

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 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 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.

*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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## January 2021 Message

### Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life

#### Isaiah 9: 6-7

*For to us a child is born  
to us a Son is given,  
and the government will be  
on his shoulders.  
He will be called  
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of peace.  
Of the increase of His government  
and peace there will be no end.  
He will reign on David's throne  
and over His kingdom,  
establishing and upholding it  
with justice and righteousness  
from that time on and forever.  
The zeal of the Lord Almighty  
will accomplish this.*

### **Isaiah 7: 13-15**

(Isaiah speaking to King Ahaz)

*Then Isaiah said; "Hear now, you  
House of David! Is it not enough  
To try the patience of men? Will  
You try the patience of my God  
Also? Therefore the Lord himself  
Will give you a sign:  
The virgin will be with child and  
Will give birth to a Son,  
And will call him Immanuel.  
He will eat curds and honey  
When he knows enough to reject  
The wrong and choose the right.*

### **Matthew 1: 18-24**

*This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about:  
His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph,  
but before they came together, she was found to be  
with child through the Holy Spirit.  
Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man  
and did not want to expose her to public disgrace,  
he had in mind to divorce her quietly.  
But after he had considered this,  
an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream  
and said, "Joseph son of David,  
do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife,  
because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.  
She will give birth to a son, and you are to give  
him the name Jesus, because he will  
save his people from their sins."  
All this took place to fulfil what the Lord  
had said through the prophet:  
"The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son,  
and they will call him Immanuel" – which means  
"God with us."  
When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord  
had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.  
But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son.  
and he gave him the name Jesus.*

Dear Friends,

These words of scripture are worthy of our contemplation to remind us where the reality of our faith begins and ends. Jesus is the alpha and the omega, the beginning and the end of our faith. If our faith is grounded on anything else, we will begin to walk on shifting sand. He is the solid rock and to stand upon this rock will be an offence to some and joy to others. Jesus the Lamb of God is the only truth that can take away the sin of the world. Jesus is not only the beginning and the end, he is the author and finisher of our faith. True faith which works by love begins and ends with Jesus – “Immanuel God with us”.

The instruction to follow Jesus; is to follow Jesus and be established in his testimony according to holy script. We as natural men cannot understand the will of God and be obedient to his holy will without the Holy Spirit’s guidance and help. The Spirit of God causes us to humble ourselves under God’s mighty hand and worship and adore Jesus.

As our brother Paul wrote to the Roman believers, this instruction is exceedingly relevant to us as well.

#### **Romans 12: 1-2**

*Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

If we stray from the straight gate and the narrow way, we open up ourselves to many temptations and opinions that do not keep our mind stayed on him. Our steps falter and the attractions of the world and the systems of its institutions gain traction in our minds and the love of God in Jesus Christ becomes a dim lit road. This road or the “broad road” has heavy traffic on it and does not give you the freedom and liberty that is promised to the single minded. The double minded receive nothing from the Lord and are as if they were natural men. They have a form of godliness, but deny the power of a laid down life. The truth of the gospel is to lose our life to find it. Jesus is the resurrection and the life, and to live to the world and its promises is to forego the life eternal promised in the gospel. The world will never give you the love, joy and peace that is promised you in Christ’s kingdom. Only those that live and serve Christ and forsake the world, the flesh and the devil can know the truth that sets us free.

#### **John 16: 33 – 17: 1-3**

*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.*

*After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed.*

*Father the time has come, glorify your son, that your son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. Now this is eternal life: That they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.*

Many claim to be sent of God, but do not preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and his authority to pardon us of our sins and iniquities and gift us eternal life. They preach another gospel and lay burdens of laws and curriculums that dull and darken the light of Christ.

The answer to every question concerning life is found in Jesus Christ. Every question concerning death is answered in the works and life of Jesus Christ.

### **John 3: 31-36**

*The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is from the earth belongs to the earth, and speaks of one from the earth. The one who comes from heaven is above all. He testifies to what he has seen and heard, but no one accepts his testimony. The man who has accepted it has certified that God is truthful. For the one who God has sent speak the words of God, for God gives the spirit without limit. The Father loves the Son and has placed everything in his hands. Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him.*

This passage of scripture speaks of the only man who received the Spirit without measure and without limit. That man was Jesus and no man before or after has received this fullness from God. Jesus had the fullness of the Holy Spirit because he was the Word (logos) and this Word (logos) was manifested in human flesh.

We as followers of Christ receive of His fullness and in Christ we are apportioned the gift of the Spirit as he wills. The sum of the many make up the whole, this is the body of Christ. No man will ever have the fullness of the measure that Jesus Christ was granted. Jesus was, is, and will always be the Word (Logos). *In the beginning was the word, and the word was God. He was with God in the beginning. John 1: 1.*

We are granted by God's grace to have eternal life when we let the word or words of Jesus Christ abide in our hearts and minds and let them be the ruling umpire of every thought and action we make. This is allowing Jesus Christ to be our Lord and Counsellor over every situation.

The true Christian lets the words and deeds of Jesus Christ be his guide while he or she travels as a pilgrim through this world. They seek not fame or fortune nor the praises of men or the riches of this world, but seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness. They know with all their hearts that to do the small things like – loving kindness, mercy, faith that works by love and a devoted prayer life are the issues that are meaningful.

It is only the nature of the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. Jesus is the Lamb of God that humbly accepted the world's rejection and died for those he came to save. We are granted this disposition in Christ and to proclaim his majesty, glory and honour without shedding our blood. If we are called to manifest the highest calling through martyrdom, the grace of God will be sufficient for us. Every true disciple is called to give up all worldly pursuits and ambitions and live by the Spirit so that Christ may be manifest in our mortal body. They that serve Christ in this godly manner are true worshippers and are pleasing to God.

Under the old covenant that required blood sacrifices, not all sins and trespasses were atoned for. Yet men today lean heavily upon obedience to the law as a requirement for life and mastery over condemnation and death. They make up rules and regulations for the faithful and burden the people down with loads they themselves are not willing to carry. We see failure upon failure of high profile

preachers and instructors who through disobedience fall to the temptations of sin. Not all these sins are moral failures. Many are false doctrines of unbelief that cause many to follow their pernicious ways. They claim to be serving God, but are serving themselves and the world of mammon. Many treat their calling as a vocation of honour and power rather than a privilege of duty to serve Christ. Some think to have a “mega church” is a sign of holiness. But to have a humble heart and abide in Christ and obedience to his kingdom is true holiness.

The highest form of service in Christ is to love God with all your heart and soul and to love your neighbour as yourself. No man hates his own flesh and naturally endeavours to enhance his own life and reputation in the eyes of men. These are false hopes, our only hope of righteousness and eternal life are in Christ. We must study God’s word and rightly divide it and show ourselves approved unto God and not unto men. This humility unto God brings the awesome fear of God’s judgements into our lives.

We must let Jesus Christ be the bishop and shepherd of our soul. The “shadow casters” that stand between you and Jesus are false shepherds and are blind and will lead you into the pit. Their reliance on the world and its systems and desires are not the methods of the kingdom of Christ. It is not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit says the Lord. The wisdom from above brings purity and mercy into our souls. It is not through “mammon” or the world’s riches, that the kingdom of God grows. The kingdom of Christ grows through the preaching of the word of Christ and grants us grace to live in his kingdom now by the power of God. What has been promised in the past through the work of Jesus on Calvary will be manifest in our lives now and in the future. This is our hope. We can live in the kingdom of God by promise whilst we live in this troubled world. Trusting in the Father and Jesus Christ is true life.

To live by the law is to live in an obsolete covenant. To live by faith in Christ is to live in a covenant of love that fulfils the law of Moses and is based on better sacrifices than the blood of bulls and goats. The new covenant is ratified in the blood of God’s only begotten Son and allows sinners such as us to repent and believe God and share in a kingdom that Christ inherited from his Father. In this kingdom he must reign until he puts all his enemies under his feet. Let your heart and mind be ruled by the true saviour who was born into this world to defeat our enemy and save us from the lies and deceptions of Satan’s world. The battle is not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers of the evil one that influence the world and its systems. Those people who are partially committed claim that natural wisdom is the wisdom we should live by. They abide in a family that rejects Jesus as Lord and claim that denominational obedience will bring the life of God. This is soul binding religion.

The envy and jealousy of religious men will always oppose the believer having a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. In many cases this opposition is not without warrant. Some people say they hear from God, yet in behaviour and actions they are devoid of the Spirit and are puffed up in their natural minds and they discredit grace. We must be careful to be merciful to the tares and misguided people as we are all subject to the enemy’s wiles. We must take into our mind the thoughts of God – the steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, though he fall, though he fall, he will not be utterly cast down. When we know we are walking on shifting sand we must be willing to return to the rock of our salvation Jesus Christ.

God's word is spoken to our hearts through our understanding of truth given by the Holy Spirit. In other words, God speaks to us through scripture and the word of Christ. The voice of the Lord conveyed by the Spirit is always heard in our memory. This is why scripture teaches us to remember the Lord. The Holy Spirit will always remind us of who Jesus is and what he accomplished for us and what he has promised he will do in the future. Jesus' blood has washed away our sins never to be remembered by the Lord. We have been granted a free pardon and through Jesus Christ's ongoing priesthood allows us access by faith into God's heavenly realm while we remain in mortal flesh. Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever.

We all want Jesus to do for us what the thief on the cross asked for:

*Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom".*

*Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise."*

**John 23: 42-43.**

Our fleshly weakened natural mind never remembers the Lord and always leads to death. The double minded man is still eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The single minded person has the mind of Christ and his or her body is full of the light of Christ. The veil has been lifted and we can walk in the light as he is in the light.

#### **Revelation 2: 7**

*The overcomer will be given the right to eat from the tree of life which is in the paradise of God.*

God knows of our weakness and by confessing our self-centred pride he will grant us grace in our time of need.

#### **Matthew 7: 19-23**

*Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus by their fruit you will recognise them. "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord did we not prophecy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evil doers!'*

The Lord will remember those who remember him.

We hear the voice of the Lord when we remember him. This is not a "mystical" voice, but a voice of remembrance that Jesus promised would come to us from the Holy Spirit.

#### **John 14: 26-27**

*But the counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.*

Let us remember the Lord and the words he has already spoken. These words of his are fulfilled in our hearts through love given us by the Holy Spirit. This love fulfils all the law and the prophets.

Jesus said; "My sheep hear my voice and a stranger they will not follow". The stranger will lead you astray, he will try to lead you to a pathway without the cross, a pathway that does not lead to the Father, a pathway or road that is broad and has no commitment to Christ and him alone. It will be a road that is paved with denominational rules and opinions. It will be a road where superiority and

inferiority flourish. Where men claim to be sent from God, but are sent by men to capture and enslave them to the kingdoms that men have built and not lead them to the kingdom of Christ. The devil offered these kingdoms to Jesus, but he refused them.

Jesus brought the kingdom of God to this earth and through obedience to his Father, he entered the kingdom of Satan and took his goods. Because of his obedience, Jesus had a kingdom conferred upon him after he entered death and defeated Satan's realm. This kingdom conferred upon Jesus was the kingdom of Christ which is also the kingdom of eternal life. Jesus will reign in his kingdom and bring many sons into glory and then he will deliver this kingdom up to his Father and God will be all in all.

This kingdom of Christ is opened to all who will believe and all whom the Father calls. The kingdom of Christ is greater than the kingdom of angels. This kingdom is greater than the dominion of Adam and his descendants. This kingdom is greater than the law of Moses because the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus sets us free from the law of sin and death. The law of Moses could not and will not give you life. The law of Moses was given to expose sin, this sin caused death which reigned from Adam to Moses. Obedience to the law of Moses will not give you life. Obedience to Christ will give you life and life in abundance.

The sacrifice of Jesus was greater than the sacrifices under the old covenant and the law. If it were possible you could sacrifice millions upon millions of sheep and goats and their blood would never atone for the disobedience of Eve, Adam and Cain. Adam's disobedience brought sin into the world and the wages of sin is death. Christ came into the world and his obedience to death - death on a cross - brought life to those that believe in Jesus and obey him.

So as we began this message "unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given".

The Christ had to be born of a woman under the law to atone for Adam's disobedience. But it was the Son of God who was conceived of the Holy Spirit who was the only one capable of fulfilling God's holy law and breaking the curse of death upon mankind.

This truth alone is in Jesus for our salvation and deliverance from the world, the flesh and the devil. God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself. It is love for the broken and the lost that reveals God's saving power for while we were sinners and lost, Christ died for us.

God loved us so much he sent his holy Son into this world knowing full well he was a lamb going to the slaughter. Knowing he was a sheep among wolves. Jesus was the lamb of God sent to take away the sin of the world. It is only through the nature of the Lamb of God in us that we can endure the assaults of the world and the lies of the devil. This is the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.

Never was a sacrificial lamb under any covenant treated the way men treated Jesus. While in the custody of his accusers he was evilly mistreated by them, they whipped him, they spat on him, they tore out his beard, they slapped him, kicked and buffeted him, they forced a crown of thorns on his head, he was made to carry his own cross. He was so mistreated, he was unrecognisable as a man. Jesus endured all this humiliation for us and his accusers and all who mocked and rejected him.

What type of people did this to Jesus? They were affiliates of the ruling class, governors, religious elite and the military. And all these being under the influence of the evil one goaded the masses to condemn the Shepherd to death and release the murderer Barabbas. Thereby, they by the fruit of their actions, declared what family they belonged to and were like Cain who was of the evil one. This will always be the case in this world because the same serpent that was the deceiver of Eve was the same serpent that goaded Cain to kill the shepherd Abel. This is the same tempter that came to Jesus in the wilderness.

What camp do you belong to?

Are you a believer or a deceiver?

The fruit of the tree that you eat from will declare your belief. To eat from the tree of life will produce good fruit.

The true shepherd cares for his sheep and gently leads them into green pastures. This true shepherd is Jesus Christ our Lord. He endured the shame and ignominy of the cross to bring us into his kingdom and glory. Unless we humble ourselves and trust in Jesus and are born of his Spirit and his word, this kingdom of Christ will be a mystery to us.

It behoves us to live for Jesus, as he died and lived for us. Because he lives we live also. If we die with him, we will live with him also.

Jesus is the Son of God sent into this world to save us from our sin and to destroy the works of the Devil and grant us eternal life.

All glory to God the Father.

Bill and Sue (servants of Christ)

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