



"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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LIGHTHOUSE BBC MOVES FORWARD TO BEING EQUIPPED TO BE A BLESSING

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

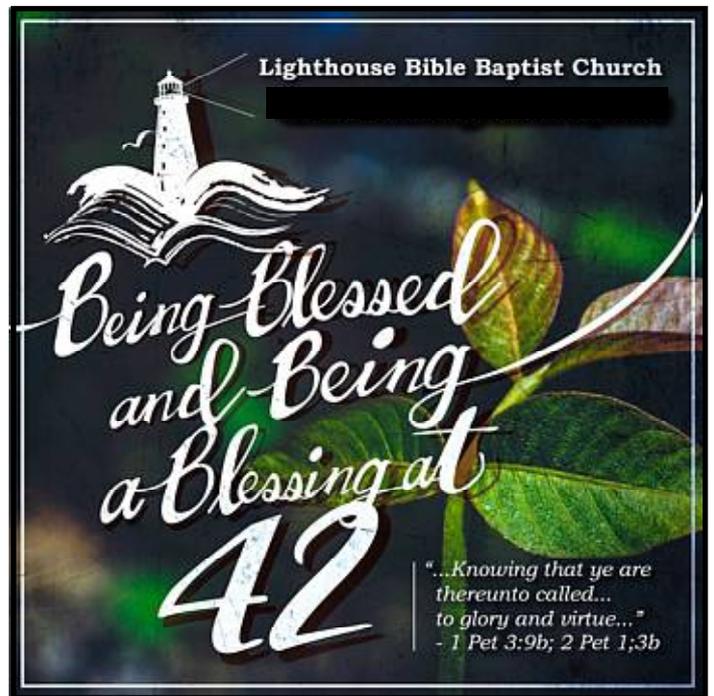
Today, we begin our 2nd Quarter Focus, "Being Equipped to be a Blessing." This focus picks up from our realization last quarter that God has so bountifully and abundantly blessed us with all grace, distributing gifts to each one, so we may all be a blessing!

It is now time for everyone in Lighthouse BBC to learn to use the manifold Grace of God in the most effective way for the building up of the whole church body. 1 Peter 4:10-11 says, "As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God...if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ..."

The Apostle Paul, in our text above, says, "...that ye may excel to the edifying of the church..." (1 Cor 14:12). The use of the word "excel" denotes something that is done exemplary or in a superior way. It is in this light that this focus is before us today.

As we steward the gifts which God gives to us, let us recognize that we need not just be faithful but be excellent in the use of such gifts. We need to be excellent or equipped effectively in the use of God's gifts!

We all can be a blessing! We all have the grace of God in us, complete and abounding! Let us then learn how to make good use of these gifts!



With hands raised, the adults of Lighthouse BBC, appear very determined into being a blessing in their presentation last Sunday night. Praise God for the hearts of our adults!

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)

THE SUFFERING, DEATH, BURIAL AND RESURRECTION OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

Texts :

1 Cor 15:3-4, "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures."

Matt 12:40, "For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."

This lesson firstly aims to put into proper perspective the generally accepted sequence of occurrences that cover the sufferings, death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Many Bible teachers, while placing the resurrection time of the Lord on Sunday, set the day of His crucifixion, death and burial on Friday.

Secondly, this lesson should bring the believer into the proper perspective of the value of the resurrection.

The Apostle Paul (in the above text) was very explicit in saying that the Lord Jesus Christ died, was buried and rose again "the third day according to the Scriptures." We therefore have to accept this as the very basis of all teachings regarding the subject.

The Lord Jesus Christ, especially, was very explicit in teaching that His burial will last for three days and three nights (72 hours in all). Matt 12:40 says, "**For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.**"

The 3 days and 3 nights refer to the length of the entombment of the Lord and these figures are literal days and nights as Jonah, the fish and the story actually happened. Our basis of time in this respect is not the traditional reckoning of time of the Jews, but the declaration of the Lord of specific 3 days and 3 nights, the Scriptures themselves! The three days and three nights must cover a total of 72 hours (24hrs multiplied by 3).

Counting backwards (72 hours) from the resurrection time of the dawn of the first day of the week (Sunday), one can easily place the entombment of the Lord Jesus Christ around the early morning hours of Thursday. Joseph of Arimathea went to Pilate to beg for the body of the Lord at 6PM (at even) of Wednesday. Then he had to go back to Calvary and bring the body down and make the necessary preparation of wrapping and putting on spices (see **5 and **6) before burying in the tomb.

The rest of the occurrence, in the light of this reckoning based on Matt. 12:40, are easily understood. The Lord ate His last Passover Feast with the disciples on Tuesday night (*1). Judas went out after that feast and thereafter, the Lord instituted the Lord's Supper. Then they went to Gethsemane that same night where after praying, the Lord was betrayed by Judas, arrested and brought before the high priest.

When morning came, He was brought before Pilate, sentenced to death and brought with His cross to Calvary. The Lord therefore, only had about 2 hours of trial. At 9AM of Wednesday, the Lord was crucified (Mk 15:25) at Calvary. From 12 noon to 3PM there was darkness.

At about 3PM, Christ gave up the Ghost. His body remained on the cross until the time that Joseph of Arimathea came to Pilate at even and begged for His body. He then went back to Calvary, brought the body down, and made all the preparations before laying the same in the tomb.

The world may distort the truth about the work of Christ but the believer can still know the facts behind.

- Pastor Reuben Abante

