

Free Press

A MEMBER of my family had the audacity to say to me not so long ago, "Isn't it about time you sent the Free Press a newer picture of yourself to go with your column? After all, the one you sent them when you first started writing to them over five years ago doesn't quite portray what you look like now. You have aged!" The cheek of it, I say.

"You have aged!" That makes me think about the portraits of Jesus we see in the Bible, and I use that word cautiously, because in fact nowhere do we have any description of what He looked like! After all, who can draw God? Well, you may remember that my very first Thought was about a little girl trying just that, drawing God. And her Dad saying to her, "But Darling, no one knows what God looks like!" "Perhaps not," she replies, "but they soon will."

Thought for the weak



with the Rev Preben Andersen

The only way we can begin to imagine what Jesus looked like is by reading about the way he dealt with people, when he took their hands, touched their wounds, walked amongst lepers, cried with them at their distress, - and then read the reactions of the people he healed: some jumping for joy, including those who could not even walk until then, some touching his cloak, knowing that this would be enough to receive His blessing, and then others again, often children, whom he took in his arms and blessed and loved. No, we do not get a description of Jesus' face, but by the reaction of those he served and helped, we still get a picture of love, gentleness, humour, compassion and perseverance.

So, perhaps it will be no harm at all if the more modern picture of me does not make it into my column, but the words being written are allowed instead to speak to you and perhaps give some comfort without such distraction? Yes, indeed, I have aged, but the Living Word I attempt to portray is ever young and ever fresh, for He is Jesus, our Lord and Saviour, who never changes - and ever is! God bless you.

Rev Preben Andersen