



"The entrance of Thy words giveth light..." (Ps 119:130a)

The Lighthouse BULLETIN

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Being a Blessing in 2018

1 Pet 3:8-9; 2 Pet 1:3

"...Be ye all... a blessing... according as... He hath called us to glory and virtue."

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WHAT SHOULD BE EVERYONE'S DESIRE: BEING EQUIPPED TO BE A BLESING

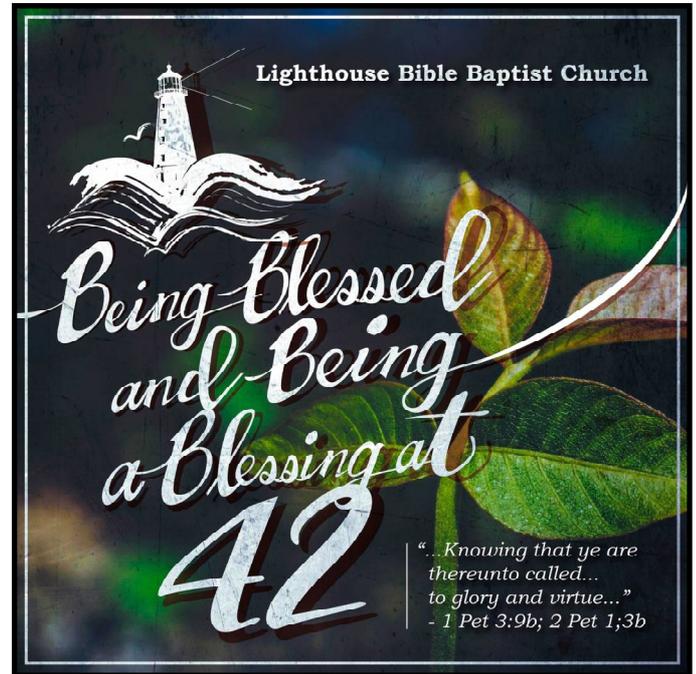
"...I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry...I obtained mercy...and the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus" (1 Tim 1:12-14).

The Apostle Paul shows us in this text how God, in His mercy and grace places each and everyone in the Ekklesia into the ministry. As how the Lord placed Paul to be of use before God in the ministry, the same applies to each one of us in the work of the Lord, though admittedly, we can never be like the Apostle Paul.

Paul was a blessing wherever he went. He wrote in Gal 1:23-24, "he which persecuted us in times past now preacheth the faith which once he destroyed. And they glorified God in me." He could never have been, except by the mercy and grace of God!

Paul had a sinful past. He says in Gal 1:13-15, "ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it..." But again, the mercy and grace of God were more abundant than all his past as to make him of great use and be a great blessing!

Needless to say, none of us in Lighthouse BBC can say that God cannot use us to be a blessing! His equipping is extended to all because of the riches of His mercy and grace. Would that because of this, we may desire and even pray, Lord, make me a blessing!



One of our Pastor's Men, Brother Rey Calingasan relates his testimony of salvation as a young student and how God used even the events during his boyhood to equip him.

Second Quarter Focus :

Being Equipped to be a Blessing

"...the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man ...that ye may excel to the edifying of the church..." (1 Cor 12:7; 14:12).

"Unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen" (Eph. 3:21)

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON
Lesson No. 2Thes070217-03

TITLE : THE COMING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
TEXT : 2 THESS 2:1, "NOW WE BESEECH YOU, BRETHREN, BY THE COMING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND BY OUR GATHERING TOGETHER UNTO HIM."

INTRODUCTION

As the Apostle Paul admonishes the church in Thessalonica on the basis of the "coming of our Lord Jesus Christ," we also treat this subject of His 2nd coming as vitally important.

A) The importance of the Second Coming of Christ

Prominence is actually given to the doctrine of the Second Coming of Christ in the whole New Testament. "Where the first coming of Christ is mentioned once, His second coming is mentioned 8 times. Fifty times or more in the New Testament, we are exhorted to be ready for the realization of the blessed hope. Entire chapters such as Matt 24-25, Luke 21 and Mark 13 are devoted to the subject, as are whole books such as 1 and 2 Thes and Revelation. Each chapter of 1 Thes closes with a reference to the second coming. In the 216 chapters of the NT, it is said that there are 318 references to the subject." (Bancroft).

B) The vital relationship of the Second Coming of Christ with other doctrines.

The Second Coming of Christ is bound up with the following subjects:

- 1) The resurrection (1 Cor 15:23. Cf Jo 5:28-29

- with 1 Thes 4:16-18);
- 2) The promise of the transformation of the living (1 Cor 15:51,52);
- 3) The sonship with God and likeness to Christ (1 John 3:1,2);
- 4) The promise of rewards (2 Tim 4:7,8; Rev 22:12; 1 Pet 5:4);
- 5) The subject of the atonement (cf Heb 9:14-28 with Lu 1:8-10);
- 6) The subject of future judgment (2 Tim 4:1);
- 7) The subject of sanctification (1 Thes 3:12,13; 5:23).

C) The practical value of the Second Coming of Christ

The truth of the Second Coming of Christ is eminently practical. It is bound up with every practical exhortation to Christian obligation, service, attainment, including exhortations to

- 1) Assembling together being an Ekklesia (Heb 10:25);
- 2) Observing the Lord's Supper (1 Cor 11:26);
- 3) Loving one another (1 Thes 3:12,13);
- 4) Having patience (James 5:7,8);
- 5) Having holy lives (1 John 3:3; Titus 2:11-13; 1 Thes 5:23);
- 6) Being watchful (Mark 13:34-37);
- 7) Being active (Rom 13:11,12);
- 8) Not judging one another (1 Cor 4:4,5);
- 9) Abiding in Him (1 John 2:28);
- 10) Having fidelity as pastors and leaders (2 Tim 4:1,2; 1 Pet 5:2-4);
- 11) Having comfort and consolation for those who mourn their Christian dead (1 Thes 4:16-18);
- 12) Having zeal for lost (2 Cor 4:3-5; cf 1 Thes 2:19,20 with 1 Thes 1:9,10).

D) The fact of the Second Coming of Christ

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From Genesis to Revelation, the whole Bible is filled with the teaching of the Second Coming of Christ. It is set forth not only in type, figure, symbol, parable and illustration, but also by direct statement.

The following passages establish this fact beyond question: John 14:3; Acts 3:19-21; Phil 3:20-21; 1 Thes 4:16, 17; Heb 9:28.

E) The character of the Second Coming

- 1) It will be personal.
- 2) It will be visible.
- 3) It will be bodily.

- to be continued -



Clockwise from top left, some scenes from the play presented by the Lighthouse District 3 last Sunday about the life of "Boy Rey" who is none other than one of our Pastor's Men, Brother Rey Calingasan. The testimony showed how God can use even difficult things in life to equip the believer to be a blessing.

"Unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen" (Eph. 3:21)