

# Keep Turning That Page in 2017





**‘OK 2016, now you can go do one!’**

**‘Oh no, not Gene Wilder too... Seriously  
2016, what is up with you?!’**

**“Enough already 2016... as if Bowie,  
Prince, Wogan, Wood, Aherne and  
Corbett was not enough... now you take  
George Michael and Carrie Fisher  
within 48 hours ☹️”**

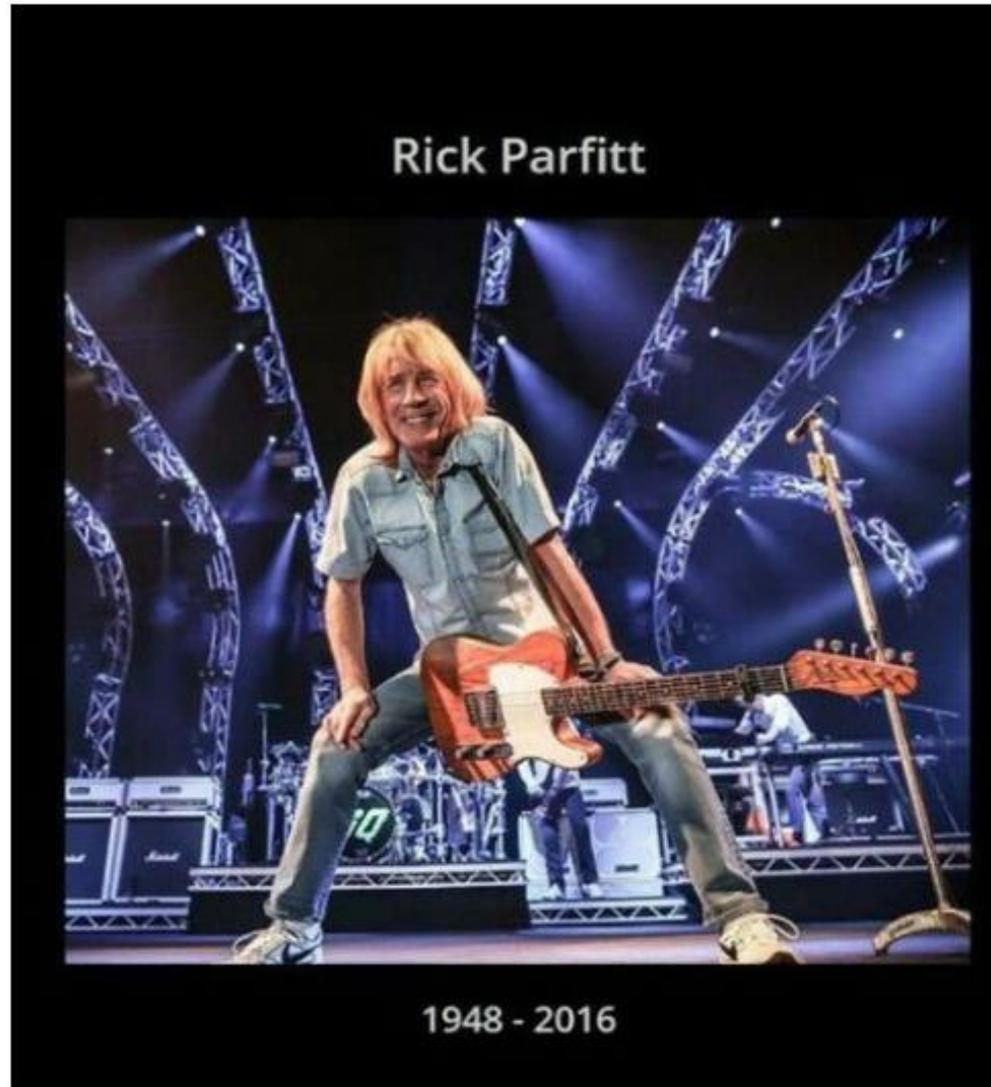




Jonathan King

December 25 at 12:48am · 🌐

Legend...



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# 2016

- **How was it for you?**
  - For many 2016 may have involved personal breakthroughs or celebrations and positive changes
  - For many it will have been painful, upsetting, lonely, barren, confusing and so on...
  - For many of us, and as a church, it has been...

**... time to turn the page!**



# Turning from Isaiah 53 to Isaiah 54

- **Isaiah 53**
  - He knows our PAIN
  - Purpose in PAIN (His suffering = our salvation)
  - Process in PAIN (choosing obedience & humility)
  
- **Isaiah 54**
  - Turn the page and SING



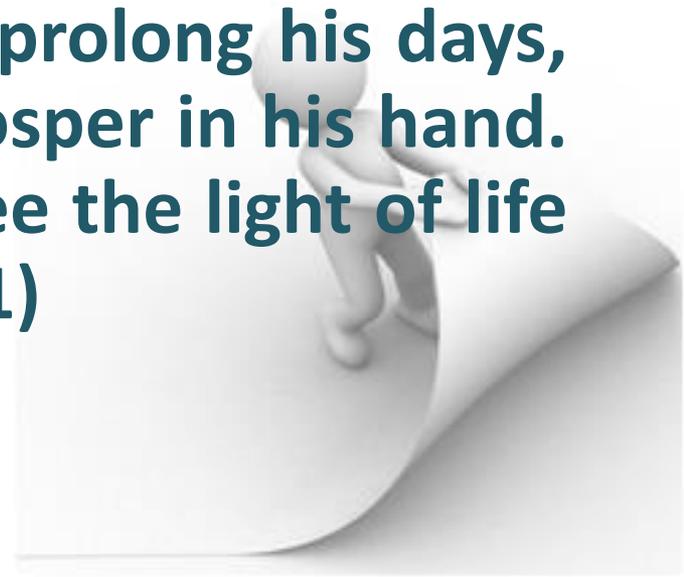
# Isaiah 53

- **10 Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer...**
- **Pierced (His head, hands, feet, side)**
  - For our transgressions (rebellion)
- **Crushed (bruised, beaten down)**
  - For our iniquities (guilt)
- **His Punishment (Chastisement / Discipline)**
  - Our Peace (Shalom / Wholeness)
- **His wounds (Stripes / Blows)**
  - Our healing (Become Fresh / Repaired / Purified)



# The Lord's Will?

- The **PROCESS** and **PLAN** of a perfect Father who sees the end from the beginning?
- The story doesn't stop at the suffering...
- ... he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand. After he has suffered, he will see the light of life and be satisfied (Isaiah 53:10-11)



# Isaiah 54

1 **“Sing, O barren one,** who did not bear;  
break forth into singing and cry aloud,  
you who have not been in labour!

For the children of the desolate one will be more  
than the children of her who is married,” says the Lord.

2 “Enlarge the place of your tent...



# By Faith We Can Turn the Page...

- **Death into life (John 5:24)**
- **Sorrow into joy (Jer 31, Psalm 30:11 John 16:22)**
- **Ashes to beauty (Isaiah 61:3)**
- **This is so often God's chosen way**



# 2 Cor 4

**7** But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. **8** We are afflicted in every way, **but** not crushed; perplexed, **but** not driven to despair; **9** persecuted, **but** not forsaken; struck down, **but** not destroyed; **10** always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. **11** For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. **12** So death is at work in us, **but life in you.**

**13** Since we have the same spirit of faith **according to what has been written**, "I believed, and so I spoke", we also believe, and so we also speak, **14** knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. **15** For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

**16** So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. **17** For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, **18** as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

# Death Brings Life

- **John 12:24** Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.
- Christ HAD to suffer and die in order to bring about our eternal life
- His 'jar of clay' suffered so that we can now carry the 'treasure' of His eternal life in us



# Job: The Obedient Page Turner

- **1:1** There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job, and that man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil.
- Satan attacks Job
- **1:21** And he said, “Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.” **22** In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrong.
- **42:12** And the Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning.
- Look the challenges in your life in the face today and say...

‘BLESSED BE THE NAME OF THE LORD’



# Hebrews 11

‘Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. 2 For by it the people of old received their commendation. 3 By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.’

- Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Moses...

‘39 And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, 40 since **God had provided something better for us**, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.’

# Hebrews 12

**3** Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that **you may not grow weary or faint-hearted.** **4** In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. **5** And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons?

“My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. **6** For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.”

**7** It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? **8** If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons.

# Keep Turning That Page

- As we move into 2017...
- Let us believe for something better
- Let us see God's purpose in our challenges past and present
- Let us, by faith, keep hold of the corner of that page and see that on the other side there is something worth fighting, persevering and believing for

- Lets do this thing!





**Heb 10:25** not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

- Go and fist bump as many people as you can and encourage them today!!!

