



BRISTOL Herald

The Newsletter of Celestial Church of Christ, Bristol Parish, UK

ISSUE 2

UNDERSTANDING THE Love OF GOD



Brother Kayode Adebayo

God's love! God's love is from everlasting to everlasting. God's love is without end (**Psalm 103: 15-17**). God's love never fails, he is faithful, even though we are not (**Isaiah 54:10; Isaiah 49:15-18**). God's love is both for individual and corporate. He blesses individually (**Matthew 10:30....**) and he blesses corporately as a church or as a body of Christ. (**Psalm 48:9; psalm 107:3**).

God's love is first imparted unto us by the reception of the holy Ghost in our lives when we are baptized. (**Rom.5:5**). Our whole calling is all about learning what the love of God really is, and walking therein. The spirit of God is the love of God because the spirit is the divine nature of God; **AND GOD IS LOVE!! (I JN 4:8)**

The number one thing which we must understand about the love of God is that God's love is **HOLY**. God's love is different from the world's love. His love is to do whatever it takes for us, so that we might move entirely away from sins and might be saved in the end. The lack of knowledge of this aspect of God's love makes people fail to see and benefit from the trials of their faith and from the chastening of the Lord (**prov.3:11, 12; Rev.3:19**) states that God disciplines and chastens those whom He **LOVES!**

The lack of understanding the love of God turns people away from the fear of God which is the beginning of wisdom. Wisdom, knowledge and understanding referenced in the Bible is referring to understanding the will or love of God. As established by the scriptures, the will of God is divine love.

"As many as are led by the spirit of God, are sons of God" (**Rom.8:14**). The only place that God's spirit leads anyone is into loving God and man with God's love. As stated in the new testament scriptures that we as believers must learn to be taught by the spirit of God and God's spirit teaches us how to love one another (**Jn.1:26; Jn. 16:13; I Cor. 2:11; I Jn.2:27; I Thess. 4:9**). Therefore, being taught by the spirit of God means understanding the love of God.

It is now so glaring that if we don't grow in the knowledge of God, then we will lose our way with God. "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" (**Hos. 4:6**). When we lack understanding of divine truth, we become separated from God and from one another which is contrary to our calling as Christians. To understand the holiness of God's love, we have to realize that we cannot walk in the love of God and be under dominion to sin at the same time. (**Rom. 13:9-14; Gal.5:14-16**).

SHEPHERD'S CORNER

Halleluyah and glory be to God in the highest. God is very faithful. I am pleased to announce that the first issue of Bristol Herald Newsletter had generated useful discussion amongst our readers. Most of you have responded positively and gave constructive feedback on the way and manner that the first edition had blessed you.

It was announced in the last issue of Bristol Herald that our Church dedication thanksgiving service would take place on 20th April 2008. I thank God that the event was very successful in fact words cannot express the divine grace and enormous joy that we experienced on that glorious day. God was the Master of Ceremony and those in attendance testified to the presence of the Almighty God in our parish as the Church was completely filled with the Holy Spirit and presence of God. Halleluyah!

I would like to express my profound gratitude to the following people for their presence: North and West of England Circuit Head, Superior Evangelist (Dr) Olusegun Owolabi (Shepherd In Charge) of Manchester Parish; our Father in the Lord, Venerable Evangelist and Mother Celestial Atere from National HQ in London. Most Senior Evangelist Toyin Atere of Edward Street Parish in London. Special thanks goes to Evangelist Niyi Adenuga (Shepherd-In-Charge) of Salvation Ark (Evangelical) Parish in Manchester and his wife Lace Superior Senior Elder Sister Adenuga. Further thanks goes to Honorary Most Senior Evangelist Adedeji Aluko Oginni (Victory Voices) and Bristol Parish Choir for providing a melodious music.

I would like to seize this opportunity to announce the date of our Adult Harvest Thanksgiving service which is coming up on 27th July 2008 at our usual venue at St Werburgh's Centre. I must urge the Harvest Committee to continue with their commitment and dedication to the work of God. Please make note in your diary and we look forward to seeing you there by the grace of God.

May the Good Lord that you serve crown your effort with success in Jesus Name. Amen. I hope you will be immensely blessed by the message in this second issue of Bristol Herald Newsletter.

If you need spiritual advice or guidance or wish to submit prayer requests by e-mail the address is: halleluyah_ater@hotmail.com or visit our website on www.cccbristolparishuk.org. If you wish to join us for any of our services the Church Address is at **8 Witch Hazel Road, Whitchurch, Bristol, BS13 0QE** or contact me on **01179-646-985 or 0795 102 9376 (Mob)**. Remain blessed.

Most Senior Evangelist Feyi Atere
Shepherd-In-Charge
C.C.C. Bristol Parish.

Facing ANY CRUCIBLE

Any severe test or trial is a crucible. Many believers show instant concerns, worries, sinking feelings, outright resentment at the slightest symptom of bleakness or problem in ordinary parlance as if life is 'a bed of roses'. It is only when we can put up with utmost patience and perseverance that faith worketh out victory **1 Sam 17:51**. In other words, the trials facing believers are a test of the depth of their religion and faith: the believer who stands firm in them proves his religion is sound and his faith genuine **1 Peter 1:7**.

Trials emerge in every facet of life, be it in work environment when one is subjected to hostility or ill-treatment, especially on the grounds of political or religious belief; it may be at school where one is persecuted and bullied on creedal or racial basis.

Crucible in diverse ways, shapes or forms do occur, even in houses of prayer. One must be armed with the spirit of God to be able to face

up to the challenges posed by such occurrences **Acts 11:28; 1 Cor 2:10-11**. Circumstances which tend to threaten, ostracise, blackmail, segregate, shun or snub one are but a child's play compared to the trial of our Lord who laid his life for us all that we might be saved (**John 15:13**). Christ prophesied of the storm that would shatter his disciples upon his arrest and persecution, predicting that they would be scattered and left him alone although he would never be alone, for the father would be with him. He told them that if they were of the world they would certainly be loved by the world **John 15:19**; he assured them however that though they would have tribulation in the world, they should cheer up because He has overcome the world **John 16:33**.

From the beginning of the world God has always loved his chosen ones. Even as Paul told the Thessalonians, "*Brothers and Sisters, the Lord loves you. God chose you from the beginning to be saved*" **2 Thess.2-13** "For in

that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted" (**Heb 2:18**). "*For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.* **Heb 4:15**. Whether temptations or trials therefore, we have One who is constant, Jesus, who is Lord and the Christ (**Matt 16:15-18**).

Align with the One who stills the tempest **Luke 8:22-25**; the One who cares for his own **Luke 12:4-7**; the One who has all power **Matt 28:18**. He is more than able to make one an overcomer. For whosoever is of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God **1 John 5:4-5**.

By H/M/S/E Abiodun

SURRENDER It All To The Lord

By Cape Elder Sis. Sarah Alabi

Calvary greetings to you all once again, I pray that God in his mercies will touch the hearts of those people reading Bristol Herald Newsletter. Amen.

I am indebted to God for his grace and mercies towards us for the Bible instructs us to cast our burdens unto the Lord and that He would sustain us Halleluyah! It is clearly stated in **Psalms 125:1**, that, "we that trust in the Lord shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth for ever. Amen. May God let us remain firmly with Him forever. Amen.

You can be rest assured, that it is possible to swiftly cast all your burdens unto the Lord as He cares and is more than able to support and sustain you. All you have to do is to trust Him more now and surrender everything that concerns you to the Lord and believing that He is more than able to perfect all that concerns

you. I am sure that Our Lord will not disappoint you as He is on your side and He will make sure that it is well with you in Jesus name. Amen.

Be of good courage and He shall strengthen your heart, all you that have hope in God (**Psalms 31:24**). It does not matter how heavy you think your burden is you can be certain that Jesus Christ is more than able to shoulder it all. For the Bible encourages us to come to Jesus with our problems, issues, concerns, troubles and challenges, it does not matter how you classify it, Jesus Christ has promised to give you rest. May the peace of God remain with us. Amen.

Brethren, please let us have hope in God and start believing in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ as He is the same today and always. Amen.

SEND FORTH PARTY

By Hon M/S/E Abiodun

The parish recently came to face the reality that as she embraces new members from outside Bristol she cannot but experience some 'outflow', otherwise she will be like the dead sea which receives from its tributaries and gives out nothing!

Labour mobility has caused one of the pillars of the parish to relocate to London recently, L/S/E/S Dorcas Olabisi Adenuga had a send-forth party organised in her honour on Sunday 27th April, 2008. She was told it wasn't a send off party as she is expected to be the Ambassador of the Parish wherever she relocates and continue to keep her affinity with the parish

through sporadic flying visits. Her eldest son 'Bola Adenuga' remains in Bristol.

L/S/E/S Adenuga is known for her undaunting tenacity to the cause she believes in. She's a vocal and a staunch worshipper. She was placed under the ambits of the Almighty.

She was later treated to some extra-ordinary refreshments, courtesy of the shepherd's wife; accompanied by token gifts.

Olabisi, God is your strength!

'A PRAYER FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR'

In 2008, Because you will see the invisible, you will do the impossible. In 2008, Because of you, your family will not know poverty. You will go in and out of your house in peace. Because you are God's Idea and God cannot fail, you cannot fail this year... This year favour shall overwhelm your endeavours? This is your year of greatness? This year, you shall not struggle to be recognized, your gift shall announce you. This year you are entitled to daily fruitfulness. This year every darkness in your life shall give way to the light of Jesus. This year, all your lack will give way to abundance. You shall enjoy uncommon marital bliss this year. This year, the rejected shall become the selected? This year, people shall hear your testimonies and follow you to Jesus. In everything you do, you will succeed. What you have never done before for good...you will do this year...2008. By the time 2008 ends, you will look back with joy and ahead with great expectations....

In 2008, you will take charge of your life as you master your time. You will discover how to maximize your time and add value to it. You will become the star of your family, the hope of your generation, Because you know where you are going the whole world will step aside for you and follow you.

May you find favour with God and men. May you grow in wisdom and stature.

May you walk in dominion over every circumstance and situation. May every day in 2008 be one of success and purpose. In 2008 never forget to Act as if it were impossible to fail because for people like you and me the word failure does not exist.

Your success in 2008 is non negotiable. May 2008 be the greatest year of your life and the beginning of unprecedented success in your life!

Finally, This year, those who laughed at you before shall come to laugh with you.

This is your year of **TOTAL RECOVERY**

DEDICATION OF THE NEW CHURCH BUILDING

Faith

By Brother Tony Makinde

To God be the Glory for making it possible for the parish to dedicate the new church building as planned on Sunday, 20th April, 2008.

The parish played host to the Circuit Head, Superior Evangelist (Dr) Owolabi and a number of top echelons from the mother church (including the parents of our Shepherd Venerable Evangelist E A and Mother Celestial Atere) in London. Our father in the-Lord and friend, Evangelist Niyi Adenuga, Shepherd in-charge, Salvation Ark Parish, Manchester, astutely conducted the Thanksgiving service immediately after the brief dedication solemnities which included cutting of the tape and opening of the main entrance door to file in with hymn CCC 731.

In his impressive and quite elevating sermon, the circuit head associated himself with the spiritual growth of the parish and felicitated with the Shepherd and parishioners, exhorting the congregation to dedicate themselves afresh in the service of God and come together more than ever before in unity and untainted love to forge ahead; predicting that in togetherness the parish would sooner than later witness yet another dedication of a more expansive and imposing edifice.

He urged that it is only under the atmosphere of peace and concord that the spirit of God

abounds, and prayers answered instantaneously. He prayed after the manner of King Solomon that God in His infinite mercy may answer such prayers as are offered with his seal of authority. He also charged that parishioners should be on their guard against interlopers from distorting the history of the parish. He prayed movingly for the spirit of God to influence the Parish's activities and charged that he would love to be hearing good tidings concerning the church of God.

Complementarily, the parish's maiden issue of her Newsletter was launched along with the keyboard and accessories donated by the family of Hon M/S/E & Mother Celestial Adedeji Aluko-Oginni very active supporters/distant members of the parish.

A magnificent dedication cake was also provided by the family of Snr/Eld/Sis Ifediba Omoreghie topped the lavish dishes/take away packs prepared by the parish and Sister Grace Atere (Shepherd's younger sister).

I am on behalf of the parish expressing candid and fathomless appreciation to all who graced the occasion and pray that God may openly reward us all bountifully!

Gen 15:1; Matt 6:4.

Having faith in Jesus Christ means relying completely on him, trusting in his infinite power, intelligence and love. It is mentioned in Christ's teaching that we must believe in him, even when we do not fully understand all things.

Apostle Paul states that "**faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen**" according to **Hebrews chapter 11:1**. Faith is an understanding of action and power, which means that whenever you work towards a worthy goal you must express faith.

You can strengthen your faith by keeping to God's commandments and receive his blessings. Faith is obtained and increased through individual obedience and righteous actions. If you desire to enrich your faith to the highest possible level, you should believe in Christ and the teaching of the Prophets. You can also develop your faith by studying the scriptures.

Living by faith is much more than passive belief; you express your faith by actions and by the way you live. By faith you would be able to subdue kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtain promises, stop the mouth of lions, quench the violence of fire, escape the edge of the sword, out of your weakness you would be made strong, wax valiant in fight and turn to flight the armies of the aliens (**Hebrews 11:33-34**).

You can be rest assured that God has provided better things for us, that they without us should not be made perfect. (**Hebrews 11:40**).

BIBLICAL NAMES, MEANING AND REFERENCES

Names	Meaning	References
Adonijah	My Lord Is Jehovah	2sam 3: 4
Almighty God	All Powerful God	Gen 17: 1;
Abraham	Father Of Many Nations	Gen 17:5
Beerlahairoi	The God That Sees Me	Gen 16: 13-14
Bethel	The House Of God	Gen 12:8; Gen 13:3-4; Gen 28:19
Ebenezar	Stone Of Help	1sam 7: 12
El-elohe Israel	God, The God Of Israel	Gen 33:20
Eliab	God Is My Father	Number 1:9
Elijah	My God Is Jehovah	1 Chronicle 8:27
Elijahba	Whom God Hides	2sam 23:32; 1chronicle 11:33
Eliam	God's People	2 Sam 11: 3
Eliphalet	The God Of Deliverance	2sam 5: 16; 1chronicles 14:7
Elisha	God Is Salvation	1kings 19:16-17; Gen 10:4
Emmanuel	God's With Us	Isaiah 7: 14
Holy Being	The Father Of Faith	Number 16:22; John 4:24
Ishmael	God Has Heard My Afflictions	Gen 16: 11
Israel	Jacob	Gen 35:10
Jah	Abbreviated Form Of Jehovah	Psalms 68: 4;
Jahzerah	Whom God Leads Back	1 Chronicle 9:12
Jashobeam	To Whom The People Turn	1 Chronicle 11:11
Jehovah	I Am The Eternal Living One	Exodus 6:3

Continued OVERLEAF

BIBLICAL NAMES, MEANING AND REFERENCES

Jehovah Jehu	The Living God	2kings 9:2
Jehovah Jireh	God Will Provide	Gen 22:14;
Jehovah Nissi	Jehovah My Banner	Exodus 17:15-16
Jehovah Shalom	Jehovah Is Peace; God Of Peace	Judges 6:23-24
Jehovah Shamamah	God Of Astonishment	1chro 1:37; Gen 36:13 & 17
Jehozadak	Jehovah Justifies	1 Chro 6; 14-15
Jesus	The Saviour	Luke 1:31; Isaiah 9:6
John	Jehovah's Gift	Luke 1: 13-14
Micheal	Who Is Like God	Dan 10:13; Dan 12:1;
Peniel	For I Have Seen God Face To Face And My Life Is Preserved.	Gen 32: 30
Sarah	Mother Of Many Nations	Gen 17: 15-16
Shiloh	Place Of Rest (peaceable)	Gen 49: 10; Judges 21: 19
Yahweh	Jehovah	Exodus 6: 2-3

CHRISTIANS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Brother Kayode Adebayo

There are Christians by religion and there are true Christians. Christians by religion are those people who are just Christians and the true Christians are those who have been regenerated or born-again. Every one commits sins (**1 Jn 1:8**) but a true Christian does not commit sin as an habit, believes Jesus Christ is the only saviour, does not make the world's opinion his rule of right and wrong, and is careful to keep his own soul (**1 Jn 3:9; 1 Jn 5:1; 1 Jn 2:29; 1 Jn 3:14; 1 Jn 5:4; 1 Jn 5:18**)

A Christian is called to witness to others about the Lord Jesus Christ. The Christians are to stand as witnesses for the Lord Jesus Christ. Standing as witness for Christ by telling others about him and his good promises for them. Indeed, the call to witness lay at the heart of Jesus' final instructions to the Apostles (**Acts 1:8**) and at Pentecost they set about their task (**Acts 2**). To witness is also interpreted as to defend which involves not just preaching to people about the Lord Jesus Christ but there must also be the reflection of those things which you are telling to people about in your own daily life. Good examples must lay to others by Christians.

The Christians are also called the salt of the world (**Matthew 5:13**) and the light of the world (**Matthew 5:14-15**). The Christians were not called the salt and light of a certain town, village or family alone. They are called the light of the world. As well known, salt adds taste to things and light brightens, so is the duties of Christians. They are to add taste to the world and be like the light, by derivation from Christ, which penetrates the darkness. All these take effects by deeds as well as words.

Therefore, you must be what you are. You are salt, and so you must retain your saltness and not lose your Christian tang. You are light, and so you must let your light shine and not conceal it in any way, whether by sin or by compromise, by laziness or by fear".

BRAIN TEASER

You have ten minutes to find as many words as possible from the Bible (New Testament only). How you rate: 9 to 11 words - Average; 12 to 14 words - Good; 15 to 17 words - Very Good; 18 to 19 words - Excellent. The books are listed below.

W E H T T A M A B C D E F G N O I T A L E V E R
H K I S T C A J K L M N O P Q R S T U J V W X Y
Z U A B C D R O M A N S E P F G H I J K U L M N
N L G O P Q K R S T H U E V H W X Y Z O P D H A
B S N A I H T N I R O C D M E I F G H E I J E K
B C D E L F G H J K J L M N A O L P T Q R S B T
U V W S N A I S E H P E X Y Z J A E O I B C R D
E F G H I J T K L M N O P Q R S R T M B T U E V
W C O L O S S I A N S X Y Z A B C D E O N U W F
G H I J K L S N A I N O L A S S E H T J N O S D
L M N O P Q R S T N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z A B
C D E F G H I J K L S N A I P P I L I H P M N O

- Matthew
- Mark
- Luke
- John
- Acts
- Romans
- Corinthians
- Galatians
- Ephesians
- Phillipians
- Colossians
- Thessalonians
- Titus
- Philemon
- Hebrews
- James
- Peter
- Jude
- Revelation