

Faith Keeps Walking

During a period when I had absolutely no idea what I should be aiming for or what the future held, I was pondering this emptiness whilst doing a bit of weeding. "No, but God Does." Then I remembered what God had said a couple of days previously. "I know the plans I have for you." The full quotation is:

"I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

I thought of the pillar of cloud that went before the Israelites when God led them out of captivity in Egypt.

By day the Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or by night. Exodus 13:21

It's all very well to focus on the fact that God went ahead of them in that cloud but the Israelites had to follow blindly—step by step, day after day, through an unremitting routine and an unchanging landscape. The cloud not only led them, it also hid from them where they were heading. The Israelites had to trust God. Any expedition only works as long as the people have confidence in the leader. Does he know the way? Are we lost? Is this the best route? Will our provisions last out? Why is it taking so long? Most children have complained at some time, "Are we nearly there?" When the leader of the Israelites, Moses, lost the confidence of the Israelites, it was actually because they had lost faith in God, though it was convenient to blame Moses. That was why, when Moses took a long time to come back down from the mountain where he had been meeting with God, the Israelites rebelled against God and made their own idol to worship. They had lost faith.

Faith keeps walking. Faith keeps following.

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. Hebrews 11:1

Faith keeps walking.