



# A Hill Worth Dying On

GYC 2017, Adam Ramdin



Welcome to  
**LUTTERWORTH**  
Workplace of John Wycliffe  
and Sir Frank Whittle



Twinned with Chambourcy







“With whom, think you,” he finally said, “are ye contending? with an old man on the brink of the grave? No! with Truth—Truth which is stronger than you, and will overcome you.”

- Wylie, b. 2, ch. 13

# A Hill Worth Dying On

There was something bigger than the individual

There was something bigger than the church

# Issues

- National Rights
- Justification by Faith
- Bible in the common language







# A Hill Worth Dying On

- Council of Constance
- Goes under safe conduct of Emperor Sigismund
- On arrival is put in prison





# A Hill Worth Dying On

- Jerome comes to his aid
- Realises he cannot do anything to help and so returns to Prague
- He is apprehended on the way and taken to prison also







“‘What errors,’ said Huss, ‘shall I renounce? I know myself guilty of none. I call God to witness that all that I have written and preached has been with the view of rescuing souls from sin and perdition; and, therefore, most joyfully will I confirm with my blood that truth which I have written and preached.’”

Wylie, b. 3, ch. 7.”

Johannes Bus

+ 0.14. Juli 1417.



# A Hill Worth Dying On

“When the flames kindled about him, he began to sing, ‘Jesus, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me,’ and so continued till his voice was silenced forever.” GC 109.2



# A Hill Worth Dying On

“Both bore themselves with constant mind when their last hour approached. They prepared for the fire as if they were going to a marriage feast. They uttered no cry of pain. When the flames rose, they began to sing hymns; and scarce could the vehemency of the fire stop their singing.” GC 109.3



# Issue

- Bible in the common language



# A Hill Worth Dying On

- Martin Luther
- Born 1494
- Dad was a miner, poor family





# Martin Luthers Geburtshaus

## ÖFFNUNGSZEITEN

April bis Oktober  
10-18 Uhr

November bis März  
10-17 Uhr  
montags geschlossen







FRIDERICVS GVILELMVS IV REX PORTAM  
W OCTOBR D XXXI INDVLGENTIIS ROMANIS  
REFORMATIONIS SACRORVM PRAESANTIAS  
VALVS EX AEGETIERI ATOVE ILLAS THESIS  
IN CIVIA MARTINVS LA RHEINVS A DOM MDXXI  
IMPUGNANDIS THESIS AFFINIT LXXXXV  
INCENDIO VASTATA REEDIFIC SIGNIS EMORNAVIT  
INSCRIBI IVSSIT A DOM MDCCCLVII







# Issues

- Bible in the common language
- Justification by Faith Alone





Welcome to

**ASLOCKTON**

Birthplace of  
Thomas Cranmer  
1489 - 1556

Archbishop of Canterbury



# THOMAS CRANMER 1489 - 1556



## A History of Thomas Cranmer

Thomas Cranmer was born in Aslockton, Nottinghamshire on 2nd July 1489. His father, Thomas, was the grandson of Edmund Cranmer, the first Cranmer to hold the manor of Aslockton, which came into the family in 1460 through Edmund's marriage to Isabelle d'Aslacton.

Thomas spent his first fourteen years in Aslockton and worshipped at the Parish Church of St. John of Beverley, Whatton-in-the-Vale. Little is known of his early life but it is believed that he may have attended the Collegiate Grammar School at Southwell.

Thomas Cranmer senior died in 1501 and was buried in Whatton Church. Shortly afterwards, at the age of 14, Thomas was sent to Jesus College, Cambridge. He became a Fellow of the College in 1511, but his fellowship was suspended in 1515, when he married Joan, daughter of the proprietor of the Dolphin Inn. Joan died within a year of the marriage and, after her death, Thomas resumed his fellowship. By 1520, he was ordained, and he received his Doctorate of Divinity in 1526.

It is possible that Thomas would have continued his life of quiet scholarship had it not been for a chance meeting in 1529 in Waltham Abbey, Essex, with Stephen Gardiner and Edward Foxe. Both Gardiner and Foxe knew Thomas in Cambridge and were now counsellors to Henry VIII. Over dinner, the discussion moved to 'The King's Great Matter', the marriage of Henry VIII to Catherine of Aragon. Cranmer's oratory on the subject impressed both Gardiner and Foxe and they reported their conversations to the King.

Henry appeared equally impressed and shortly afterwards Thomas was appointed Chancellor to the King and then Archdeacon of Taunton. In 1532, Henry sent Thomas on a mission to Europe, in an attempt to gather support for the annulment of Henry's marriage to Catherine of Aragon. Whilst in Germany, Thomas met Margaret, the niece of Andrew Luther, a Lutheran theologian. As a priest, Cranmer had taken the vow of celibacy, but Margaret was married in secret. Luther convinced him that 'God's Word' was more important than the vow.

## Thomas Cranmer - Local Ancestry



Timeline  
1533  
1534  
1535  
1536  
1537  
1538  
1539  
1540  
1541  
1542  
1543  
1544  
1545  
1546  
1547  
1548  
1549  
1550  
1551  
1552  
1553  
1554  
1555  
1556



CRANMER HOUSE

# Issue

- Communion &  
transubstantiation



# A Hill Worth Dying On

- Hugh Latimer given about 6 weeks when he could have fled as many other Protestant leaders did
- Council summoned him. John Careless heard of it and warned Latimer, but he did not leave
- Queens officer merely passed on the summons and left
- Latimer obeyed the royal summons and came to London on 13th Sept, 1554



# A Hill Worth Dying On

“It was a magnificently courageous recognition of the fact that where great issues are involved there comes a time when the bravest men cannot give ground.”

Chester, *Op. cit.*, p. 196.



# A Hill Worth Dying On

- Oxford Martyrs of 1555 and 1556
- Nicolas Ridley, Hugh Latimer and Thomas Cranmer
- Main issue was Transubstantiation



Catholics	Reformed	Lutheran	Other Groups
<u>Transubstantiation</u>	<u>Receptionism</u>	<u>Consubstantiation</u>	<u>Memorialism</u>
Bread and wine completely change into actual body and blood of Jesus	Christ is not present literally but is spiritually present.	Christ's body and blood are present, "in, with and under" the bread and wine	No physical or spiritual presence of Christ in the bread and wine. The service is a remembrance of Christ
	By faith you can receive the actual body and blood of Jesus through the Holy Spirit	Iron rod in a fire: both are distinct, yet both are united	
	John Calvin	Martin Luther	Ulrich Zwingli

# A Hill Worth Dying On

“Where is the Lord? He is in Heaven, whence he went at the resurrection. The change at communion is in the heart of the believer not in the bread.” *Hugh Latimer*





Opposite this point  
near the Cross in the  
middle of Broad Street  
HUGH LATIMER  
*one time Bishop of Worcester;*  
NICHOLAS RIDLEY  
*Bishop of London, and*  
THOMAS CRANMER  
*Archbishop of Canterbury,*  
were burnt for their  
faith in 1555 and 1556.

H.H.

# Issue

- Sabbath vs. Sunday



# A Hill Worth Dying On

- End time prophetic understanding of the linking of the Sabbath with the Seal of God was first espoused by Joseph Bates in the late 1840s
- The Uniqueness of Adventism is understanding the Sabbath in the context of the Sanctuary and an apocalyptic, end time scenario

# A Hill Worth Dying On

- Thomas Tilam, Seventh day Baptist in the 1600s, wrote in 1657 a tract on the Sabbath - *The Seventh-Day Sabbath Sought Out and Celebrated*
- Identified God's Law and the Sabbath as being at the heart of the final conflict

# A Hill Worth Dying On

SDA interpretation of final events predates what some call a contextual understanding of Revelation based on the 1880s when a Sunday Law was introduced into Congress in 1888

# A Hill Worth Dying On

**1961**

*McGowan v. Maryland* - Court ruled that Sunday closing laws have a secular purpose so they don't violate the Constitution

*Braunfield v. Brown* ruled that Sunday closing laws don't violate the religious freedom rights of Jewish shopkeepers even though they would be handicapped in the marketplace

# A Hill Worth Dying On

History provides an example of what it looks like when Adventists stand for the Sabbath but fail to see the principles for which the Sabbath stands

- Hitler and Nazi German

# A Hill Worth Dying On

Today is there an unpopular religious minority who have been targeted, had their holy books confiscated, religious rituals disrupted and some of their members jailed in violation of basic due process and civil rights?

Have people been in prison for multiple years with fair trial or even any trial at all?

# A Hill Worth Dying On

- Laws meant to control one group in a society establish precedent for all who live in that society
- Need to focus on the principles underlying the Sabbath and God's law and how this plays out in a wider spectrum, otherwise our view of the Sabbath could be too narrow

# Issue

- Marriage & the Family



# A Hill Worth Dying On

- Summer of 2015, United States Supreme Court ruled that same sex marriage was a constitutionally protected right
- California, New Jersey, Oregon and DC made it illegal for counsellors to use conversion therapy to help youth who want to resist same sex temptations

# A Hill Worth Dying On

- As a church we have released statements affirming the Biblical view, yet overall as a church we have been quiet on the issue, avoiding getting involved too much

# A Hill Worth Dying On

- Reformation helped in the sexual revolution
  - Luther married Katherine Von Bora, as escaped nun
  - Calvin married
  - Both rejected the idea that celibacy was a superior form of spirituality
  - Puritans continued this and taught that the Bible upheld romantic love and sex engaged for pleasure

# A Hill Worth Dying On

“Then marriage and the Sabbath had their origin, twin institutions for the glory of God in the benefit of humanity. Then, as the Creator joined the hands of the holy pair in wedlock, saying, A man shall “leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one,” He enunciated the law of marriage for all the children of Adam to the close of time.” AH 340.4

# A Hill Worth Dying On

## Revelation Chapter 14

1st Angel - 'fountains of waters'. Gen 7:11 - *pege*.  
Malachi 4:6 - turn the hearts of the fathers

2nd Angel - 'fornication' - literal and historical

3rd Angel - 'beast and his image'. Counterfeit of the image of God. Image of God is a combination of male and female (Gen 1:27)

# A Hill Worth Dying On

**Medieval Church** - subjugating women, making wedded life an inferior state. Led to a view of God that was authoritarian, hierarchical and oppressive

**Modern Secularism** - distorting God's image by denying importance of gender

# A Hill Worth Dying On

Punishment: Revelation 14:10 - 'fire and brimstone' -  
allusion to Genesis 19:24 and Jude 7

*pur* and *theion* - same words used in Revelation 14:10 as  
in the Septuagint in Genesis 19:24

Outside of Revelation half the usages of this word have to  
do with Sodom and Gomorrah

# A Hill Worth Dying On

4th and 5th Commandments call for affirmative behaviour (remember and honour), rather than the other restrictive commands

# A Hill Worth Dying On

No law for the Sabbath so why laws to protect marriage?

- 5th Commandment is on the second table and deals with matters of natural morality that all societies need.

- Nature teaches that to survive and thrive, civil societies need a structure of honesty, integrity and respect for life and property. Based on nature and human experience the traditional family structure is one of the basic, common values.

# A Hill Worth Dying On

## Civil Morality

- Our early pioneers got involved in the temperance movement, support for legal prohibition, and the abolition of slavery.
- Ellen White's largest audiences were to non-SDA when speaking on issues of civil morality. It was part of the missional outreach of the church.

# A Hill Worth Dying On

It could be argued that marriage isn't a Christian or Jewish institution as it exists outside of and prior to these cultures.

To invoke civil laws on behalf of morality it must be shown that there are public consequences to morality.

# A Hill Worth Dying On

- Young adult children of a lesbian parent were 11 times as likely to have been sexually abused by a parent or another adult
- Children of lesbians and gay men are 3-4 times more likely to have been forced to have sex against their will
- Children raised by gays and lesbians reported with greater levels of depression, lower levels of happiness and physical health and 30-40% more likely to get arrested

*Regnerus Study*

# A Hill Worth Dying On

- Children of gay and lesbian families were about 69% as likely to graduate from high school as were children in opposite sex families
  - Lesbian household - 60%
  - Daughters of lesbian - 45%
  - Daughters of gay parents - 15%

*2006 National Census of Canada*

# A Hill Worth Dying On

Should we be passive or silent on this issue?

Doctrine

Teaching

Majority/Minority  
Views

Individual Positions

## Doctrine

- Fundamental Beliefs
- “Landmarks”
- “Pillars”
- Define a person as a SDA
- Careful study and church wide consensus
- Formed and settled over long period

Doctrine

Teaching

- Beliefs or lifestyle issues that the church has adopted that are not a test of faith
- They do represent what SDAs hold to be true

Doctrine

Teaching

Majority/Minority  
Views

- Positions or beliefs held by larger groups of Adventists that are not recognised as doctrines or teachings
- Often include ideas that are not core faith ideas

Doctrine

Teaching

Majority/Minority  
Views

Individual Positions

- Positions held by a few or perhaps just a local church



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# Lineage

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