



"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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OUR CALLING AS GOD'S PEOPLE INCLUDES THAT OF BEING A BLESSING

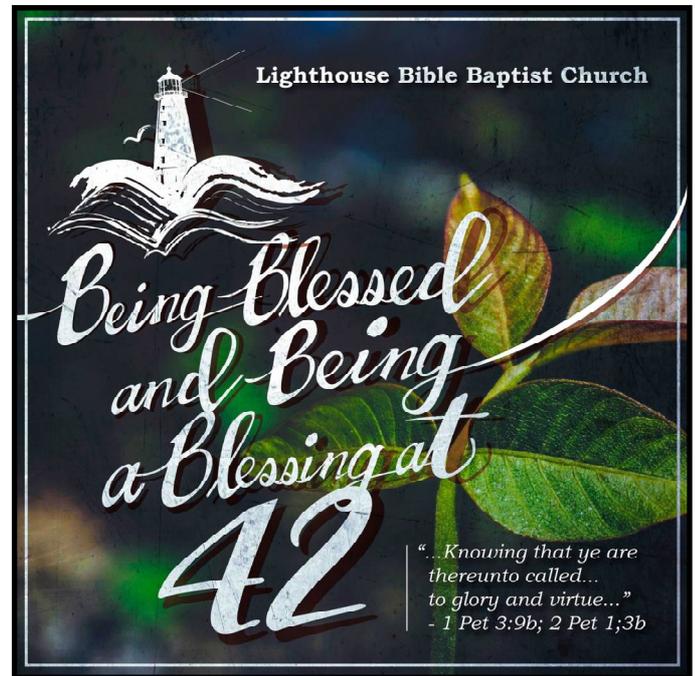
"...his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature..." (2 Pet 1:3-4).

God's nature is to be gracious and virtuous to His people; and this is the very reason why He blesses His children. By blessing His people, He provides them with all things necessary so they may show through their lives that indeed, they possess His virtuous nature.

The Apostle Peter clearly says in our text, that God "hath called us to glory and virtue" and that He has given us, His people, His exceeding great and precious promises (His Word). In turn, as we get to know Him more, we may also live our lives showing that we are indeed "partakers of the divine nature..."

Our "calling to glory and virtue" goes higher than just being called to serve. Such calling makes to conduct our service virtuously and God-glorifying. This makes us, as His people, channels of blessing!

May this truth really equip each and every member of LighthouseBBC to really being a blessing. We may be very skillful in doing things, but unless we show that we do things virtuously according to His Word, we cannot actually be a blessing! Be equipped to be a blessing, the Biblical way!



The Lighthouse District 2 members presented an excellent short play on how transformation happens in the life of a true believer.

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)

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 -



Top photos, left, a scene from LD2's excellent presentation about the transformation of lives; right, the Lighthouse Psalters give their number. Lower photos, left, the ALERT team pose with BBC Nasugbu members after their Medical Dental Mission yesterday; and, pastors and wives pose during Lighthouse BBC Goa's 5th Anniversary Celebration.

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