



*Church of Scotland
Charity No. SC010370*

Sunday, 3 May 2015: Re-Dedication of a new Gravestone in Memory of Rev. Dr. Stirling, inventor of the Stirling Engine and Minister of Galston Parish Church from 1824-1878, in Galston Cemetery and conducted of Rev. Alastair Symington, Chaplain-in-Ordinary to HM The Queen in Scotland, who said:

Paul said: What is sown as a perishable thing is raised imperishable. Sown in humiliation, it is raised in glory; sown in weakness, it is raised in power; sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body.

We learn from scripture that, since the time of Abraham, God's people have set apart holy ground for the burial of the dead. Our Lord Jesus Himself was interred in accordance with Jewish burial customs before His resurrection and ascension to the right hand of God. We now gather in His name, that by the reading of God's Word and by prayer, we may rededicate this gravestone and resting place of the Reverend Doctor Robert Stirling.

The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, thou I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me. Thy rod and staff they comfort me in the presence of mine enemies; Thou anointest my head with oil, my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. By the authority vested in me as a Minister of the Gospel, I re-dedicate this resting place of God's servant, Robert, faithful Minister of Galston and scientist of world renown.

Let us pray: Eternal God, You are the God of the living and not of the dead. We ask Your blessing on this resting place, dedicated to Your glory that we may continue to hold it in reverence and respect and may continue too to care for it with love. We pray that those who have fallen asleep in Your faith may waken in Your love, and that this holy place here may have been for Robert the gateway to life eternal. Give us here the grace to follow Your saints in the life of faith and fellowship and find at the last the heavenly joys prepared for those who love . . . and now the peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and the blessing of God Almighty, father, Son and Holy Spirit rest and remain with each one of you. Now and for evermore. Amen.