



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

The Lighthouse BULLETIN

A Weekly Publication of the
LIGHTHOUSE BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH
ROTC Hunters St., Tatalon, Quezon City, Philippines 1113
PO Box SM264, Manila.
Website : <http://www.lighthousebbc.org> (with on-line video streaming)
E-mail : info@lighthousebbc.org

**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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Reuben M. Abante, DD - Senior Pastor

July 8, 2018

LIGHTHOUSE BBC OFFERS THANKSGIVING THROUGH FIRSTFRUITS 10 SUNDAYS FROM TODAY

"Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase..." (Prov 3:9).

"And thou shalt rejoice in every good thing which the Lord thy God hath given unto thee..." (Deut 26:11).

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits" (Ps 103:2).

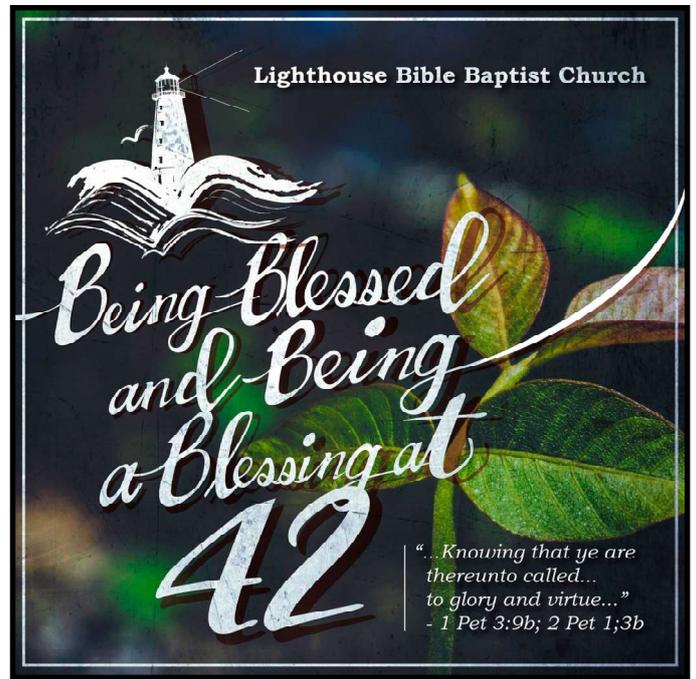
"What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me? ...I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of all his people" (Ps 116:12:14).

The Ekklesia of the Lord Jesus Christ is not simply tasked to bring the Gospel out but to be a people whose lives are full of thanksgiving. Paul tells the Thessalonian church in 1 Thess 5:18 that it is the will of God in Christ Jesus for them to give thanks in every thing.

The Lord taught the nation of Israel to give their Firstfruits offerings every year. And Firstfruits is actually designed to serve as their thanksgiving offering for the whole year of God's blessings.

Given these examples, I enjoin all our people to prepare for our Firstfruits and be ready to give them on Sept 16. We are continuously being blessed. It is time we bless the Lord and His work through our thanksgiving. And remember, we are doing this as a church.

- PRA



The Lighthouse District 3 illustrates through their presentation the preaching of Pastor Reuben on how we are blessed today through the faith of Abraham.

Third Quarter Focus :

Being Proved to be a Blessing

"That the trial of your faith...though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory...of Jesus Christ..." (1 Pet 1:7).

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

TITLE : PRACTICAL EXHORTATION TO THE
THESSALONIAN CHURCH
TEXT : 2 THES 3

INTRODUCTION

In our study of the Chapter 1 of this book, we learned that the Apostle Paul mainly wrote the Epistle to encourage the Thessalonian believers concerning the "persecutions and tribulations that ye endure" (1:4) and how they "may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God for which ye suffer."

Chapter 2 of this Epistle deals with the error apparently introduced by some to the Thessalonian believers that the day of the Lord had come because of the kind of persecution and tribulations they were going through as cited in vs 2-3 where Paul says, "...be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition..."

A) Facts about "the day of the Lord" (cont'd)...

4) The day of the Lord and the restrainer (vs 6-7).

2 Thess 2:7, "For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way."

The Thessalonians should have known what was restraining the man of sin. This dread

event must await the rapture. The influence of true Christians in the world, both in winning others to Christ and in serving as the "salt" and "light" of the world (Mt 5:13-14), is preventing the inevitable, quick decay of the world into the darkness and corruption. These Christians are indwelt and guided by God's Holy Spirit, and it is the presence of the Holy Spirit Himself that is preventing the triumphant revelation of the man of sin.

The Holy Spirit, through God's people, "letteth" (that is, delays or hinders) the revelation of the son of perdition. In effect, He will be "taken out of the way" when all those He indwells and guides are caught up to meet the Lord.

This is also part of what John says in 1 John 4:4, "...greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world."

5) The day of the Lord and the unsaved (vs 10,11,12).

2 Thess 2:11-12, "And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they shall believe a lie: that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

We take note that it is God Who sends these strong delusion. God's divine sovereignty is seen even in the activities of unsaved men and apostate angels (see Ex 4:21; Gen 50:20; John 11:20, among others).

Those who have refused the truth will be given a strong delusion by God Himself when the man of sin is revealed. They will believe his lie, receive him as the god of this age, then perish with him.

Obviously, since the Restrainer is "taken out of the way", there is no stopping what these

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people will believe. It is unlikely that a person who rejects Christ in this day of grace will turn to Him during that awful period of tribulation. These verses definitely teach that God will send strong delusion to those who do not believe after the saints have been taken away. God will judge their hearts, and if they deliberately turn away from the truth, He will permit them to believe a lie. They will honor the man of sin as their god and as their king. The result will be, "that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

- to be continued -



Above picture, Japh and Carol Dominguez give their testimony through remote video as part of Lighthouse District 3's presentation last Sunday evening. Lower photo, Pastor Reuben gives the challenge during the Kick-Off Rally of the Metro Manila Celebration with Will Graham (MMCWG) last June 30 at the Greenhills Christian Fellowship.

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

