

January 2025

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.

## January 2025 Message

### Isaiah 32: 17

*The Fruit of righteousness will be peace; the effect of righteousness will be quietness and confidence forever.*

Dear friends,

As 2024 has ended, we are faced with a new beginning in time according to the calendar. In the natural world many people make new year resolutions in regard to what they wish to change from the old year into a new beginning in the new year. These resolutions may be well intentioned and have merit or they may be considered as failures down the track. Excuses may be made concerning the vows made because the promised intentions were too hard to keep.

We all desire to hope for better outcomes in our lives and it is not wrong to hope. Hope is a virtue that God has placed within our psyche to help us overcome despair. There are three great virtues in the bible and they are faith, hope and love and the greatest virtue of all is love. If we lose hope, a hope of a new tomorrow, a hope of a better outcome, a hope of a healed body, a hope of freedom from things that bind us in captivity. A hope for a better world, a hope for a repaired relationship with another person, yes hope in hope itself. Hope is something that comes from deep within us and causes us to be optimistic and it encourages us to keep a more forward attitude. Hope sees a light in a dark tunnel.

When we look out into the world and see a gloomy picture, we have feelings that arise from within us that give us a sense of hope. Words of strong counsel can raise our hopes. When hope is diminished the heart becomes sick.

We are bombarded with news stories of evil happenings going on around us that sicken us and cause us to despair that everything has gone to pot. Leaders and rulers make promises that sometimes are broken and the feeling the more we know and the more we trust, the worse it gets. We are confronted with questions that ask, are we better off than we were four or five years ago? The world appears to have become a darker place, a more fearful place, a more dangerous place than ever before.

We all desire a new and more peaceful way of living than we are experiencing now. Where is this place, where can it be found?

New fads, new trends, new gurus of inner peace arise and fall before our eyes. Old traditional place of institutional stability and guidance crumble and new teachers, prophets and political persuasions arise and messiahs appear on the horizon and shine and fade with continual rapidity.

We are confronted with conspiracy theories and political saviours with grandiose promises and this appears as our only hope.

The attacks on the bible scriptures are immense because of the apparent failures of the corrupt leaders and their decadent desires. Sectarianism, nationalistic pride, racism, sexism and all kinds of "isms" cause divisions and build walls of separation and the hope of unity and reconciliation appear as an illusion over some far horizon. Is this a new phenomenon? No it is not, we only need

to look in the book of Ecclesiastes in the bible to know that these thoughts ran through the mind of King Solomon.

Is there a hope in the writings and the penned scriptures for us to grasp hold of?

Yes, there is!

The main cause of depleted hope is mankind's aversion of truth and where truth may be found. There are multitudes of religious sects, denominations, and faiths that purport to herald truth.

How can we know which one is the real and continuing truth?

The truth has a nature within itself that bears witness to its veracity. In other word's truth bears witness to truth. The truth will always prevail over falsehood. It may take time and patient endurance to manifest, but truth will always ascend to its rightful place. Like oil and water, they may get agitated and mixed and appear as a combined mix, but when everything is steadied and stable the oil will always rise to the top and totally separate from the water.

Things appear true when there is a "flurry mix" but only when the dust settles, does the truth come out as the truth? We may take heart with the bible message that is written in Genesis. There is a common theme that is threaded throughout all bible texts. A theme that is consistent and can be discovered by anyone who desires hope.

This one scripture can be found in Genesis, but is repeated consistently throughout the bible, but in different formats.

**Genesis 50: 19-21.**

*19 But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? 20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. 21 So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly.*

This theme of goodness is a theme that runs through the witness of God in scripture. No matter how bad the appearances may appear, there is a God of goodness who is behind all despair and hopelessness who will be revealed as the truth in every situation that unfolds.

God is a God of goodness and he is The Truth, and like the oil and water mix will rise to the top and bring the victory and blessing of the truth to the hopeless hearted. Have faith, be courageous and believe.

Whoever comes to God must believe that he is and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

When men depart from seeking the God of truth who is a good God and see him as an austere being of judgement and punishment, despair fills the mind and hope diminishes and the future becomes bleak.

The true interpretation of scripture bears witness with the human mind and heart and engenders faith when the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ and the kingdom of God is understood in its correct interpretation.

Don't get me wrong, God does hate sin and rebellion and exerts his wrath upon all who do evil. But in his goodness he has supplied a "Lamb in the thicket" who was a willing sacrifice who took

the judgement upon himself by taking our place under the wrath of God and in turn granting us peace. This Lamb of God is Jesus.

God is not out to condemn us, he has sent Jesus as The Truth to save us out of any and every hopeless situation.

There is a new beginning for us all in the period of time called 2025 calendar year. This time is only a period of time which can be placed as an overlay upon eternity. This period of time called 2025 is in the complete sovereignty of an everlasting Father and in his master planning, he is working everything out for good for his children.

So our message and hope is that the reader will seek the kingdom of God and his righteousness which is in Jesus Christ. In the year 2025 you can be set free from worry, fear and despair if we put our trust and hope in Jesus.

We can start a new beginning in the year 2025 and approach this new year with an attitude of renewed hope.

The scripture text declares.

**Mark 7: 7-8**

*7 Ask and it will be given you; seek and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.*

To the untrained mind it does seem ridiculous to ask an invisible being or to speak to what appears naturally as open atmosphere and expect a result, but this is the mechanics of prayer. We in the past year have asked in a prayerful and humble trusting manner and we have received answers. This we pass on to the seeker to do the same and approach the invisible, but real and true wise God this way. The truth will be revealed to those who seek God with all their heart, soul and mind.

May you be blessed abundantly with new life in 2025 and may the scriptures become alive and true to you and that what you seek you find.

Read the scriptures of the gospel of John chapter 3 as a starting point in your discovery of a new life in Christ, our only hope of righteousness. Remember Jesus is the image of the invisible God and is alive and open to your prayers.

**Romans 8: 28**

*And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.*

**Ecclesiastes 7: 8**

*The end of a matter is better than its beginning, and patience is better than pride.*

**Ecclesiastes 8: 1**

*Wisdom brightens a man's face and changes its hard appearance.*

We encourage you through the power of hope in a living God and Saviour who cares for the small things as well as the large things in your life to receive the truth.

**Bill and Sue**

(Servants and friends of Christ and his body, the new Jerusalem that comes out of heaven from God).