October 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.

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 <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.

(Proverbs 3: 5-6) ⁵ Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, ⁶ 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).

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.

(Isaiah 26: 8-11)

⁸Yes, Lord, walking in the way of your laws, we wait for you; your name and renown are the desire of our hearts. ⁹My soul yearns for you in the night; in the morning my spirit longs for you. When your judgments come upon the earth, the people of the world learn righteousness. ¹⁰Though grace is shown to the wicked, they do not learn righteousness; even in a land of uprightness they go on doing evil and regard not the majesty of the LORD. ¹¹O LORD, your hand is lifted high, but they do not see it. Let them see your zeal for your people and be put to shame; let the fire reserved for your enemies consume them.

Dear Friends,

This portion of scripture is extracted from the prophecies of Isaiah concerning the Day of the Lord. This scripture was written for God's people over 2700 years ago and is relevant for God's people today.

700 years before Christ, the chosen people of God experienced tribulation and worldly sorrows just as God's people do this very day. We understand that every generation will endure its tribulation and judgements as they defy the living God. This generation that we live in is not exempt from the discipline of the Lord.

Each generation from the beginning of time has been held responsible to God's word and covenant with the revelation light given unto it. The only escape from sin and darkness is the true light of God's word. The question must be asked – can we walk in the light as Jesus walked in the light? The answer is clear cut – yes we can and to make any excuse is to call God a liar. Yet this great and terrible responsibility must be tempered with grace and mercy and not be turned to legalism.

There will be a generation that will live upon the earth when the door will be shut and God the Father will hold the whole world to account in the final judgement. This time is in the Father's hand and is not known by man or even God's Son. The truth that has been revealed is sufficient for our generation and this truth is in Jesus. The same word will judge <u>us all</u> on the last day.

There will be no place to hide; religion, the traditions of men, adherence to the law, the world, our good works and a multitude of other things will be unable to save us. Only true salvation will be in Jesus Christ. There will be weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth on that great and fearful day. Choose now whom you will serve, God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ or men and their religious traditions.

(Matthew 15: 1-9)

¹Then some Pharisees and teachers of the law came to Jesus from Jerusalem and asked, ² "Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? They don't wash their hands before they eat!"

³Jesus replied, "And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition? ⁴For God said, 'Honour your father and mother' and 'Anyone who curses their father or mother must be put to death.' ⁵But you say that if a man says to his father or mother, whatever help you might otherwise have received from me is a gift devoted to God,' ⁶he is not to 'honour his father' with it. Thus you nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition. ⁷You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you:

⁸ "'These people honour me with their lips,

but, their hearts are far from me.

⁹They worship me in vain;

their teachings are rules made by men.""

(Matthew 6: 19-24)

¹⁹ "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

²² "The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light. ²³ But if your eyes are bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

²⁴ "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

From Isaiah 24: 1 until Isaiah 27: 13 these scriptures speak of God's revelation of the Day of the Lord. The prophet encourages the people in their trials to praise the Lord and to trust him. Our guiding text instructs us how to walk in the judgements of God. Our soul and our spirit are to exalt the Lord and sing praise to our Sovereign God. Deliverance will come because God inhabits the praises of his people. Strength comes to God's people when they praise him and worship him in spirit and in truth. The Father seeks those that will worship him in spirit and in truth.

(John 4: 23-24)

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

It is a wonderful thing to comprehend that when you praise the Lord Jesus Christ in spirit and in truth, the presence of the Lord abides with you. Though our God condescends to inhabit our praises he will always be higher and beyond our works of worship and praise. The cup bearer Nehemiah reminds us in (Nehemiah 9:5) that God's blessed name is exalted <u>above</u> all blessing and praise. Jesus will always be exalted higher than our praise and worship throughout eternity. In the new world God

will always be worshipped, so embrace the habit of worship and praise to the Lord in this present evil age.

You may be doing the dishes, you may be in the garden, you may be at work, you may even be driving your car, or just sitting down relaxing and a song of praise will come into your heart. This is true fellowship with God in the spirit. You can do this when you wake up in the morning or you can do it when you lay down to sleep. No matter when you do it the presence of God will be with you. I tell you that God will keep you in perfect peace when your mind is stayed on him.

Do you know that Jesus joined in praise to his Father by singing hymns with his Disciples?

(Matthew 26: 30)

When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

This was the period of great distress in Jesus' life. He knew he was about to face Gethsemane and the cross of Calvary. He knew the secret of overcoming worry and fear was in true worship of the One who is able to save out of every distressful situation.

Paul when he was in the Philippian jail with his feet fastened in stocks worshipped God in the midst of trouble. At midnight he was worshipping and praying to God by singing hymns with the other disciples when a great earthquake shook the prison foundations and freed them from their shackles.

God can do mighty things for those that fill their hearts with gladness and joy of the Holy Spirit and praise and worship God in the midst of trials, troubles and tribulation.

Don't wait for someone to lead you in praise and worship and dictate what Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs you should sing. You ask the Holy Spirit to lead you, to guide you, to fill your mouth with praise and he will do it. Then out of your heart will come words of praise and gratitude toward God the Father and his Son Jesus.

(Ephesians 5: 15-20)

¹⁵ Be very careful, then, how you live – not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. ¹⁸ Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead be filled with the Spirit. ¹⁹ Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs, sing and make music in <u>your</u> heart. Give thanks to God for everything, in Jesus' name.

You do not have to be a good singer or of a special age, all you need to do is to love Jesus with all your heart, soul and mind. As you keep exercising this singing from the heart by the Spirit, you will know the strength of God coming into your life.

(Psalm 8: 2)

² From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise (or strength) because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.

(Matthew 21: 16)

¹⁶ "Do you hear what these children are saying?" they asked him.
"Yes," replied Jesus, "have you never read,
"From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise' "

Do you notice in these two scriptures strength and praise are synonymous? The spiritual reason is that we need praise and strength to still the thoughts Satan plants in our mind, that make us worry and make us have evil thoughts about other people and things.

The Lord requires the true believer to have a mind that is cleansed from an evil conscience. This cannot be achieved by "self-will" but only by a true and precise reckoning that the shed blood of Jesus Christ is the pathway to a clear and true conscience.

James declares in his writings that to show favouritism is to dwell in discrimination and you become a judge with evil thoughts. Only faith in Christ and his selfless humility in giving up his life by shedding his blood, can make the sinner clean. We are to live by the Spirit of Life that is in Christ Jesus and not live by the dictates of the flesh.

(James 2: 1-12)

¹My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favouritism. ²Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in. ³If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," ⁴ have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

⁵Listen, my dear brothers: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? ⁶But you have insulted the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? ⁷Are they not the ones who are slandering the noble name of him to whom you belong?

⁸ If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbour as yourself," you are doing right. ⁹ But if you show favouritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹ For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker. ¹² Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom,

This scripture deals with one of the greatest sins of mankind. The attitude of the superior over the inferior – this is rife in hierarchal institutions, i.e. the clergy who act as if they are lords over the laity.

The scripture warns not to be lords over God's heritage.

(1 Peter 5: 1-4)

¹ To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, <u>a witness of Christ's sufferings</u> and one who will also share in the glory to be revealed: ² Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers – not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; ³ <u>not lording it over those entrusted to you, but</u> <u>being examples to the flock</u>. ⁴ And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

The truth is we are all servants of God that serve in the humility of wisdom and have been granted gifts that differ. How can one boast of a gift that is freely given? Our boast must be in the Lord because it is the Lord who causes us to differ.

We give honour where honour is due, but we do not give honour to the works of the flesh. We give honour to the working of the Holy Spirit and his gifts.

Grace excels. Mercy triumphs over judgement.

Let us as true believers, walk as Jesus walked in true humility of wisdom, knowing full well that whether we are a believer or an unbeliever we're all subject to a Holy God who does not tolerate sin.

(Galatians 6: 7-8)

⁷Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. ⁸The 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.

It is not a sin to be in the flesh, but it is a sin to walk after the flesh.

As the judgements of God fall in our generation, let us with a heart of gratitude and love cry out to God in repentant faith and plead for mercy for our blindness and disobedience. None of us are righteous, but our faith is in Christ the righteous One.

Let us give up our pride of "full knowledge" and ask God to renew our spiritual sight until we only see Jesus the author and perfector of our faith. May we see that only in dying with Christ can we truly live with Christ. To live is Christ and to die is gain.

We can demonstrate our love and faithfulness to all by having a worshipping heart that is filled with love and desire to know more of God the Father and Jesus Christ our Lord / Saviour / Redeemer and Deliverer.

Let us end this message by encouraging one and all to put their full trust in Jesus and he will teach us all things and the way to go and he will lead us in paths of righteousness for his names sake.

Let us be a generation that is taught of the Lord and believes the prince of this world has been judged and stands condemned.

Remember there is only one mediator and that man is Christ Jesus our Lord. Allow him to mediate God's purpose to your heart through his word and Spirit.

Let us remember the covenant that we live under is much better than the covenant that Isaiah and Israel abided under. Their captivity was real. When they disobeyed God's covenants they lost their inheritance which was connected to the land of Canaan and they were delivered unto oppressors.

But we in this generation abide under a better covenant with better promises and this covenant is ratified in the blood of Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, which has richer atoning power than the blood of bulls and goats. <u>Why</u>? Because it can cleanse the conscience from the guilt of sin.

(John 8: 36) Whom the Son of God sets free is free indeed. We are free to obey God and to live unto him and live in our inheritance that cannot be taken away. Our inheritance is the Kingdom of God in Christ Jesus and is a heavenly inheritance and the only way we can be robbed of our birth right is through deception. The devil and his demons use people for evil purposes and these people lie in wait to enslave you back under rules and regulations. Do not be deceived by their wicked practices but give your whole life over to Jesus in repentant faith and repent from dead works that enslave.

The Christian life is not carnal warfare against flesh and blood, but is against principalities, powers and wickedness in high places. This wickedness is in the hearts of men who deny God's sovereign rule and live their lives in self-ambition and for the praises of men.

Look around you blind people and admit this pride is in the institutional church! Flee from it.

Our freedom does not allow us to think more highly of ourselves than we ought to think but to think soberly as God has given us the measure of faith.

Give the Sovereign Lord all glory, praise, honour and power.

Love the brotherhood.

Pray for all men in authority, but do not put your trust in them.

God's purposes are beyond finding out by naturally minded men. Ask for wisdom and God will lead, guide and conform to the image of his Son all those who trust in Jesus and obey.

This is the way to walk and all God's purposes will unfold in your life.

(Malachi 3: 16-18)

¹⁶ Then those who feared the Lord talked with each other, and the Lord listened and heard. A scroll of remembrance was written in his presence concerning those who feared the Lord and honoured his name.

¹⁷ "They will be mine," says the Lord Almighty, "in the day I make up my treasured possession. I will spare them, just as in compassion a man spares his son who serves him.

¹⁸ And you will again see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve God and those who do not.

Give all the glory, honour and power to God the Lord Almighty, to whom it belongs.

Bill and Sue (servants of Christ)

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