



SBC Sunday 4th October 2020

Reading : Hebrews 6 v 19

The 4th October 1883 started out as an ordinary day for some boys in Glasgow, by the end of it, they had been enrolled in the 1st ever Boys' Brigade Company in Glasgow, started by a Christian gentleman named William Smith. This led on to what is now a major youth organisation around the world that helps young people to grow and develop as well as teaching them Christian values. The motto of the Boys' Brigade is from Hebrews Chapter 6 and verse 19 which says 'We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure'.

A ship's anchor will hold a ship in place when there is no dock available for the ship to tie up at. The crew will drop the anchor over the side and wait for the ship to stop, hoping that the anchor finds a good solid place to land on the seabed.

All through these last 6 months of extreme change for all of us, hopefully our anchor has been firmly lodged with God. Through these times as we have watched the news, seen how so many people have been affected by this virus, not only by getting ill, but by watching people they know suffer both in health and employment/job situations. Whatever challenges have faced us in these last few months and whatever challenges lie ahead for us in the next few months, GOD is with us and always will be. He is our strength and shield, a firm anchor that is fixed solid.

This verse has come back to me many times during these challenging times, and has given me great comfort, even when I haven't felt that God wasn't particularly close. Also I think of the hymn that is often referred to as the Boys' Brigade hymn – Will your anchor hold and the chorus says

'We have an anchor that keeps the soul steadfast and sure while the billows roll; fastened to the rock which cannot move, grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love!'

On this founders day for Boys' Brigade I wonder how true this is for each of us, is our anchor grounded firm and deep in God's love? I hope and pray that each one of each day can anchor our souls in God's love, deep and secure.