October, 2020

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.

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#### October 2020 Message

of death.

#### **Scriptures**

Problem(Proverbs 14: 12): There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to<br/>death.Answer(Proverbs 14: 27): The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, turning a man from the snares

Dear Friends,

Every person that enters this realm of natural creation is confronted with his immortality and the prospect of death. Our senses are aroused to a fear of our demise and poses the question; Is there an answer? Some may say that they do not fear death and say they are thankful for the life that they have experienced and are ready to face the end without fear or regret and go back to the dust. Others seek to answer the question "is there life after death"? We know there are a myriad of proclaimers exercising their opinions and promises of what the future holds. May well we ask – who is right?

In an appeal to the bible we see it proclaims that there is a creator who made all things and heralded that mankind was the peak and crown of this creation. It was revealed that this creation of mankind was to bear the very image and likeness of the one who created them. Although the one created defied the

Creator through disobedience (that led to death); This did not deter His purpose and plan of bringing that which was made into his own image and likeness.

Sin, corruption and death entered into the created realm and the head (Adam) became sick and then all became sick. This is why in Adam all die. Mankind had lost its way. It lost the ability to know its purpose. It lost its ability to comprehend what was the voice of God. It heard and obeyed another voice. In reality mankind entered into a lost estate of mind, character and purpose. This man called Adam was a creation made from the dust and because he disobeyed he would return to the dust and elements from which he was made. This creation called Adam has been bound in this bondage and has sought deliverance from this demise of dying in sin. Even though his body returns to the dust his soul remains in death and will be judged.

Ideologies, religions, creeds and dead works are all methods used in an attempt to relieve this heavy burden from off mankind's shoulders. Darwinism, psychology, religion, lying vanities along with education and increase in knowledge are all false illusions to steer us down a wrong path.

Even with the above tools we see a world struggling to answer its legitimate problems by illegitimate means. In other words, the voice of the almighty says "your ways are not my ways and your thoughts are not my thoughts", but man still rebels against the answer provided by God.

The Holy Spirit declares in scripture.

#### (Hebrews 3: 7-11)

So, as the Holy Spirit says:

"Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion, during the time of testing in the desert, where your fathers tested and tried me and for forty years saw what I did. This is why I was angry with that generation, and I said, 'Their hearts are always going astray, and they have not known my ways'. So I declared on oath in my anger, 'They shall never enter my rest.' "

How then can a natural man know the ways of the Almighty? The natural man – the man born of flesh and blood is always – yes – always – under the illusion that he can redeem himself and find his way back to God. Henceforth, he invents illusions of paradise and utopia in some far off place, or a nirvana of happiness and joy, that can only be accessed by using laws, ritualistic practices taught by an elite few. In false humiliation, they make idols to worship and ideas birthed out of their arrogance. (Arrogance and idolatry are the same).

An idol is not only an outward image it is also an image manifest in the heart.

When Samuel the prophet confronted Saul at Gilgal he made a very telling understanding of how God compared the ways of man against the ways of God.

## (1 Samuel 15: 22)

But Samuel replied: Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as much as in <u>obeying the voice of the Lord?</u> <u>To obey is better</u> than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams. For rebellion is like the sin of divination, <u>and arrogance like the evil of idolatry.</u> Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, he has rejected you as king.

In this portion of scripture, we can glean much in what an evil heart of unbelief contains. We are reminded by the words of scripture that the heart of natural man is deceptive and continually evil and invents ways to distort the truth.

In the afore mentioned scripture the prophet Samuel was declaring that the Lord desires obedience more than our sacrifices. The rebellion that is held in the heart is like witchcraft and that arrogance is like the evil of idolatry. All these things born out of an evil heart causes a rejection from God.

Jesus declared it is not what goes into a man that defiles, but what comes out of his heart is what defiles.

We as believers tend to point out the wickedness of open idolatry as evil, but at the same time hold an <u>arrogant</u> attitude or a <u>rebellious</u> state of heart. Unforgiveness is an arrogant attitude which we can hold. We cry out to God in our distress to forgive us and yet we don't forgive our brothers and sisters in Christ, such arrogance is idolatry.

We need to know that the same one that created us is the same one who redeems us. He is our only Saviour. The one that created us came into our world through natural birth conceived by the Holy Spirit, took on our form, yet without sin, was crucified for our trespasses and sins of disobedience. He then entered that fearful place of death and the grave, but never saw corruption and through death, defeated death and rose triumphant from the grave by the power of God's Spirit. This same Spirit that raised Christ Jesus out from among the dead, now quickens our mortal bodies. This same Creator that gave us life in Adam has now become the Creator of our new life in Christ. This Creator / Redeemer is given a name above all names and any other title than can be named.

His name is Jesus His name is Counsellor His name is wonderful His name is Prince of Peace His name is almighty God His name is everlasting Father The Apostle Paul in writing to his student Timothy, coined these encouraging words.

## (2 Timothy 1: 8-11)

So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me <u>his</u> prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the Gospel, by the power of God, who has saved us and called us to a holy life – not because of anything we have done, but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel.

Paul goes on to encourage Timothy and us on how the Word of Christ when believed upon in our heart is then expressed in us through the power of Christ.

## (2 Timothy 2: 11-13)

Here is a <u>trustworthy</u> saying:

If we died with him, we will also live with him; If we endure, we will also reign with him; If we disown him, He will disown us; If we are faithless, He will remain faithful, for he cannot disown himself God is not a man that he should lie.

The natural man invents stories of fabrication to soothe his conscience and retain his ignorance of the truth. While the earth remains, natural minded men will invent forms of worship and godlessness which distorts the truth and lead men astray.

They will lie in wait to deceive the feeble minded. They will invent institutions that become riddled with corruption. They will stand in the holy place and declare the Christ is there.

The true believer will know that sin is crouching at this door, ready to deceive and disinherit them from their life with Christ. The truth is that the dwelling place of God is in your heart. Are you ready to obey the voice of God and let the high priest of every word you say bring peace to your life and raise you up into heavenly places. This realm is called the kingdom of Christ which is also a kingdom of true believers. They will be delivered up to God our Father as a blood washed, Spirit filled, God glorifying body of believers.

These are overcomers who constitute the body of Christ. They will be without spot or wrinkle, they will be reaped from every nation, tribe and clan, out of every eon of God's creation. They will not be known for who they really are whilst living in the flesh, but in a moment in a twinkling of an eye, they will be revealed in glory and be known as they are now known by God. Those mature in Christ who have submitted to God's purpose and plan and have overcome, will not be blotted out of the Lamb's book of life.

## (Revelation 3: 4-5)

Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. He who overcomes will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out his name from the book of life, but will acknowledge his name before my Father and his angels.

They are not enemies of the cross of Christ, but have been crucified with Christ to the world and the world has been crucified to them. As the apostle Paul writes in Philippians.

## (Philippians 3: 18-21 - 4: 1)

For, as I have told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their God is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body. Therefore, my brothers, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, that is how you should stand firm in the Lord, <u>dear friends</u>!

Yes, we await daily the appearing of our Saviour from heaven, knowing full well our life is not our own, we have been bought with a price. A price we could not pay even if we were to labour for millions and millions of eons. Jesus Christ in one heavenly charged willing sacrifice of love cleansed our slate and made us holy. Created us anew by the power of the living God – he nailed to the cross all ordinances and regulations that were written against us and allowed us to fly free as a bird that has escaped from the snare of the fowler.

To live now is to live with the love of God shed abroad in our heart by the Holy Spirit. Not shackled by chains of natural minded men who desire the pre-eminence over the Christ – the Lord of glory.

They preach Moses and bind the people in deception instead of preaching Christ. The Word of Christ sets us free and then the policemen of darkness come out of the shadows with their handcuffs of arrogance proclaiming that they will set your free if you obey them. No, the true men of God will only shepherd you to Jesus Christ. Through the eyes of the world and religion the disciples of Christ will be considered unworthy. But the opposite of this is true *"the world is not worthy of them"*. They will be identified with the saints of Hebrews chapter eleven.

## (Hebrews 11: 32-40)

And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets, who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. Women received back their dead, raised to life again. Others were tortured and refused to be released, so that they might gain a better resurrection. Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison. They were stoned, they were sawed in two, they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated – the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what has been promised. God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

We remember that the Kingdom of God does not come by observation or with the weapons that the world relies upon. Remember that the weapons of our warfare are not carnal or worldly, they are mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds. The methods and defences we use are the righteousness of Christ, truth, love, peace, salvation through Jesus, faith and the word of the Spirit.

This righteousness is not of the old ways of Moses who put a veil over his face to hide the fact that the glory he received from the presence of the Lord was a fading glory. In fact, his teaching never brought life but brought condemnation. The glory that we receive by the truth that is in Jesus is everlasting glory that will not fade away but grows brighter and brighter until that glorious day. As the light and glory grows, so does the opposition and those that seek Christ and his Kingdom will either face offence through his calling and turn back; or will embrace everything and endure to the end.

Now here comes the challenge that true believers are faced with in following Jesus.

Jesus was born of a woman, conceived of the Holy Spirit, raised under the law as a Jew, circumcised on the eighth day, attended the holy feast rituals in the temple according to Mosaic law, read and trusted the law and lived by the Sabbath day requirements.

Though he was the Son of God he was also the Son of Man. Though he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered.

A great turning point came when he was passing the prophet John the Baptist and heard the words spoken which confirmed in his heart that he was the one the prophet spoke about. "Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world".

John also preached that his baptism was with water for repentance, "but the one coming after me who was before me will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire".

Jesus heard his Father say that now was the time he had to submit to John's baptism of repentance. Jesus had no sin to be repented of, so what was the necessity of him submitting to John's water baptism? As with everything in Jesus' ministry, it is in submission to his Father's will. Jesus did nothing least he saw or heard his Father say it. John the Baptist tried to deter Jesus from submitting to his water baptism, but Jesus made this remarkable declaration.

## (Matthew 3: 15, 17)

Jesus replied "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfil all righteousness". Then immediately after his baptism in water a voice from heaven said "This is my Son whom I love; with him I am well pleased".

To please God, Jesus had to walk by faith that he was the Son of God while he was living as the Son of Man. (our task is to live by faith that we are sons of God while being sons of man). Immediately after this he was driven into the wilderness to be tempted and challenged by the Devil. After forty days of fasting he was tempted by Satan to use his power to change stone into bread <u>if</u> he was the Son of God. Jesus' whole ministry was not one of power, but of obedience. The power he received was through obedience. Jesus then had to combat every known religious' institution and practice by a new and living way. This way was humility, meekness and truth. The baptism of repentance that he now had to obey was to leave all the methods of religious order that were common to man. These were the ingrained ideologies that promised truth as pillars to gain acceptance with God. Jesus did not submit to John's baptism in water unto repentance for sin – no, he submitted to a baptism of repentance from dead works that did not bring life.

He was issuing a new righteousness that would shake the very foundations of the earth, and shake heaven as well. The dead works that had to be repented of were trust in the law, the temple and its rituals, circumcision and the Sabbath.

Under the old Covenant ratified in the blood of bulls and goats, interpretations of the religious orders were incomplete and were unable to cleanse the heart and conscience from sin and its penalty of death. Obedience to the law never brought life.

The temple was to be replaced by a living temple of living stones (Christ's body). These new stones were the old hardened hearts of men now made compliant by the love of God.

The natural circumcision of Abraham was being replaced by the true circumcision of the heart through the circumcision of Christ's body upon the tree.

The keeping of the Sabbath day as a righteous act of holiness was abolished and every day was holy to the Lord and the day of the Lord was made evident when the world and its systems were made redundant. The observance of the day of the Lord began when the world and its religious systems passed away and the new creation had begun. If any man was in Christ he was a new creation, the former things had passed away and all things became new.

Jesus Christ became the fulfilment of all scripture and the fulfilment of the law and prophets. Jesus Christ and his body of believers became the fulfilment of the temple of God. Jesus Christ was the pioneer and evidence of the circumcised heart becoming the habitation of God by the indwelling Holy Spirit which he sent into the world after his ascension. *"He that does not have the Spirit of Christ is none of his"*.

He is the one who baptises you in the Holy Spirit.

The days of pretence are over, if you do not have the lowly and humble Spirit of Christ in truth in your heart at all times it declares the "Lamb of God" has not taken the sin of the world from your heart. This is the new circumcision by faith. Another evidence of faith is that the day of the Lord is here now; and every era has a decision on which spirit to generate – the Spirit of Christ or the spirit of anti-Christ. To either live by the age that is passing away or to live by the age that is coming to pass. The scripture bears evidence that these people existed in the Church of Sardis (Revelation 3).

The Spirit of Christ never rebuilds using methods that lawful religious leaders and unbelievers use to declare our righteousness before God. This is a righteousness of their own making. A trap, a snare. The righteousness we now preach is Christ crucified and his eternal Kingdom. If we rebuild the things Christ overcame to achieve righteousness, we have failed.

## (Psalm 127: 1)

Unless the Lord build the house, those that labour, labour in vain.

Jesus stated in Matthew's Gospel.

## (Matthew 11: 28)

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

Yes, the burden is light when we are yoked in obedience to him. We need not worry about tomorrow or to take on the cares of this world. When it is revealed to us our repentance is not full repentance our whole world is shaken, the stars fall from the sky and the sun is darkened by the light of the glory that is in Christ.

In other words, it is a repentance that is not to be repented of. We find it impossible to return to the weak and beggarly elements we were once delivered from.

We must not be like the children of Israel who desired the leeks and garlics of the Egyptians rather than the "manna" from heaven.

We must not look back like Lots wife who wanted the things of Sodom and Gomorrah.

We are not to be dissuaded by the denominational factions that rule the so called Christian world.

We must ask ourselves - how did we receive the Spirit of Christ? Was it through the law or by faith?

We understand that it is by faith and we now are led by the same Spirit that was in the "Lamb of God" that took away the sin of the world. The sin of trusting in the world and its methods can only be removed by trust in Christ and him alone. This is evidence that God's ways are right.

The Spirit of Christ is the same Spirit that was in Jesus when he submitted to all the authorities that seemed to be more powerful than him. These authorities took on the power of judgement, condemnation and execution of the holiest man that every walked on earth. Jesus Christ was condemned by their false interpretations of the scriptures. These self-same scriptures were given by God so we could recognise him when he came. The rulers of this world failed in interpreting the scriptures because they said; *"we have a law and by this law he must die"*. They elevated the law above the lawgiver. Arrogant men are still doing this today.

Jesus spoke to naturally minded men in the Gospel of John.

## (John 5: 37-44)

Speaking of the Father.....

You have never heard his voice nor seen his form, nor does his word dwell in you, for you do not believe the one he sent. You study diligently the scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.

I do not accept praise from men, but I know you. I know that you do not have the love of God in your hearts. I have come in my Father's name and you do not accept me, but if someone else comes in his own name, you will accept him. How can you believe if you accept praise from one another, yet make no effort to obtain praise that comes from the <u>only</u> God? But do not think I will accuse you before the Father. Your accuser is Moses on whom your hopes are set.

Unless we give up the teachings that are unable to bring life, we remain wretched and poor.

Today many interpreters of the scripture are failing just as the authorities of Jesus' day failed. Christ is a stumbling block and a rock of offence. They fail to see that the Kingdom of God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the true message. This test comes to your own heart when you elevate anything above Jesus Christ as a way to eternal life. We must repent and die to doctrines and natural ideas of natural man.

They brow beat from their raised pulpits then leave the stage with self-drawn praise of their knowledge and indulge in all kinds of scholarly interpretations that lack the love of the living Word; Jesus the master of mercy and compassion. Without the love of God and love of the truth, everything is nothing. Those that have Christ's love shed abroad in their hearts by the Holy Spirit spot these dreamers a "mile away". Jesus was truly aware of this when he was quoted in the Gospel of John.

## (John 2: 24-25)

But Jesus would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all men. He did not need man's testimony about man, for he knew what was in a man.

Though those naturally minded men were on the wrong road, Jesus was always - yes always -filled with the compassionate love of God the Father and was willing and obedient to lay down his life for those that were wretched and blind.

The dreamers preach the "so called church" as the redeeming power, they build temples and buildings to display their glory and authority. They use the methods of the world and mammon to preach the Gospel. They rely on their own wisdom instead of the wisdom born of humility. They refuse to submit to the working of love and resist the Holy Spirit. They do not know that the Holy Spirit is always opening men and women's hearts without them ever stepping into buildings called a "church". The tragedy of this is the immature in faith are drawn into their web and ensnared and become fitter candidates for Hades than they were before.

The word "church" is the most misinterpreted word in the whole bible which the rulers of the worldly religions are loathe to change. The word "church" in the Greek is "ecclesia" or assembly of "called out ones".

What are the "called out ones" called out of? - I repeat - what are the "called out ones" called out of?

They are called out of darkness into the Kingdom of the son of his love. In this era called the 21<sup>st</sup> century there are two generations – one generation disobeys Christ and is the generation of the anti-Christ.

The other generation, the chosen generation is the generation that is called from darkness into light and hears and obeys the voice of the Lord.

- They live by faith and not by sight, they have no place of worship other than the presence of the Lord in their hearts.
- Their fellowship is with the Father and the Son and their fellowship is with all those called out of darkness into the light.
- They do not trust in silver or gold or mammon to proclaim the coming age.
- They have been taught by the Spirit of God that Jesus bought the Kingdom nigh.
- They do not covet the riches of this world, but seek the riches of glory in Christ Jesus.
- They believe that eternal life is knowing the Father and the Son.
- They believe that Christ came in the flesh and paid the price in full for their sin.
- They believe that Christ speaks to their heart through remembrance of what he achieved on Calvary and that they are accepted in the beloved and their future is secure in the beloved Son.
- They believe he rose from the dead and has sent the Holy Spirit into their heart to conform them to the image of Jesus Christ.
- They believe to attain the character of Christ is their true purpose.
- They believe that every era has a remnant that obeys the Lord.
- They believe that they are not known by the world and the world is not worthy of them, but they are called to lay down their lives to bring the truth of Christ to this world.
- They will not try to build this Kingdom of Christ, but will submit to all ordinances of man no matter what is thrown their way.
- They become a sweet smelling savour to them that believe and at the same time are a smell of death to those that are perishing.

The "called out" remnant know through the scriptures that they belong to a greater throng that has never bowed the knee to Baal. These worshippers never try to build the ecclesia or the Kingdom of Christ, they leave this holy task to Almighty God and they plant, they water and allow God to bring the increase. The disciples in the first century recognised the truth of Christ's purpose and power. The Apostle Paul bore witness to this when he wrote the truth of Christian belief in the book of Ephesians.

# (Ephesians 4: 1-6)

As a prisoner of the Lord then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the <u>calling</u> you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is <u>one</u> body, <u>one</u> Spirit – just as you were called to <u>one</u> hope – <u>one</u> Lord, <u>one</u> faith, <u>one</u> baptism, <u>one</u> God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

This is the belief that lies deep within the hearts of the ecclesia (the called out ones). This is a highly and profound revelation. This is not just an inspiration it is pure revelation. No man could write such profound wisdom unless he received it from on high. This revelation has been available to all men since Jesus was revealed to the world as the Christ, God's only Son. James declares in his epistle.

# (James 1:16-18)

Don't be deceived – every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. <u>He</u> chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that <u>we</u> might be a kind of first-fruits of all he created.

The Spirit of truth will never depart from the word of truth. In fact, you can do nothing against the truth only for it. This does not mean everything we do is truth, what it does mean is that everything God declares and does is true and has no shadows in it.

God the Father is pure love, light and life. Jesus is pure love, light and life.....these three are one. The Holy Spirit is pure love, light and life.

The creation is bound by the law of life in Christ Jesus to give all glory, honour, power, light and love back to God. When we depart from this road we then enter the broad way where the traffic is heavy and that way is deceptive and it only leads to death. Anything, any person, any so called teacher, any denomination that casts a shadow over the truth that is in Christ and him alone will pay a hefty price. The teachings that don't reveal the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ will be a teaching of fading glory. The teachings of the law and the prophets are all fulfilled in Christ. Abide in Christ and you also fulfil all the law and the prophets. Christ is love.

• The teachings of temple rituals requiring building edifices are kingdoms of shifting sand and do not lay the true foundation which is Christ. The teachings of the Aaronic type priesthood which lie in nepotism and succession are obsolete and misleading. The true priesthood which changed the law from condemnation to love is in the order of Melchizedek, who was without natural father, without natural mother, without descent of days, but is a heavenly priesthood. This order of priesthood is fulfilled in Jesus. Jesus is the High Priest of our confession and the Spirit that is within us now causes us to declare that "Jesus is Lord".

• Now regarding circumcision. Natural circumcision as a ritual has no power. The power of true circumcision of Christ's body is able to raise the dead to life, (all in Adam die). Through circumcision of his own body on the tree at Calvary, the old passed away and new life began (all in Christ are made alive). Jesus was the last Adam and in the circumcision made without hands he is now the new man, the Lord from heaven who gives life to all who believe.

• The Sabbath as a ritualistic observance is done away with in Christ. The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath and the new day has begun. The new creation has begun and no matter what era we belong in (as far as time is concerned either 1<sup>st</sup> century or 21<sup>st</sup> century and beyond) we are all responsible to acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord of life and to obey the truth and seek Christ's Kingdom. We must allow the glorious riches of the coming age to permeate our hearts and minds. This declaration that the Lamb of God is the power that takes away the sin of the world is already working in the dead hearts of men, women and children, making them alive to the grace of God revealed through the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This is referred to as the new birth. This is a work of God that is achieved only by the grace of God or to boast of a gift received from God and take the glory, is to think and act more highly than we ought to think. This can be compared to standing between the light of the sun and casting a shadow and claiming the shadow is the true reality. We must let the true light shine which is beamed from the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Jesus is the only one who can build the ecclesia of God, he is the only one that can cause the stones to rise up and praise the Lord.

He is the only one that knows the heart of every individual man, woman or child. He is the one who sends out his messenger angels to gather his people from one end of heaven to the uttermost parts of the earth.

The world and all its systems and institutions are already corrupted with the corruptions that come from the anti-Christ and the beast. These institutions and systems have accepted the devil's methods by bowing down to mammon. They love the world's glory and they already bear the mark of the beast. Satan offered Jesus all the kingdoms of this world and the glory of them for one small price. The price was "bow down and worship me".

Let us not be caught up in the ways of the wicked and follow the hierarchical structures of the world, flesh and the devil that all call out for man to be honoured and be given the power and the glory. These are the ways of the beast and the anti-Christ.

The true believer is called out to be a living example of the Lamb of God to walk in his ways of humility and meekness, to love mercy and to do justly. God chose the way of redemption and this way is openly revealed by the obedience of Jesus to this redemption plan. The way Jesus won back the authority over the earth is not by might, nor by power but by his Spirit. This is the Spirit of meekness. The meek will inherit the earth. Not the rulers and the powerful that use worldly methods and hierarchical systems. They may even quote Christ and the Bible in powerful and dynamic ways but lack the Spirit of the Lamb of God. The destiny of the true believer is so closely tied to the understanding of the Lamb of God that he or she learns to live with Christ and turn the other cheek to the religious rogues that dominate and control.

When every temple has fallen to the ground, when every corrupt institution has crumbled, when every man made kingdom has failed the Lord will appear and then the arrogant will acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord. Willingly or unwillingly, either clean or unclean the day will reach its zenith when God will arise and the slain Lamb of God will manifest his glory. All will then acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord and that God's ways are right. Some will go to be with the Lord and others will be cast from his presence into eternal darkness.

Jesus said, there is a rock and this rock will either be your salvation or it will crush you. It will be a rock of salvation or a rock of offence. The truth will always appear to us as confrontational.

## Why does this happen?

It is because the truth is something that is unfamiliar to us and demands obedience. If we shrink back God has no pleasure in us. Obeying the truth leads to salvation. Today is the day of salvation.

Are we going to repent and accept God's ways as the right way or are we going to religiously go the way we are familiar with? Anything that casts a shadow over Christ's glory for your righteousness is not a pure gift from God. The gifts of apostle, prophet, pastor, teacher and evangelist should always lead you to glorify Christ. The gifts will never exalt themselves above their giver. The gifts always exalt and glorify the giver. The gifts are given to men through the Holy Spirit and should never be boasted of as your own, but acknowledged as the Christ living and sharing his life in us and creating a brand new you. This new you, is a slave and servant of Christ and his Kingdom.

Christ will never take away your individuality or your purpose. He will grant you gifts of the Holy Spirit that will enhance your desire to become more like him and advance his Kingdom. It is good, precious and holy to seek these gifts.

Jesus said; "upon this rock I will build my ecclesia (church). The ecclesia are the "called out ones".

What is the rock that he builds upon?

- Is it the church? (Ecclesia).
- Is it the apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers or evangelists? (Gifts given to men).
- Is it the creeds and doctrines? (Whosoever does my will knows my doctrine).

No, the rock that God builds upon is Christ Jesus himself. There is no foundation that can be laid except the man Christ Jesus. Every stone built upon this foundation, must be Christ glorifying.

The rock is Christ Jesus whom God sent into this world. He came as the Son of Man according to the scriptures, yet he was the Son of God in the flesh. He is the only one who can lead us back to the Father.

Every other authority or teacher is an "earth bound" leader. The earthly leader is to lead you to the true teacher who has given us his Spirit to guide us. The true teacher is in heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father and speaks from heaven. He does not speak from earths view point.

We can learn heaven's language while we are in our earthly bodies. We can die daily to earthly demands well before we are to meet our last enemy and depart this life.

We can experience the dying to religious persuasions and live for Christ and him alone. We can live in Christ's Kingdom while we live in our natural bodies. It must be by faith because flesh and blood cannot enter the Kingdom of God.

It is not a sin to be in the flesh, otherwise Jesus would have sinned. But it is a sin to live after the flesh. Whatsoever is not of faith is sin. Jesus lived and breathed the Kingdom whilst on earth and even the demons knew who he was and the reason why he was here, and they could not remain in his presence.

We cannot wait until the event when natural death overtakes us. We must die to the things that prevent us being conformed to the image of Christ now. We must die to the things that do not bring life eternal and die once and for all to all things that are dead works.

We are created in Christ to bring forth good works which God ordained we should walk in. What are these good works? Jesus was asked this question in John's Gospel.

## (John 6: 28-29)

Then they asked him, "What shall we do to do the works God requires"? Jesus answered, "the works of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent".

Believing in Jesus is the requirement that is our most important work. Why? Because Jesus Christ is the answer for our past, present and future. He is the alpha and omega, the beginning and the end. Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

Your man-made doctrines and man-made churches and kingdoms will never save you. Jesus is your Saviour, Redeemer and Lord. He is your righteousness before God.

#### (Galatians 5: 1)

It is for freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm then, do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Bill and Sue (servants of Christ)

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