



The Chronicle

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Holiness a necessity, Not an option

Philip C. Bennett

We live in a world of cheap grace. Everyone wants to go to heaven, but on their own terms. But *“there is just one way to the pearly gate, to the crown of life and the friends who wait; ‘tis the old Cross Road, or the way called “Straight” – there is just one way to the pearly gate.”*

(Lyrics by James Rowe, quoted from The Old Cross Road © Public Domain).

People will tell you that times have changed and that these are modern days, but the God who never changes says, *“Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.”* (Hebrews 12:14)

Today, the majority of Christendom has lost the concept of holiness. Many churches no longer preach sin for fear of driving people away.

Today you can hardly tell the majority of Christians from sinners because they all look alike. They go to the same places

and are wrapped up in the world like the sinner.

They want every new gadget and fashion that comes out, yet they expect to have the blessings of God. The Bible encourages us: *“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”* (1 John 2:15-17)

We are in the world but not of the world. Christians of the past knew what it meant to take up the cross and follow Jesus. They knew it meant a change of lifestyle. Someone penned these lyrics: *“Things I use to do, I do them no more; things I use to say, I say them no more. Places I use to go, I go there no more. It’s been a great change since I was born.*

That is why they had such power with God. They did not just profess to be a Christian in words; they were a Christian in deeds also. They were not so concerned about their public relations image and what the world thought of them.

Sadly, many no longer know what it means to live a sanctified life. Sanctification is the second definite work of grace. It is an instantaneous work wrought in the regenerated heart by the Holy Ghost with the blood of Christ. In Regeneration actual transgressions are forgiven, but in Sanctification the Adamic nature, or inbred sin, is eradicated. Sanctification restores man to the holy estate of Adam before the fall, and gives him the grace to live a life of holiness, thus making him eligible for the indwelling of the Holy Ghost.

The evidence of Sanctification is great joy inside the heart. Sanctification produces inside us a changed nature which makes sin repulsive to us.

It is alright to say I can tell you the time and I can take you to the place where I was sanctified, but are we still sanctified today? Sanctification is a stream we must abide under. It is not once sanctified always sanctified. We can lose our Sanctification the same way we can lose the New Birth experience. It is not once saved always saved as is being taught by many today.

The evidence in some lives testifies that they have indeed lost their Sanctification. Sanctification does not just affect our sexual conduct but our complete being. Sometimes the circumstances that come about in our lives want us to come from under the blood.

We cannot afford to let anything cause us to come from under the cleansing stream (blood of Jesus). When someone upsets us, we cannot let the Devil tempt us to come from under the blood and give them a piece of our mind. We must maintain our Sanctification.

In the Church in the Wilderness circumcision was a type of Sanctification. All males from at the age of eight days were to be circumcised. After leaving Egypt and travelling in the wilderness for forty years, all the males from twenty years upwards died out and those who followed them were not circumcised. God would not allow them to enter the Promised Land as they were. They had to get rid of the scent and nature of Egypt which they had adopted. *“And it came to pass, when all the kings of the Amorites, which were on the side of Jordan westward, and all the kings of the Canaanites, which were by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of Jordan from before the children of Israel, until we were passed over, that their heart melted, neither was there spirit in them any more, because of the children of Israel. At that time the LORD said unto Joshua, Make thee sharp knives, and circumcise again the children of Israel the second time. And Joshua made him sharp knives, and circumcised the children of Israel at the hill of the foreskins. And this is the cause why Joshua did circumcise: All the people that came out of Egypt, that were males, even all the men of war, died in the wilderness by the way, after they came out of Egypt. Now all the people that came out were circumcised: but all the people that were born in the wilderness by the way as they came forth out of Egypt, them they had not circumcised. For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, till all the people that were men of war,*

which came out of Egypt, were consumed, because they obeyed not the voice of the LORD: unto whom the LORD sware that he would not shew them the land, which the LORD sware unto their fathers that he would give us, a land that floweth with milk and honey. And their children, whom he raised up in their stead, them Joshua circumcised: for they were uncircumcised, because they had not circumcised them by the way. And it came to pass, when they had done circumcising all the people, that they abode in their places in the camp, till they were whole. And the LORD said unto Joshua, This day have I rolled away the reproach of Egypt from off you. Wherefore the name of the place is called Gilgal unto this day.” (Joshua 5:1-9)

After they were obedient to the commandment of God and all were circumcised they received a special visitation to show God’s approval. *“And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for*

our adversaries? And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the LORD am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant? And the captain of the LORD’S host said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Joshua did so.” (Joshua 5:13-15)

With the captain of the host of the Lord with them, they were able to overcome and conquer the great obstacle (Jericho) that was before them. When every member of The Church of God is sanctified, I believe God will visit us in a similar way. It is the will of God that every member move on from the New Birth experience and be sanctified and filled with the blessed Holy Ghost.

If we are to live a sanctified and holy life we must be totally committed. We cannot straddle the fence or have our feet in both camps. It must be all or nothing. 📖

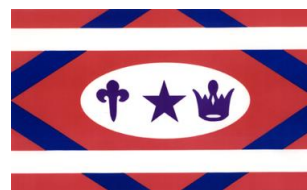


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From the Overseer's Desk

The start of the year 2011 is perhaps the most dramatic I have experienced in all the years that I have been alive. In less than three months we saw devastating natural disasters in countries including Australia, New Zealand, Brazil, Sri Lanka and Japan. Some of these are the worst these countries have ever experienced.

Along with the natural disasters we have seen a great upheaval in the Middle East in countries including Egypt, Tunisia, Libya, Jordan and Yemen to name a few. No one knows for sure what things will look like when all the dust has settled but one thing we know for certain, things will never be the same again.

World economies are so fragile that people have little or no confidence for the future, whilst governments do not know what to do.

Are these just coincidences or are they signs of the times as mentioned in the bible? *"And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places."*

(St. Matthew 24:6-7)

"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken." (St. Luke 21:25-26)

I believe these signs are a demonstration of God's love for His people in that He does not want us to be taken unawares. The world may not know what is happening but we as God's children should not be taken unawares. *"And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man."* (St. Luke 21:34-36)

Let us not be like the world who are saying, "What's happening in the world?" Instead let us do as we have been admonished: *"And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."* (St. Luke 21:28)

Upcoming dates for your diary

National Youth Convention
23rd April 2011

National Convention
8th - 10th July 2011



ABM BOOST

Wilhelmina Brown - National Assembly Band Movement Co-ordinator

The general Assembly Band Movement theme for the assembly year 2010-2011 is:

'No one left behind'

(St. Mark 8:36)

Greetings in the worthy name of Jesus Christ our Mighty Redeemer.

Our theme scripture is: ***"For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"*** (St. Mark 8:36)

Sister Jackie Zimmerman our General Assembly Band Co-ordinator said in the September-October 2010 Evening Light "Certainly we don't want to see anyone left behind. Every soul is important—your soul, my soul, and the souls with which we come in contact.

One of the primary goals of the ABM is to "keep" the members. **No One Left Behind** should be the desire of every overseer, every pastor, and every member of The Church of God. As members, the best thing we can do is check ourselves and see if we are steadfast in the faith..."

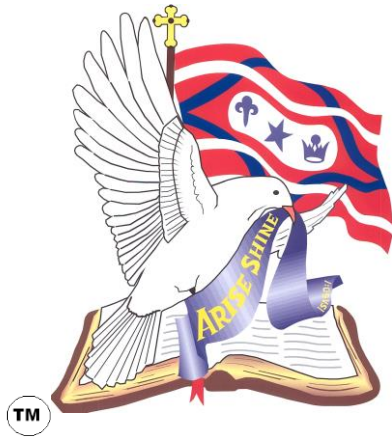
Saints, it is high time for us to get in the right frame of mind. We need to focus on what we have to do to get our spiritual hearts and minds in tune with the work of God.

There is something I want to draw to our attention. Lately, one common trend that has crept into the church, which is of concern, is some of our dear loved ones not attending evening services.

I say this not to offend because some are sickly, but we still do not want to make vain excuses. Hebrews 10:25 *"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."*

The time is drawing nearer for the Lord's return so let us be willing to work in God's vineyard. Soon the time of reaping will be over so we must gather the sheaves into the barn. Whatever is right He will pay. People are dying every day without seeking repentance. Let us stand firm in the strength of our Leader Jesus Christ! Fight manfully, obeying the voice of His command. We must *"labour on...labour on till the close of day."* [cited from "Labour On" by W.H. Doane and Christopher R. Blackall]

May the Lord richly bless us as we continually praise His Holy name.



CPMA/BTI BOOST

Stuart Brown - National CPMA/BTI Co-ordinator

The general Church of Prophecy Marker Association theme for the assembly year 2010-2011 is:

‘My dove, my undefiled is but one’

(Song of Solomon 6:9)

The general Bible Training Institute theme for the assembly year 2010-2011 is:

‘Doers of the Word’

(James 1:22)

What Does God Say?

Greetings to all from the C.P.M.A. and B.T.I. departments! I thank God that we have another time to share and be encouraged to press along. We have not reached heaven yet, so this means there is still more to be done and a little more time to endure.

What does God say? We live in a climate today where there is a lot of talk. There is a lot of opinion on things, a lot of advice from a lot of sources on different situations. There are a lot of instructions given and a lot of teaching on spiritual matters. This has created a very hazardous spiritual environment in which negative opinion, bad advice, poor instruction and erroneous teaching threaten our well being. I can surely say I have seen this all around me and the devastating effects it is having on those I know and love. It is making things worse for their physical life and deceiving them into spiritual darkness, ultimately straying further and further from God.

Church history is full of examples of people who were willing to go down on their knees, fall flat on their faces and get down to serious prayer and fasting. They studied God’s Word, sometimes for hours, even days just to hear from the Lord to see what He had to say about various situations. Many times humble people gave up their own will and understanding to “find the mind of God” for direction, teaching, leading and help. Right back to the early Church, issues were prayed over and God gave direction. The Church, the Truth - God’s Holy Word, the doctrine and the godly Advice to Members are still here today. This is due to God’s faithfulness to those who were willing to seek Him for direction and then were obedient to what He had to say.

How much time do people spend trying to figure out things themselves or going to and fro being influenced by fleshy counsel, or taking part in talk that breeds:

“...fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith...”? (1 Timothy 1:4).

How many people are led astray by the wrong advice or deceit passed on by other people? That is not to say everyone means harm. Sometimes it is due to a lack of understanding and genuine error. Wrong choices, going astray and failing God can all be avoided if we would seek God and find out what He has to say on each matter. Has God ever been wrong? NO! NEVER! He is always right and pure so He will always give us the right answer!

If we have questions about anything, or maybe are unclear on a few issues, even if there is disagreement anywhere, shouldn't we see what God has to say about it? What a blessing to have a Father who gives us liberty to come to Him and ask Him anything, tell Him anything and then He tells us all things we need to know!! Thank You Lord!

We have this pattern in which to follow, maintain and keep fresh in our minds. We are to be people who are willing to pray, willing to seek His face, humble to listen and ready to do what the Lord says. These are the people who God will work with and will enjoy His sweet blessing.

When God gave the commandments to the children of Israel via Moses, their reply was:

“All that the LORD hath said will we do, and be obedient.”
(Exodus 24:7) When Israel kept to that formula, they had the favour of God.

Let The Church of God be a people who hear from God and know what He is saying in these closing days of time. Not only for our own souls and those who we know, but for those seeking who are to come.

This issue's feature is a table of quotes. Feel free to check them out in their entirety.

Quote from poem: <i>“The Spider and the Fly”</i> Mary Howitt	“Unto an evil counsellor, close heart and ear and eye...”
Quote from song: <i>“We Need To Hear From You”</i> Andrae Crouch	“We need to hear from You, we need a word from You, if we don't hear from You, what will we do...”
Quote from: <i>“Called Council - 1923.doc”</i> A.J. Tomlinson	“We have shown we had rather suffer wrong than do wrong...”
Quote from: <i>“Knowing the Time”</i> Robert J. Pruitt	“There are many people who are looking to the heavens for a sign to tell them what time it is, when they ought rather to be looking into the Book of all books, God's Word, to tell them how to live to be prepared for any eventuality.”

Sunday School Department



The Church of God

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOOST

Ray Prince - National Sunday School Co-ordinator

The general Sunday School theme for the assembly year 2010-2011 is:

'The Promise of His Coming' (2 Peter 3:4)

***"When we all get to heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be!
When we all see Jesus, we'll sing and shout the victory."***

The above song entitled "When We All Get To Heaven" was sung in closing for a recent CPMA service I moderated. This song was truly a blessing. God really inspired the writer, Eliza E. Hewitt to pen these words. Verse 3 states "Just one glimpse of Him in glory will the toils of life repay." With all the problems that we are facing we will "sing and shout the victory" and have a true understanding of being victorious. This is because we would have made it over yonder. We alone will know how hard it was to make it in.

As we started to sing the chorus over and over, I felt that we should greet each other and worship God. So we sang and hugged one another. This was just a taste of how glorious it is going to be in heaven.

This song is a reality and also the journey to heaven. If we are planning to go to heaven to sing and shout, we will need instructions and teaching on how to get there. Instructions will help us find our way whilst the teaching will edify us.

Teachers, we have to be **inspired** to **inspire**. Let us ensure we are keeping our pupils engaged, watered and fed. We have a huge responsibility and must live right, be sober and vigilant. We need the Holy Ghost to use us in our teaching and to be a blessing.

Students, you also have a responsibility to learn your lesson, be on time and come prayed up to receive a blessing. With these points working together, our Sunday Schools will be on fire for God.

**Diary Date: National Sunday School Challenge
Saturday 11th June 2011**

This will be held at Maypole Centre, Druids Heath, commencing at 7:00 pm. Each Sunday School is to provide a team of four scholars ranging from the Teen Herald to the Adult Treasures of Truth classes.

Please keep your Sunday School books from the last quarter up until the Challenge.



Victory Leaders Band



VLB/EVANGELISM BOOST

Claudine Brown - National Victory Leaders Band/Evangelism Co-ordinator

The general Victory Leaders Band theme for the assembly year 2010-2011 is:

‘Lovers of the Truth’

The general Evangelism theme for the assembly year 2010-2011 is:

‘Each one reach one’

“Give us a ‘sin allergy’ Lord!”

This is something I asked the Lord for during a recent prayer and afterwards it got me thinking. When we know that we are allergic to something, we stay away from it for fear of suffering the consequences. Allergic reactions are wide ranging – from sneezes to spots, from rashes to swollen lips. Some can be severe in nature and can even result in death if the problem is not treated quickly. I remember one summer when my hay fever was particularly bad, I made sure that all of the windows in the house were closed to minimise the amount of pollen floating in. I also remember witnessing my brother (who is allergic to nuts) having a severe allergic reaction to nougat. He had not checked the packaging to see whether it contained any nuts and it would not have been apparent to the naked eye that traces of nut was within. However, as soon as he tasted it, he knew something was wrong and before long, his skin started to react and his tongue began to swell. I know others who are allergic to certain foods but because their reactions are so slight, they eat the food anyway because it tastes so good!

The more I thought about it, the more I realised - we *already have* sin allergies! As children of God, we are supposed to steer clear of sin because of what it can do to us. It will transform us and rob us of our grace. The reaction, if not dealt with soon enough, can be so severe that it makes us unrecognisable, even unsightly! Perhaps what I should have prayed was “Help us to see that we have a sin allergy Lord!” We already know from God’s Word that:

“...the wages of sin is death...” (Romans 6:23) and that sin in our hearts makes us inhabitable where God is concerned. Sin should make the Christian feel sick, just like a person who violates their allergy. When we rub up to the very thing we are allergic to and don’t notice any problem straight away, perhaps we feel that we got away ‘scott free.’ The truth is, that thing may cause our death – our spiritual death, making us little more than dead men walking. What we should be doing is ‘closing all the windows’ to keep the sin out!

If you are reading this as an unsaved person, I would like to let you know that today could be the best day of your whole life. When you are on the brink of death and someone rescues you, that feeling is the most exhilarating feeling ever. Jesus came so that we could all have life, in its truest sense. It is a fact that we have all sinned and come short where God is concerned but God, in His mercy sent His Son Jesus Christ to be the ultimate Sacrifice for our sins, thus setting us free! The ultimate reward of sin will be death, eternal suffering and eternal separation from God. Ask the Lord today to forgive your sins and believe that He will do it! Then make contact with the Church today using the contact details on page 4 of this edition. Don't delay!

If you are reading this as a Christian, you are allergic to sin. You have been saved from its damnation and set free to live a victorious life. By the grace of God, it is possible – otherwise He would not require it of us. Sometimes I pray to the Lord, “help me to hate sin as much as You do.” Let's learn to recognise the signs. Perhaps, like my brother with the nougat, you may not see the danger straight away. Check the 'wrapper'. How does it look? How does it smell? What is the Spirit of the Lord telling you? You don't need to taste it to find out. Hold the fort for He is coming!

Our youth convention is fast approaching. Please, please, please be praying that God will be in the midst to bless it. Invite someone to come along and to experience what God has in store for us. Please pray for the VLB/Evangelism department as a whole. Youth – don't become a statistic. Show the world that it is possible to be a young person AND to serve God!!



Deadline.....

Most of us should be familiar with the term “**deadline.**” We live in a world today that whether saved or unsaved, adult, child, man or woman; everyone agrees there is a shortage of time!

We deal in some form or another with deadlines, whether it is for paying bills on time, building work, target setting in the workplace, coursework at university or college, homework, school exams, closing dates for applications, travelling times and the list goes on.



But let us as Christians who are supposed to be sober be aware that the things in the above list fall under the category of “**THE CARES OF THIS LIFE**” as spoken about in St. Luke 21:34:

*“And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and **cares** of this **life**, and so that day come upon you unawares.”*

We cannot let life's routines overtake us until we lose our focus and purpose for why we are here and what time we are living in. Let us be reminded and encouraged of who we are and where we are in time.

In St. Luke Chapter 8, Jesus speaks the parable of the sower and seeds. Different circumstances affected the seeds' growth. We know that the seed is the Word of God and the different types of ground represents the heart of man. The scripture shows the heart that brought no fruit to perfection was the heart that was “...*choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life...*” (verse 14). We want the Word of God to be alive, powerful and fruitful in us and those who hear it from us. Even before going out to evangelize, we pray for the hearts of those whom we would come into contact with that they would receive God's Word.

This is for those who know the Lord Jesus as their personal Saviour, and for those who are yet still to make that step. It is for us both as there is a deadline that faces us all whether we are aware of it or not. Jesus's return is near!!! Also death can call for us at anytime with no announcement!

I speak of death as I had an experience in which I nearly lost my life in a car crash. It was a normal day, going about my normal business, daily routine the boom! In a split second things changed. Now there were many things I had to do that week. Many "important" works to do all over the place alongside my responsibilities in life. Yes, I had a busy week ahead, people at work were depending on me to do so much but when that crash happened, none of those things mattered. They faded into insignificance! I was out of action but did the workplace stop functioning? No. Did all the things that "needed" to be done get done? No. Did I meet the targets and deadlines I had for that week? No. I was faced with something that changed it all. The only thing that mattered then was, "is it well with my soul? Have I done what I am supposed to do for my Lord? Where will I spend eternity?" I thank God for preserving my life and giving me a chance to re-evaluate.

For those who are saved it is the time to work for the Lord in His field. St. John 4:35: "*Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; (There is a pause. Imagine how Jesus spoke these words. How much time do we spend paying attention to the field? Are we so otherwise occupied that we are not observing the fields?) for they are white already to harvest.*" The time is ripe now...let us look... let us get a heart for the harvest.

To those who do not know Jesus He says in St. Luke 19:9-10 "*And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.*" Hebrews 4:7: "*To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.*"

Let us look more at the word "deadline." It means *the latest time or date by which something should be completed.* Here are two points to think about:

Deadlines are clearly given! To those who do not know Him yet the invitation to know Him is in Isaiah 55:6-7, St. Mark 1:15, Acts 2:38. For those who are saved read **1 Thessalonians 5:1-6** and St. Matthew 24:33.

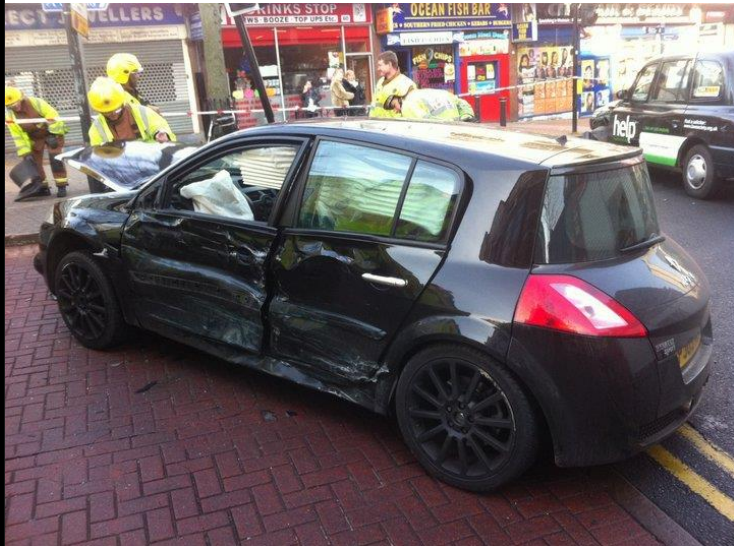
Once a deadline has passed, it has gone! To the saved read St. John 9:4 and St. Luke 12:45-47. To the unsaved read St. John 3:3-5 and Hebrews 9:27.

To those who do not know Jesus as their personal Lord and Saviour today is your day. Now is your chance to experience something great that you have never experienced in your life before. To those who walk with Him it is a time to have a closer walk and to stand in the power of His might. We have a deadline fast approaching so let us prepare for it. Let us get everything that needs to be done completed so that we do not miss out. Amen. 📖

**Submitted by Brother Stuart Brown
Long Lane Church**

Testimony Time

“The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.” (Psalm 34:7)



When we woke up on 31st January 2011, we had no idea how the day was going to pan out. Thank God that although we don't know about tomorrow, it is Him who holds our hand.

Brother Stuart was sitting in the passenger seat of this car and took full impact of the black cab that crashed into it. Police, ambulance and firemen were called to the scene but God had already delivered. The enemy's plan was completely devastated! The driver, Brother Stuart's brother had minor injuries and Brother Stuart had a scrape to his head and suffered whiplash

but thank God they are alive! Brethren, we can do nothing of ourselves. We thank God for His divine protection and for His angels that encamped around the car that day.

Submitted by Sister Claudine Brown - Long Lane Church

Gleaners Corner

The story of Samuel from 1 Samuel chapters 3-4

By Tyrell Cobo-Brown aged 5

Eli's eyes began to grow dim. He cannot see. The Lord called Samuel. He thought it was Eli but it was the Lord. The Lord said to Samuel that he was going to punish Eli's house because he did not tell his children off. Samuel grew and the Lord was with him. All of Israel knew that he was a prophet of the Lord.

There was a battle and the Philistines won the battle. The people asked why the Lord defeated us. Eli's sons were naughty and they died and the Philistines took the Ark of God.

When they said "the Ark of God" was taken, Eli fell over on his seat and his neck was broken. He died for he was heavy.

Submitted by Sister Cherelle Brown - Druids Heath Church

What's happening in Druids Heath Church?

God's will versus man's will

On Sunday 13th February 2011, Pastor F.E. Prince of Druids Heath Church preached a sermon entitled '**God's will versus man's will.**' The definition of the word "will" was given as a *desire or a wish to do something*. Pastor Prince used some Bible characters in her sermon and spoke first about the prophet Jonah's disobedience to God in Jonah chapters 1-2. Pastor Prince stated "Jonah's will was to go to Tarshish but God's will was for him to go to Nineveh. The mariners in the ship headed to Tarshish had enough experience to know that something had gone wrong when the mighty tempest ravaged the vessel. They did not know what it was initially until Jonah confessed. Jonah was disobedient and placed God's will aside to do his own thing."

Pastor Prince then spoke about the consequences of disobedience resulting in punishment from God for disregarding His divine will. Pastor Prince said "Strange things happen to people at times because they refuse to do God's will. Our God will not be insulted without issuing a punishment. If God chooses for you to put down a glass case then that is what you should do. The servant cannot tell the Master what he wants to do. Mankind can exercise self-will, even in church but God will not be insulted. Jonah was vomited out of the fish's belly and then he HAD to do God's will. If we are not sure what God's will is for our lives, we should ask Him."

Pastor Prince then went on to state "In the past, I wanted to become a nurse like Florence Nightingale but it meant that I would not be able to attend Sunday church services and I also had church positions. If you work on Sundays, I am not saying that you should pack up your job but I had to do God's will for my life. It resulted in me not pursue nursing as a career."

The final Bible character used in the sermon was Balaam, son of Beor. Balaam was sent by Balak, king of Moab to curse Israel in Numbers 22:6. Almighty God clearly charged him not to do this in verse 12. The Lord's anger was kindled against Balaam in verse 22 for disobedience. God allowed a strange thing to happen in verse 28. He opened Balaam's ass's mouth when he struck her and she responded by asking "*What have I done unto thee, that thou hast smitten me these three times?*" Balaam did the opposite of God's will but had to comply in the end with His commandment.

Pastor Prince concluded by asking the congregation "Are you in God's will? Are you willing to surrender your will to God's will? Submit yourself to God's will. If you walk away from God's will you will not get far because God's will must be done. Strange things will happen to people because of stubbornness.

The Church is God's house and Jesus purchased you. You are not your own because you are brought with a price. We will only get to heaven by doing God's will. Is there something strange happening in your life? Have you done God's will? May God help you to seek to find out what His will is for you."

Praise the Lord!

Sister Koreen Wilson - Reporter

The Church of God (England)

Annual National Convention

Friday 8th - Sunday 10th July, 2011

**Location:
The Church of God,
Long Lane,
Halesowen,
B62 9LL.**

Don't miss the blessings that God has prepared especially for you! See you there!

Special Note:

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