

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.

How important is the Holy Spirit?

Dear Friends,

The Holy Spirit is everything that is of God, by God, and through God in this modern world. The Holy Spirit who is a person of the holy Trinity (i.e. Father, Son and Holy Spirit), this incorporates the mystery of the Godhead where the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are ONE God. These three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit exemplify and live as one in a unity that this world has never known. This unity of love of these three persons in one God is unfathomable to the natural man and can only be known by revelation and experienced through faith which works by love. The joy of this revealed knowledge brings peace and a solid rock righteousness that is manifest by knowing the truth.

The knowledge of the glory of God that is found in Christ allows the truth of holy spiritual understanding to fill the seekers mind and heart with peace and a liberty that brings to reality the words of Jesus.

Jesus when speaking to believing Jews.

<sup>31</sup> *If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.* <sup>32</sup> *Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free.* **John 8: 31-32**

In this modern world it is sometimes a “glib” saying that Jesus Christ is Lord. Many so called teachers make it their catch phrase or motto but then revel in their own doctrines and beliefs that defy the teachings of Christ.

To the first generation Christian disciples and apostles the saying that “Jesus Christ is Lord” was so revelatory impacting that it could only have been taught by the Holy Spirit. Only a true believer could know that Jesus was the Lord and Christ and that he was God’s Son, this truth having been revealed by the Holy Spirit.

Hence the saying in **1 Corinthians 12: 3** by the Apostle Paul.

*Therefore, I tell you no one speaking by the Holy Spirit of God says “Jesus be cursed” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.*

In this small portion of scripture, the unity of heaven and the three-fold witness of the glorious Godhead is declared in the speech and belief out of the heart of those who proclaim Jesus is Lord. Only the humble will hear and be glad. The Spirit of God teaches Jesus Christ is Lord according to God the Father’s will.

Knowledge of the glory of God revealed in the face of Jesus the Christ is the truth that will bring the experience of freedom and liberty in the Spirit.

Men and women are searching and seeking for the freedom and liberty in countless ways and methods in the world today and they follow ideas, leaders and ideologies that lead down a path which is wide and littered with broken dreams, broken lives and false unfulfilled promises that eventually end in death.

The promises that come from the eternal Godhead of Father, Son and Holy Spirit always are birthed in love that enlightens our burdened broken hearts and grants us eternal peace. This is promised in Jesus’ words – “*I am the way, the truth and the life and no man comes to the Father but through me*”. This truthful saying is opposed by every satanic, demonic and natural thought and reasoning, because once this is believed on in the heart of men they are released into the glorious liberty of the sons of God. Only, yes, only this liberty can be given by the Holy Spirit.

**2 Corinthians 3: 17**

*Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is liberty and the Lord is that Spirit.*

## John 8: 31-59

<sup>31</sup> To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. <sup>32</sup> Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." <sup>33</sup> They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" <sup>34</sup> Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup> Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. <sup>36</sup> So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. <sup>37</sup> I know you are Abraham's descendants. Yet you are ready to kill me, because you have no room for my word. <sup>38</sup> I am telling you what I have seen in the Father's presence, and you do what you have heard from your father."

<sup>39</sup> "Abraham is our father," they answered. "If you were Abraham's children," said Jesus, "then you would do the things Abraham did. <sup>40</sup> As it is, you are determined to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do such things. <sup>41</sup> You are doing the things your own father does." "We are not illegitimate children," they protested. "The only Father we have is God himself." <sup>42</sup> Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on my own; but he sent me. <sup>43</sup> Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. <sup>44</sup> You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. <sup>45</sup> Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me! <sup>46</sup> Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me? <sup>47</sup> He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God." <sup>48</sup> The Jews answered him, "Aren't we right in saying that you are a Samaritan and demon-possessed?" <sup>49</sup> "I am not possessed by a demon," said Jesus, "but I honour my Father and you dishonour me. <sup>50</sup> I am not seeking glory for myself; but there is one who seeks it, and he is the judge. <sup>51</sup> I tell you the truth, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." <sup>52</sup> At this the Jews exclaimed, "Now we know that you are demon-possessed! Abraham died and so did the prophets, yet you say that if anyone keeps your word, he will never taste death. <sup>53</sup> Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and so did the prophets. Who do you think you are?" <sup>54</sup> Jesus replied, "If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me. <sup>55</sup> Though you do not know him, I know him. If I said I did not, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and keep his word. <sup>56</sup> Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad." <sup>57</sup> "You are not yet fifty years old," the Jews said to him, "and you have seen Abraham!" <sup>58</sup> "I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!" <sup>59</sup> At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.

If the scripture of John 8 is given more than a cursory reading, we will see that Jesus was reaching out to believing Jews and encouraging them to remain in his teachings.

Their reply to him was that they trusted in Abraham's teaching and were never slaves of anyone. Their claim was that through their genetic lineage from Abraham "the only Father we have is God". Jesus responded by saying that "he came from God" and inferred he was God's Son and only the Son of God could set them free.

What was Jesus claiming to make them free from?

Free from slavery to sin, the devil and death!

Jesus was saying to them that they were slaves to sin and thereby bound to die in bondage. Jesus said that Abraham did not try to kill anyone sent from God, not like them who wanted to stone and kill Jesus.

Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil and break the bondage of slavery to sin and death and give life and life more abundant.

Do you believe this? is this your honest belief?

This is the truth that the Holy Spirit reveals and ingrains in the hearts and minds that makes us true believers. The Holy Spirit reveals "Jesus Christ is Lord" over everything, even death itself.

Why is it that the Holy Spirit is so important to a soul that calls themselves a Christian?

Firstly, the distinguishing mark of new covenant or new testament teachings is that these teachings are always intended in personal terms. The relationship between God and a believer is always personal between the Son Jesus Christ and the seeker. No man has seen God at any time and lived, but the Father is revealed in the face of Jesus Christ. God the Father is immortal, invisible, the only true and wise God. When we see Jesus we see the Father.

To know Jesus is to know the Father.

### **Hebrews 1: 3**

*The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being.*

And the Holy Spirit is the one glorious member of the Godhead who reveals all things godly to a seekers heart.

**John 15: 26** – Jesus said:

*"When the counsellor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me."*

Without the Holy Spirit's testimony, the truth about Jesus could not be revealed that he, Jesus, is the express image of the invisible God.

The Holy Spirit testifies to the individual the truth that is in Jesus and brings them into unity, a unity that is heavenly and goes beyond the teachings of this world. When a man, woman or child is reborn, they are born into a new relationship, into the family of God.

In this modern era, the teachings about Jesus through the scriptures revealed by the Holy Spirit must be received in humility of wisdom by faith. The humble will be glad and seek first the Kingdom of God and the righteousness that comes through Jesus the Lord.

As we mentioned before, this relationship with the invisible God through Jesus is a personal relationship. This relationship is clearly honourably expressed by the Apostle Peter in his epistle when he spoke of Jesus.

### **1 Peter 1: 8-9**

*<sup>8</sup> Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him, and are filled with inexpressible joy, <sup>9</sup> for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.*

Salvation is clearly an ongoing endeavour of gifted faith and endurance that causes us to enter the liberty of life in Christ and his kingdom.

This personal relationship of ongoing abiding in Christ and his word of truth can only be realised in an individual. It is your personal relationship with Christ that determines the reality of the salvation of our souls. Each individual taught of the Lord is then united in Christ into the body of Christ.

No one can believe for you - only you

No one can repent for you - only you

No one can obey Jesus for you - only you

The early Christian thought came from the realisation that every man is one for whom Christ died and that he tasted death for every man.

No one is excluded from the knowledge of true salvation because the covenant wrought in Jesus' own blood is a covenant of forgiveness of every sin that leads to death. The only impediment to this great salvation is to disobey the gospel and not believe. Each person must have a personal revelation that Jesus Christ is Lord and the Saviour of their soul. We cannot receive this through our parents or our denomination.

The word of the truth of God's grace revealed in Jesus which is written in the whole of creation is made manifest through the preaching of the truth empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Not every Spirit comes with the intention of making Jesus Christ Lord, but whether Christ is preached out of envy or strife or out of purity of heart, the Holy Spirit can bring the truth to a seekers mind.

We are to test the spirits to see whether they are from God. There is a mixture of truth and lies in a massive cacophony of words purporting to be from God in the world today – but the truth alone is in Jesus as Lord, not in the doctrines and teachings of naturally minded men.

Not every altar bears the mercy seat of Christ in the Christian world today.

We cannot return to the days far gone and live as a past generation or project ourselves into a future generation. We must live out our lives in the time allotted to us by God. But we can learn from the interpretations of the life of Jesus given to us in scripture by the first believers in Christ. We can learn from their struggles in how they coped with the divine revelation that came through the life and deeds of Jesus.

Their comprehension of the gospel and the understanding that the life and suffering of Jesus was God's plan of salvation was not only crucial, but revolutionary to everything that they previously understood. What they thought was a "curved ball" thrown their way, was actually the salvation of the world. In the day to day affairs of government, lifestyle or outward appearances, nothing drastically happened outwardly in the world.

What changed?

The change began in the hearts and minds of believers as they understood what God had done in Christ. What had taken place in the hearts and minds of believers in the first century after the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus takes place in the hearts and minds of believers today. Just because a single person is born again into the kingdom of Christ the outward kingdom of darkness still remains. Daily life continues and the world stays as a place of tribulation. The revolution of truth revealed in an individual's heart and mind is a continuous revolution of salvation as they walk the narrow path of life eternal. They are continually harassed by thoughts of unbelief from within and challenges of evil and strife from the world of darkness. The transference from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light is one of faith and not by sight. This faith brings the evidence of the truth of the eternal godhead of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. To depart from faith into unbelief is caused by the power of temptation exercised by Satan to draw a believer away from God. Unrepented lusts of our own heart is the only thing that the enemy of men's souls can draw on – yet God in his eternal wisdom allows these lusts to be exposed to bring them into eternal judgement. How we deal with these discoveries is our choice on whom we believe. Do we believe the lie and the liar or do we believe the truth and the true law giver? The believer is always called to obey the judgement of God's word as judgement begins in the house of God.

The new covenant of forgiveness in Christ lets every discovery of sin, unbelief or deeds that lead to death to be brought to the cross and be judged in his body of death on the cross. We are then united in his death and will be united in his resurrection. The miraculous mystery of the new birth in Christ allows us to be raised with Jesus into eternal life.

This is why Paul could say in **Philippians 3: 10-11**.

*<sup>10</sup> I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his suffering, becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> and so somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.*

To share in the death of Christ is to walk in this world in obedience to the Holy Spirit who reveals to us to walk as Jesus walked. Jesus in his obedience to God the Father from his baptism in the river Jordan to the cross was a walk sometimes of painful obedience. In Gethsemane, where he sweated as drops of blood, Jesus was listening and seeking the one and only still small voice that came from God. He then proceeded to his destiny of the cross by submitting himself in love to every known authority of the day.

All empirical, religious and secular authorities that were under Satan's sway, took part in the denunciation of the Lord of Glory and out of envy enticed the multitudes to follow their leading and guidance. Unknown to these corrupted authorities was the knowledge that they were driven by evil angels and demons that were under the influence of Satan's direction and power. Through misguided and disobedient men these evil principalities and powers poured out scorn and evil vile against the bastion of tender loving kindness, goodness and love that dwelt in the gentle heart of Jesus. This power of evil hatred is still arrayed against the true follower and disciples of Jesus this very day. When we live and walk for Jesus, the road we walk is a narrow road and draws the attention of the evil one. This road is a metaphor that the true believer in Christ must walk and must use the same methods and abilities the Holy Spirit granted Jesus. Jesus in obedience to his Father laid down his life and made himself of no reputation but humbled himself under the Spirit's hand and opened not his mouth in protest. He gave all his obedience to fulfil his Father's desire to accomplish salvation for every man. Forsaken by God for our sin and judgement he never opened his mouth in complaint. He was truly the Lamb of God led to the slaughter to take away the sin of the world.

Men, without the mind of Christ stand in the pulpits and grandiose temples of righteousness, pontificating how to allay the maladies of the world and deny sin and death as evils. They offer panaceas and explanations for things that cripple the hearts and minds of men and women by lording over the truth that is in Jesus as the Lord and the one sent from God.

Jesus as Lord is a "by word" and an anathema perpetuated by ungodly practices and hypocrites who have a form of godliness, but deny the power of Christ to bring eternal life by faith in the promises God has made in him.

When the early disciples in the first century proclaimed Jesus Christ as Lord they were proclaiming what the Holy Spirit had taught them.

They were not "glibly" saying Jesus Christ was Lord, they were obeying what had been revealed to them by the Holy Spirit.

To the outside world the preaching of Christ as Saviour was foolishness as he was only thought to be a Jewish Rabbi who had been crucified by the Romans at Calvary. How absurd, how ridiculous was this message to them. The truth was that Jesus was the creator of the universe and was God in the flesh and this knowledge was denied to them by the hardness of their own hearts.

Yet through the preaching of this gospel that Jesus had died on the cross for the sins of mankind, then been buried and on the third day risen from the dead was a revolutionary message. This message was a message that was hidden in prophetic scripture written hundreds of years previously, now God was revealing he had defeated death by raising Jesus, bodily from the grave. God had made Jesus both Lord and Christ. Death had been defeated by life. The broken hearted and those of contrite spirit could now hear God's voice in this message.

The apostles and disciples understanding had been so radically changed by the Holy Spirit, they now realised that Christ the Son of God had humbly lowered himself and walked as a "son of man". They were now to make themselves of no reputation or superiority of righteousness also, but were to walk like Jesus in the wisdom of humility and meekness and display the riches of Christ's glory

Jesus had died in humiliation on the cross but had been raised from death by the Holy Spirit into the Father's glory.

The question now asked is - how important is the Holy Spirit to us?

Very important! Because the life of Christ is in the Holy Spirit.

### **Romans 8: 9-11**

<sup>9</sup> *You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if*

*anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. <sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.*

Here in the scripture we see and understand the Spirit of God that was manifest in Jesus Christ is now called the Spirit of Christ and if any one does not have the Spirit of Christ they do not belong to Christ. What is the difference between the Spirit of God and the Spirit of Christ? There is no difference; the Spirit of God or the Holy Spirit is the manifestation of the Spirit that Christ exhibited in his earthly ministry and manifested in true believers.

He was humble.

He made himself of no reputation.

He only said and did what his Father told him.

He reconciled the believer back to God.

He laid down his life for his friends.

He did not judge, but loved.

He brought the Kingdom of God to earth for us to live in by promise.

He nailed every ordinance and accusation against us to the tree.

He bore our sin and carried our sorrows.

He repaired a broken covenant.

He built instead of tearing down.

He gently leads the hopeless and the frail.

He never sought honorific titles.

He always obeyed God his Father.

He was led of the Spirit.

He prayed for the lost and broken.

He mediated between God and man.

He bore all temptations and did not falter.

He loved the sinner and those outside the covenants of Israel.

He healed.

He saved eternally.

He brought life not death.

He was gentle and full of loving kindness.

He was meek and lowly of heart.

He never claimed superiority.

He always gave glory, honour and power to his Father.

He served God, not mammon.



He was a reconciler.

Jesus Christ has not changed!

No matter what generation we are in!

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.

In every generation from the first century to the last century should the Lord tarry, Jesus is the way, the truth and the life and will bring the coming age or the Kingdom of God into the lives of seeking believers by the Holy Spirit.

To stop seeking Jesus and the Kingdom of God and his righteousness is to become complacent and rely on your own good works of ritualistic endeavour. To seek the praises of men and not the only true God is to turn back like Lot's wife and become a pillar in the society of men – a pillar of salt. Or, to hanker for the leeks and garlic of Egypt that spice up your life instead of eating the hidden manna - Jesus the living bread of life who came down from heaven to raise us up into heavenly places.

To call Jesus Christ Lord is to give up every other lordship that casts a shadow over the life of Christ.

When the early disciples and apostles called Jesus Lord they were challenged in their understanding of what God now required of them.

They were challenged on how and the way that God expected them to worship. The temple was now defunct as the dwelling place of God. The day and hour that Jesus was crucified, the curtain between the holy place and the most holy place was torn from top to bottom and the Holy Spirit left the temple. Jesus was building a new place of worship. God the Holy Spirit was going to be dwelling in the hearts of men and Jesus was building a new temple out of living stones. Men's hearts were now the dwelling place of God. Men would now worship in spirit and truth. Only God through Jesus can build this invisible temple of living stones. Men down through the ages have reverted to the broken covenants of old and built divisive walls that create division and separation and then build temples to glorify their rebellion of God and his true purposes. They create more division and institutions that prevent men from believing the truth of the unity in the kingdom of Christ. They build walls of superiority and say they are called of God by their institutional hierarchies to cement doctrinal divisions, that are built on national lust of power, greed and hatred and are upheld by the power of mammon or money and empirical hierarchies.

All these divisional differences defy the unity of spirit the holy Godhead displays. We are to endeavour to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace, not to create divisions. Let brotherly love continue.

When the early disciples called Jesus Christ Lord, they displayed a willingness to be obedient to the Holy Spirit's teaching. They taught that God the Father had raised Jesus from the dead through the eternal Spirit of God. God had made him Lord over all creation and given him a name that was above every other name that was named. Jesus was made Lord over all creation by raising him from the dead, Jesus was now the Lord of life. There was no longer Jew nor Gentile, but out of two was one new man, the new creation.

These disciples and apostles knew that their life was no longer their own and that to lay down their own lives meant that they were also raised with Christ out of darkness into the light of life eternal. They were now to serve as slaves to righteousness as servants of the only one and true Lord. In God's kingdom there is one faith, one Lord, one body and all are servants of the Lord.

Another truth the Holy Spirit taught was a new creation had begun and Christ Jesus was the first born of this new creation transforming the wicked sovereignty of Satan from darkness into light. God was now inviting sinners, despised, tax collectors, Gentiles and the broken into the Kingdom of the Son of his love. The sovereignty of God in Christ had brought a new order of law. the old law that brought condemnation was now supplanted and fulfilled by the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus as Lord. This law is the royal law of love.

Now today in this generation as it was in the first century generation, rules and regulations of worship, holy days and Sabbaths, circumcisions of the flesh were all abolished and renewed by the circumcision of the heart upon which were written the laws of God. Now in every generation faith in Jesus Christ as sovereign Lord and obedience to him in humility and meekness is revealed as the way of the gentle true Spirit of Christ. The circumcised heart has been washed clean by more than any fuller's soap. A heart cleansed by the blood of the lamb which takes away the sins of the world.

This blood cleansed conscience of the mind and heart knows without a doubt that all the glory for this remarkable transformation belongs to Jesus and Jesus alone as Lord.

To put our trust in the arm of the flesh or to seek the praises of men or to not live by faith in Jesus Christ as Lord is a denial of the gospel and the power of the Holy Spirit to fulfil the grace of God.

The power of the Holy Spirit in a believer is to be humble and meek in adversity and in plenty and to always give praise to God the Father through Jesus Christ as Lord. The true believer does not seek their own glory, does not take on titles of superiority, does not build their own kingdom, does not use the gifts of God to build their own reputation and loves all men as brothers and preaches and lives the gospel without fear or favour and without partiality.

If any man is in Christ Jesus they are a new creation the former things are passed away and all things are made new again. The man in Christ is the servant of all.

To answer the question of the importance of the Holy Spirit it must be summed up as vitaly important.

#### **1 Corinthians 2: 9-14**

<sup>9</sup> *However, as it is written:*

*No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived, what God has prepared for those that love him.*

<sup>10</sup> *But God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things even the deep things of God.*

<sup>11</sup> *For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no man knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup> We have not received the Spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. <sup>13</sup> This is what we speak not in words taught by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. <sup>14</sup> The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

Only the humble hear the voice of Jesus and a stranger they will not follow. Humble yourselves under God's mighty hand and he will exalt you in due time.

Jesus said: "My sheep hear my voice."

The humble are the sheep of his pasture and abide continually in Christ's kingdom by the grace of God and his Holy Spirit.

Bill and Sue (servants of Christ)

If you would like to make a reply or contact us, please email [info@churchbuilttoflivingstones.com](mailto:info@churchbuilttoflivingstones.com)