

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 for 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"* (John 16: 33). 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.

(Proverbs 3: 5-6) <sup>5</sup> *Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding,* <sup>6</sup> *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 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.

**True unity is in God alone**

**Ephesians 4: 3**

*Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.*

Dear Friends,

Is there a unity in the body of Christ today? This is a question that can be asked and answered if we realise where true unity has its origin and how it is revealed and distributed to believers.

Firstly, true unity is within the Godhead of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This unity creates a realm called the Kingdom of God. The Godhead of unity can be known, but cannot be separated. The unity of the Godhead is undividable and can only be distinguished. If you see Jesus, you see the Father, the Holy Spirit reveals Jesus and Jesus was the fullness of the Godhead in a bodily form.

**Luke 10: 21-22**

*<sup>21</sup> At that time Jesus full of joy through the Holy Spirit said "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this was for your good pleasure. <sup>22</sup> All things have been committed to me by my Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, and no one knows the Son and those whom the Son chooses to reveal him.*

In this portion of scripture, we see the mystery of the Godhead. Only the true understanding and complexity of this mystery can be understood by those that are given this knowledge from heaven. We must at all times come to the living God as little children and never by our own natural mindset. In our opening text, it instructs us to make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. It is also instructing us that we need to come the "way" that God has ordained. This way is revealed in the verse prior to our leading text.

**Ephesians 4: 1-2**

*<sup>1</sup> As a prisoner of the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. <sup>2</sup> Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.*

To maintain the unity of the Spirit in love, we must come as little children and be patient and trust that what God has promised us in Christ, that the godly unity that is the nature of the Godhead will become our reality. This does not mean we become a unity within the Godhead, but it means we will obtain the unity of nature that the Godhead reveals. We as created beings will always remain as worshippers of the true and living God. In the new creation (we must always remember that the new creation is a creation), we will always throughout eternity worship our Creator. The creation will always worship the Creator. In every act of creation, we are made aware the triune God is involved, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. There is a unity of the Godhead in the creation, in salvation, in redemption and in our future.

The scriptures declare God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, are involved in every covenant both old and new. There is a seamless involvement of unity by the triune God from the old creation to the new creation. We must rightly divide the word of truth.

We cannot dismiss the triune God and their involvement in every aspect of divine operation within every covenant and every prophetic utterance. We cannot also dismiss Satan's influence upon the hearts and minds of natural men as they are used as instruments to oppose the purposes of the Godheads plan. Every institution of the Elohim was diabolically opposed and weakened by the sin of unbelief against the truth. Sin and all its manifestations and acts comes from within the hearts of unregenerate and disobedient men that are inveigled by Satan and are disobedient to the only true God.

This battlefield still operates today in the souls of men. Unless we take the road less travelled through the straight gate and down the narrow path to life, we as pilgrims will not know of the unity of Spirit that is granted us within the mind of Christ.

We must take up our cross and lay down everything that opposes itself against the plan and purpose of God. Jesus took the way of the cross in an attitude of humility and meekness, not for his own sin, but to open the door to the truth that we might be delivered from chaos and sin and find unity that comes from the Godhead. It is our destiny to find this unity of the Godhead and partake of this divine peace which can only be found in Christ.

## **2 Corinthians 10: 1-6**

*<sup>1</sup> By the meekness and gentleness of Christ, I appeal to you – I Paul who am “timid” when face to face with you, but “bold” when away. <sup>2</sup> I beg you that when I come I may not have to be as bold as I expect to be toward some people who think that we live by the standards of this world. <sup>3</sup> For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. <sup>4</sup> The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. <sup>5</sup> We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. <sup>6</sup> And we will be ready to punish every act of disobedience once your obedience is complete.*

Paul is trying to convey to the people he was ministering to that though he came in meekness and humility, this gentleness and timidness was the only way that obedience to Christ could be accomplished. His boldness was in the authority invested by God in the truth of the gospel. The truth was in Christ and to be a true deliverer of the gospel, his weaponry was not as satanic agents used, lesser love and fear of death. His weaponry was the gospel of truth delivered through the power of the Holy Spirit in the name of the Father and the Son. He proclaimed a gospel of a crucified Jesus, a man sent by God who was the Son of God clothed in flesh. Though crucified in weakness by stronger worldly forces of jealousy and envy, this man submitted in humbleness to their evil actions without complaint. His complete obedience to submit to all powers of darkness at his Father's instruction was to defeat sin and death as absolute powers. By entering into death, he defeated death. In obedience he patiently waited for three days and three nights until his Father sent the Holy Spirit and raised him out of the pangs of death. The new creation man was born of the Spirit of peace in the midst of violence by the power of the triune God into the image of the Lord from heaven. The old man that was weakened through sin was nailed to the tree as the last Adam, and now in Christ we can live by faith in the newness of life in Christ Jesus as a new creation man. In Christ we are a new creation, joined to the head who is Jesus. We are living stones built up as the new temple, a holy habitation for God. We now live by faith and not by sight. This faith comes to us by the word of Christ. We are in transition, the old is passing away and all is becoming new.

How can we know that we are born again from above?

The scriptures instruct us about what proceeds from the old man and what comes from the new man. By the grace of God and his mercy we live by faith in the accomplished work of Jesus Christ who is both Lord and Christ. Now out of a heart and mind transformed by the Spirit of Christ, we with Jesus cry Abba Father.

The thoughts and evils of the unregenerate proceed from the hearts of men who have not repented and accepted Jesus Christ's testimony of truth and have not become obedient to Christ. These men belong to the “old man” with a nature subject to Satan and cannot live in the kingdom of God.

## **Matthew 15: 19** Jesus said:

*For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander, these make a man unclean.*

Unless a man repents and has faith towards God and receives God's judgement against sin and receives forgiveness, he will not enter the Kingdom of God. They may enter the churches of the natural man and hide their sin and unbelief, but they will not enter the Kingdom of God.

Is there hope for a practicing sinner? Yes, there is!

The only sin that will not be forgiven is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit.

This blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is illustrated in Jesus' words.

### **Matthew 7: 13-28**

<sup>13</sup> "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. <sup>14</sup> But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it. <sup>15</sup> "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. <sup>16</sup> By their fruit you will recognise them. Do people pick grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles? <sup>17</sup> Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. <sup>18</sup> A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. <sup>19</sup> Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>20</sup> Thus by their fruit you will recognise them. <sup>21</sup> "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>22</sup> Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophecy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles? <sup>23</sup> Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!' <sup>24</sup> "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a man who built his house upon a rock. <sup>25</sup> The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. <sup>26</sup> But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. <sup>27</sup> The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house and it fell with a great crash. <sup>28</sup> When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching. <sup>29</sup> Because he taught as one who had authority, and not as the teachers of the law.

Jesus is the rock, the true foundation to build your life upon, all else is shifting sand.

Only those who do the will of God will enter the kingdom of heaven.

The fruit of the trees is clearly described in Galatians. The bad trees fruit is obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, self-ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies and the like. I warn you as I did before that those that live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

This is why the churches do not inherit the kingdom of Christ. They have a form of godliness, but deny the power of Christ who is the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. Don't be deceived, the institutional churches operate in systems of factions, dissensions and self-ambition. There is not unity of faith that the Spirit brings, but a desire to build their own kingdoms that were all born out of violence and nationalism. These call Jesus 'Lord, Lord'! But what will be their end? Idolatry and witchcraft which is the sin of rebellion and greed. They prefer to build on denominational sectarianism, rather than the Spirit of unity in Christ, which is the way of the Cross.

The truth brought by the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace is that all who obey God's will can be reconciled to God through the gospel of Christ.

The Apostle Paul exemplified what a true preacher of Jesus and the gospel would be like.

### **1 Corinthians 2: 1-5**

<sup>1</sup> When I came to you, brothers, I did not come with eloquence or superior wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. <sup>2</sup> For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup> I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. <sup>4</sup> My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, <sup>5</sup> so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power.

Paul came to the Corinthian believers in humility and an awesome fear of God.

God's power is always demonstrated in our weakness, not in our worldly assumptions of power. In our weakness God's strength is made perfect.

The kingdom of God is not entered or known through the powers of worldly wisdom of hierarchies, money or temple building. Jesus is building us as living stones into a temple for the habitation of God. Jesus uses our bodies

as a temple for the Holy Spirit. But these mortal bodies cannot enter the kingdom of Christ. Flesh and blood cannot enter the kingdom of God. We enter the kingdom of God by faith in the promises that are in Christ Jesus.

It is not a sin to be in the body of flesh, otherwise Jesus would have been a sinner. Jesus walked in the body of flesh on this earth without sin. He was tempted in every point of sin that is common to man, yet he did not bow down to the temptation. Because of his obedience to the Father whilst clothed in flesh, he gained reconciliation to the Godhead and salvation for every man who believed in him. Jesus walked in the flesh and desired to be known as the one sent by God as the righteous one, but the powers that claimed they were the righteous ones judged him as a sinner worthy of death. Our claim is that we are sinner's worthy of death, but through faith in the righteous one, we are delivered from death. We have no righteousness of our own, but the righteousness of Jesus Christ the Lord is imputed to us and by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control and will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body. **Philippians 3: 21.**

Is there hope for those that have fallen and broken the commands of Jesus and succumbed to the depravity of the old nature? Yes, there is.

### **IN THE OLD COVENANT**

In the old covenant the sacrifices of bulls and goats could not cleanse the heart from an evil conscience. Their guilt remained.

#### **Isaiah 30: 15**

*This is what the Sovereign Lord, the Holy One of Israel says:*

*"In repentance and rest is your salvation,  
in quietness and trust is your strength,  
but you would have none of it.*

Here is the offer made to Israel for their salvation, they had to repent and trust but they refused and rejected the Sovereign Lord. In the old covenant, the Sovereign Lord was the judge.

### **IN THE NEW COVENANT**

But, in the new covenant we see from the following scriptures the freedom and forgiveness that comes through the sacrificial atonement of Jesus. His shed blood washes our heart from an evil conscience, but this does not make us innocent. It's not men who judge us, it is the Lord who judges us.

#### **2 Corinthians 3: 17**

*Now the Lord is the Spirit and where the Spirit of the Lord is there is freedom.*

This is the humble, gentle spirit of Jesus, the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world and gives us freedom.

#### **Galatians 5: 1**

*It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm and do not let yourselves be burdened again by the yoke of slavery.*

#### **1 Corinthians 6: 9-11**

*<sup>9</sup> Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders <sup>10</sup> nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup> And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.*

We must yield to the Holy Spirit and allow him to do his work within us.

#### **Romans 8: 2**

*The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus sets us free from the law of sin and death.*

The apostle Paul exhorted the Galatians not to fall back into bondage and slavery. Telling them that they were all sons of God through faith in Christ. And because they were sons and no longer slaves to the adamic nature, they were now inheritors of the kingdom of the Son of his love.

In Galatians 4, he was warning them of the leaven of the false prophets and teachers. They had lost their joy. This joy comes by abiding in the teaching of Christ and being filled with the Holy Spirit of love, joy and peace. He warned that they would spy out their liberty and want to conform them to their legalistic ways and not to the principles of Christ which begins with repentance from dead works and faith toward God. (Hebrews 6:1).

#### **Romans 14: 17-18**

*The kingdom of God is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit and those that serve Christ in this manner are pleasing to God and approved by men.*

#### **Galatians 4: 19**

*My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ be formed in you.*

Paul was in labour again for those who had turned to Christ and were succumbing to the wiles of zealous legalists who clung to the old traditions of temple worship, circumcision, the law and the Sabbath.

Paul also exhorted the Corinthians to remain in the faith towards God.

#### **2 Corinthians 13: 4**

*Jesus for sure he was crucified in weakness, yet he lives by God's power. Likewise, we are weak in him, yet by God's power we live in him to serve you.*

We must be like Christ who came not to be served but to serve. We might serve in weakness and much trembling, but our trust is not in our own ability, but the ability of the power of God through the truth that is the gospel of Christ which is able to save souls and conform men to the image of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The axe is laid to the old tree of a righteousness to be obtained through obedience to the law. The axing of the tree was not because the law was bad. No it was because sin was bad and caused the law which was holy and good to bring death instead of life. The only one who could bring the life of God was the Lamb of God who could take away the sin of the world.

The love of the world is not the love of the Father.

#### **1 John 1: 16**

*For everything in the world – the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does – comes not from the Father, but from the world.*

Don't be deceived, the world is the institutional church. It is not born of God's kingdom. It is an institutional temple built to the glory of man upon shifting sand and not upon the rock.

The church or manmade institutions are always reforming. Going from one form of regulated form of worship to another. People swap from one institution to another. Catholic to Calvinism, Baptist to Pentecostalism. On and on they enter the broad gate that leads to destruction and many follow their pernicious ways. Leaders fight against leaders claiming they have the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. They bite and devour one another instead of presenting their fleshly body as a living sacrifice unto God, so that they might prove the perfect and acceptable will of God. Remember Jesus' words; *Whosoever does the will of God is my disciple*. Not every so called apostle or follower of Christ is a disciple. Remember Lot's wife who looked back and remember Judas who sold out Jesus for the love of money.

What if a man is to gain the whole world and lose his soul?

Remember we asked - is there hope for those that have fallen and disobeyed the commands of Jesus the Christ, the Son of the living God?

#### **1 Corinthians 6: 17**

<sup>17</sup> *But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in Spirit.* <sup>18</sup> *Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body.* <sup>19</sup> *Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own;*

<sup>20</sup> *you were bought at a price. Therefore, honour God with your body.*

Your fleshly body is the temple that God indwells by his Spirit. Sin shall not have dominion over you. As we yield to Christ Jesus and repent then obey him, he strengthens us in the inner man to comprehend with all the saints

the height, the depth, the length and width of the love of God that is in Christ Jesus. Jesus Christ in your heart causes you to love the Father with all your heart, strength and soul and out of your heart comes the issues of life. The Holy Spirit manifests God's love in you and causes the Spirit of Christ to manifest in your mind. Your body responds to the wishes of your mind and you act in the nature of the Lamb of God – which takes away the sin of the world. The new man which is born of God and not man's will, has the nature of the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.

The nature of the Lamb draws you into the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. Repentance that comes from God; which is a true repentance not to be repented of causes you to take on the mind that was in Christ Jesus. This mind and heart that was in Jesus is a mind of obedience to the one true God and Father. Yet, this mind that was in Christ loved the Father with all that was within him and at the same time loved every human being that ever was born. Jesus never had a double mind – he was faithful and true in every aspect of his life and never once condemned the sinner, but granted forgiveness. The rejection of Jesus is what condemns and the Lord the Spirit always woos and cajoles a sinner to repent and receive the forgiveness and love that is in Christ.

#### **Galatians 5: 13-18**

*<sup>13</sup> You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. <sup>14</sup> The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbour as yourself." <sup>15</sup> If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other. <sup>16</sup> So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. <sup>17</sup> For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit you are not under the law.*

It is not in our human ability to live this holy and separated life until our hearts and minds are overcome by the love of God shed into our hearts by the Holy Spirit. So we can out of our trust in Jesus, yield our whole being to the Lord God who will never leave us nor forsake us and bring us into the kingdom of the Son of his love. We will be able to go into the world of darkness and proclaim a message of hope and salvation that is in Christ to tormented souls. This will not be our doing, but we will plant and water the seed that is sown and God will give the increase. The increase will not be in the seen realm, but will be in the hidden realm where God knows those that are his; who have and are being conformed to the image of his Son. Just as the world did not recognise the Saviour/Redeemer, the world will not recognise you and will not know who you are.

Jesus said: *"You will not see me again until you say blessed are those who come in the name of the Lord."*

Then we will see those that belong to Jesus and those that do not. We must leave the tares lest we pluck up the wheat.

Saul who became known as Paul, was told by Jesus that he was doing all manner of evil to Jesus himself when he (Saul) persecuted the believers. This is a declaration from the risen Lord that he is in total unity and harmony with true believers. Jesus' prayer is that we be united with him then we will see our brothers in the Lord.

Christ in you is the tree that bears good fruit so no man can boast. Every man is a work of God, so how can the work of God claim to boast of anything that God works through him. Jesus never made this claim, but he said *"It is not I, but the Father who does the works through me"*.

Every work or miracle that Jesus did was for the glory of God.

This is the works of God to believe him and whom he has sent. To remain in unbelief is sin and the rejection of the one God has sent.

If God was to work some mighty work, prophecy or miracle through us, or we were to endow ourselves with titles that belong to Jesus, or stand in the place that belongs to Christ alone, or take the glory, honour and praise from men that rightfully belongs to Jesus, this would make us thieves and robbers of the glory and honour that belongs to God. Then rightfully Jesus could say to us, *"depart from me I never knew you"*. Let us not think more highly than we ought to think, but think soberly, with the mind of Christ, as God has dealt to us the measure of faith.



The fruit that we can recognise that comes from the tree of life or the Spirit of God that is manifesting the Spirit of Christ within our hearts is .....

**Galatians 5: 22-26**

*<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness and self-control against such things there is no law. <sup>24</sup> Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. <sup>26</sup> Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.*

The unity that God requires of us is to remain in his word and obey the Sovereign Lord and manifest the Spirit of Christ in humility of wisdom in gentleness whilst seeking first the kingdom of God and his righteousness. This will draw ridicule, condemnation and judgement from the ungodly and the tares, but they did it to the Master so it is no surprise they do it to his followers.

We are to remember the Lord and resist the devil and the teaching of the institutional systems that brings legalism. You may say “my church does not preach legalism”. But any system that preaches laws and hierarchal powers of superiority over inferiority, instead of servitude will lead to a form of righteousness apart from faith in Christ. These shadow casters will always stand in the place of Christ as your teacher and judge. Jesus Christ is the only one who can bring you from the sin of the world to God the Father. His Word will judge us on the last day to what we have done in the body. Jesus did away with the law as a means of righteousness. He fulfilled every demand of the law by worshipping in Spirit and truth and presenting his body as a living sacrifice so that God the Father’s will could be done on earth.

Jesus said: “*Tear down the temple of stone and I will build it up in three days*”. This was the living temple of his body which we are. We are living stones in the new living temple. Vibrant and full of the Holy Spirit doing the will of God from the heart.

Jesus said in **Matthew 11: 25-29**

*<sup>25</sup> At that time Jesus said “I praise you Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. <sup>26</sup> Yes Father, this was your good pleasure. <sup>27</sup> All things have been committed to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. <sup>28</sup> Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give your rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.*

Unless we come with a humble, gentle spirit, we will never know the simplicity of the gospel. Though the gospel is complex and pertains to the matters of eternity, it also can be understood by little children. We as disciples must give up the world and its teachings to inherit the kingdom of God, the kingdom teaching supersedes what is known and taught by the world. This world is not just the secular world, but it is predominantly the teachings of the religious world with its rules, regulations and creeds that don’t bring life.

This kingdom of God has one head, one Lord, one faith, one teacher and the defences of hell will not prevail against it. Though the world increases in darkness the true light of his glorious kingdom will fill you with love, life and wisdom of God. The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord and though he fall, though he fall, he will not be utterly cast down. We can get up and dust ourselves off and look to Jesus who is the beginner and ender of our faith. He fills all in all. Our hope of the fullness of our redemption which is the redemption of our body rests in the resurrected Lord and him alone. He is our only HOPE of righteousness. He is our wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption.

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit be blessed for ever. Amen.

Bill and Sue (servants of Christ)