



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

The Lighthouse BULLETIN

A Weekly Publication of the
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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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LIGHTHOUSE BBC CELEBRATES 42ND ANNIVERSARY WITH HEARTFELT SACRIFICE OF THANKSGIVING

"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving" (Col 2:6-7).

"By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased" (Heb 13:15-16).

"And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight" (1 John 3:22).

We praise and thank God for the wonderful working of His Grace in and through us that we can be an Ekklesia of the Lord Jesus Christ just as how the Word of God describes us to be. And one of the descriptions was seen in how we came together in celebration of our 42nd anniversary last Sunday!

It was indeed a thrilling sight to see our facility filled with God's people, not simply bearing happy faces ready to raise voices in praise and thanksgiving to our God, but more significantly, ready with our respective sacrificial thanksgiving offerings to Him!

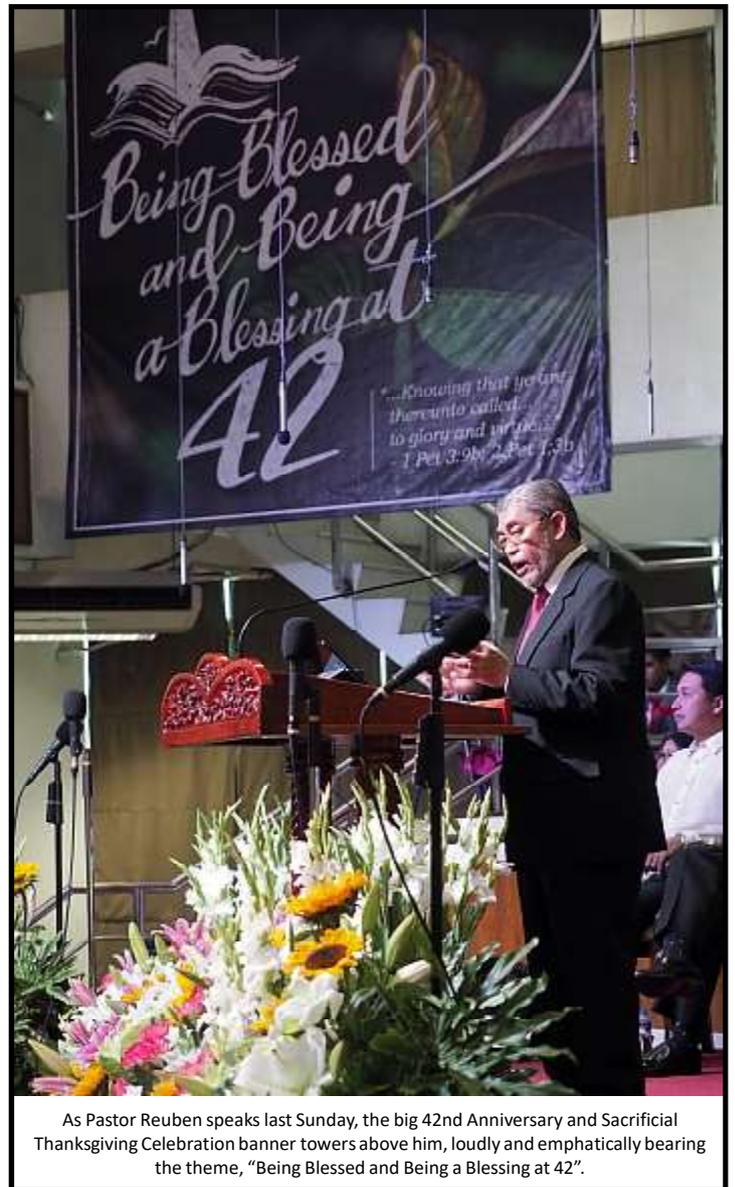
As a your pastor, it was not simply the sight, but the thought that what we were demonstrating, were actual passages from the New Testament that describe the Ekklesia of the Lord Jesus Christ!

It was thrilling to see how we were coming together as God's people, having received Christ Jesus as Lord, walk in Him; who, by the teaching of His Word have been rooted and built-up in Him, and as a result, manifest an "abounding" in the area of thanksgiving to God!

It was thrilling to see that in our coming together, we offer sacrifices of praise to God through the beautiful rendition of songs, presentations and testimonies of His wonderful works in our midst! And these were not enough! We did not forget to willingly bring benefit to the whole ministry by the giving of our sacrificial offerings to God!

All these are passages practically seen in us as we celebrated our 42nd Anniversary. And what more can I say as your Pastor? It is this: that "Because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight, whatsoever we ask, we receive of Him!"

All praise and glory to our God through our Lord Jesus Christ! - PRA



As Pastor Reuben speaks last Sunday, the big 42nd Anniversary and Sacrificial Thanksgiving Celebration banner towers above him, loudly and emphatically bearing the theme, "Being Blessed and Being a Blessing at 42".

First Quarter Focus :

Being Blessed to be a Blessing

Eph 1:3, "Blessed be God...Who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ."

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON
Special Sunday School Lesson

TITLE : THE SACRIFICIAL THANKSGIVING OFFERING
TEXT : 1 PETER 2:5, "YE ALSO, AS LIVELY STONES, ARE BUILT UP A SPIRITUAL HOUSE, AN HOLY PRIESTHOOD, TO OFFER UP SPIRITUAL SACRIFICES, ACCEPTABLE TO GOD BY JESUS CHRIST."

INTRODUCTION

Let us appreciate this lesson.

1) The offering up of spiritual sacrifices comes as a basic purpose of the Ekklesia.

While we believe that the Lord Jesus has offered the final sacrifice for our atonement, and because of this, we do not offer animal sacrifices as did the nation of Israel in the Old Testament, we, as an Ekklesia, continue to offer up spiritual sacrifices to please Him. And faith, which pleases God, cannot be faith without obedience to the Word, which obedience, in itself, is sacrifice.

Because of this truth, everyone in the Ekklesia should not be indifferent to the offering up of various spiritual sacrifices.

2) The Lord Jesus Christ defined that our worship comes "in spirit and in truth."

John 4:23-24, "...true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

Many do not understand the proper application of the term used by the Lord in this

passage, that of worshipping God "in spirit and in truth."

The word "spirit" when applied as a "quality" to something that is performed, always has relationship with the word "understanding." Paul says in 1 Cor 14:15, "What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also."

Then, of course, the word "truth" is related to none other than the Word of Truth. Christ says, John 17:17, Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth."

Therefore, what the Lord Jesus Christ meant in describing worship as being performed "in spirit and in truth," simply means that it is done according to how the Spirit, by the Word of God, makes us to understand how we should come to God and please Him. And He further says, "the Father seeketh such to worship Him."

3) Israel, as God's people and the writings of David give us many examples of how we should come to God in sacrifice of thanksgiving.

Deut 12:11, "Then there shall be a place which the Lord your God shall choose to cause his name to dwell there; thither shall ye bring all that I command you; your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, your tithes, and the heave offering of your hand, and all your choice vows which ye vow unto the Lord:"

Ps 50:14, "Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High."

Ps 107:22, "And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing."

Ps 116:12-15, 17, "What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me? I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the

name of the Lord. I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of all his people...I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the Lord."

Lev 22:29, "And when ye will offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving unto the Lord, offer it at your own will."

The sacrifice of thanksgiving, therefore, is an offering, sacrificially given in thanksgiving to God.

4) The faith of God in us makes us to be willing to sacrifice even in the area of thanksgiving

The psalmist David clearly indicates to us that there is such a thing as a sacrificial thanksgiving. Ps 107:21-22 says, "Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing."

Sacrifice is a foundational element of faith. Faith cannot be faith without sacrifice.

Christ, being the author and finisher of our faith offered His ownself as the supreme sacrifice. And if this faith is in us, we must also, because of His many mercies, be ready to offer up ourselves as living sacrifices (Rom 12:1,2).

To be a living sacrifice means to be filled with sacrifices in our lives, and in this sense, we "offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." Among these spiritual sacrifices is our thanksgiving.

Col 2:7 is very clear in saying that if we are to be rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, we MUST abound in thanksgiving!

"Rooted and built up in him, and established in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving."



The 42nd Anniversary and Sacrificial Thanksgiving Celebration last Sunday culminated with taking of the Lighthouse Church Family picture. To view the rest of the pictures, everyone is invited to visit the Lighthouse Family FB Page where Pastor Reuben posted more than 200 pictures covering the whole day event. All glory and praise to our God!

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