

May, 2023

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.

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The Need of the world is Jesus

Dear Friends,

Once again we join together in praise of our awesome and majestic Father and his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. With our hearts and minds meditating on the grace and mercy of God toward us (unworthy as we are), we bow our hearts in adoration and worship a Godhead that is intent on revealing loving kindness and truth to its creation. Once we were without God in this world (or without knowledge of God, for he has always been near), but now through his wisdom and might he has revealed to us his only begotten Son, who is filled with all the fullness of God. We today while it is called today are able to enter into the most holy of holies and find grace and help in our time of need, through the precious blood of Jesus Christ. He has made a way where there was no way. Jesus by death, death on a cross has entered into heaven itself and paid the price for all our transgressions and sins. In heaven our sins and iniquities are remembered no more. Though we bring to mind our own trespasses and sins, we can by faith in Christ come to God in faith through Jesus' shed blood and receive forgiveness and pardon.

The requirement for receiving this forgiveness is to confess our sins and trespasses against a Holy God and each other. This confession is our acknowledgement we have broken our fellowship and can ask for restoration and receive grace and mercy.

(The blood of Christ will cleanse our heart from an evil conscience) allowing restoration into fellowship with the Father and the Son.

Hebrews 10: 22-23

²² Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

The old orthodoxy of sacrifice was obedience to animal and grain sacrifices for acceptance with God and forgiveness.

Hebrews 9: 22

²² In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

Christ's sacrifice on Calvary and the shedding of his precious blood heralded a new orthodoxy or a new and living way to receive acceptance into the presence of God and the forgiveness of sins.

This new and living way is the promise of God that you (we) can receive the presence of God in our hearts while we live in this present evil age.

This very presence of God which is a new and living way, allows the Holy Spirit to remain in your life while you are in an unglorified state.

How did this come about?

After Jesus the Christ rose from the dead he walked among men revealing he was alive. After forty days he entered into heaven itself and was glorified for his accomplishments on earth. He was highly exalted and given a name and titles that had never ever been given in heaven on earth or under the earth. He was now the head of the body of Christ, the new creation, the Lord both of heaven and earth. The Creator was now the promised Saviour and was now the promised Redeemer the head of a brand new race.

He was the hope of Israel but was now the hope of the whole earth.

He is our only hope of righteousness before God.

He is what everyman needs.

He is the need of a present rebellious generation.

He is the need of the needy.

Philippians 4: 19

¹⁹ And my God will meet all your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Because mankind in its deceptive and rebellious state is a generation that does not receive the Saviour's love, they now reap from the flesh – corruption. This is why the world goes from crisis to crisis developing into a bigger mess.

Galatians 6: 7-10

⁷ Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. ⁸ The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. ⁹ Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. ¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

The Spirit that the scripture speaks of is the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of the Godhead.

God the Holy Spirit. The same Spirit that raised Christ Jesus from the dead.

This self-same Spirit which is God. (The triune God, three persons, but one God).

God the Holy Spirit was sent from heaven by God the Father and God the Son into the earth to comfort, teach and to grow God's people into the image of his Son.

While men are led by their own carnal imaginations and not by the Spirit of God, all kinds of delinquencies and corruption of mind, body and spirit will occur.

The Holy Spirit has been sent into the hearts and minds to regenerate men and women to form the nature of Christ in them while they dwell in mortal flesh.

Paul says in Galatians 5: 16-25

¹⁶ So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. ¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹ The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. ²⁵ Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

Men today live in the orthodoxy of man-made religions that glorify the nature of man and his achievements and deny the powerful presence of God the Lord and Saviour sent from heaven.

It is good that we remind all believers of the scriptures written by Titus and Jude. **(please read these letters – they are sobering).**

Titus 1: 15-16

¹⁵ To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure. In fact, both their minds and consciences are corrupted. ¹⁶ They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good.

We must remember we are not the lawgivers or the judges that determine the destiny of an individual, but we are proclaimers of Christ Jesus as Lord/Saviour/Redeemer and his eternal Kingdom.

With this in mind we remind ourselves and others of our purpose whilst we live in the flesh. It is not a sin to live in the flesh, but it is a sin to live after the flesh.

Once enlightened, we by God's grace do not draw back into trusting in the weak and beggarly elements of the world or draw back into trusting in the law for our righteousness. We do not draw back into the empty life handed down to us from the fathers.

1 Peter 1: 13-23

¹³ Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled, set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. ¹⁴ As obedient children, do not be conformed to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. ¹⁵ But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶ for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." ¹⁷ Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live out your lives as strangers here in reverent fear. ¹⁸ For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ²⁰ He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. ²¹ Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God. ²² Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. ²³ For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.

God the Father has a destiny for each and every one of us. This destiny is not a man-made destiny, it did not come from earthly wisdom, but it came through the wisdom that comes from heaven.

Many people struggle with pre-destination and misunderstand its meaning.

Let me simplify it for you. Predestination is the destiny that God planned for you before the foundation of the world. This destiny is wholly in Christ.

Look at **Ephesians 1: 4-5** in this light.

⁴ For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵ he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will.

He destined us to be Christ like.

He destined us in love to be his sons.

He destined us that we should be holy and blameless before him.

This is how God sees us when we abide in his Word and his Word abides in us. The true pilgrimage we embark on now is the pilgrimage to be conformed to the image of his Son. On this journey the Father,

the Son and the Holy Spirit are calling to us and helping us to stay in the race and not give up. Though it appears to be hard in the natural in all our ordeals, the promise of Christ by the Holy Spirit remains.

Hebrews 13: 5-6

⁵ *Never will I leave you never will I forsake you,*

⁶ *So we say with confidence,*

“The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?”

What he has promised will come to pass.

You are destined to live for the praise and glory of Jesus for all eternity.

Ephesians 1: 11-12

¹¹ *In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, ¹² in order that we, who were first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory.*

Yes, you were accepted in the beloved to show the grace of God is not vanity, but is endured with the power of the Holy Spirit and his Living Word to bring you from darkness into the light of life.

Remember this.....

John 1: 12-13

¹² *Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.*

All those that are born of God have a destiny of love, mercy and grace to fulfil and enjoy.

Will you trust and obey and endure to the end?

Are you willing to lose your life to gain it?

Will you live by the promise of God that *“Christ will dwell in your heart by faith”*?

Will you live for Jesus whom you love, but have never seen?

Will you be like Moses, who left Egypt not fearing the King’s anger (or the wrath of man)? He persevered because he saw him who is invisible.

Will you like Abraham look forward to a City with foundations whose architect and builder is God?

Are you a believer who has the faith written and described in **Hebrews 11: 1**

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

Orthodox religion is slipping into despair and not allowing the “called out” people of God to trust in God’s kingdom realities, but to rely in the disease of worldly trust. The so-called ministry or clergy become the mediators of God’s purposes for his children – they subtly rob God’s people of living by faith in God’s promises. The failures of Israel that Ezekiel encountered are repeated again and again.

In the eyes of the Gospel writers there is ever only one generation. The generation they are addressing is always the present generation. The present generation is always “called out” to follow Jesus Christ. When the present generation disobeys the “calling” it is classed as an evil generation. The present generation can either be a generation of faith in Jesus Christ or a generation of disobedience whose father is the devil.

This present generation that is called the ecclesia or “called out” ones will not tolerate any other headship over its body than Jesus Christ.

This is why it is called the body of Christ.

This body or ecclesia only receives its instructions or teachings from its head.

This body is gifted spiritual power to know the will of God and have the mind of Christ.

This body walks as Jesus walks and lives by the truth of Christ in the Spirit of Christ.

This body is led by the Spirit of Christ in truth, humility, meekness and trust.

This body resists the temptation to live as the world dictates and lives by the promises of God that are all in Christ Jesus.

This body does not conform to the world and its methods.

This body lives in love towards all men, it does not rely on consensus numbers or man’s wisdom to justify the truth.

It builds no edifices to glorify itself or its creeds, but allows God to build the body through his Word and Spirit.

It does not rely on the demon of mammon to proclaim the Gospel and Christ’s kingdom.

This body knows that the end of the world has come, and refuses all its glories and promises.

This body gives all praise and worship to him who is invisible, the only true and wise God, the blessed potentate.

This body lives by the power of God.

How is this power of God given to this body?

This body that is the body of Christ serves a Saviour Redeemer who created them in his image. They live by faith and not by sight. They live by the promises that are yes and amen in Christ Jesus.

This body lives by the Spirit and puts no trust in the flesh or the arm of man.

This body trusts in the promises of God and the Holy Spirit links this faith to the power of God. This power is exercised by humble wisdom and love that never fails and this is the power of the Lamb.

This body is filled with the glorious mystery of Christ dwelling in the flesh.

This body has been called out of darkness into the glorious light of Christ.

This body follows the Lamb wherever he goes.

The glorious city that comes out of heaven has the light of the Lamb and is made up of thousands upon thousands of believers that follow the Lamb.

This is the same Lamb that takes away the sin of the world.

The Lamb (Word) is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

This is the Lamb slain that John the revelator saw as the “Lion of the tribe of Judah”.

This is the Lamb that opened not his mouth when evil had its “hour”.

This is the Lamb that was worthy to open the seals that reveal man’s destiny.

This is the Lamb that was wrapped in swaddling cloth at the manger.

This was the Lamb that God the Father anointed with power in the river Jordan at John's baptism.
This is the Lamb that inhabits God's people by his Spirit when they wholly repent from dead works.
It is the nature of the Lamb that one receives at the new birth.
Anyone who does not have the nature of the Lamb cannot enter God's kingdom.
Entry into God's kingdom is through the straight gate and only the humble can pass through.
The Lamb's nature is not given to the natural man but to the humble of heart.
The Lamb's nature is the power of God.

2 Timothy 3: 5

.....having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them.

They have a form of godliness, but deny the power thereof.

Their reliance on the world's structures, methods and employments, have made the Word of God of no effect.

Religious leaders equate the truth to the employment of worldly methods as the evidence that something is true. They take pride in their achievements instead of the achievements of the Lamb. We are nothing in ourselves but through Christ the Lamb we can do all things.

The only truth in this world is Jesus Christ and to attempt to achieve God's purposes other than by humility, truth, meekness and trust in an invisible, but real living God will come to nothing.

Things achieved by natural wisdom may seem to flourish for a season but will all end in death.

Denominations, ritualistic forms of worship, gatherings of religious people will all fall in the light of Christ.

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the Word will never pass away. The living Word in our hearts is Christ in our hearts and it is our destiny to receive this wonderful inheritance.

Jesus endured the shame and the ignominy of the Cross for he saw the joy of bringing many sons into glory.

Hebrews 2: 9-13

⁹ *But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. ¹⁰ In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering. ¹¹ Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers.*

¹² *He says,*

"I will declare your name to my brothers;

In the presence of the congregation I will sing your praises."

¹³ *And again,*

"I will put my trust in him."

And again he says,

"Here am I, and the children God has given me."

May his living Word find a resting place in the hearts of many – bringing forth the Spirit of Christ in mortal human beings, achieving a strong assurance to keep trusting in the hope set before them.

Colossians 1: 25-27

²⁵ *I have become its servant (servant to the body of Christ) by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness – ²⁶ the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the saints (called out ones).²⁷ To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you the hope of glory.*

1 John 3: 1-3

¹ *How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Dear friends, now we are the children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears ^(b) when it is made known we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. ³ Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.*

Even though we do not appear as we truly are, we can have fellowship with the Father and the Son just as the apostle John wrote in **1 John 1-4**.

¹ *That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched – this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. ² The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. ³ We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and the Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴ We write this to make your joy complete.*

2 John 9-11

⁹ *Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. ¹⁰ If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not take him into your house or welcome him. ¹¹ Anyone who welcomes him shares in his wicked work.*

This is not judgement but discerning of spirits, we must love the person but hate the wickedness.

John the apostle in his closing years never claimed a grandiose title, but called himself the elder. The teachings of Christ are to give all glory to God the Father, and the Son through the power of the Holy Spirit in humility, meekness and gentleness of spirit.

We must proclaim the gospel in love to all men and refrain from judging them, because they are under the condemnation of the devil and along with him they abide under the wrath of God in their rebellion.

Jesus' teaching extends the true love of God to go beyond just loving those who love you, to loving even your enemies and those that spitefully use you or persecute you. Being baptised with him in suffering and death, God's promise is that we will be exalted with him in the heavenlies. Climbing the ladder through self-regarding love and self-ambition, is not the way that Jesus taught. Taking the lowest rung on the ladder in this earthly life in self-descent is the hidden pathway to God's glory.

May you abide in the teachings of our Redeemer.

Bill and Sue (servants of Christ)

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