

In loving memory of

Peter Maurice Rowell

A dearly loved husband, father, brother, grandfather, great grandfather, faithful pastor, preacher and a special friend to so many.

Taken home to be with Jesus
on October 28th 2015
Aged 81 years



“Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love:
therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn thee.”

Jeremiah 31 v3

Funeral Service taken by John Cowley
at Forest Fold Chapel, Crowborough.

Tuesday 10th November 2015 at 12 noon.

Introduction

Hymn 1 (Tune: *Montgomery*)

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
The joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue;
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,
Has won my affections and bound my soul fast.

Thy mercy in Jesus exempts me from hell;
Its glories I'll sing, and its wonders I'll tell:
'Twas Jesus, my Friend, when He hung on the tree
Who opened the channel of mercy for me.

Without Thy free mercy I could not live here
Sin soon would reduce me to utter despair;
But, through Thy free goodness, my spirits revive,
And He that first made me, still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart,
Dissolved by thy goodness, I fall to the ground
And weep to the praise of the mercy I found.

The door of Thy mercy stands open all day
To the poor and the needy, who knock by the way;
No sinner shall ever be empty sent back,
Who comes seeking mercy for Jesus's sake.

Great Father of mercies, Thy goodness I own,
And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son:
All praise to the Spirit, whose whisper divine
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine.

John Stocker 1776

Prayer

(Colin Dawson, Westoning)

A thanksgiving for the life of Peter Rowell
(Paul Watts, Coventry)

Hymn 2 (Tune: *Eventide*)

Our Jesus died upon a Cross of shame
Robbed of all comfort, even of His Name,
Despised by men, and crucified was He,
His place of death, upon the cursed tree.

Lifeless at last when His great work was done,
They laid Him quietly in the empty tomb.
Saddened, distressed, and broken by their loss,
They knew not yet the glory of the Cross.

So we who stand beside this open grave
Must look to Jesus and His pow'r to save,
Must trust in all He did on Calv'rys tree
From death and hell to set His people free.

Within the tomb, He could not long remain,
He rose, He conquered, and He lived again.
Soon to His friends He came; the living Lord
To comfort and encourage by His Word.

On such a day our hearts unite in grief
And yet our Saviour comes to bring relief
By His own Resurrection and His power
To give us comfort in a dying hour.

To give us strong assurance, and to say,
'Your dead will rise again' and in this way,
Their radiant Lord they face to face shall see,
With glorious bodies, like Himself shall be.

We cannot fully understand, but trust,
Though earth return to earth and dust to dust.
God's power, in Christ, shall answer all our fears
And bless our hearts and wipe away our tears.

Peter Rowell

Bible Reading
2 Timothy 3:8—4:8

¹⁴ But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned *them*; ¹⁵ And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: ¹⁷ That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

¹ I charge *thee* therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; ² Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. ³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; ⁴ And they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. ⁵ But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry. ⁶ For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. ⁷ I have fought a good fight, I have finished *my* course, I have kept the faith: ⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Address

(John Cowley, Crowborough)

Hymn 3 (Tune: *St Catherine*)

MY hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

***On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand.***

When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, His cov'nant, and His blood,
support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found!
clothed in His righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne.

Edward Mote 1797-1874

Closing Prayer

Interment
(John Cowley)

To be sung at the graveside

Psalm 23 (Tune: Crimmond)

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green: he leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again;
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
Ev'n for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear none ill:
For thou art with me; and thy rod
And staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished
In presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me:
And in God's house for evermore
My dwelling-place shall be.

Scottish Psalter 1650

Peter would want us all to be able to say these words in our hearts :

We know that Jesus died and rose again.
We know His saving work was not in vain.
We know He conquered death and all its power,
We know He'll help us in a dying hour.

We know He wept beside a dear friend's grave,
We know He feels for all He came to save,
We know our sorrows touch His loving heart,
We know He chose the time we had to part.

We know this parting will not be for long,
We know His way for us cannot be wrong,
We know, although we cannot see the way,
We know His will is best for every day.

We know He has ascended up on high,
We know He hears our every prayer and cry
We know our Saviour watches o'er this grave,
We know He came eternally to save.

We know our Lord must come, O glad surprise!
We know the dead in Christ shall one day rise.
We know they'll share with Him in glory bright,
We know they'll live in His eternal light.

Peter Rowell

Kathleen and the family wish to express their deep appreciation of the love and prayers of so many friends at this time of bereavement.

All are welcome to stay for refreshments afterwards.

Donations, if desired, given in memory of Peter, can be placed in the boxes at the back.

These will go to Missionary Aviation Fellowship and the Stanley Delves Trust.