



Pastor's Page

"A Changed Outlook"

Not for the first time in my life I was rushing to get to church on time. As I threw my guitar and a storage box into the boot of my car I miscalculated the height of the boot door cracking my head on the corner of it! Not knowing any Baptist swear words I just did a spontaneous ministerial war-dance which included rubbing my head and making strange moaning sounds! It's hard to be a Christian at moments like these! We were recently reminded in a sermon by Leon Evans that we cannot control our circumstances but that we can control our attitude towards them. In the New Testament Paul writing to Christians in Philippi says; "I know what it is to be in need and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation....." (Philippians 4:12) Wow! This reminded me of an email I received last week which said this:

I am thankful: *for the taxes I pay because..... it means I am employed.*

for the mess to clean after a party.... because it means I have been surrounded by friends.

for the clothes that fit a little too snug... because it means I have enough to eat.

for my shadow that watches me work... because it means I am out in the sunshine

for a lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning, and gutters that need fixing.....because it means I have a home

for all the complaining I hear about the government... because it means we have freedom of speech.

for the parking spot I find at the far end of the car park.....because it means I am capable of walking and I have been blessed with transportation

for my huge heating bill..... because it means I am warm.

for the lady behind me in church who sings off key..... because it means I can hear.

for the pile of laundry and ironing because it means I have clothes to wear.

for weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day.... because it means I have been capable of working hard.

for the alarm that goes off in the early morning hours... because it means I am alive.

and finally, for too much e-mailbecause it means I have friends who are thinking of me and care enough to write.

We have a lot to be thankful for and if we're Christians we have Jesus who is with us in all circumstances. That's why Paul says "I can do all things through him who gives me strength" Thank God for Jesus!

20th January 2008