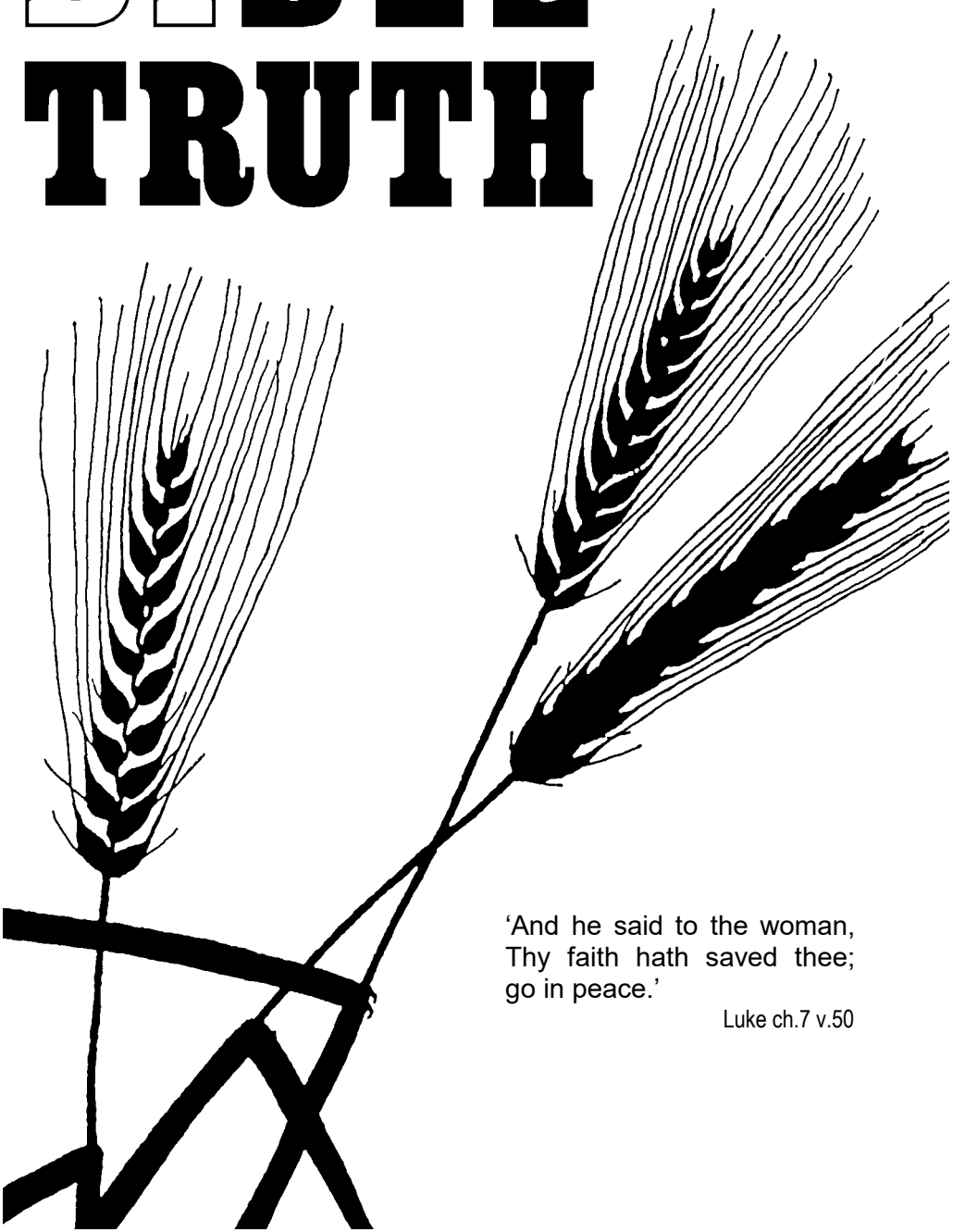
BIBLE TRUTH

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'And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.'

Luke ch.7 v.50



Derek Gash 16 November 1935 - 8 November 2025

With deep sadness we report the death of Derek after a short stay in hospital. For twenty years he was the BIBTF Vice President before taking over the task of President from Dr Michael Bennett in 2022. His temperament of always being cheerful and positive suited him well for this task, particularly during these difficult times that we are now passing through.

His parents had a small dairy farm where his early years were spent with the aid of the farm dog Rover moving the cows from field to milking parlour. Until 18 he attended Swanwick Hall Grammar School before being called up for National Service and into the Army tank regiment! After this he returned to his family business and helped in the local milk delivery round until the disappointments of life took their toll and the supermarkets ended the business.

His home had given him and his two brothers a traditional Christian upbringing, so unsurprisingly he was baptised as an infant at the local parish church. Then came Sunday School and Somercotes Salvation Army, followed by the local Congregational Church and St James' parish church in Riddings where he lived. This home arose after his father died and Derek became the official carer for his mother. Several jobs followed this but close to his heart for many a year was the Royal British Legion. He was a local branch Standard Bearer and attended many parades over the years as well as the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall. The greatest highlight being in 1994 when he was privileged to attend a Buckingham Palace Royal Garden Party as Chairman of the Derbyshire branch.

An early memory of profound significance to him was during the 2nd World War when watching a squadron of planes flying overhead a Mr Argyle said, 'We are Israel, so we will be all right'. Several people nodded in agreement and allegedly walked away feeling happier. That idea of 'sharing God's Word for God's people', never left him.

He joined the BIBTF team of speakers twenty years ago but also he will be remembered for the enjoyment he brought to the many folk when he led in the Fellowship Day tours in the Midlands.

The 'Road to Arbor Low' which is high up on the Derbyshire Moors was an outing not easily forgotten for it was here that Derek failed to persuade Amelia Cowdrey, in her 90s, from successfully climbing it. Her reward was tea at the 'Old Original Bakewell Pudding shop' where with hesitance and Derek's persuasion, she tried a real Bakewell Pudding! Derek had a keen sense of British Isles artefacts showing where its indigenous inhabitants came from. One example being his guided tour of nearby Hartington St Giles church, famous for its wall paintings depicting aspects of the twelve tribes of Israel.

So we have much to thank God for in the successful way Derek brought newcomers to a greater knowledge of scripture, thence to an understanding of the importance of the Israel peoples and consequently support of our Bible Truth Fellowship. His impish smile and the pasties he regularly brought to our London meeting lunches will be sorely missed.

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