January 2022

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.

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 <u>Godliness</u> and <u>Holiness</u>. 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).

¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ 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." ¹⁸ 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.

January 2022 Message

JESUS CHRIST IS LORD

(1 Corinthians 16: 21-24)

I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand.
 If any one does not love the Lord – a curse be on him. Come, O Lord!
 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you.
 My love to all of you in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Dear Friends,

"Jesus is Lord" (1 Corinthians 12: 3). This was the proclamation of the early disciples which was the catch cry that captured the attention of early believers.

To the modern era the impact of this narrative does not bring the resounding act of importance which this message meant to the people of early faith. To them it meant there was no other Lord than Jesus. The one that men had crucified and killed was the Christ; (He was the one God had sent) and he was the one they had known as Jesus of Nazareth. Yes, this man Jesus born of Mary was now the Lord. What had caused this affirmation that Jesus of Nazareth was now the Lord.

These early disciples had witnessed the one they called Jesus and had come to believe he was the Messiah or Christ. Then by the hands of wicked men, he had now been crucified as a blaspheming

criminal and had died a cruel death on Calvary. These early disciples were stunned in grief and cowardly fled in utter disappointment.

Their hopes of a king for Israel had been dashed and all the promises he had given them now appeared redundant. They had witnessed his death and his burial in a cold tomb and they were bewildered and hopelessly distraught.

Something had happened, something momentous had occurred that caused them to cry out that Jesus of Nazareth was Lord.

They were not only saying Jesus was Lord, but that he was the <u>only</u> Lord. No matter whom and what others acknowledged as Lord, these true disciples now acknowledged Jesus Christ as the only Lord.

This is what makes the gospel so radical. No matter what one attributes as the truth or a movement of truth, and does not acknowledge Jesus Christ as the only sovereign power and Lord, lives on shifting sand.

These movements and false guides are not from God and prove they are not built on the rock.

The early apostles and prophets witnessed that the fulfilment of all covenants, all scriptures and all words that God had previously given were accomplished in the death, resurrection and ascension of Christ Jesus the Lord.

These men had witnessed the Jesus that they had fellowshipped with in the flesh was now made alive in the Spirit. Paul could write "I now no longer know Jesus after the flesh".

The message of the gospel is made loud and clear, the one that God had sent had been rejected and killed, but after three days in the grave had been raised to eternal life never to see corruption or death again. This man Jesus had power to grant eternal life to those that believed he was Lord of Life.

This is the apostle Peter's testimony and belief.

Acts 2: 22-36

²² "Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. ²³ This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. ²⁴ But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. ²⁵ David said about him:

"I saw the Lord always before me.

Because he is at my right hand,

I will not be shaken.

²⁶ Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest in hope,

²⁷ because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay.

²⁸ You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.'

²⁹ "Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. ³⁰ But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of

the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay. ³² God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact. ³³ Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. ³⁴ For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

Peter was declaring that even David in whom you trust never ascended bodily into heaven and he cannot give you eternal life. David and Moses and all the prophets could only raise hope in the one to come. They could not save eternally. It is Jesus alone who saves eternally. Put your trust in no other.

Is this the message that you hear from the pulpits today? Is it Jesus who is proclaimed as Lord and Saviour the only redeemer of the body? The new creation is not complete until we receive our glorified body and are clothed upon from on high. In this matter Jesus is the final Lord and judge.

When the disciples were asked by Jesus "would they also leave", along with the followers that found the message too hard, they replied; "Where can we go Lord, you have the words of eternal life."

This message of eternal salvation through the death, resurrection and life in Jesus Christ is the gospel. If any man be in Christ, he is a new creation. Being a catholic, anglican, baptist, presbyterian, Pentecostal, seventh day adventist, buddhist, sikh, islamist, hinduist does not cut it in Christ's eternal kingdom.

The gospel has the power to rebirth you spiritually and catapult you into the kingdom of God where there is no other Lord but Jesus.

The declaration of Jesus to a Pharisee named Nicodemus reveals the truth. This truth of scripture is as relevant this day as the day Jesus uttered the words.

John 3: 3

Jesus declared "I tell you the truth, <u>no one</u> can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again".

John 3: 5-6

⁵ Jesus answered "I tell you the truth <u>no one</u> can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to Spirit.

The confession that "Jesus is Lord" is born and flourishes in the human heart of those that are born from above and taught by God's Holy Spirit.

This affirmation of the truth comes from those who are now slaves to righteousness through faith in Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ alone as Lord. They belong to a community of believers who have been made a kingdom of living stones, a holy habitation for the Lord Jesus Christ. They are a holy priesthood who have no other Lord than Jesus and put no trust in the flesh. They do not build a kingdom, but they abide in Christ's holy kingdom.

They witness to the resurrection of Jesus Christ because Jesus Christ lives in their heart and his word abides in them. They have no other Lord and teacher than the Holy Spirit who always leads them into holiness. Without holiness no man can see the Lord as Sovereign.

[&]quot;The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand

³⁵ until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet."'

³⁶ "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

The unity of this unseen fellowship is made real because they serve only one Lord. The sovereignty of Jesus is made real in word and deed. This constitutes his body – the ecclesia or called out ones.

What are they called out of?

They are called out of darkness and ignorance into the kingdom of the son of his love.

There are no rituals, no rules of service and worship, this place is a place of quiet rest near to the heart of God. It is the place that Jesus spoke of when he said, "I go to prepare a place for you, so that where I am you may be also".

This place is a place where there is no other Lord than Jesus. In the world there are many Lords and they all vie for authority and dominance, but they will all fail. These Lords are in the world; in the church and abide in the hearts of those that are led by the world, the flesh and the devil. This unholy trinity will wilt and die against the humble power of the almighty.

Unless a man is born again from above he cannot see that the power of love that is revealed in Jesus is the only power that can satisfy. This power of love is what was in Jesus when he faced the power of evil at Calvary. The power of death was found wanting when confronted with the Lord of Life at the cross. Evil's greatest weapon was found powerless and useless when confronted by Jesus. What evil saw as victory was really its defeat.

Yes, this is what made the early apostles and prophets change their hearts and minds from sadness, depression and loss, to hearts and minds of victory. A victory not of themselves, but a victory that through faith in Christ became their victory. The Lord of life had defeated sin and death with the weapons of God. Obedience in the face of evil, meekness in the face of aggression, humility when confronted with lying vanities.

It is only the Lamb of God that can take away the sin of the world. This Lamb of God is Jesus and it is his nature birthed in the human heart that can take away the sin of the world. The weapons that the Lamb gives are mighty for pulling down strongholds. Only the nature of the Lamb can manifest this power. This power is filled with love, mercy and grace and is gentle in its application.

These are the same weapons that defeat the enemy this very day. To depart from these methods is to deny the lordship of Jesus. The truth will reveal itself. You can do nothing against the truth only for it.

To lie against the truth will bring death:

Jesus is the Way
the Truth
and the Life – the soul that sinneth dies.

Jesus holds the power over all creation. To deny this is to deny the sovereignty of God and to deny his sovereignty is to lie against the truth.

Through Jesus all things exist. All things have been subjected to him.

If this is not your confession and understanding it is doubtful you are born again from above and able to see the kingdom and you definitely will not have entered the kingdom of Christ Jesus.

Now is the time for you to repent and cry out to God to remove the scales from your eyes and remove your blindness so that you might see Jesus as Lord of lords.

This message is to all men no matter what title or position of authority that has been given you by men. The only title or position given to a believer in the kingdom of Christ is "servant". There is only one Lord but many servants who are called out of darkness to be sons of light.

Jesus is Lord because God made him Lord and his manifest power will eventually rule on earth as it does in heaven. When the apostle Peter preached to Israel, his confession to the people was "this Jesus whom you crucified – <u>God has made</u> both Lord and Christ". This glory he gives to none other.

This Jesus became the first born of a new creation. Through him God works the rebirthing of a disciple to become a mature overcoming believer who does not rely on the works of the old covenants, but fulfils them through the power of love in Jesus Christ.

Jesus was given the authority and power to mediate eternal life in a reborn man to bring forth the image of Christ in those who were once in slavery to the world, the flesh and the devil.

The evidence of faith bears witness to the truth that a human being can relinquish the power of death, sin and evil through the Lord Christ. This is made real by the Holy Spirit when through humility and meekness the Spirit of Christ is made manifest in the disciple's heart and mind and becomes his deeds.

No religion, no denomination, no fellowship, no movement, no pastor, no pope, no elder can make this happen or give it to you – this is truly a work of God – through Jesus and his Word and Holy Spirit.

The prophets, prophesied that all would be taught of the Lord.

John 6: 45

It is written in the prophets:

"They will be taught by God. Everyone who listens to the Father and learns from him comes to me."

Jesus was speaking to Jews who trusted in their own teachers and rejected him as the Son of God.

The "shadow casters" are with us today and trust in many other things except the Holy Spirit to teach the disciples in the modern era. You can be taught by the Lord Jesus just as the apostle Paul was taught of the Lord. Paul said he was not taught by any man, but God chose to reveal his Son in him. The "shadow casters" lead you on another path and despise this truth because the moment you are taught of the Lord Jesus they become irrelevant and redundant. Their power to deceive is gone and their authority dies a sudden death.

The servant of Christ Jesus does not follow the strangers voice, but hears the sweet guiding voice of Jesus through the Spirit of Christ.

These true hearers live in the world, but are not of the world and they lay down their lives for those trapped in this sin darkened world. They preach the gospel of the kingdom and pray that all might see Jesus the true light of heaven brought into the world to save.

There is much left unsaid on this matter, but nevertheless we as servants of Christ Jesus the Lord must pray for the saints as well as the ungodly, the unbelievers and the persecutors of the children of God because the power of life and forgiveness is greater than the power of death and vengeance.

May God through the Holy Spirit reinvigorate your desire to serve Jesus and be transported from the impossible to the possible. That you be transferred from darkness and ignorance to truth and light.

From self-regarding love into giving, liberating love. This is love to obey the words and commands of Jesus.

All creation and prophecy was given to lead us to Jesus as Lord. Jesus as Lord is the door into Christ's eternal kingdom and reveals the Father of life. This glorious Father is the Father of the Lord Jesus Christ and in him is no darkness, no shadow or misinterpretation.

He is the glory of what we hope for – he is life, love and liberty. He is the blessed potentate, King of kings, Lord of lords.

May his Kingdom reign.

Bill and Sue (servants of Christ)

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