

EXALTING CHRIST · EQUIPPING BELIEVERS · EVANGELIZING THE WORLD

CORNERSTONE

JAN - FEB 2022

IN THIS ISSUE:

Glory to God in the Highest

Jesus and His Disciples
Restored and Renewed

...and more

...JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF BEING THE CHIEF **CORNERSTONE** · EPHESIANS 2:20

Joshua’s Commitment to Service

These words spoken by Joshua to the children of Israel after their conquest of the land, stated the matter very clearly. Regardless of Israel’s choices, Joshua’s commitment to the Lord was firmly fixed. If it seemed evil for them to serve the Lord (an incredible statement to say the least), it would not affect his own commitment one bit—*“as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”* His resolve was to stay true to the Lord despite the actions of others; he would remain unchanged, and his entire family as well. It was consistent with how he was described in his earlier years, as a person who *“did not depart from the tabernacle”* (Ex. 33:11). We would say today that he was “the real deal.” When Moses came down from Sinai after receiving the Ten Commandments, it was Joshua who accompanied him the rest of the way to investigate the debauchery that was unfolding below (Ex. 32:17-18). It is the divine record that he was never implicated in any of those events, the reason why he is one of the heroes of the faith. What an example of steadfastness! No wonder he was the perfect candidate to lead Israel into their inheritance.

Samuel’s Commitment to Prayer

These words “as for me” was not just the conviction of Joshua but also of other great servants of the Lord. Take for instance, Samuel, who declared *“Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way”* (1 Sam. 12:23). His words “as for me” obviously stood in stark contrast to others who apparently had ceased praying for others. But it would not be that way with him. He was firmly committed to praying for others and for teaching them the good and the right way. It was his own verbal commitment to press on in this important discipline. Continual intercession for the saints and encouraging them in the faith is a worthy goal in our personal walk with Christ. It underscores the truth that the one who will gain life is the one who gives his life in service to the Lord and to His people. It is yet another lesson in the school of God that brings His “well-done.”


David’s Commitment to Worship

David was another hero of the faith that stated this firm conviction. He declared in Psalm 5:7, *“As for me, I will come into thy house in the multitude of Thy mercies.”* It seems these days that many will use any excuse available to absent themselves from the gathering of the local assembly. Anything from health, weather, scheduling conflicts, car problems, and even germs—you name it, all are convenient excuses to stay home. Some reasons may be legitimate, but some can also be stretched. But David did not seem to be looking for a reason to excuse himself from worshipping the Lord. As far as he was concerned, it was his constant delight to come into the house of the Lord and bask in the multitude of God’s mercies. In Psalm 63 we read that he longed for the Lord in a *“dry and thirsty land where no water is.”* He looked for the Lord in the sanctuary to see His power and glory and to be reminded of His lovingkindness which is better than life (vv. 2-3). When we come into the Lord’s presence with this type of attitude, it will only increase our thanksgiving as we enter His courts with

praise. David even affirmed where this worship and his life would eventually lead—right into the very presence of God when he stated, *“As for me, I will see your face in righteousness, I shall be satisfied when I wake with thy likeness”* (Ps. 17:15). The sons of Korah whose ancestry was checkered at best confirmed this delight when they said: *“How amiable are thy tabernacles O Lord of hosts”* (Ps. 84:1). They knew more than most of the mercy of the Lord, especially with a person like Korah in their family heritage (Num. 16). Why anyone would absent themselves from this blessing is a mystery to me, unless there is a serious issue going on in their spiritual lives.

Asaph’s Commitment to the Word

Asaph was yet another servant of the Lord who gave utterance to the faithfulness of God when he stated in Psalm 73:2, *“But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled; my steps had nearly slipped. For I was envious of the boastful, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.”* Asaph had been dwelling too long at the lifestyles of the rich and famous and began to despise his present situation. He convinced himself that the wicked of this world were better off than he. That is what happens when we focus on the other side of the fence. The sirens of this world system are very alluring and can easily sway us from the path of faith. If it were not for the grace and mercy of God, where would we be? It looked hopeless for Asaph until he came into the sanctuary of God (v. 17). It was only then that he saw things for what they really were in the light of eternity. It was just opposite of what he had thought. It is what happens when we look more deeply into God’s Word. *“Whom have I in heaven but thee, and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee”* (v. 25). What a change of attitude took place when he viewed things from God’s perspective. Praise the Lord that He restores His people and brings them back to Himself in His mercy.

These are the solid commitments that these heirs of faith personally, openly declared despite the actions of those around them. It reflects the singlemindedness that the person of faith possesses, regardless of prevailing conditions, cultural trends, or in our day, the ever-occurring winds of change that mark much of evangelicalism. It reflects a deep passion and confidence in the Lord and lines up with the scriptural conviction *“As for God, His way is perfect”* (2 Sam. 22:31). An exclamation like this is not just a one-time affirmation of faith, but instead an ongoing, deliberate choice of a person who has learned that the just shall live by their faith (Hab. 2:4), and one that affects all areas of our life with the Lord. 



Mark has served as editor for Cornerstone Magazine since 2018. In addition to these duties, Mark travels throughout the US and Canada in a Bible-teaching and conference speaking ministry. He also heads up Know the Word Ministries Inc., located on the web at knowtheword.com. He and his wife Cindy were commended to the Lord’s work in 1993 from Bethany Bible Chapel in Toms River, NJ.

by Mark Kolchin

Editor: Mark Kolchin, mkolchin@cornerstonemagazine.org
Assistant Editor: George Ferrier, gferrier@cornerstonemagazine.org

Editorial Committee:
Mark Kolchin, New Jersey, USA
David Dunlap, Florida, USA
George Ferrier, Ontario, Canada
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Cornerstone Magazine Inc.
PO Box 690096, Charlotte, NC 28227 USA

For Canadian donors:
Cornerstone Magazine Trust
PO Box 246, Waterford, ON, NOE 1Y0

Please mail correspondence to:
Cornerstone Magazine, PO Box 305 Lanoka Harbor, NJ 08734

For address changes or new subscriptions:
subscriptions@cornerstonemagazine.org

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Website Design: Matt Williams, Louise Street Marketing
Treasurer: Eileen Lee (USA) · George Ferrier (Canada)

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Glory

to God in
the Highest

“And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.””

Luke 2:13-14

The birth of a child was a very special occasion in Israel, particularly if the child was a boy. It was a time of great joy. When the time of the birth was near, the friends and the local musicians gathered near the house. When the birth was announced and it was a boy, the musicians broke into music and song. They were rejoicing and congratulating the baby boy's birth. When Jesus was born in a stable in Bethlehem, it was impossible for the local musicians to greet Him with music and song. This ceremony could not be fulfilled for He was not born in the hometown of Mary, nor was He born in a home.¹

But God saw to it that the angels of heaven took the place of the earthly musicians. Instead, the angels of heaven were employed to sing the songs that mortal man could not sing: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

Is it not interesting, that the angelic choir sang not to the rich and famous, but to a few humble shepherds who were caring for their sheep? Shepherds were not a popular people: they had a bad reputation; they were unclean; they were thieves; they could not go to the temple.

However, these were very special shepherds, for they were temple shepherds. In the temple every morning and evening an unblemished lamb was offered as a sacrifice to God. They made certain there was a continuous supply. It is well known that these flocks were pastured near Bethlehem, and they were most likely in charge of the flocks from which the temple offerings were chosen. It is thought that these shepherds were in the same fields where David would have tended his father's flocks and where he wrote Psalm 23.

What a lovely thought to think that these shepherds who sold sheep for the morning and evening sacrifices, were the first to see God's Lamb "who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). He was the fulfillment of all the lambs that had ever been offered.

The world's focus is not so much on "Glory to God" but rather, "peace on earth, goodwill toward men." We want something substantive for ourselves. We want peace to accommodate our lifestyles and perhaps you ask, "Where is the promised peace and the goodwill toward men?" Do these words seem so hollow, like a mere illusion, an unfulfilled and baseless hope? Instead, do you see trouble and turmoil, raging in your personal life, world, and home? "Our trouble is we want the peace without the Prince."²

This peace was promised, and this goodwill was proclaimed. But in all our longing for peace, we have overlooked the primary part of this verse; "Glory to God in the highest." The problem is that we have thrown away the first part of the angelic message and kept only the "peace on earth, goodwill toward man."

The angelic choir could not refrain from proclaiming the joyful words, "Glory to God in the highest." The heavenly beings praised God for the glory that was now being manifested, the glory of the incarnate Son of God. That glory was shining forth in the Baby that had been born.

A Savior had been born. God had been manifested, Emmanuel—God with us! This is the God of glory!


Remember what Mr. Jowett wrote, "Peace is not a detached creation, unrelated to anything else." Let me say, peace is the result of a relationship. Paul wrote, "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Rom. 5: 1). Peace is the evidence, the result of a personal rightness with God. Is your heart right with God? An old Christmas song said, "Do you worship the Babe in the manger, but reject the Christ of the cross?" Paul wrote: "And, having made peace through the blood of His cross, by Him to reconcile all things unto Himself... and you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath He reconciled." (Col. 1:20-21) Have you been reconciled to the Lord Jesus? This will bring glory to God and bring peace to your own heart and life. God is always concerned for His glory. The plan of redemption brought glory to God and our salvation brings glory to God as well.

When the Lord Jesus was born, the heavens could not contain themselves. The choir of heaven burst forth with praise, proclaiming the majesty, the glory, and the omnipotence of God—"a Savior had been born." No one on earth had ever heard angels singing and praising God, except these few humble shepherds. The joy of these men was irrepressible. They could not contain their joy. These shepherds had seen the true Shepherd, the Lamb of God, the One who fulfilled all the sacrifices of their thousands of sheep. No wonder the shepherds returned, "glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen..." (Luke 2:20).

John writing in Revelation 5:12 heard the voice of many angels saying with loud voices, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing." Then we will join them, and this will be our theme and song throughout all eternity, "Glory to God in the highest."

I love the words of John Newton,

"When He came, the angels sang, "Glory be to God on high!"
Lord, unloose my stammering tongue—who should louder
praise than I?"

At this Christmas season, may our stammering tongues be loosed and triumphantly sing, "Glory to God in the highest." 

Endnotes:

1. Thoughts derived from William Barclay, Luke's Gospel
2. Addison H. Leitch, Inspiring Quotations, p. 445



Jim and his wife Heather make their home in Barrie, Ontario (Canada) where they fellowship at Northside Bible Chapel. Commended to the Lord's work, Jim is a frequent conference speaker in Canada and the US.

by **Jim Comte**

Jesus

& HIS DISCIPLES

What time the Lord Jesus took teaching His disciples the things concerning Himself! He drew them closer, giving them responsibilities to obey. This is true for us as well. Do we make Him number one in our lives? His commands challenge our hearts.

LOVE ME—The Warming of a Backsliding Heart

Peter had recently denied his Lord three times, what a tragic night for him! He made choices leading to the saddest event in his life. When he went into the High Priest's house he followed the Lord from afar off. The first step to backsliding is removing oneself from close proximity to the Lord. Then sitting beside the Lord's enemies, he warmed himself at their fire. Be careful with the company you keep! Three times he was challenged about his relationship with Jesus. He denied Him each time and the rooster crowed. Jesus looked at him, and Peter went out weeping bitterly.

Peter had witnessed His Lord being crucified. He was distressed and discouraged, so he went fishing with the others, an occupation he had previously left to follow the Lord Jesus (John 21:3; Luke 5:11). They toiled all night and caught nothing. I remember asking a fisherman in Newfoundland if there was ever a time when he caught absolutely nothing? He told me that he had never had that experience. Peter did, and what were his thoughts when Jesus said, "cast the net on the right side of the boat" (John 21:6). Luke 5 and John 21 have many similarities and contrasts. Search them out!

Jesus had bread and fish cooking on the fire, so He fed his disciples (John 21:12). He challenged Peter three times, "Do you love me more than these?" (NKJV). Peter was grieved the third time and said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love You." The Lord restored Peter and gave him a great ministry to fulfill. If we love Him then each day counts in yielding to Him every department of our lives. Easy to write about and easy to read, but He is saying to you today, "Do you love Me?" How will you answer His question?

Love Me
Follow Me
Remember Me
Confess Me



FOLLOW ME—The Walk of a Surrendered Heart

After the Lord restored him, He told Peter how he would die when he was old. Peter, seeing the disciple whom Jesus loved following, asked the Lord, “*what will this man do?*” (John 21:21). His answer was, “*what is that to you? Follow Me.*” We don’t know the motive for Peter’s question. There are many speculative suggestions about what was on his mind. The Lord makes an important statement that each servant is responsible and accountable to follow Him alone. Many have been hindered in following the Lord by seeking to please others. Paul says, “*Do I seek to please men? For if I pleased men I should not be the servant of Christ*” (Gal. 1:10).

How can you follow the Lord today? Here are some ways to live, follow, and please Him. To follow someone, you have to go in the same direction. For example, the rich young ruler asked the Lord what he could do to obtain eternal life. He had a good resume for he kept the commandments. The Lord told him to “*go your way, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in Heaven... and follow me*” (Mark 10:21). Sadly, he went in the other direction because he had great possessions. He gave up an eternal inheritance for earthly riches he would leave behind when he died.

Jesus said, “*whoever comes after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me*” (Mark 8:34). Paul said, “*follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness*” (1 Tim. 6:11). Peter said, “*For this you were called, because Christ suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow his steps*” (1 Pet. 2:21). What example did he leave? “*When He was reviled, did not revile in return. When He suffered, He did not threaten but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously.*” Great lessons we can learn from our beloved Lord. The New Testament is full of different ways how we ought to walk and please Him, search them out!


REMEMBER ME—The Worship of a Thankful Heart

Before Jesus went to the cross, He took His disciples into an upper room to keep the Passover. Afterward, He gave thanks for the bread saying, “*This is my body which is broken for you, this do in remembrance of me.*” He also took the cup saying, “*This cup is the new covenant in my blood which is shed for you, this do in remembrance of me*” (Luke 22:19). In the Acts of the Apostles those who trusted the Savior committed themselves to Break Bread on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7). Paul in 1 Corinthians 11:23-30 brought to the Church at Corinth what the Lord delivered to him, “*that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread and when He had given thanks He broke it and said, take eat this is my body which is broken for you, do this in remembrance of me.*” He took the cup saying, “*This cup is the new covenant in my blood, this do as often as you drink it in remembrance of me. For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.*”

There is no greater joy than obeying the simple request the Savior made to remember Him. One year on November 11th, we watched the memorial service at the cenotaph in Ottawa. It was most solemn seeing elderly men and women in uniform with tears running down their faces, hearts touched as they remembered the events of the last war. Now the battle was over and the victory was won! What great triumph and rejoicing then!! However, that day they remembered the cost. Many of their companions never made it home. We rejoice in our hearts what the Lord did in wonderful triumph and victory; we gather for a solemn hour to remember what it cost Him. The shame and humiliation, the cruel suffering before and on the cross. Not only what humanity did to Him but what God did: “*the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all...It pleased the Lord to bruise Him, He has put Him to grief. When You made His soul an offering for sin*” (Isa. 53:6, 10). The greatest honor we can give Him is to remember Him. The ultimate purpose is showing forth His death until He comes! I understand there are times like sickness that can hinder, but whenever possible fulfill His request and remember Him.

CONFESS ME—The Witness of a Testifying Heart

Here are a few examples of those who publicly testified of the Lord. Peter said, “*You are the Christ the Son of the Living God*” (Matt. 16:16). Nathaniel said, “*You are the Son of God, you are the King of Israel*” (John 1:49). The woman who met the Lord, sitting on a well said, “*come see a man who told me all things that ever I did, is this not the Christ?*” (John 4:29). Martha said, “*I believe you are the Christ the Son of God, which should come into the World*” (John 11:27). Thomas said, “*My Lord and my God*” (John 20:28).

The Lord Jesus amidst a multitude of people said, “*Whoever confesses me before men (humanity) Him will I confess before my Father, which is in Heaven*” (Matt. 10:32). He also said, “*the Son of Man shall confess you before the angels of God*” (Luke 12:8). What an amazing promise the Lord made giving incentive to tell others about Him. Are you, by your life and word proclaiming Jesus Christ the Lord to a perishing world, who desperately needs Him? The opportunity will soon be over! 



Jim was commended to the work of the Lord by his assembly in Broxburn in 1981 and by the Bridlewood assembly in Ottawa Ontario in 1991. Jim has been involved in prison ministry, camp work, hospital chaplaincy, and has preached the Word throughout Canada and the US. He presently lives in Port Colborne, Ontario with his wife, Elizabeth.

by Jim Paul



GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

Restored and Renewed *The Testimony of Gary Weeks*

I was born on a dairy farm in the province of Prince Edward Island, Canada in 1950. I was born again at a Christian camp in Ontario twelve years later.

My parents were separated when I was just three months old and my mother raised me in Toronto. At twenty-five years of age the Lord saved my mother while she was searching the Bible to see what it said about divorce. My mother was seeking a way out of her marriage and discovered that her problem was not her husband or her mother-in-law. The Lord convinced my mother that she was a sinner in need of a Savior. The year was 1955. I remember it well. From that day on my mother sought to reconcile with my father and we began attending a nearby assembly (Eglinton Avenue Gospel Hall) where I was genuinely loved and faithfully taught the scriptures. I especially appreciated the Young Men's Bible Class and rarely missed a Sunday. The men who taught us were loving, fatherly, and caring.

My teen years were busy with three part time jobs, three hockey teams, a baseball team, and the school swim team.

Oh yes and high school classes were attended in there somewhere.

At nineteen years old I went away to university. I stopped attending meetings and in addition to a full load of university courses began flying lessons and singing with a friend six nights a week in a fancy dining room to pay for the flight training.

My childhood friend Dave and I were signed to a recording contract in 1970. Success came quickly and unexpectedly.



We toured and performed from Tokyo to Jerusalem and from Caracas, Venezuela to a Canadian Forces Military base in Alert just three hundred miles south of the North Pole. Our aviation careers were also in full “flight.”



Thankfully the Lord had other plans and by August of 1978, He had convinced me of my foolish ways and graciously brought me back to Himself. I had been introduced to a lovely Christian lady while entertaining on a Greek cruise ship in the Mediterranean. Claudette Degagne was a young Christian saved a year and a half earlier on the South Pacific Island of Fiji the first time she heard the gospel! I was deeply impacted by Claudette’s joyful living for the Lord and her active witnessing. I recall thinking to myself, “I could never do that.”

In the marvelous grace and goodness of God Claudette and I were married in 1980. We are approaching our forty-second wedding anniversary. In 1982 while well employed as a professional pilot the Lord once again had other plans. Through an interesting series of events, in consultation with our elders, and guided by the word of God we were commended to the Lord’s work on August 1, 1982.



The next four years saw Claudette and I engaged in teaching and gospel ministries in preparation for overseas work. The Lord took us to The Republic of Ireland on August 1, 1986, where we served among the assemblies there for eight years. Claudette and I have returned to Ireland often (21 times) to assist in the Lord’s work. We have also been privileged to serve the Lord in missions work in Greece, Japan, and throughout Canada for the past thirty-nine years. The Lord blessed us with three wonderful sons, all believers, and their wonderful Christian wives. To date we have six precious grandchildren including one who is with the Lord.

Our lives in the Lord’s service have been an adventure. At this point I was tempted to say, “We could write a book.” In fact, Bob Cretney, long-time friend, author, and brother in spiritual arms did just that. You can read more details of God’s goodness to us and others in Bob’s book entitled, “Could You Ever Love Me Again? The Gary Weeks Story of Forgiveness” published by Gospel Folio Press. [GM](#)

To obtain a copy of Gary’s biography “Could You Ever Love Me Again?”, contact Gospel Folio Press at gosepelfolio.com or call them at 1-800-952-2382



Gary and Claudette Weeks are in their fortieth year as Commended Workers. The last twenty five years, Gary and Claudette have been in fellowship with and commended by Markham Bible Chapel in the Toronto area.

by Gary Weeks

*So I will restore to you
the years that the swarming
locust has eaten...*

JOEL 2:25

Report: Workers and Elders Conference Houston Texas

October 12-14, 2021
Manvel Bible Chapel

It is with grateful and overwhelming hearts to report on this year's 2021 Workers and Elders Conference. This annual event (always on the week of Columbus Day in October) was suspended last year due to Covid. We were unsure of its reality this year, but the committee felt it was the Lord's will to press forward. Our hosting assembly, Manvel Bible Chapel (Houston, TX), provided the most gracious and attentive venue for those who came. Several area assemblies co-labored to make it a splendid time. Truly they sacrificed much to bless others. Overall, there were approximately 150 attendees who were anxious to see one another and enjoy the blessing of such fellowship.

As in the past, each day starts with singing, prayer, and a morning message. The corporate singing was enough to call for the Lord's return, but the prayer was even better. Our only regret is that we could not make the times of intercession longer, yet the Lord still lifted our hearts through that abbreviated hour. In the morning devotion, Jabe Nicholson was used of the Lord to provide focus


on our theme: Knowing the Times. We were reminded of the necessity of "Knowing the times in which we live," "Knowing our God," and "Knowing our Father." To view these messages, go to manvelbible.org.

Each message thereafter connected with the theme and yet provided a well-rounded arena of subjects to consider. For example, George Farber gave us understandable and detailed teaching on "New Testament *Koinonia*" as well as Dr. Jack Fish on "The Beauty of God-Given Roles." Brother Warren Henderson, presented a heart-felt message of the suffering of our times titled: "The Value of a Thankful Spirit in Suffering." Day two was filled with further related topics such as "Shaping Leadership Priorities through Abiding in Christ" (Dave Bosworth). This is invaluable when busy in the work we have been called to do. Jim Fleming continued our next main ministry hour with a thought-provoking consideration of "A Biblical Approach to Inter-Assembly Cooperation." Our last plenary session included ministry on "Fruit Bearing through an empowered testimony." Here, Rich Brown turned our focus toward Christ as the conduit for fruit bearing. I thought it might be helpful to take a stroll through the "spiritual kitchen" to catch the aroma of some of the nourishment the Lord provided for us all.





people had a precious opportunity to listen to those in the field of shepherding and glean some of their wisdom. Their attendance is indeed part of our conference goals which is to encourage and equip the next generation. A final blessing of fellowship was witnessed in the mutual way the Houston area assemblies modeled what it is to work together. This is a profound benefit for those who host this conference. It is a ready-made event to bring a like-mindedness between meetings and foster a “one accord” mindset. If in the future, your assembly might consider this as an endeavor, please feel free to contact the committee.

The invitation is a standing one for this conference every year. You do not need to be an elder or a worker to come. If you are interested in the work of God in the local assembly, then this conference is for you—you qualify. When our assembly was struggling, the Lord used this conference and its nature to share each other’s burdens to help us turn in the right direction. Next year, in the will of the Lord, it will be hosted by Fairhaven Bible Chapel (San Leandro, CA) and is scheduled for October 11-13, 2022. We look forward to welcoming you then and there! 

The seminar sessions are allotted to the afternoon of day two, in which there was an array of stimulating and discussion-oriented topics. Each seminar is designed to address practical areas and meant to foster group interaction. They are repeated twice on the middle day of the conference to allow an attendee to interact with more than one seminar. One, for women, was led by Sue Stratman: “When the Bottom Falls Out of My Life.” This would be well worth one’s ear as we know our times are filled with the unexpected. Other seminars included such realistic topics as: “Technology in the Local Assembly” (Paul Boner) and “The Issues and Mechanics of Supporting Those Who Preach” (Jesse Gentile). Who does not have such subjects like these in elder’s or deacon’s meetings? Personal “self-care” was addressed by Rich Brown when presenting on “The Priorities of Lord and the Family.” Phil Parson was able to lay out the areas of focus when sending our saints out on short terms missions.

Perhaps, the most attended seminar was on the current cultural issue of the LGBTQ agenda, presented by Steve Caldwell. This subject alone could have exhausted several hours, but Steve was able to lead the attendees through some key points. Contribution from the audience served well in this talk. Specific management of scenarios that affect the local assembly were given comment and insight.

Outside of the prayer and ministry, the conference affords an additional blessing: a time of rich fellowship, long missed. It begins with the opportunity to discover and visit various ministries within our circles. It is in these moments that one may learn of something distinct that the Lord is doing or one may peruse a helpful book on an issue you are facing. Yet, what always seems to be most enjoyable is to reacquaint with each other—the people factor. Due to the last 18 months, we had not seen each other in quite a while. Thus, the reunions were sweet and treasured!

Additionally, we had a special visit with the interns from the Discipleship Intern Training Program. These young



Dr. Steve Price has served as an emergency room physician for many years. Steve ministers the Word in conferences around the country and in Canada. He and his wife Janet make their home in Kansas City, MO where they fellowship at Bible Chapel of Shawnee.

by Steve Price

FOUNDATIONS

A PATTERN TO FOLLOW

The purpose of all patterns and types in Scripture is to declare the glory of God through metaphoric form. The pattern of order for the Church to follow is for this purpose—it declares God’s wisdom and grace in the Church (Eph. 3:9-11). God is presently using the Church to teach humanity and spiritual beings alike about His holy character and eternal purposes. What does God want to convey to the world about Himself through Church? A following sevenfold pattern is suggested.

1. That Christ is the Head and Center of the Church (Eph. 1:22-23; Col. 1:18; Acts 20:7)

By breaking bread each week in remembrance of Christ, the Church declares to all who observe that Christ is the gathering focus of the Church (Luke 22:19; Acts 2:42; 20:7). God the Father is honored when the Church worships His Son (John 5:22-23). The Church is to worship God, and to adore Christ as its Head. Elected church officials and earthly headquarters undermine this truth. Christ is the head of the Church which is His body, but aside from this authority, believers are to gather in autonomous groups according to the order commanded in Scripture. Local churches are to be interdependent on each other, but no group of believers has the authority to control any other local church.

2. The Unity of All Believers (1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 4:3-4; John 17:21-23)

The Lord affirmed the oneness and equal-standing of all believers when He told His disciples, “For one is your Master, even Christ; and all you are brethren” (Matt. 23:8). Christians

are identified by biblical names such as Christians, believers, saints, and brethren. No denominations, cliques, or separate followings should be found in the body of Christ—Christ cannot be divided (1 Cor. 1:13). In the practical sense, Christian fellowship (what we share together in Christ) is dependent on how much we determine we have in common with other believers in doctrine. While it is true that we will not be able to have the same degree of fellowship with all believers, we should strive to walk as far as we can with all those who have been redeemed by the precious blood of Christ.

3. The Priesthood of All Believers (Rev. 1:6; Heb. 10:22; 1 Pet. 2:5, 10)

All believers should engage in Spirit-led worship and service (Eph. 5:18-20). All believers are equipped with spiritual gifts to serve and edify the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:4-7; Eph. 4:15-16). Only when all believers obey their God-given callings and use their spiritual gifts with the full measure of faith that God gives will the Church be fully functional (Rom. 12:3; Eph. 4:12). The New Testament reveals ministries and offices that individuals were associated with, but no believer was given a personal title as part of his or her fulfillment of these. There were apostles, elders, deacons, evangelists, pastor-teachers, etc. in the early Church, but no disciple of Christ was referred to by such titles before his or her name. Clergy-led services, ministry by “professionals,” church traditions, and empty rites distort the priestly role of believers within the Church. The believer’s allegiance is to Christ alone: we are His priests, His brethren, His friends, and His bond-servants.

4. Family Life of the Church, the Household of God (Eph. 2:19; 1 Tim. 3:15)

Christians continued in activities such as teaching, prayer, fellowship, and the Lord's Supper (Acts 2:42). The Church is a living body composed of many members who may enjoy divine fellowship with each other. Such body life will be manifested chiefly within the local assembly, but it is not restricted to it (1 Cor. 10:16-22). Local churches were commanded to receive other believers who desired to take part in the privileges and responsibilities of church fellowship (Rom. 15:7) and those received into the local church fellowship were instructed not to neglect it (Heb. 10:25). New converts (after baptism), relocating Christians (via letters), and traveling workers, who desired to be an active part of a local church were added to the fellowship. These had a profession of faith (Acts 2:41-42) and were morally sound in life (2 Thess. 3:10-11; 1 Cor. 5:11), and in doctrine (2 Thess. 3:6, 14; Titus 3:9-10). Unfortunately, many churches do not practice reception or imposed the unbiblical doctrine of church membership, which results in a mixture of saved and lost individuals in the local church.

5. Sanctity of the Genders (Gen. 1:27, 2:24; 1 Tim. 2:11-14)

God instituted creation order over the genders when He fashioned the first man and then created the first woman from that man to be his helper (Gen. 2). In God's plan, men are to be loving leaders and women are to be willful helpers. God's creation order is further depicted in biblical authority structures for other spheres such as home order (Eph. 5:22-33), civil order (Isa. 3:12), and church order (1 Tim. 3:1-2). God has assigned different roles and practices within the Church to ensure that a distinction of gender is maintained. Only men were appointed apostles of the Church and to be appointed elders and deacons in local churches (1 Tim. 3). The commanded head covering practice of 1 Corinthians 11 ensures sanctity of the genders. The uncovered heads of men and the covered heads of women during spiritual exercise form a visible salute to God's order and authority. Women are to cover and conceal all competing glories (themselves—man's glory and their hair—their glory), while men, who represent God's glory are to have uncovered heads. This earthly activity patterns the heavenly reality where only God's glory is to be observed and spiritual beings cover themselves in His presence.


6. The Plurality of Leadership (Tit. 1:5; Acts 14:23)

There is no God-honoring example of one individual overseeing a specific local church in the New Testament. Rather, just the opposite was true; the oversight of each local gathering was to be plural and masculine in nature (Acts 14:23; 15:6; Tit. 1:5). Those in leadership were called elders (*presbuteros*) and overseers (*episkopos*). This church position was not given at spiritual rebirth, but gained as a result of spiritual maturity, divine calling, and public

recognition. A third Greek word, *poimen*, is normally used to speak of the shepherding work in which both elders and non-elders engage (these are gifted individuals given to the Church by Christ; Eph. 4:11-12). Thus, the pastoral gift remains within the recipient throughout his or her entire lifetime, regardless of where he or she may take up residence. The gift *poimen* is not gender-specific, nor can it be equated directly with the office of elder, though certainly many elders will have this spiritual gift.

7. The Great Commission—Reaching the Lost for Christ (Matt. 28:18-20)

All believers are to be witnesses for Christ in the world (Acts 1:8) and evangelists help equip us for that task (Eph. 4:12). The Church is also to send out workers to reach lost people groups (Acts 13:3). Such workers were sent out, supported, and supervised by local churches, not mission boards or parachurch organizations. The missionaries in Acts did not raise funds in order to be sent; rather, they were sent and the Lord provided for them as they went (Acts 13:1-5; 14:26; 15:40). They were to live by faith and, when necessary, work with their own hands (Acts 18:3). The Great Commission demonstrates God's great love for the lost and that He desires as many as possible to be redeemed by the blood of His Son (2 Pet. 3:9).

Just as God used the tabernacle to teach the Israelites about heavenly things, God is using the Church to teach powers and principalities about His authority, character, and goodness. To this end, the nature and order of the Church are patterned after God Himself: (1) Christ is the center of attention in heaven; the Father is honored when His Son is honored. (2) Just as God is one, all believers are one in Him. (3) God alone is to be worshipped and all believers are able priests who are to worship Him. (4) God is the source of all good things; those who truly compose the family of God will bask in His goodness forever. (5) In heaven, God's glory, and its reflection in others, will be the only glory seen. (6) God is masculine, plural in persons, and perfectly unified in all that He does. (7) God is merciful and desires heaven to be full of redeemed people from every nation, tribe, tongue, and kindred. The Church is an outpost of heaven on earth and by the power of the Holy Spirit is to reveal God to those who desperately need Him. 



Warren Henderson and his wife Brenda serve the Lord full-time and currently make their home in Stevensville, Montana. Warren is involved in a writing, evangelism, and Bible teaching ministry and has written and published a number of books which can be obtained worldwide through online retailers.

by Warren Henderson



A Great Commission

Ezekiel 3:4-17

No believer would argue that we are responsible for getting the gospel of God's salvation out to others. For many, this is a great passion of daily life, as it should be. The wrinkle occurs when we ask the question, "Yes, but how?" And sadly, methodology sometimes becomes the focus point, rather than the message. We may even be inclined to adopt Marshall McLuhan's famous statement: "The medium is the message." In an effort to de-complicate the plethora of processes and plans abounding, perhaps a fresh look at a simple truth is needed.

Consider the prophet Ezekiel. He was told up front that he was being sent to an audience who would not listen. He was told that their hearts were cold and their minds were closed,

and that the warnings he would issue them would fall on deaf ears. As motivational talks go, this would not be a first choice for most of us. Yet he was told to go, and he went... albeit somewhat reluctantly. Regardless of the outcome, he was to warn the people of post-theocratic Israel about their backsliding. Their captivity had come about as a result of their disdain for their God, and yet He was still stretching out His offer of forgiveness to them. Ezekiel was to deliver the message; God would take responsibility for the results.

So, he came to the captives who were encamped by the Chebar River, about 70 kilometers from Babylon. It was likely an agricultural labor camp, as the literal meaning of Chebar implies. There they were weeping, and singing songs

of lament about what they had lost (Psa. 137:1-4). With a collective moan, they hung up their harps, and bowed under the burden of their situation.

We are living, we may say, in post-theocratic North America. The constitutions of both Canada and the United States contain lofty statements like “one nation under God,” but that is hardly the case any more in practical terms. Despite this situation, our longsuffering Lord still holds His loving arms open, and offers His salvation to any who will receive it. We are to be the ambassadors delivering that message, to a continent of people who are singing the blues and don’t really know why.

There are three phrases in Ezekiel 3:15 which are worthy of note:

“I came to them”

There was a time when we invited friends to a gospel meeting, a tent meeting, or some other such gathering, so that a capable evangelist could preach to them. People would come, people would hear, and some people would repent and believe the gospel. Yet for most believers today, the real work was done when a loving Christian took them under their wing, and faithfully risked their disapproval to tell them the good news. The Christian came to them.

Even when societies have been encompassed by restrictions in various forms, there was always a way to reach someone with the gospel. There was still a backyard conversation, a visit with an offer to assist with something, a chat on the worksite, or an opportunity to share a grief or sorrow with someone in mourning. When we first draw near to Him, He draws alongside us, and we can then draw alongside someone else who desperately needs compassion. We have eternal treasure in earthen vessels to share with them, and a God hears who hears prayer when we intercede on their behalf.

“I sat where they sat”

The principle of identification, in a biblical sense, is most often associated with something like the scapegoat of Leviticus 16, and its ultimate fulfillment by our Lord Jesus at Calvary. He identified with us, took our sin burden upon Himself, bore our penalty in our place, and died the death that was rightfully ours. He took the principle of identification to a degree that eternally endears us to Himself. As He walked among us, as He listened to us, as He heard our thoughts, our fears, and witnessed our rebellion, He entered into our situation more thoroughly than we understand it ourselves.

The principles of human-to-human comfort, found in 2 Corinthians 1:3-7, put us in a unique place. Having experienced the comfort of God in our own lives—and we have each experienced it—we can then freely distribute this to others in need. Divine comfort is a limitless resource, with more than enough to go around. As we sit where others sit, we identify ourselves with their situation. We then have the Spirit of God to give us insight into what is needed, and the Word of

God to apply to those needs. It really is an amazing privilege and opportunity, when we think about it for a moment!


“I remained there astonished among them”

The astonishment mentioned here means to devastate, to ravage, and to show horror at the situation. This work most certainly is not for the faint of heart. And to maintain our presence in this situation—as the word “remain” implies—will take a mental and emotional toll on us. Here is my own demotivational comment! Any who take up this venture will likely experience tears, heartache, sleepless nights, and other after effects which are the symptoms of truly caring for someone.

Our Bibles reveal to us a God who has “remained there” for thousands of years. The short years our Lord Jesus spent on earth, provided us with a brief and visible manifestation of our longsuffering God. Since Adam’s day, His heart has been breaking with our sorrows, as we try to stumble through our existence without Him. Yet He has employed every means imaginable, and extended to us every opportunity possible, to be reconciled to Him and experience His deliverance.

Who will receive this great commission?

It can be observed that these mediations apply to any form of interaction with another person. Whether they are an unbeliever who needs the Savior, or a Christian encompassed with despair, identifying with anyone who will grant us an audience is needed now. Although this statement is not in the Bible verbatim, people don’t care what we know until they know that we care. It is however, consistent with the character of our God. And we are each in the precious position of being able to reflect a measure of that to someone else.

Ezekiel was reluctant to this call, as many of us may be. This is asking a lot of anyone, and like the prophet, our attentions may not always be welcomed. That said, can we do any less than reciprocate for the great love which has been shown us? The apostle viewed himself as a debtor to all men (Rom. 1:14) with both an obligation and an opportunity to share Christ with others. If our lives count for nothing else, may they at least count for the fact that we sought to demonstrate the love of God to others. 



Rick Morse lives in Berwick, Nova Scotia with Janie, his wife of 40 years. They fellowship at Bethany Gospel Chapel in Dartmouth, NS. Saved at age 21, he is active in his home assembly and frequently ministers in many assemblies in Atlantic Canada. Rick’s speaking and written ministry centers on love for apologetics and earnestly contending for the faith once delivered to the saints.

by Rick Morse



Modesty in Dress

*“In all things showing thyself a pattern of good works...
not purloining, but showing all good fidelity;
that they [you] may adorn the doctrine
of God our Saviour in all things.”*

Titus 2:7, 10

Although the Scriptures do not give explicit instructions as to a specific dress code for Christians, it does provide us with basic principles that should be considered before we choose what clothes we wear. Well-meaning, but ignorant believers attempting to codify these principles have run into problems, forgetting the span of history and the diversity of cultures that represent Christ across the globe. Whether in the meeting or in the marketplace, our style of dress as much as our words and actions can reflect our inward attitude toward the things of the Lord—and toward others.

One very clear principle that is upheld in Scripture regarding dress is modesty. Dress and clothing styles can

differ greatly among communities of believers worldwide, but modesty is an identifiable standard that is understood by all. The apostle Paul in speaking to the older women in Christ, charged them to instruct the younger women to be “discreet” and “chaste” (Titus 2:5)—a concern that must have surely included their outward adorning. No doubt it was an issue then, as it is now in a day in which the fashion industry pushes relentlessly against the borders of moral decency. In Proverbs 7, King Solomon refers to the dress of the strange woman who is characterized as having the “attire of a harlot,” a further reminder that the Lord draws a distinction between right and wrong clothing standards. Believers (both men and women) need to make sure that they do not adopt the world’s standards in dress and appearance, which have become increasingly salacious and mainstream in recent years. Revelation 18 cites that one segment of Babylon that will be judged for its widespread wickedness is the fashion industry (v. 12), which has profited immensely from its anti-Christian influence in the world. It gives a different slant on the words of Paul when he said to the Corinthians: “*the fashion of the world passeth away*” (1 Cor. 7:31). Modesty in dress is not only honoring to the Lord but it affirms that we are changed people who are not to be conformed to this world, but to be set apart from it (Rom. 12:2). It is important that older saints, who through the years have learned this important truth, exercise patience with younger ones in the meeting who have recently come out of “Egypt” and have not yet understood the implications of personal sanctification as reflected in their outward appearance and dress.

Further, Scripture also teaches that over attention to dress should not be the priority of the saints. In writing to believing wives who were married to unsaved husbands Peter urged them to not put undue emphasis upon their outward appearance, but on “*the hidden person of the heart*” (1 Pet. 3:4), the inner person whose true character is being observed constantly by the Lord (1 Sam. 16:7). To do so, is simply self-occupation and a misplaced emphasis on the true issues of life. Rather, to cultivate godly character by yielding to the Holy Spirit is what will bring forth fruit that is pleasing to God and is among the few things that are precious in the sight of God (1 Pet. 3:4). In a day in which there is a heavy emphasis on “looks” and far less on character, it is incumbent upon Christians to make sure that character is the brightest thing that shines. In short, more emphasis should be put on radiating Christ than on impressing those around us by our dress. A visiting servant of the Lord felt he was having difficulty reaching the audience to whom he was preaching. When he asked a wise brother, who labored in that region what the reason might be, he explained to him that the gold fob that hung from his vest pocket was a hindrance to that group of

Continued on page 16

ISSUES *and* ANSWERS

"Search The Scriptures..." John 5:39

Who was Melchizedek?

Melchizedek is a unique Old Testament dignitary who suddenly appears on the scene: greeting, blessing, and fellowshiping with Abraham after the patriarch rescued his nephew Lot. The Bible introduces him as the king of Salem and priest of God Most High, meaning he simultaneously held the office of priest and king (Gen. 14:18). After a short introduction, he is only mentioned again in Psalms 110:4 and Hebrews 5-7.

Some have suggested that he was an angel but these heavenly messengers do not function as priests or kings. Others believe Melchizedek was Noah's son Shem who was likely still alive at the time. However, Shem has a known genealogy (Heb. 7:1-3). Still others propose that he was a pre-incarnate appearance of the Son of God but that is not possible because Christ's priesthood only began after His incarnation, death, resurrection, and glorification (Psa. 110:4). Instead, Melchizedek was likely a man whom Abraham knew but of whom little is said in the Old Testament.


In both his person and offices Melchizedek is considered a type (an Old Testament picture of Christ) of the Lord Jesus. Concerning his person Melchizedek means "king of righteousness" a title testifying to the character and reign of this godly king living in close proximity to ungodly and idolatrous nations. Salem, later to become Jerusalem means "peace." Being the king of righteousness and king of peace he pictures the Lord Jesus, the One who is intrinsically righteous and has bought peace through the blood of the cross, whose future kingdom will be characterized by both righteousness and peace (Psa. 45:5-6; 72:2; 85:10; Isa. 2:4; 9:6-7; 11:4-5; 32:1; Luke 2:14; Col. 1:20; Heb. 1:8-9; 1 John 2:1). Having no record of his birth, death, and genealogy—in a book full of genealogies—Melchizedek symbolizes the eternal Christ (Heb. 7:3).

Considering his office of priest, since there is no record of his death (and therefore no record of his priesthood's termination), his priesthood typifies Christ's continuous priesthood. Melchizedek's priesthood is greater than the later and temporary Levitical priesthood, which commenced when Israel became a nation at Mount Sinai after being redeemed out of Egypt. In the Mosaic Law, one became high priest by genealogy because the high priest had to descend from Aaron. Their priesthood was limited to the nation Israel and there was a continual succession of priests because each one eventually died.

Two thousand years ago Christ's coming superseded (replaced) the Mosaic Law, consequently changing the priesthood (Heb. 7:12). God declared Christ to be our High Priest forever, appointing by oath One who descends from Judah, not the Aaronic family of Levi. The Levitical priesthood ceased and Christ is the believer's High Priest according to the greater order of Melchizedek (Psa. 110:4; Heb. 7:4-10). Melchizedek had blessed Abraham and received a tithe from him demonstrating that his priesthood was greater than the Levitical priesthood that would later be carried out within the tribe of Levi, Abraham's great-grandson (Gen. 14:18-20; Heb. 7:1-17).

Christ has an eternal priesthood, living forever to make intercession for the believer. He continues as High Priest, not by the authority of the annulled Mosaic Law but in the power of an endless life (Heb. 7:16; Rev. 1:18). Both the Father's oath and Christ's endless life guarantees that His priesthood will last forever.

The Mosaic Law prohibited combining the offices of priest and king (1 Sam. 13:8-14; 2 Chron. 26:16-21). But Christ is the Priest anointed to rule in a future day (Zech. 6:12-13). In that day His reign and priesthood will extend over the whole earth. "As King-Priest He shall rule this earth for God, of His mediation there shall be continual worship ascend from this earth to the throne of His Father." When Christ reigns over this earth, God's ideal priesthood will eliminate the distinction between the secular and the sacred by combining the office of priest and king (Zech. 14:20-21).

Melchizedek was a righteous man appointed by God to be king-priest of Salem, whom He used to strengthen and encourage Abraham. Both Psalms 110:4 and the book of Hebrews gives further light showing that he was a type of the Lord Jesus. 



George Ferrier is full-time worker commended by Bridlewood Bible Chapel (Ottawa, ON). In addition to itinerant preaching and teaching at assemblies and conferences in North America and overseas, he is on the board of Cornerstone Magazine Inc. where he also serves as assistant editor. He lives in Southern Ontario.


by George Ferrier

Continued from page 14

humble Christians, many of whom were poverty-stricken. Christians should be sensitive to those around us *“to please his neighbor for his good to edification”* (Rom. 15:2). The mentality of “dress to impress,” can simply be nothing more than a serious “I” problem revealing a problem with our focus—looking at ourselves rather than the Lord. To do so, can easily foster partiality among believers (Jam. 2:2-3), serve selfish interests, and is contrary to the attitude which is content to simply have food and raiment. Consider the Lord Jesus, who though He was the Lord of Glory, who in a figurative sense *“laid aside His garments”* (John 13:4) and humbly walked among us, not clothed in brilliant apparel but identifying with the common man. Modest and inexpensive dress will offend far less people and can serve to broaden the scope of our ministry among Christians and non-Christians alike.

Ironically, many Christians who agree that we should not follow the world’s fashions can err in the opposite direction. Citing the example of Elijah and John the Baptist who were identified by their rough garb (2 Kg. 1; Matt. 3) they feel that anything otherwise is “flashy” and worldly. This is backwards reasoning. This perspective can easily be countered by the example of the servants of King Solomon (1 Kg. 10). When the Queen of Sheba conducted her expedition to investigate the claims of Solomon, there

were a few things that she noted about his kingdom that literally took her breath away. Among them was the *“meat on his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel...”* (v. 5). Their character and their clothing reflected well on their king and on the great standing and privileges that they possessed. I doubt that they were dressed in immodest blouses or ripped jeans! Their classy appearance caused her to proclaim, *“Happy are thy men, happy are thy servants who stand continually before thee, and who hear thy wisdom”* (v. 8). Likewise, our attitude and appearance by the way we dress displays our gratitude to the One who is a “greater than Solomon” and who has raised us up and made us to sit in “heavenly places.”

Taste in dress among believers can vary greatly. But if we allow these basic principles presented to us in God’s Word to guide our way, most certainly it will bring glory to God. Whether we come together to worship Him or go out to represent Him in this world, we have the wonderful privilege to show ourselves a pattern of good works and in a tangible way demonstrate the change that Christ has wrought in our lives by our dress and demeanor. “How can we give Him less than to give Him our best?” 

by **Mark Kolchin**

Is the Lord Calling You to Full-Time Service in NORTH AMERICA?

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News & Notices



Commendation of Clay and Elisa Berry

The saints meeting at Vista Bible Chapel in Vista, CA have commended Clay and Elisa Berry to the grace of God for the work to which the Lord has called them. Clay has been faithfully engaged for many years in speaking at local churches, camps, and conferences in the southwest, as well as being involved in counselling and discipleship. It is, therefore the saints' privilege and pleasure to announce their commendation. They value your prayers for Clay and Elisa as they continue to labor for the Lord.

Commendation of Ian and Sarah Lordanich

The saints meeting at Vista Bible Chapel in Vista, CA have commended Ian and Sarah Lordanich to the grace of God for the work to which the Lord has called them. Ian as a skilled flier has been called to serve the Lord in Zambia, with Fly Zambia, serving the missionaries in Zambia. Ian and Sarah and their four children, Taylyn, Jadon, Decklan, and Noah have been in fellowship with Vista Bible Chapel and therefore, it is the saints' privilege and pleasure to announce their commendation. They value your prayers for Ian and Sarah as they move to Zambia to serve the Lord.

Home Health Aide Needed

A senior commended worker, whose wife has a long term illness, is looking for care, companionship and help with routine household duties. Someone is needed who can provide a friendly presence and share in cooking, cleaning, laundry, and errands. A believer with a helping heart is desired. Knowledge of geriatric care or even nursing skill would be a plus (although not required). Ample space in the home is available for the ideal person willing to reside with this couple. Someone willing to stay nearby and visit on a reliable schedule may also work out. A stipend may be available or, if preferred, fellowship gifts as God provides. Location of need is Connecticut. If interested please email Assembly Care Ministries at info@assemblycare.org with your name, phone number and any qualifications you'd wish to describe. Someone will get in touch with you."

Fellowship Bible Chapel 4960 Royal Gulf Circle, Fort Myers, FL 33966

Fellowship Bible Chapel is a meeting of believers gathering to the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ in Fort Myers, FL. Visitors to their area are welcome to join them to remember our Lord, and be encouraged in the ministry of His Word. For information please visit <http://www.FellowshipBibleChapelFL.org>.

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Ministry Opportunity

Central Bible Chapel Tampa, FL

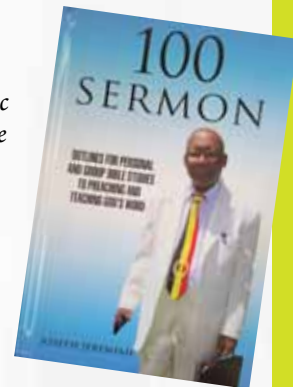
A full time worker, couple, or bi-vocational worker is needed to serve at Central Bible Chapel in the Tampa Bay Area. The worker can expect to be supported by the local assembly. Ideally, the worker should be experienced in work among youth, young adults, and older believers. Interested candidates should contact Wayne Carter at 813-503-8123 or wrcarterw@aol.com.

IBF Conference 2021

Though the in-person Indian Brethren Fellowship (IBF) Conference has been canceled this year, the Lord has enabled us to upload the messages on YouTube. The theme of the conference was "Our Eyes Are On You" (2 Chronicles 20:12). The messages and outlines by Brs. Sam Oommen and Nate Bramsen are available on YouTube, at the following link: <https://www.ibfus.org/ibf-2021-media/>

Jeremiah Evangelist Ministries on YouTube

Evangelistic and Bible teaching ministries with accordion music. Search for Jeremiah Evangelistic Ministries for teaching and music, as well as to be introduced to three of Bro. Joe Jeremiah books on Amazon and Barnes & Nobles. Pictured here is "100 Sermon Outlines for Personal and Group Bible Studies to Preaching and Teaching God's Word."



Cornerstone Tax Receipts

Note on tax-deductible receipts

A 2021 tax-deductible receipt will be issued for gifts received or postmarked on or before December 31, 2021. A 2022 tax-deductible receipt will be issued for gifts received or postmarked after December 31, 2021.

The Cornerstone committee wishes to express their heart-felt thanks to all who have prayed or who have participated financially in the work of this ministry. All the glory to the Lord.

Passing Through

ISAIAH 43:1-2

“When thou passest through the waters”
Deep the waves may be and cold,
But JEHOVAH is our refuge,
And His promise is our hold;

For the LORD Himself hath said it,
He, the faithful God and true:
When thou comest to the waters,
Thou shalt not go down, but through.

Seas of sorrow, seas of trial,
Bitterest anguish, fiercest pain,
Rolling surges of temptation
Sweeping over heart and brain,

They shall never overflow us,
For we know His Word is true;
All His waves and all His billows,
He will lead us safely through.

Threatening breakers of destruction,
Doubt’s insidious undertow,
Shall not sink us, shall not drag us
Out to ocean depths of woe;

For His promise shall sustain us,
Praise the LORD, whose Word is true!
We shall not go down, or under,
For He saith, “Thou passest through.”

ANNIE JOHNSON FLINT

