

We as servants of Christ and ambassadors of his Kingdom would like to remind you of our ministry here at Church Built of Living Stones. It is a ministry of reconciliation given to us by our Father. Our instruction is not to teach you the things of God in rules and regulations, but to encourage you that the only one who can teach you of the Father is Jesus Christ and he will do this by the power of his word and Spirit. Our teaching ministry towards you is for you to trust that you can be taught of the Lord and that you need no man to mediate between God and yourself except the man Christ Jesus.

This may be daunting to you at the beginning, but it will eventually release you into God's Holy Kingdom from which you will never wish to depart.

The attacks and slanders will be immense and will continue until the last enemy is overcome.

But fear not the Lord will be on your side. (Read Psalm 124).

The Kingdom of God is like leaven or yeast in a lump of dough and it is growing and advancing throughout the earth and will bear fruit to God's glory. We are saying that Christ is building his Kingdom and its inhabitants are as living stones built up to be a holy habitation for God. We will never have a bricks and mortar building. We do not solicit money to spread the good news. At the same time, we encourage giving to the poor in spirit, by this we mean give your whole life to Christ and his Kingdom and you will see the salvation of God in effect. Our endeavour is to see God's people go forth and proclaim Jesus and Christ's Kingdom without the restrictions of denominational power overriding them.

Everyman in the body of Christ Jesus has a purpose and can go forth in the power of God's Spirit with a new tongue and prophecy. The new tongue is the Gospel and the Spirit of Prophecy is the Lord Jesus Christ. They tell the world that God the Father is not holding their sins and lawlessness against them and that he grants them the Holy Spirit to guide and lead them into all truth.

The Holy Spirit leads them to Jesus and Jesus teaches them all things of the Father.

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### **May His Kingdom come**

We cry out in the wilderness of this present evil age amid the hindering religions of this world to the seeker, the broken hearted, the captives, the bound, the sick, the down trodden, the voiceless and those that live in darkness who see a great light – look up for your King comes. His name is Jesus and he brings a Kingdom which encompasses all the glories of the coming age. Seek and you shall find, ask and it will be given you, knock and it will be opened unto you. He will grant those that seek first his Kingdom riches of glory that this world knows nothing about. He comes not for the righteous but the sinner and he will receive you with open arms and give you a vision of hope that has its origins from the heart of God. Obey his calling - come into the light, don't hover on the edge of the light, come into the light, all your prayers will be answered in the light.

### **Fear not, do not be afraid**

In the world you will have trouble and tribulation from which none of us who belong to Jesus are exempt, as it is the arena of redemption for the faithful. Jesus' own words reverberate and echo in our minds *"I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble, but take heart! I have overcome the world"*.

And in (1 John 4: 4) *You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.*

We have warned for many months that men are going to be tried and to be found wanting because their trust is in the arm of the flesh which cannot save. It is abominable to see so called men of God fawning over leaders in the political sphere. It is paramount that prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving be made for everyone – for Kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all Godliness and Holiness. We must pray for these men, but not put our trust in them. There will be earthquakes, famines and pestilence in various places and fearful events and great signs from heaven and men's hearts will fail them through fear of the events coming on the earth. The only true peace comes from Christ who is our life, who is abiding in our hearts. Get ready for greater upheavals in the financial realm, where gold and silver will not be able to save as it corrodes. The corrosion will eat your flesh like fire.

These are not my words they are the words of the apostle James (5: 3).

The warning to us all is not what do we trust in – but whom do we trust.

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge him and he will direct your path.*

Every man's work will be tried by fire and it will not be the evil one's purpose (though he may be an instrument). It will be Jesus' coming as the John the Baptist has prophesied in (Luke 3: 16-18).

*<sup>16</sup> John answered them all, "I baptise you with water. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with the holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." <sup>18</sup> And with many other words John exhorted the people and preached the good news to them.*

You may think these words troubling, but in essence they are the truth, and the truth is good news and will set you free.

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December 2021 Message

Jesus is the Christ and is Lord of all **(Colossians 2: 8-9)**

⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and basic principles of this world rather than on Christ. ⁹ For in Christ all the fullness of the deity lives in a bodily form.

Dear Friends,

We are involved in a struggle upon the earth that God knew would overwhelm all who did not acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord. Men's hearts without the Lordship of Jesus will fail them through fear and looking for those things coming on the earth. But Christ in his comfort assures us, "Do not let your heart be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me". Only perfect love can cast out fear and this perfect love is exemplified in the person and character of God only in the face of Jesus. To say Jesus Christ is Lord is not just rhetoric but is the voice of the Holy Ghost in a true disciple of Christ. No man can truly say Jesus Christ is Lord but by the Holy Ghost. To say "Jesus Christ is Lord" and put your trust in any other thing, institution, or person is just religious pandering. He must be Lord of everything.

When the disciples of Jesus called him “Lord” and “Christ” they knew that God had raised him from death to life. This made them so bold nothing else mattered to them except knowing Christ and the power of his resurrection and to gain the knowledge of this new life. The apostle Paul wrote of his disdain for any confidence in anything that over shadowed the truth of the gospel and the kingdom of God which had been prepared for those that loved Jesus.

Philippians 3: 3-13

³ For it is we, who worship by the Spirit of God, who glory in Christ Jesus and who put no confidence in the flesh – ⁴ though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If anyone thinks he has reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ Circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee, ⁶ as for zeal, persecuting the church (ecclesia); as for legalistic righteousness, faultless. ⁷ But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law. But that which is through faith in Christ – the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

What a bold acclamation by one of the true servants of Christ and the gospel. Paul was given so much to pass on and share with those that belong to Christ yet he learnt the true servant of the kingdom trusted in Jesus Christ as Lord in every situation while in this world. A true servant of Christ has only one master and Lord. Even though Paul was called as an apostle he knew he was just a servant and his true Lord and Master was Jesus. Paul did not want to be known as a somebody, but just as a true gentle servant of Christ. He desired to know Christ more and more and be made like him in his death. He knew that in himself he was not perfect but he did know the One who was perfected through the suffering of death upon a cross.

We can say along with many others that we have been called to follow Jesus and to hear his voice, and His voice alone. (We will not follow the strangers voice or use the weapons of the evil one). The voice of Jesus our Lord is gentle and is breathed into our mind and hearts through the Holy Spirit. His voice is gentle, truthful and full of mercy and grace and always leads us to a place of existence much higher than the voices of the earthly realm. His voice leads us to the Father where we bow our hearts in humble adoration and praise. We are overwhelmed with wonder that such a sinful creature as ourselves can come to know the blessed creator of our lives. This is why we put our trust in Jesus as Lord to lead us to the Father and put no trust in the flesh. We repent in a repentance not to be repented of.

From our hearts we ask those that desire to have spiritual authority over our lives (whether it be a person or a spiritual entity) “where are the nail prints in your hands and where is your spear pierced side”.

The only one that can open the door to the Father’s kingdom is Jesus Christ the Lord.

When the disciples through the Holy Spirit called Jesus Christ the Lord – they knew the greatest event the world had ever encountered occurred that day at Calvary when Christ was crucified and

culminated three days later in the resurrection. They knew that God had made him Lord of life and that he had conquered death by being raised from the dead.

They also realised out of this single event a three-fold implication had been revealed.

1. God had made Jesus Lord of everything.
2. God had raised them with Christ from death to life to serve.
3. God had begun a new creation and opened the door for all men to enter the kingdom of God through the new birth.

This truth is not arrived at by observation, but is achieved by faith and trust in what God has promised. The true believer must live by faith and not by sight. This is why the kingdom of God has no outward structure or appearance but is one of substance wrought by grace, mercy, truth and love in our inner being. Only those who see Jesus Christ as Lord know the reality of this everlasting kingdom.

We may have doubts and fears as we serve but as we continue to seek the kingdom of God and his righteousness we must still live by faith and not by sight. The love of God that passes understanding will flood our hearts and minds with joy to give us inner strength to continue.

Amidst grave doubts, faith in God's word compels us to acknowledge the truth that is in Jesus and his cross. What Christ achieved is replicated in us and will also be accomplished in all God's new creation. The light that God has given us in Christ knows that the darkness of sin crouches at the door, this darkness filled with lies and self-ego desires to overcome our lives through fear. Jesus told us the truth about the future and that all things will work together for good if we keep trusting in him. Faith in Christ is the answer and this faith works by love. Jesus brought the coming age of light, love and liberty to this world and the darkness comprehended it not.

Men in their wisdom and not the wisdom of God rebuild the things that Christ destroyed and try to achieve a form of righteousness before God.

Paul writing to the Romans reminded the believers there that God's word had not failed the Israelites but that they had not obtained a righteousness that pleased God. They had tried to please God by their works and traditions and not by faith.

Romans 10: 3-4

³ Since they did not know the righteousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. ⁴ Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

What does a person have to believe? (Romans 10: 9) that Jesus Christ is Lord and that God has raised him from the dead.

Paul wrote Romans 9: 1-5

¹ I speak the truth in Christ – I am not lying, my conscience confirms it in the Holy Spirit – ² I have great sorrow in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race. ⁴ The people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption as sons, theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. ⁵ Theirs the Patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, who is God over all, forever praised.

Paul is speaking honestly in Christ and is not lying. With all that Israel was given and had trusted in, the covenants, the law, temple worship and the privileged ancestry of the natural birth of Christ, it did not bring them the righteousness that God required. This was caused by spiritual blindness and hardness of heart. From their hearts came the wickedness against Jesus.

Is this the same dilemma we see today? We have better promises, we have the Holy Spirit and his gifts. We have the witness through the scriptures. Yet do we trust in our institutions, or our works of self-righteousness, do we make our own rules and judge who is in or out? Or do we learn that all true disciples are not above their master and will be disciplined and endure suffering and hardship, so that we can be conformed to the image of the Son.

Just as every true disciple before us was confronted with big questions that cause concern, we are also challenged in our walk of faith. We may secretly, deep down in our heart despise the challenges God presents to us and act contrary to the nature of Christ.

John 1: 10-13

¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognise him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹² Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – ¹³ children born not of natural descent, not of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

We must always look to God when the world, the flesh, or the devil appears to close in on our life. We must look to Jesus who is the author and the finisher of our faith. We may wonder what the purpose of our seeming insignificant belief can have within a dying and fractured world. We are called to trust and obey one Lord.

The Christian world of today is a far cry from the message Christ passed onto his disciples. The theology of the institutionalised church is not the theology of Jesus.

They have re-built trust in the arm of the flesh, mammon, the law, temple worship, the authorities and not the gospel through the power of the Holy Ghost. They have degraded the power of love, the power of truth and the power of the kingdom of Christ, they have a form of godliness but deny the power thereof. The power of an invisible God can overcome all the power of what is seen. They misunderstand God's purposes and plans and do not leave room for the power of God to right the wrongs and let God repay. The disciple's way is to become like Jesus in the way he faced death. He never sought justice from man, he never sought revenge, he said "Father forgive them they know not what they do". He submitted to all authorities even unto death, yet he knew he was obeying the highest power of all; his Father. He never tried to justify himself, but only spoke the truth of the one who sent him – he opened not his mouth or brought judgement upon his accusers. He knew they brought judgement upon themselves when they opposed the truth. This is the same today for us all, - we must understand we can do nothing against the truth only for it. The truth that is in Jesus as Lord is the truth that will set us free and we will be free indeed. It is for freedom Christ has set us free.

The dilemma for most Christians is how can my seeming insignificant "new birth" be in accordance with the greater plan of God. We seek a connection between the small and the large. We desire to be in the events that make the world a better place. We want to be related to individuals and groups than shape the future. Our personal path becomes meaningful when our beliefs coincide with worldwide issues. Worldwide evangelism or revivals seem to bring answers and meaning to our lives. These may have a destiny that endures for a time and lasts a moment and then fades like a distant

memory. This then becomes a testimony of times past that men use as inspiration which only produces shallow faith. All the works of man are upheld by the demon of mammon and natural fleshly methods. The only enduring testimony that is eternal is to know the Father and whom he has sent, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The true answer to the question of our lives to go from smallness into greatness is when the singleness of our new birth is integrated into the greatness of the kingdom of God.

The deepest waters of faith to be fathomed are the rivers of pure water that flow from the throne of God.

- These waters are the waters of life that begin with the “new birth” and are fulfilled in the deep waters of the kingdom of Christ.
- These waters were revealed in the birth, earthly life, death and crucifixion of Jesus, and his resurrection and ascension into heaven.
- These waters of the Word of God are refreshed in the minds and hearts of those that love Jesus Christ as Lord who allow the Holy Spirit to spread a holy desire for Christ and to enlighten the darkness of this world.

The fulfilment of these waters is when the knowledge of the glory of God is known and believed in all the earth.

Jesus brought the knowledge of the kingdom of God to this earth and cast out Satan and exposed the truth through the Holy Spirit that God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself. The kingdom of God has come to us as a promise and is not seen naturally, but by faith now we trust in what is invisible and in Christ in the future the kingdom will be a manifest reality.

God is not holding our sins and trespasses against us but has forgiven us in Christ and has overcome the darkness with light and overcome death with life, and granted us power to be transferred from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of the Son of his love.

By faith we inherit the kingdom of Christ, now. This kingdom cannot be entered by the old carnal ways of man. Envy, strife, immorality, lies, fear, mammon, greed, self-praise, self-ambition, lust, drunkenness, drugs, hatred, impurity, discord, anger, slander, rage, dissensions, quarrels, factions, filthy language, unruliness, fear, war, all this and many other things are not only impediments they are unsurmountable barriers that prevent entrance into Christ’s kingdom. All these sins can be repented of and through the power of God can be replaced by truth and love that never fails.

Anyone who manifests these symptoms (that are mentioned above) are obeying the voice of the stranger. The true believer will not judge those people, but will pray for their souls and listen to the voice of the only one who is able to judge wisely. The true believer will manifest the Spirit of Christ honestly in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control through the power of the Holy Spirit. The true believer will be a savour of death to those perishing and a savour of life to those that believe.

Because we are not yet made perfect in love and these anti-Christ traits arise in our hearts and minds we must be quick to go to the Lord and confess our blindness and seek him and ask him to open our eyes and grant us grace to gain entrance into his invisible kingdom. We are in dire need to know the true forgiveness of the Holy One.

This is the only struggle the true believer encounters in his journey through this world – our battle is not against flesh and blood but against the principalities and powers that oppose us in our walk of faith as we depart from captivity to darkness and enter into the kingdom of light.

All other struggles and clashes whether among nations, races, classes, religions or relationships, are symptoms of the fractured relations with God.

The desire to find another way to peace brings a temporary but illusional truce that will not endure.

The victory that Jesus accomplished on the cross finished all conflicts. The existing conflicts that originate in the natural realm are sensual, evil and satanic wisdom. These conflicts end in confusion and death but when we abide in Christ and His kingdom we have life and peace.

The cross of Christ manifests the final victory and this victory is manifest in the true believer's life and will then be manifest in all of creation. When we take our place in the beginning, we will certainly be in the end. Jesus is the beginning and the end, he is the alpha and the omega.

The final conflict was achieved at Calvary where every power of darkness was defeated by the power of the Lamb of God in humility and meekness. What appeared as weakness was the power of God to defeat everything that prevented any man from true fellowship with his creator.

This power of the Lamb of God has been given to the true believer. The power of Jesus the lamb of God takes away the sin of the world that is in our hearts and gives us the power of the Lion of the tribe of Judah to destroy and overcome the works of the evil one. The victory of the cross of Christ is our victory when the Spirit of Christ abides in our hearts. We now know if God can do it in us, he can do it in all the creation and overcome the spiritual authorities that rule the world through darkness, ignorance and fear. But this victory can only be wrought in us in humility and meekness, which is a manifestation of the Spirit of Christ. He that has not the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Christ.

Our prayer is -

“Open our blind eyes Lord that we might see, and open the eyes of all men that they might see”.

We as ambassadors for the truth of the gospel along with all who obey and accept the invitation to share in the sufferings of Christ, humbly ask that we might be used for the glory of God and hope many find the door or the straight gate that leads to the kingdom of Christ and his eternal life.

We know a great door and effectual is opened unto us but the adversaries are many.

This we can testify to. When we become slaves of righteousness to a meek and humble Jesus we learnt through obedience that humility and meekness transcends every other power this world knows. In the wisdom of love, at the cross Jesus defeated all the power of the enemy and every adversary opposed to God. The crucified Son of God, the Lamb of God, took the keys of death from the deceiver and opened the door of salvation and redemption.

The truth of the gospel is not in rules and regulations, not in false humility and self-righteousness. Not in temple worship or will worship. Not in rituals and sacraments of men's making. Not in parading colour coding garments of superiority or in titles bestowed by men in the praise of men.

Jesus never sought out the righteous, he always sought the sinner with a message of repentance and hope. The gospel is the saving of sinners through mercy and grace. Jesus changes our desires from self-pride to humility and meekness with a compulsion to please God and not ourselves. A desire to lay down our life that the abiding life within us may be of God and not of us. This is the life of Christ birthed in us by the Holy Spirit and his word.

The truth of the gospel is a true experience and we know that Christ is alive – because he is alive in our hearts. Christ dwells in our heart by faith and this is the riches of glory. This truth that Jesus is alive in our hearts is not an external event, it is an inner transformation that has eternal consequences.

We hear
We believe
We receive
We proclaim

All things are ours through Christ.
All things are ours by his works which are prepared for us to walk in.
All things are ours not through the teachings of men, but through Christ and his redeeming love.

The world, life or death, the present or the future, all are ours and we are Christ's and Christ's is God.

No matter what happens in the darkness of this world, all is ours in Christ, and in Christ we lay down our life for this world.

We pray and act for all those blinded by the wicked one and by faith we call those things that be not as if they were. What Christ did at Calvary, he also did in our hearts, and by faith we know he will do it in all creation.

So rest up all who sin and rebel against the coming of the Lord. All who beat and persecute the disciples of Christ. All who gossip and say all manner of evil falsely against God's children. All who take the widow's mite and oppress the widow and the fatherless.

Behold the King he cometh, he will baptise with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

This is not a threat – it is a warning.

The voice of Jesus Christ the Lord is always full of compassion and love. He will not judge on the last day, it will be the word that he has already spoken and given to us as a warning that will judge us.

The obedient will obey.

The sinner will repent.

As we stand now we will be judged. The judgement of God begins in the house of God; whose house we are. The judgement is – do we live and love like Jesus?

The good news of the gospel is the One that knew no sin was crucified and bore the penalty of death – the righteous for the unrighteous. This is the grace of God.

May we abide in his love – peace – joy.

Bill and Sue (servants of Christ)

If you would like to make a reply or contact us, please email info@churchbuiltoflivingstones.com