

November 2019

Dear Friends,

We as true believers wish to clarify our message of the glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ. Using words of encouragement as we see the day approaching we proclaim Jesus as Sovereign Lord. Jesus our redeeming Lord has delivered us from darkness into light, from night to day.

The day of the Lord is still shrouded in darkness until the Lord of Glory takes the scales from our eyes. This is why the scripture says the day of the Lord is a day of darkness. Faith must meet its greatest nemesis in spiritual battle for this to occur. Unbelief is the greatest enemy of faith. Unbelief comes from a potent God defying nature given to us by Satan. The only solid rock we have to stand upon is Christ and it is the Word of Christ the living rock, that alone can disperse the ravages of sin, fear and unbelief. We are called to obey the Gospel. All rebellion will be dealt with by God's judgment. We can praise the Lord that we stand before his divine judgment whilst we live in the flesh. Thank God that TODAY we can repent of our waywardness and unbelief and turn back to God. God has made a way for us and that way is Jesus. We can walk in humility and meekness while it's called today, fully trusting and obeying the commands of Jesus. When we depart from this world in death we will be confronted with the last judgement. This last judgement will contain echoes similar to what we face today; the question will be "what did you do with my Word – Jesus the Living Word". We will finally be confronted with the day of the Lord where the light will nullify the darkness and there will be no hiding place from God. We can walk in the light as he is in the light while it's called today, this renders it necessary to give up all for Christ's sake to enjoy the fruits of Calvary which is the Kingdom of God.

All mechanical substitutes for a holy life must be eradicated from our thoughts and actions. Any thoughts, ideas and false reasoning's that promote self-righteousness or complacency must be left behind us. To attempt to externalise the Kingdom of God into one that is like the kingdoms of this world, or to bring about the Kingdom of God by human effort or human will is to be abrogated and expunged as a filthy rag of self-righteousness.

Every challenge of faith and hope can only be met by a deeper level of faith (from faith to faith), anything that dampens or destroys our hope can only be overcome by a hope that refuses to die (hope against hope). This type of "Paul like" living is only available to those who believe in God's faithfulness to his covenant which was ratified in Christ Jesus' blood. The covenant of creation, the covenant of faith, the covenant of law, the covenant of Lordship, were all fulfilled in Christ. God's faithfulness is established and revealed in Christ and in Christ alone. He was the fullness of the Godhead in a bodily form.

The main aim of God's judgement is not to vindicate our sense of justice or our claim to be rewarded, but to vindicate God's purpose in the face of human transgression. He will show to all creation both heavenly and earthly that His way is only right. He is the Sovereign Lord and evil will have an end, his Kingdom will be manifested as an everlasting Kingdom both now and in the future.

When God makes covenant, he always keeps his side of the deal. It is man who is unfaithful. God's covenanted faithfulness endures forever – never to be broken. The new covenant is between God the Father and God his Son and will never be broken. His covenant faithfulness has been truly and openly declared for all the world to see. The Father's willingness to give everything that he loved (Jesus) and for everything that he loved (Jesus) to be willing to go, is the message of the Gospel. This is not a myth, it is reality.

This sign above every sign is open for all to see upon the cross of Calvary. Jesus given as a penal substitutional sacrifice on Calvary is the true sign that God has forgiven us and he remembers our sin no more. He remembers Jesus and has given us the Holy Spirit who brings Jesus to our remembrance. The Father looks at Jesus as our mediator and remembers that we are blood washed children, holy and acceptable in his sight. The Holy Spirit reminds us to look to Jesus *'the author and finisher of our faith'* and that through Christ we are blood washed children and are acceptable to God. Oh the Father's love.

Jesus in death paid the price for all our misdeeds, all our transgressions, all our diseases, all our sins, all our rebellions, all our sufferings, all our unfaithfulness, all our unbelief's and falsehoods. This is the work of a Sovereign Loving God and the true response is to receive the gift of God and repent from disbelieving his word. Our cry to a merciful God can be "Lord I believe, help me in my unbelief".

Beloved of the Lord, it is our privilege and duty to proclaim and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ honouring him as Sovereign Lord. In fact, it is our priestly duty as servants of Jesus to proclaim the Gospel.

### **(Romans 15: 16)**

*<sup>16</sup> to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles with the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel of God, so that the Gentiles might become an offering acceptable to God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.*

As we see the day approaching we should not wait for someone else to do it, but we can throw off the shackles of procrastination and boldly go to our neighbour and into the world and tell them the good news.

We as living stones become a holy habitation for God our Father through Jesus Christ. Whereas, God in times past and under different covenant relationships, dwelt in the tent of tabernacle, above the mercy seat over the ark between the cherubim and could only be approached by the High Priest once a year. This High Priest appointed by God through the continual natural lineage of Aaron, was only able to enter the Holy of Holies after many ritual procedures and washings and with the blood of animals. These ritualistic procedures could not take away the consciousness of sin. This priesthood which ratified the law declared its inadequacy to bring life. The law which is holy and good is fulfilled in us when we love.

Almighty God covenanted with David that his throne and kingdom would be everlasting and upon this throne would sit the one who would defeat all enemies. David returned the ark back to Jerusalem and through his son Solomon built a temple out of solid stone as the resting place of God. Year after year, feast day after feast day, sacrifice after sacrifice, God was still not pleased with man as they failed to put God first place in their life. Idols, Asherah poles, and high places became their symbols of worship. Even then the temple of stone was not sufficient for them.

God prophesied of a new dwelling place for himself, a new temple, a new priesthood, a new law and a new covenant established on better promises. The Word became flesh and dwelt amongst us, Jesus was God in the flesh and he was the fulfilment of everything becoming new. God had a new dwelling place for himself. This place is a secret place which is hidden from the world. This place is so mysterious and secret that men have difficulty in believing it is true. First of all, it is manifest in Jesus Christ, then in God's children.

After paying the price for our sin, he presented himself without blemish and entered into heaven itself to receive from the Father the authority and the power to raise to eternal life all who are dead in trespasses and sin. Raised out of death into eternal life.

### **(2 Corinthians 5: 1-21)**

*<sup>1</sup> Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. <sup>2</sup> Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, <sup>3</sup> because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. <sup>4</sup> For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. <sup>5</sup> Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. <sup>6</sup> Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. <sup>7</sup> For we live by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup> We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup> So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. <sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. <sup>11</sup> Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade men. What we are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your conscience. <sup>12</sup> We are not trying to commend ourselves to you again, but are giving you an opportunity to take pride in us, so that*

*you can answer those who take pride in what is seen rather than in what is in the heart. <sup>13</sup> If we are “out of our mind,” it is for the sake of God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. <sup>14</sup> For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. <sup>15</sup> And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. <sup>16</sup> So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. <sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: <sup>19</sup> that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

This was accomplished when the Holy Spirit was no longer bound by ritualistic confines of worship that inhibited his ministry to men. The curtain in the temple was torn from top to bottom and the Holy Spirit was symbolically released. Jesus obtained from his Father the authority to allow the Holy Spirit to dwell in men’s heart and teach men the truth of the Gospel and the Kingdom of God. Jesus promised that what he had taught them would be brought to their remembrance after he had left this earth to go back to the Father. Now the true worshippers could worship in spirit and in truth.

#### **(John 4: 23-24)**

*<sup>23</sup> Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”*

It is only the truth that can set mankind free of the shackles of the bondage of sin. This truth is in Jesus and this truth is taught by the Holy Spirit. This message was prophesied by Isaiah how God was building a place of precious stones and everyone would be taught by the Lord.

#### **(Isaiah 54: 11-17)**

*<sup>11</sup> “O afflicted city, lashed by storms and not comforted, I will build you with stones of turquoise, your foundations with sapphires. <sup>12</sup> I will make your battlements of rubies, your gates of sparkling jewels, and all your walls of precious stones. <sup>13</sup> All your sons will be taught by the LORD, and great will be your children’s peace. <sup>14</sup> In righteousness you will be established: Tyranny will be far from you; you will have nothing to fear. Terror will be far removed; it will not come near you. <sup>15</sup> If anyone does attack you, it will not be my doing; whoever attacks you will surrender to you. <sup>16</sup> “See, it is I who created the blacksmith who fans the coals into flame and forges a weapon fit for its work. And it is I who have created the destroyer to work havoc; <sup>17</sup> no weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and this is their vindication from me,” declares the LORD.*

This is the heritage or inheritance Christ has given to all who truly believe.

This New Covenant was also prophesied by Jeremiah in his sayings.

#### **(Jeremiah 31: 31-34)**

*<sup>31</sup> “The time is coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the people of Judah. <sup>32</sup> It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,” declares the LORD. <sup>33</sup> “This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time,” declares the LORD. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. <sup>34</sup> No longer will a man teach his neighbour, or a man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the LORD. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”*

And reiterated in the book of Hebrews chapters 8 and 10, telling that the covenant by Christ was a “new” covenant that superseded and fulfilled the old covenant and all would be taught of the Lord. In other words, the old covenant commanded mankind to love God with all his heart, soul and mind and love his neighbour as himself. The question is – under the old covenant, did man obey this commandment? though he had the law and the ritualistic sacrifices, he could not accomplish what God commanded. The law and rituals could not bring the life of God. Man continued to obey the dictates of the flesh and the devil. He killed, murdered, lied, adulterated, fornicated, stole and destroyed and believed his own righteousness pleased God.

Well what did the New Covenant in Christ’s shed blood accomplish for us that believe? It gave us the promise that we could overcome the works of the flesh by walking in the Spirit and have abundant life. Jesus has promised us that he will live in us by his Spirit and we can overcome the works of the flesh by the power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is no longer confined to the temple of stone, but is released into the heart of man through faith in Christ and his finished work. We must cease from having a form of godliness and denying the power thereof.

Dear believer, what we are saying may be hard to comprehend, but it does not absolve our responsibility to live unto the Living God and trust him. The place that God has chosen to dwell is not in temples made by hand, but in our body which is the temple of the Holy Spirit. This is the great mystery of the Gospel that the dwelling place that God has chosen to live in is in your heart.

This is a great truth! But there is a greater truth to be understood about God’s field or God’s building. We are now able in the new covenant to do all things through Christ who strengthens us. Firstly, no man is an island – this building of God’s temple is made up of living stones into the body of Christ. We as individuals are the living stones placed in the body of Christ and the mortar that binds us together is the love of Christ which is given to us by the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ is the chief cornerstone of this building and he is the capstone (he is also a rock of offence, a stumbling block to the unbeliever). The apostles and the prophets laid down the teachings of Christ on a foundation no man could lay – this foundation is Jesus Christ. The whole of the new habitation of God is in Christ. We as living stones are now built up into a holy temple that is alive, living and active in its faithfulness to Christ Jesus. Sectarianism and institutional denominations break down the power of this truth and we see everything that can be shaken is falling all around us. Heaven and earth will pass away but God’s Word abides forever. What God has said “will be”, no matter what the appearances say. The body of Christ is a Holy body even though it is the “light on a hill” it is hidden from men because of the darkness in their minds. Naturally minded men always turn off the life of God by having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof. This comes in many forms through naturally minded men whose God is a figment of their imagination and not the true and living God. We all are commanded to fulfil God’s purpose to love God with all our heart, soul and mind and to love our neighbour as ourselves. Under the New Covenant ratified in Jesus Christ’s blood and through the power of the Holy Spirit, this love is poured into our hearts so we can do what God commands. We can even love our enemies.

As with every promise of God, there comes a warning to those that hinder, oppose or falsify God’s plan or purpose. Those that walk in the flesh will not inherit God’s Kingdom – those that walk in the flesh will die in their sin. For those that walk after the Spirit, there is life and peace. The scripture tells us that God is building his temple which is made up of living stones. All who obey the Gospel and are born again can enter God’s Kingdom of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit and serve Christ in a manner which is pleasing to God. So we live by faith which comes to us when we hear the word of Christ and obey it.

The warning is that anyone that opposes the building of God’s Holy temple and destroys it, God will destroy them. So, we behold the goodness and severity of God and this leads us to repent and cry out to God for mercy in our unrighteousness. God’s mercy understood in a human heart will produce mercy to the ungrateful, the sinner, the religious and the transgressor. We as living stones proclaim – some plant the seed – some water it – but God gives the increase.

He will teach you his way.

He will write his holy laws on your heart and mind.

He will lead and guide you into all truth.

If this message engenders pride in your heart or mind, it is a false interpretation. The true interpretation of God's will for us, instils in us a sense of humility and meekness and causes us to worship God in true reverential fear of his holiness and goodness. Reminding us that we are created and not the Creator, the scripture says that in the world to come we are a new creation. Throughout eternity the creation will always worship the Creator. There are attributes of God which he does not pass onto his creation, he will always be omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent. We in the new creation will remain God worshippers and God dependent. As a new creature, we are restored and made into God's image with the likeness of Christ in nature, which is righteousness and holiness of truth.

Love fills our heart in adoration for our Sovereign Lord and drives out judgement of our fellowman. We can now understand and believe that there is only one mediator between God and us, Jesus, whoever lives to make intercession to the Father on our behalf. In our weakness he is our strength. Our strength is made perfect in weakness. By the testimony of the truth of Jesus, the Holy Spirit has taught our hearts to trust in Jesus alone. We may not be understood by the people who are blinded to the truth and we will be scoffed at and scorned by them. We can be hindered by our own unbelief, but what we must remember is those that live Godly lives in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. Suffering for righteousness is not something we should seek reward for, or that we are victims. We are not victims! We are witnesses. The world hates us because of Jesus, so we are blessed to be able to serve a Holy God in the power of the Holy Spirit. We can overcome evil with good. The truth is good – God only is good and the promise of the Gospel is that good will overcome all adversity and evil.

Be strong, be courageous, be good.

Do what is right, repent from dead works, have faith in God.

Love God, do good to all men that they might see the good works of God and be saved.

Dear brethren of the Lord, we at 'church built of living stones' do not solicit money or hold any church offices except the ministry of reconciliation to God and are servants and ambassadors for Christ. Our hope is in the Gospel and God's Kingdom and that from individual to individual we encourage all to fulfil the missionary goal of the Gospel, whether at home or abroad. We believe that any person or institution that comes between you and God is casting a shadow over the finished work of Christ and takes away the glory that belongs to the Lord. Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is liberty. This liberty is not a liberty to sin, rather it abhors sins and truly relies on the Grace of God. This liberty is to serve the Lord with love, joy and peace and those that serve Christ in this manner are pleasing to God.

Although doctrine and understanding are extremely important they should never change the purpose and will of God, but only enhance it. Jesus said; *"My teaching is not my own, it comes from him who sent me. If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own"*.

**(John 7: 16-19)**

*<sup>16</sup> Jesus answered, "My teaching is not my own. It comes from him who sent me. <sup>17</sup> If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own. <sup>18</sup> He who speaks on his own does so to gain honour for himself, but he who works for the honour of the one who sent him is a man of truth; there is nothing false about him. <sup>19</sup> Has not Moses given you the law? Yet not one of you keeps the law. Why are you trying to kill me?"*

Do God's will and you will know his doctrines are true.

Men's traditions and ideas that are born out of the natural mind are dominating Christian thinking and even exposing their unbelief in practice. What happens in the so called church does not happen in the Kingdom of God. They build bigger barns to accommodate their followers and then make demands on the flock that God never intended for them to do. They claim they need more and more riches of this world to preach the Gospel. We say silver and gold have we none, but in the name of Jesus rise up and walk. Many hide their lustful desires behind walls of institutional bricks and mortar and practice all kinds of evil. Lust for more and more of this world's desires, lust of power, lust of riches, lust of the eyes, lust for the approval of men and the lust of the flesh. When the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel the Prophet stands in the Holy place (where Christ should stand), look up for your redemption draws near. The Kingdom of God is a mystery.

The Kingdom of God is a special place.  
The Kingdom of God is where Christ is.  
The Kingdom of God is within you and among you.

The proud, the unfaithful, false prophets and false teaches, the false witnesses, the immoral, the liars, the God deifiers, have no inheritance in this beautiful place.

God has ordained and covenanted through Jesus Christ to dwell in a place where only the true believers know where this dwelling place is. The true believer knows Jesus is dwelling in their heart and count him nigh at all times. They season their conversation with salt and bring forth the light of the Lord. They confess Jesus Christ as Lord and acknowledge there is only one lawgiver and judge. God himself looks upon the heart and knows those who are his – the true believer has been taught by God the Holy Spirit that Christ dwells in their heart by faith. They are now living epistles read of all men. The words etched on the scroll of scripture have now become a living reality in their heart and they are now living stones built up to be a holy habitation for God. They unwaveringly believe they have been bought with a price. That price was the life of Christ, the Holy Son of God who willingly offered his life as the propitiation for their sinfulness, that all who truly believe may be raised in resurrection to new life.

All glory to Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Dear Brethren live unto God, obey the Gospel, be bold, be strong, be loving, be kind.

May God's grace, goodness and mercy follow you all the days of your life.

Bill and Sue (servants of Christ).