

May 2024

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.

## May 2024 Message

### Galatians 5: 24

#### Those who belong to Christ have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires

#### **Jeremiah 5: 26-31**

<sup>26</sup> *“Among my people are wicked men  
who lie in wait like men who snare birds  
and like those who set traps to catch men.*

<sup>27</sup> *Like cages full of birds,  
their houses are full of deceit;  
they have become rich and powerful*

<sup>28</sup> *and have grown fat and sleek.  
Their evil deeds have no limit;  
They do not plead the case of the fatherless  
to win it;  
they do not defend the rights of the poor.*

<sup>29</sup> *Should I not punish them for this?”  
declares the LORD.*

*“Should I not avenge myself  
on such a nation as this?*

<sup>30</sup> *“A horrible and shocking thing  
has happened in the land:*

<sup>31</sup> *The prophets prophesy lies,  
the priests rule by their own authority,  
and my people love it this way.  
But what will you do in the end?*

#### **Job 17:9**

*Nevertheless, the righteous will hold their ways, and those with clean hands will grow stronger.*

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Dear Friends,

The first text we read from in this message comes from the mouth of the Judean prophet, Jeremiah.

It is appropriate to read from this text as Jeremiah was called to be the voice of the Lord in four decades of tumultuous years in Israel’s history. Jeremiah was a preaching prophet throughout the land, and he condemned idolatry, the greed of priests and false prophets. He was against false and insincere worship and the degradation of trust in the Lord concerning the nation’s affairs. He railed against social injustice and inequality. Sometimes he was racked with doubt and despondency and saw that the ungodly nations had more trust in their false gods and idols than the Israelites had in Yahweh.

Jeremiah continually preached repentance and called upon God's people to repent and turn from idols and fully trust in the Lord and live in obedience to a covenantal relationship with God. Even though he was in despair of God's rebellious people he held out a message of hope and demonstrated that the nation was going "down-hill" and yet the inheritance that God had promised the nation of Israel would flourish, be fulfilled and prosper. He preached a bright hope and a glorious future.

Jeremiah lived in the period 600bc and though his message is spoken to a nation that belonged to God many years ago, this message can be as relevant today as it was then. Though Jeremiah and the people he was speaking to are archaic, this message can be a lesson for us today. The major difference is the covenantal relationship and promises that were given to the nation of Israel are superseded in the last days for us by the inheritance we have in Christ. No matter what appears to be coming upon the world in forms of false conspiracies, unjust leaders, wars and rumours of war, plagues, pestilence and famine, we know that we serve a righteous and faithful Lord who will not allow us to endure anything beyond our calling without giving us his helping hand.

How do we know this?

Hebrews 1: 1-3

¹ In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. ³ The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

Without the understanding of the sovereignty of God, the message of truth is emptied of power within the body of Christ and the people perish because of lack of knowledge. Jeremiah spoke of God's people as being fools because they do not know me.

Jeremiah 4: 22

*"My people are fools;
they do not know me.
They are senseless children;
they have no understanding.
They are skilled in doing evil;
they know not how to do good."*

Our prayer and hope is that people will turn to the living God and glory in the cross of Christ and see that humility and meekness is the way of the Lord and they must depart from "glorying in the flesh" and be led of the Spirit in the humility of wisdom.

The knowledge of God the Father and his only begotten Son is the wisdom of God and eternal life. The life that Jesus gives is life eternal and those that give up following the way of sin, death and the world will find the life of Christ when they repent and believe.

*"He that loses his life will find it".
"God resists the proud and gives grace to the humble".*

Psalm 24: 1-10

- ¹ *The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it;*
- ² *for he founded it on the seas
and established it on the waters.*
- ³ *Who may ascend the hill of the LORD?
Who may stand in his holy place?*
- ⁴ *He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not lift up his soul to an idol
or swear by what is false.*
- ⁵ *He will receive blessing from the LORD
and vindication from God his Saviour.*
- ⁶ *Such is the generation of those who seek him,
who seek your face, O God of Jacob.*
- ⁷ *Lift up your heads, O you gates;
be lifted up, you ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.*
- ⁸ *Who is this King of glory?
The LORD strong and mighty,
the LORD mighty in battle.*
- ⁹ *Lift up your heads, O you gates;
lift them up, you ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.*
- ¹⁰ *Who is he, this King of glory?
The LORD Almighty—
he is the King of glory.*

Jesus the Lamb of God is the Lord of Glory who takes away the sin of the world.

No man can cleanse his heart and mind from sin. Each person is called to repent and turn to the living God and they will be forgiven of all unrighteousness. The shed blood of Jesus on Calvary can cleanse us from all sins and keep us in a holy state when we trust in Jesus. The Holy Spirit will then seal us and give us a guarantee that everything God has promised us in Christ will be our inheritance. God has promised us a better place than the “*promised land*” that was given to Israel. Now in Christ we inherit a “*new heaven and a new earth*” wherein dwelleth righteousness. The meek will inherit this earth. The humble will hear and be glad and will know that to inherit the kingdom of God by promise is accompanied with persecutions and suffering for righteousness sake. The ones that know the “*way*” of the Lord, know it is the way of the cross. The glory of following Jesus is a downward trajectory that has only one goal of faith. Being in faith is to know as they persecuted the Master, they will do the same to the disciple. We are not called to be sacrificed for the sins of the world. Only the “*Lamb of God*” was called in a holy calling to this monumental task. Nevertheless, we are called in a holy calling to take up our cross daily and to throw off the works of the “*old man*” and to walk in newness of life that God has given us in Christ. This can only be accomplished by the power of the Holy Spirit.

We as children of God present our bodies as a living sacrifice as our reasonable service of worship, knowing we are in the world, but not of it. We reject all the desires the world gives because we seek a better city, with better promises, and with better virtues. A city whose builder and maker is God built upon one true foundation.

The foundation is Jesus Christ.

The pillars built upon this foundation are.

Faith, hope and love.

Faith: Because without faith we cannot please God,
and whatsoever is not of faith is sin.
Faith is the substance of hope.

Hope: Because we are saved by hope.
Hope that makes us not ashamed.
Hope deferred makes the heart sick.

Love: This is the greatest virtue of all.
Love of God never fails.
This is the goal of our faith, love out of a pure heart.
God is love. He that loves is born of God.

Though we live in tumultuous times remember the Lord, he is sovereign over the whole earth. He has granted us a kingdom that is full of righteousness, peace and joy which we can experience and enter now. Those that have no knowledge of this kingdom will dwell in fear of death, fear of sin and fear of what is coming on the earth.

Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God.

To glory in the cross is to know that Christ died a cruel death when he was crucified at Calvary, was buried, but on the third day rose triumphant from the grave and ascended into heaven. To glory in the cross of Christ is to know that you died with him and are risen by God's power into eternal life now.

This is the faith that is the substance of things hoped for and is the evidence of things not seen.

To die with Christ is to live and to live for Christ is to die to the world.

Jesus said in -

John 10: 27-28.

²⁷ "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand.

Because of the Masters instruction, these must be the questions we must ask ourselves.

Do we listen to his voice?

Does Jesus know me?

Do I follow him?

Do we follow false shepherds?

Do we obey the commands of Jesus?

Does Jesus know us?

Many call Jesus Lord, Lord! But Jesus said; "*Depart from me I never knew you*".

This is one of the most soul challenging scriptures in the bible. To think you are serving Christ when you are only serving your own ego and your own unregenerate will, it is the gravest of errors and has eternal consequences.

We cannot serve God and mammon. We will either love one and despise the other.

We cannot serve idols and serve Christ. A double minded man receives nothing from the Lord.

The love of the world is not the love of the Father. To seek the praises of men and not seek only the praise that comes from God is an incalculable mistake and error.

He that has not the Spirit of Christ is none of his. To interpret the scriptures without the mind of Christ is ungodly and unholy and does not produce the fruit of righteousness.

Though we live in a sin darkened world we can let the "light of Christ who is our life" shine brightly. In the world we will have tribulation but we must remember the Lord came to save not condemn. It is not God's will that any should perish but that all should come to eternal life in Christ.

All will stand before the
judgement seat of Christ and
receive the same judgement
that Christ spoke of while he was
in the flesh upon the earth.
The same word he spoke then,
the same word he speaks now
the same word he speaks in the future.

This word must be in our heart and in our mouth, now.

Christ is a glorious Master and he is a faithful Lord, he disciplines us for our good that we might partake of his holiness. To be taught of the Lord and walk in his ways is the covenant relationship ratified in his blood. This covenant that cannot be broken because it is between the Father and the Son and you and I inherit all its benefits by faith in Christ. This is an everlasting covenant that is manifest in our hearts when we love God with all our heart, soul and strength and love our neighbour as ourselves.

Bill and Sue (servants of Christ)