

Oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of His splendour

Isaiah 61:1-7

Our new church directory is a directory of excellence! People are special and are being made into something of great significance. Ben Morrison's quotes;

"Honour produces a safe place and people blossom where they feel safe. Honour dismantles fear. Honour helps us take the mask off. To be real. To be authentic. Honour dismantles inferiority complexes. I know who I am, I know who you are. Honour builds a bridge to confront one another in love. You could be more. You are royalty why are you acting like you are nothing?"

Jamie Lee

Honour is about our identity. We never rise above the view we have of ourselves.

The Spirit of the sovereign Lord – transforms the weak and foolish into, oak trees!

A tree in different seasons and circumstances - the same tree looking very different is still a tree!

10 interesting facts about oak trees

- Very dense wood; great strength and hardness
- High tannin content making it very resistant to insect and fungal attack
- Very appealing grain markings, beauty – used decoratively in houses
- Was the principle timber forming the frame structure of houses
- Commonly used oak barrels to contain wine and spirits, giving wines greater refinement
- Bark is also used for medical preparations due to richness in tannin
- The bark is the best material to use as corks in wine bottles
- Japanese drums made of oak as it gives a brighter and louder tone
- The oak is a common symbol of strength and endurance and used as a national emblem for many nations

Made righteous - and what redemption?

He gives us and makes us:

- Strength and endurance
- Resistance to enemy attack
- Beauty and individuality
- The ability to carry weight as supporting structures
- Containers for the wine of His Spirit
- Ministers of healing to others
- The ability to hold things together like wine in a bottle
- A sound in our 'place of influence,' providing a rhythm for others to dance to
- On top of all this, we are righteous because of Him

OT usage: *ELAH* – Oak tree, tall tree. *EL* = Mighty, God

Steve Prince