



The Chronicle

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Thy Faith Hath Made Thee Whole

Philip C. Bennett

The sacrifice of Christ provided not only for the salvation of men's souls, but also for the healing of our physical ailments. Divine healing is healing accomplished by the power of God and is available to all who believe, the same as salvation.

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."
(Hebrews 11:1)

"But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." (Hebrews 11:6)

Faith is the key that opens the door: *"And a certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years, And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse."* (St. Mark 5:25-26)

Having this problem meant that this woman could not fully participate in certain activities and mingle with those around her: *"And if a woman have an issue, and her issue in her flesh be blood, she shall be put apart seven days: and whosoever toucheth her shall be unclean until the even."*

And every thing that she lieth upon in her separation shall be unclean: every thing also that she sitteth upon shall be unclean. And whosoever toucheth her bed shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even. And whosoever toucheth any thing that she sat upon shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even. And if it be on her bed, or on any thing whereon she sitteth, when he toucheth it, he shall be unclean until the even. And if any man lie with her at all, and her flowers be upon him, he shall be unclean seven days; and all the bed whereon he lieth shall be unclean."

(Leviticus 15:19-24)

This Scripture speaks about a woman having a temporary issue of blood. It goes on to describe how anyone touching her or anything she came into contact with would likewise be unclean until the evening. Also, anyone laying with her would be unclean for seven days.

The scenario for a woman having this ailment continually is further addressed in the chapter:

"And if a woman have an issue of her blood many days out of the time of her separation,

or if it run beyond the time of her separation; all the days of the issue of her uncleanness shall be as the days of her separation: she shall be unclean. Every bed whereon she lieth all the days of her issue shall be unto her as the bed of her separation: and whatsoever she sitteth upon shall be unclean, as the uncleanness of her separation. And whosoever toucheth those things shall be unclean, and shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even. But if she be cleansed of her issue, then she shall number to herself seven days, and after that she shall be clean. And on the eighth day she shall take unto her two turtles, or two young pigeons, and bring them unto the priest, to the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. And the priest shall offer the one for a sin offering, and the other for a burnt offering; and the priest shall make an atonement for her before the LORD for the issue of her uncleanness.” (Leviticus 15:25-30)

The woman in St. Mark 5:25-26 had suffered with this same situation for twelve continuous years. Her life must have been a living nightmare, constantly longing to be normal like those around her. Possibly, she was married. She may have had children, but she could not come into contact with them. **Jesus was her last resort.**

If we are going to receive our healing, Jesus must be our last resort. If we have contingency measures we are planning to take if we are not healed, then we will not be healed. **IT MUST BE GOD OR GOD OR GOD!**

There were a lot of people around Jesus and many touched His clothes. Some even touched his body but nothing happened to them: *“When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment. For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole. And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague.*

And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said, Who touched my clothes? And his disciples said unto him, Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me? And he looked round about to see her that had done this thing. But the woman fearing and trembling, knowing what was done in her, came and fell down before him, and told him all the truth. And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.” (St. Mark 5:27-34)

This woman had tried all the known sources of help but was still the same. **SHE WAS NOW DESPERATE.** If we are going to receive anything from God, we must become desperate.

Healing is not just a conditioning of the mind but must also be a conditioning of the heart. *“...and I will cause him to draw near, and he shall approach unto me: for who is this that engaged his heart to approach unto me? saith the Lord.” (Jeremiah 30:21)*

To *engage* in this sense is to be interlocked, committed or connected. God has to draw us in order for us to approach unto Him but we must first engage our hearts. Her heart was interlocked with Jesus and so as He moved, He drew her along.

Some people are not healed because of sin in their life or un-confessed sins of the past. **TIME DOES NOT HEAL SIN.** Sins un-confessed are sins un-forgiven. Likewise, God is not going to heal us and give us a healthy body to continue sinning. We have to make Him some promises first: *“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” (James 5:16)* 📖

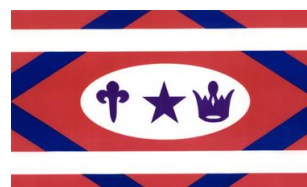


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From the Overseer's Desk

We thank God for all the events that have taken place since the last edition of *"The Chronicle."*

It was a pleasure to have Brother Dustin Hays, our General Victory Leaders Band Co-ordinator with us during our National Convention in July. During his visit, he also had a trip to London which including a boat ride on the River Thames. Brother Hays has testified to me that his visit to England was the highlight of his year.

This year, the setting for National Family Camp was in a new and picturesque location near Lichfield. Again, we had another visitor from the USA - Sister Megan Deitz who ministered to us during the Camp and was a great blessing. Thanks to Brother Jason and Sister Brenda Prince for helping to take care of her. Also to Brother Stuart and Sister Claudine Brown for taking her sightseeing in London. Our next National Family Camp will be earlier in the year than usual, in February 2014. Please do your best to support this.

The month of August saw our largest ever delegation of 30 individuals attending the General Assembly in the USA. Our delegates were very prominent throughout the Assembly, being involved in a number of the sessions.

Our commiserations go out to the family of the late Deacon Dudley Browne who sadly passed away on Friday 20th September 2013. Deacon Browne held a number of positions locally including that of Church of Prophecy Marker Association Co-ordinator and nationally as the Assembly Band Movement Co-ordinator.

Our prayers are with Sister Browne and the seven children, grandchildren, extended family and friends.

Deacon Browne has gone on to his eternal reward but will live on in our memories until we meet again.

Upcoming Events:

National VLB Concert - 7th December 2013
National Family Camp - 17th to 19th February 2014



ABM BOOST

Wilhelmina Brown - National Assembly Band Movement Co-ordinator

The new general Assembly Band Movement theme for the assembly year 2013-2014 is:

'Repair the Breaches'

(2 Kings 12:5)

Dear family of God, greetings in the holy name of Jesus.

It is my pleasure to let you know how much I love the Lord and doing the work He has given me to do. I am depending upon Him to lead and let me follow.

Our new general ABM theme for this year is **'Repair the Breaches'**. Saints, let us examine ourselves and try our best to get our souls right with God. He will not break His promise to us, so why should we break ours to Him?

Keep the faith my beloved brethren. When the storms of life around us beat, remember God said in Hebrews 13:5 He would **"...never leave thee, nor forsake thee."**

"And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in PRAYERS."

(Acts 2:42)





EVANGELISM BOOST

Jason Prince - National Evangelism Co-ordinator

The new general Evangelism theme for the assembly year 2013-2014 is:

'Blow wind, blow'

(Psalm 147:18)



IS EVANGELISM ON YOUR MIND?

Are you unsure about how to introduce Christ to a soul?

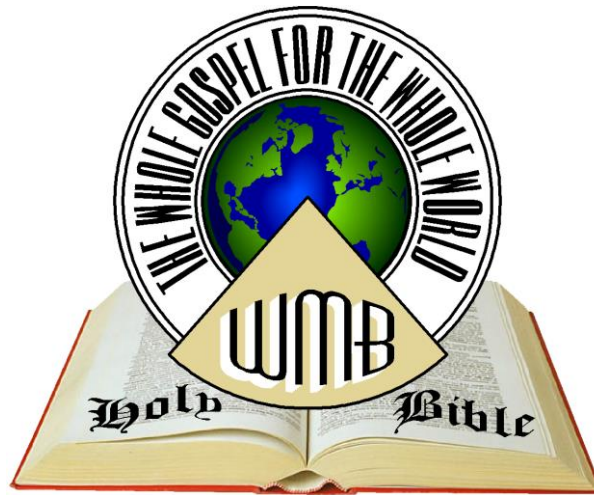
Are you committed to Christ and His Church?

Do you want to be part of a team?

We are organising a National Evangelism team who will evangelise the different areas of our local Churches in England. Please contact Brother Jason Prince if you are interested in being a part of the team.

All that wish to join the team should be ready to attend an Evangelism Workshop on Saturday 26th October 2013. This event is open for all to attend. The Workshop will be held at Long Lane Church, commencing at 10:45 am and finishing at approximately 4:00 pm. Please bring a packed lunch for the day.

Your prayers are desired for all that wish to join the National Evangelism team. Also, please pray for the Evangelism Workshop, as this will be a great time of learning and sharing.



WMB BOOST

Beverley Anderson - National Women's Missionary Band Co-ordinator

The new general Women's Missionary Band theme for the assembly year 2013-2014 is:

**'Faithfulness of the Women's Missionary Band;
Past, Present and Future'**

(Ecclesiastes 9:10)

As members of The Church of God, let us be faithful to the cause of Christ, as we embark on another year of service.

Let us be encouraged by the Apostle Paul - one of the most faithful missionaries of the grace dispensation. He was a great leader and encourager.

The Apostle Paul was an encouragement to missionaries:

He made three major missionary journeys that Luke covers between chapters 13 and 28 of Acts. (Missionaries read these books for encouragement).

The Apostle Paul became the first itinerant preacher (in other words, a travelling preacher).

He wrote more books of the New Testament than any other early Church leader, (although Luke's two books may contain as many words as Paul's).

Twelve of the twenty-eight books are his epistles, and they are the foundation of most traditional, mainstream Christian theological study. They address specific problems that congregations faced then and now.

Paul constantly encouraged the faithful saints - as an example, his encouragement to the saints at Colosse:

“For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulnes; Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins.”

(Colossians 1:9-14)

I am using the same encouragement to encourage us to remain faithful as the Apostle Paul did from Colossians 1:10: *“That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God.”*

Also, in Ephesians 1:15-18, the Apostle Paul states: *“Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints, Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints.”*

WMB's in England, let us continue in the tradition of the **“Faithfulness of the Women Missionary Band”** as we work for the Lord another year.

National Sunday School Challenge

On Saturday 8th June 2013 we gathered with eager anticipation, dressed in black and pink for our yearly National Sunday School Challenge. We commenced with a devotional service and prayer.

Each local church was represented by the elite scholars chosen by their various Sunday School Superintendents.

The first round required the contestants to be vigilant as they had to watch various clips and answer questions about what they saw.

Round two was based on multiple choice questions.

Round three tested the contestant's hand/eye co-ordination. They had to toss some screwed up paper into a waste basket.

In round four, the contestants had to mime or describe words without saying the actual word in one minute.

In round five, one contestant from each team was given 30 seconds to remember a number of images that were shown on a screen.

Finally, round six was based on general knowledge questions over one minute. A point was deducted if a wrong answer was given.

The event was eagerly contested throughout the evening, but the winners were only disclosed during the Sunday School programme at our National Convention in July. After holding the trophy for two years, the church in Long Lane was toppled by the church in Druids Heath.

Brother Ray Prince who organised the event, together with his assistants are to be commended for the excellent way the event was hosted and co-ordinated.

Pastor Philip Bennett
Reporter

England's National Convention

12-14 July 2013

What a beautiful spirit was prevalent at this year's 59th Annual National Convention. The theme was: "*But ye are come unto Mount Zion*" (Hebrews 12:22).

God's people came together Friday evening to welcome God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost. Another special guest among us was General Headquarter's Representative and General Victory Leaders Band Co-ordinator, Brother Dustin Hays.

A beautiful spirit of worship set the stage for that evening's message entitled: "*Am I diluted*" by Brother Jason Prince. The congregation was asked to imagine coming up to God's holy mountain as Moses did. The song leaders were asked to sing "*Holy Ground*" as some worshipped, some cried and others shouted. Surely, God's holy presence was in Mount Zion!

Saturday commenced with more worship, auxiliary boosts and powerful messages. Brother Dustin Hays preached two messages. In his first message he called the Church to come up to "*The Mountain of Worship*". Prior to the healing line, he reminded us to ask God assertively when it comes to divine healing and to believe in it as we believe in salvation.

During the Women's Missionary Band march, the sisters marched victoriously and with gladness on their faces for the glory of God. Pastor Beverley Anderson reminded us to stay busy for the Lord through the Women's Missionary Band.

Sister Claudine Brown, National Victory Leaders Band Co-ordinator asked the youth "*What is your identity?*" She reminded us that the Church has certain characteristics which we are responsible to maintain as members.

Sunday morning initiated with a powerful prayer by Sister Elouise Whitter whilst some knelt and others were prostrate before Almighty God.

The Sunday School programme, led by Brother Ray Prince, contained special singing, recitations and reviews. Each respective church came forward to report what was happening in their local Sunday schools.

National Overseer, Pastor Philip Bennett then proceeded to deliver his annual address which was based on the Convention theme and God's government, theocracy. He urged us to remain humble and follow God's system of order in The Church of God.

This year's National Convention concluded with the appointments for this upcoming Convention year. There was also the addition of three new members to the Body of Christ: Sister Beverley Wilson and Sister Chika Imhuff from London Church as well as Brother James Mwila from Long Lane Church.

To God be the glory for the great things He has done and will continue to do within His Church! Are you excited to see what God has in store for YOU?

Sister Brenda Prince - National Reporter

What's happening in Long Lane Church?

On 5th September 1953 a very special lady was born...

Can you guess who she is yet? It is none other than our darling Sister Jennifer Thompson! Yes!! The local church at Long Lane met together for breakfast before service on Sunday 8th September to celebrate Sister Jenni's milestone 60th birthday! You're probably all thinking – what face cream does she use? It must be Palmers? Nothing but the grace of God my dear brethren. It beautifies the meek and gives an unmistakeable glow that would outdo any Oil of Olay!

We fellowshiped together before Sunday School indulging in fried dumplings, festival, callaloo, salt fish fritters, bread, ackee and salt fish and Sister Brown's extra special 'charklit' tea. Sister Violet did a sterling job at cooking the breakfast - with a hand from Sister Whitter. We all had to be careful not to start bucking in service! We had a wonderful time and thank God for the building He has blessed us with to enable such gatherings.

To Sister Jenni's surprise, despite it being First Sunday (and usually Pastor's Appreciation Day), the service was an appreciation service for her and her hard work for Christ and His Church. Speeches were made to thank her for all she had done, songs were sung and words of encouragement given. Sister Jenni shed a tear (of course!) and testified of God's love towards her. A marvellous day was had by all and we thank God for keeping Sister Jenni for these 60 years. May God continue to bless you with many more birthdays Sis!

Sister Claudine Brown - Reporter

On Sunday 22nd September 2013, a baby dedication was held at Long Lane Church. The church was filled to full capacity and Sister Claudine Brown preached a wonderful message. The congregation sang "*I command my hands, feet and body to praise the Lord*".

St. Mark 10:13-16 were the Scriptures used for the dedication service. Many people commented on the service. Some even promised to attend bringing others with them, and we hope they will keep their word.

To God be the glory.

Sister Wilhelmina Brown - Reporter

Poetry Corner



Looking at God's creation
All things were fashioned by His own hands
The birds and the bees, water and dry land
The sea with her waves and golden sand.

He made the human race for His own pleasure
That man should serve Him without measure
Sin crept in and then came the Fall
Christ came along and rescued us all.

Now lift up your voice, sing praises to God
Bow before Him and bless His name
For our Creator will never change
Yesterday, today and forever
Remember, He is the same.

By Sister Wilhelmina Brown - Long Lane Church

Special Note:

The Chronicle is an official publication of The Church of God (England) with Philip C. Bennett National Overseer and Editor. Articles intended for publication in the next issue of *The Chronicle* should be received **before 30th November 2013**. These submissions will be for the Jan-Mar 2014 issue. Please send to: Karen Richards, 12 Cherhill Covert, Druids Heath, Birmingham, B14 5YB. Email: kazgirl_uk@yahoo.com

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