holy and righteous, angry at sin and wickedness and willing and just in his punishment of wrongdoing in both Testaments

too. Salvation is by faith alone in both parts of the Bible. Good works and holy lives are vital in both parts of the Bible. And God's moral laws are the same in both parts of the Bible. What's more, the story of God seeking to redeem a people for his own runs through the entire 66 books. And given that the Bible was written over 1500 years in different times and cultures and by dozens of different authors, that is truly miraculous! But then it would be. It is God's Word!

4: God's own witness.

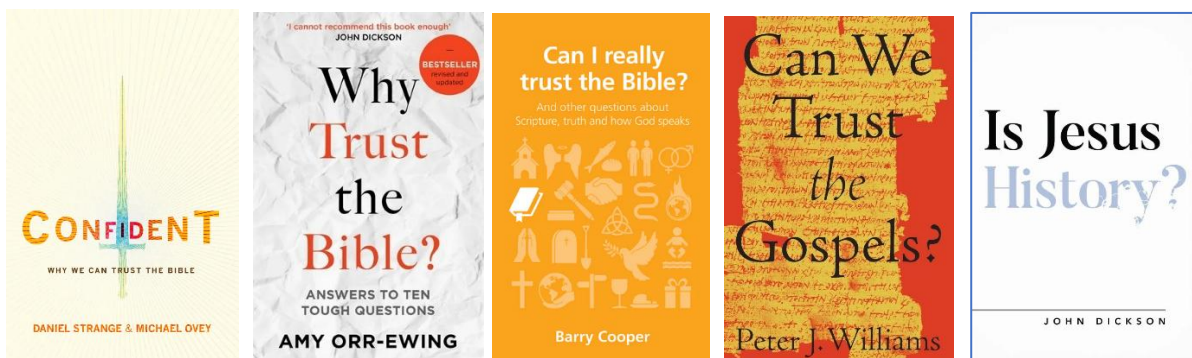
The way Jesus treats the Old Testament should also give us great confidence to believe that what is written there is both accurate history and the inspired Word of God. Let me pick out just 2 verses to think about.

In Matthew 4:4, during His temptation in the wilderness, Jesus responds to Satan by quoting Deuteronomy: *"It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"* Jesus reliance on Scripture underscores its divine authority and sufficiency. In Luke 24:27, after His resurrection, Jesus explains to the disciples on the road to Emmaus how all the Scriptures point to Him: *"And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He explained to them what was written in all the Scriptures about Himself."* If Jesus believed the Old Testament, and we trust Jesus, then surely we should trust it too.

5: The Witness of History.

Due to the passing of time, finding evidence to prove a narrative is not always easy. However, there has never been an archaeological discovery that has proved that what the Bible says is untrue. In fact, quite the opposite. Discoveries are regularly made that do, in fact, back up what the Bible says happened. This should give us confidence to know that what we have in hands is no fairytale, but the true, reliable and unchanging Word of God that points us to Jesus, and that Jesus himself held to be true.

Next week I'll suggest some reasons why we can trust what the New Testament tells us about Jesus, and the week after that, we'll look at how we know the Bible hasn't changed over time. In the meantime, you might want to take a look at one of these books. They are all available from our online book partner whose website you can access here: <https://uk.10ofthose.com> or you can order them from Choice Words or other booksellers. Copies of them will soon be available in our Church lending library as well.



Grace and peace,

Dave

Please pray for:

Our Church, our parish, benefice and diocese, our Rector Dave Brown, Team Vicars Gareth Regan and Fr. Matthew Cashmore, Curate Jon Bealey, and all others who carry out their own form of ministry.

Our King, His Majesty King Charles III, members of the Royal Family and our government.

Peace in Ukraine and Israel.

Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan.

On the Feast Day of Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist, give thanks for his Gospel, which testifies that Jesus is the promised Messiah, the fulfilment of all of God's promises. May you teach us and remind us of these truths as we read the Gospel of Matthew.

Residents in the following streets: Merrywood, Middle Budleigh Meadow, Mile End Road, Mill Close, Mill Lane, Milton Road, Moore Close, Moorland View and Moorlands Close.

The sick and suffering including: Joey Hilton, Noah Maynard, Cherie Glover, Sheila Fletcher, John and Joyce Sutherland, Jackie, Joshua, Anna Crocker, Barbara-Ann, David, Julie, Joyce Lander and her family, Jacob, Sally Fulcher, Marie Graham, Martyn, David Littlewood, Max and Sarah, and others who are unwell in residential and nursing homes, their own homes, and in hospital.

Ben, Sarah and family as they care for Noah.

The families and friends of the recently deceased.

Please email prayer@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk to let us know about anyone needing our prayers.

Readings for 21st September

John, Chapter 10: Verses 21 to 42 and Isaiah chapter 23

NEWS AND NOTICES

Parish News. I am taking a holiday from production of the Parish News for the next issue. Our curate, Rev Jonathon Bealey, has kindly offered to take over the role. If you have anything to be published next week, please email news@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk as usual. Emails to that address should reach him. Alternatively, you can contact him at curate@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk or phone [07886567732](tel:07886567732). John

I have been asked to remind you that milk bottle tops are still wanted by the Hospice and stamps by the RNIB. If you have any saved could you please hand them into the office.

Parish Giving

Please note that the PGS website will be taken offline from 3pm Monday 13 October, remaining unavailable until the new system launches on Thursday 30 October.

During this time, we will be unable to register or amend regular or one-off gifts. Those using contactless devices connected to PGS will be unaffected.

Lunch with God. 26th September, will be the last of this summer's events at the Golden Lion Square.

Prayer Gatherings.

Our next **morning** Parish Prayer Gathering will be on Monday 22nd September 9:15 a.m. at St Paul's Church.

Our next **evening** Parish Prayer Gathering will be on Monday 28th September from 7:45 p.m. to 9 p.m. at St Mary's Church.

Charity Coffee mornings will be at:

St Bartholemew's Church on 26th September at 10:30 a.m., and

St Paul's Church on 27th September at 10 a.m. Donations for the raffle will be much appreciated. They can be taken to the Parish Office or brought on the day.

Got questions about life, faith,
meaning and Christianity?

With engaging videos, lively
discussions and an opportunity
to ask any question,

The Identity Course
could be a great place to start!

The 7-session course starts on
Wednesday 1st October

Sessions run from 7:30pm to about 9pm

The course will take place at
Abbotsbury Church, Waverley Road
Newton Abbot. TQ12 2ND

For more information or to book a place on
this **FREE** course
call us on **01626 211346** or email
office@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk

For more details on the course see
www.identitycourse.com



IDENTITY

Who is God? Who are we?

Organised by the Anglican Churches in Newton Abbot and Ogwell: www.newtonabbotparishes.co.uk

Our new curate, Rev Jon Bealey will be leading this course... contact him for more details...

Teign u3a
learn, laugh, live

Newton Abbot

Positive Ageing

Come and meet us on our stand outside Austins

10.00am-12.30pm

Wednesday 24 September 2025



Teign u3a offers over 60 opportunities every month

**Share learning and pursue educational, creative
and leisure activities**

**Meet new people and enjoy exploring a wide
variety of interests**

**Join today for 6 months membership for just £15.00
and £30.00 per annum subscription from 1 April 2026.**

www.teignu3a.org.uk



Charity No: 1091466



TICKETS ON SALE FROM THE OFFICE OR FROM EACH CHURCH- SPACES LIMITED!

COMING EVENTS

U3A Stand outside Austins 24th September 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Lunch with God. 26th September, 12:30 p.m. Golden Lion Square. This will be the last of this summer's events at this location.

Craft Club. 7th and 21st October at 2 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

God, the Bible and Everything (in 60 minutes)! Friday, 3rd October, 7 p.m. at the Church of St Peter, St Paul and St Thomas of Canterbury, East Street. Bovey Tracey, TQ13 9EP. Tickets and details from:

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/god-the-bible-and-everything-in-60-minutes-tickets-1499291574459

Women's Breakfast. Saturday, 11th October at 9:30 a.m. at The Clock Tower Coffee Shop, Wolborough Street, Newton Abbot.

Traditional Choral Evensong. 12th October at 6 p.m. at St Mary's Church, Abbotskerswell.

Evensong Choir Practice. 16th October, 7 p.m. at St John's Church, Bovey Tracey.

Men's Breakfast. Saturday 18th October, 9:00 a.m. at the Leisure Lounge Café.

Charity Coffee Morning. St Bartholomew's Church, Ogwell on 26th September at 10:30 a.m.

Charity Coffee Morning. St Paul's Church on 27th September, at 10 a.m. in aid of Homeless in Teignbridge.

Murder Mystery - Tragedy at the Village Tea Party – with supper. Denbury Village Hall TQ12 6DS, 29th November at 7 p.m. £25. To book contact imwdayey@gmail.com or phone 07767 771590. Profits to Denbury Church.

Joint Parish Service for the fifth Sunday of the month on 30th November at 10:30 a.m. at St Mary's Church, Wolborough.

Evensong at St Luke's Church, Milber - Sunday 30th November at 5:30 p.m.

CHURCH SERVICES

21st September

Abbotsbury Church, All Age Service at 9:30 a.m.
St Bartholomew's Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.
St Mary's Church, Holy Communion at 11 a.m.
St Paul's Church, Service of the Word at 11 a.m.
St Luke's Church, Mass at 11 a.m.

28th September

Abbotsbury Church, Service of the Word at 9:30 a.m.
All Saints' Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.
St Paul's Church, Holy Communion at 11 a.m.
St Luke's Church, Mass at 11 a.m.

5th October

Abbotsbury Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.
St Bartholomew's Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.
St Mary's Church, Matins at 11 a.m.
St Paul's Church, Service of the Word at 11 a.m.
St Luke's Church, Mass at 11 a.m.

If you are not able to attend in person, you can watch services at Abbotsbury Church and St Paul's Church through [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/).

The links are available at <https://newtonabbotparishes.co.uk/noticeboard/news/>

EVERY WEDNESDAY 10 a.m. Holy Communion at St Paul's Church, Devon Square
and 10 a.m. Said Mass at St Luke's Church, Milber.

EVERY FRIDAY 10 a.m. Said Mass at St Luke's Church, Milber.

ALL WEEK St Bartholomew's Church in Ogwell is normally open for private prayer during daylight hours.

OTHER SERVICES

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICES: Our Harvest Festival Services will be taking place on Sunday 5th October (apart from Highweek which will be the week after). Please think about purchasing 1 or 2 extra items over the coming weeks and bring them along to church on Harvest Sunday. All the produce will be donated to THAT Foodbank in Newton Abbot.

They are currently very short of 🍲 Squash, 🍡 Rice Pudding & Custard, ☕ Sugar & Coffee and 🍚 Microwavable Rice. But all tins and packet foods will be most welcome.

30th November (5th Sunday)

Parish Communion, St Mary's Church, Wolborough, at 10:30 a.m.

Evensong, St Luke's Church, Milber, at 5:30 p.m.

PRAYER GATHERINGS

22nd September 9:15 a.m. at St Paul's Church.

29th September 7:45 p.m. at St Mary's Church.

6th October 9:15 a.m. at St Paul's Church.

FUNERALS AND INTERMENTS

Valerie Anne Steer. Interment of ashes on 18th September at 10 a.m. at St Mary's Church, Wolborough.

Sheila Margaret Platt. Funeral on 18th September 11 a.m. at All Saints' Church, Highweek.

PARISH CONTACTS

Team Rector: Rev Dave Brown. Day off Thursday

rector@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk 01626 335862

Team Vicar and Vicar of St Luke's, Milber: Fr. Matthew Cashmore. Day off Monday

father@slsj.co.uk 07555 924862

Team Vicar: Rev Gareth Regan: Day Off: Friday.

gareth@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk 01626 201237

Curate: Rev Jonathan Bealey curate@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk 07886567732

Licensed Lay Minister:

Keith Butler: puffin@blueyonder.co.uk

07980 457919

Lay minister for St Luke's, Graham Whittle

family@hotmail.co.uk

Churchwardens:

All Saints': **Michael Gillibrand**

Abbotsbury: vacant

St Mary's **Sharon Lawrence** 07794 108166

St. Paul's **Lorna Tresidder** lornatresidder@icloud.com

St Bartholomew's **Stella Llewellyn** stellallewellyn@icloud.com 01626 906814
and **Gwyn Hughes** gwynhughes@icloud.com 01626 365028

Anna Chaplains: Mei Lan Machin. d.m.machin2013@gmail.com 07926 991578

Kim Martin kimbo58@gmail.com

Organists:

Steve Cox 079 686 21511 or 01626 854228 stephen.cox54@talktalk.net

Clive Sawers 07967 148794 clivesawers@aol.com

Parochial Church Council Secretary: Barbara Garrick 07910 207358

barbara_garrick@yahoo.com

Safeguarding Lead: Rob Palmer 07792 081776 treb0r@hotmail.com

Weekly Parish News by Email. John Calderwood. news@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk
07760 226488

Other Communications Media (website and social media)
comms@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk

Prayer List Please let us know about anyone in need of prayers. Their name will be kept on the list for a month. Please email prayer@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk

Parish website: www.newtonabbotparishes.co.uk

Parish Office at St Paul's Church, Devon Square. Monday to Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Phone 01626 211346 or email office@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk.

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

Newton Abbot Town Council. 01626 201120 www.newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk

Shopmobility, Ring & Ride, Community cars – 01626 335775

Teignbridge Council – 01626 361101, www.teignbridge.gov.uk

THAT Foodbank. 8 Queensway House, Queensway, Newton Abbot. TQ12 4BA. Tel: 01626 437310, email: office@thatfoodbank.com Web: www.thatfoodbank.com

Footnote. Thank you very much to those of you who have sent me contributions. Relevant photos are very welcome.

I aim to circulate each weekly issue on Wednesday to give notice of the coming weekend's events and perhaps report what happened last weekend.

Please let me have any news of past events, notice of future activities or any other information that may be interesting or useful for our Church members, by Tuesday for the next issue.

If you know of anyone who does not receive this weekly email, but wishes to do so, please ask them to email me or contact the office.

John Calderwood news@newtonbbotparishes.co.uk