



THE ROUNDABOUT

Do you know which exit to take?

The "round-a-bout" is meant to make negotiating a "crossroad" more manageable, safer, and quicker. Generally, it does.

No one continuously circles a roundabout unless they don't know where they are going. Or, as in my case, once in England, finding myself in a seven-lane roundabout, I figured I had a valid reason to turn it into a "merry-go-round" until, with a sigh of relief, I found the correct exit.



The season of Easter brings a focus on a particular cross. A rough-hewn, wooden cross on a hillside with a body nailed to it. A cross surrounded by a mob of people ridiculing the bloodied man as he hung there in pain and humiliation, screaming, "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

Many of the crowd did not realise that they were standing at a "crossroad" in life. Not a roundabout, a crossroad. As they yelled at the man on the cross, they were, in reality, screaming at the God they claimed to worship. "We do not believe all you have told us through the centuries!" We spit on your offer of love and forgiveness, and to hell with you and your love!"

Interestingly, two men in the crowd did realise they were at a crossroad.

One was a Centurian soldier who had supervised the gruesome spectacle and uttered, "Surely this was the Son of God. Those words of recognition would have set his life down a different path. The other was a thief, hanging on a cross beside Jesus, to him, and said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus replied, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Two simple statements. Each shows a change of direction. No going round and round trying to figure it all out. A simple change of "I know which way to go!"

As you stand at the Easter "crossroad" this year, what will be your response? Will you join the crowd for a moment of joint mob gratification? Or will you confidently join the thief and admit, "God, I am sorry I have ignored you. I truly want your forgiving love in my life, guiding me through all future crossroads and roundabouts. I trust you. Thank you."

God bless,

Kevin.