

# The Lighthouse BULLETIN

A Weekly Publication of the

### LIGHTHOUSE BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

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Being Faithful

and True in 2022

"These sayings are faithful and true... blessed is he that keepeth..."

VOL. XLIV - No. 46

Reuben M. Abante, DD - Senior Pastor

April 10, 2022

## PASTOR REUBEN VISITS LIGHTHOUSE CHURCHES IN BICOL REGION

"... I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established.."

"That I may come unto you with joy by the will of God, and may with you be refreshed" (Rom 1:11; 15:32).

"...God is my record, how greatly I long after you all in the bowels of Jesus Christ.

And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; that ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ; being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God" (Phil 1:8-11).

he Apostle Paul is a great example of how someone who the Lord had tasked with greater responsibility in the work of the Lord, should reach out to other works for the establishment of all. The references quoted above describe this virtue in the great apostle.

After more than two years, Pastor Reuben now visits Lighthouse related churches beginning with

the very hometowns of Tatay and Nanay Abante in the Partido area and Iriga. He will also have the opportunity to meet with the rest of the Lighthouse pastors and give lectures regarding Ekklesiology. PM and Mrs Tony Hernandez, Japs Dominguez accompany pastor and his wife. Pastor will also have the opportunity to meet with relatives in Iriga and Lagonoy together with his older brother, Dr Benny Abante and his wife, Marie Paz. The three brothers planned to visit their relatives together, but Pastor Hernes had to leave earlier because of conflicts in schedule.

Lighthouse pastors and churches in Bicol have been diligent in their efforts to join the Lighthouse main in our on-line coming together since the start of the pandemic. But they have faced many challenges and limitations in internet. They have also been raising their ministry reach even organizing their own Lighthouse WATCH teams and doing Project Nehemiah in their respective areas. And they have longed to be encouraged and ministered to by Pastor Reuben, especially during this time when the Covid19 cases have gone down significantly.

Do pray for Pastor Reuben and those with him as they visit churches in Camarines Sur and Albay, refreshing both brethren and themselves.



Pastor Reuben leads the Prayer of Dedication during the Groundbreaking Ceremony of GFM's OFW Center in Alabang Global City last Thursday, April 7. The ceremony was led by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, Senator Lawrence Bong Go, Dept of Migrant Workers Secretary Mamao with Global Filipino Movement Board Chair Bp Ef Tendero, President Dr Allen Roxas, Member Bp Manny Carlos. Pastor Reuben is GFM Board Secretary. Lighthouse BBC's GCTV covered the whole event as the offical media.

LIGHTHOUSE 2<sup>nd</sup> QUARTER FOCUS Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful. **KJV** 

Second Quarter Focus:
"Being Faithful As Stewards"

"Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful." (1 Cor. 4:2)

### ENRICHMENT & DEVELOPMENT CLASS LESSON

Special Lesson for Elections 2022

TITLE: BIBLICAL GUIDELINES IN CHOOSING CANDIDATES

TEXT: 2 Sam 23:3, "...He that ruleth over men must be just,

ruling in the fear of God."

#### INTRODUCTION

Our best guide in life is the Word of Truth. What it teaches applies to every aspect of our lives, personal, family, business, community, even as we take the responsibility to select the candidates for the current national and local elections next month.

The wise man Solomon says in Ps 127:1, "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain."

What this passage tells us is, even as a nation, we cannot put God outside of governance. He remains the Builder of our Nation-Home. His Word is our Blue-Print.

May this series of lessons equip us as a people of God who submit ourselves to the ordinance of man.

1) Choose people who are just, upright and in right standing with God and man. One who is God-fearing, obedient and generally well-spoken of by our people.

2 Sam 23:3, ".....He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God."  $\,$  KJV  $\,$ 

Let us look for candidates who not only stand upright but who understand what the fear of God is.

The fear of God is exemplified in having the mind and heart to be consistent with Who God is and what He requires. Since God is true, the candidate should not be dishonest. Since God is righteous, the candidate should not be corrupt. Since God is just, the candidate should not be unjust. In other words, the candidate should exhibit qualities that are consistent with Who and What God is.

2) Choose people who have proven themselves competent and able in the area of governance or public service.

Ex 18:21, "Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men..."  $\mbox{KJV}$ 

It is a must that our government leaders have proven track records of being competent and able in doing their jobs. They must not simply depend on people around them. They must have a clear knowledge of their duties and responsibilities and be able to back up their titles and positions with the ability to perform and deliver.

3) Choose people who are truthful, who hate bribery and who are not greedy of power, gain and wealth.

Ex 18:21, "Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness..."

Character should be a strong trait of all who are in government. They should be people who cannot be bought, who are truthful in all endeavors. They should not be known as people who are greedy of gain, wealth or power.

4) Choose people who listen, understand; who are experienced and respected by our people.

Deut 1:13, "Take you wise men, and understanding, and known among your tribes, and I will make them rulers over you."

Deut 1:13, "Choose wise, understanding, experienced, and respected men according to your tribes, and I will make them heads over you."

Let us choose candidates who will listen to reason, advise and counsel. Not one who is proud and stubborn.

Prov 1:5, "A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels. "KJV

5) Choose people who recognize that they themselves are not above authorities. Who recognize that they are under God, the authority of His Word and, in respect to our country, under the authority of the Constitution.

Rom 13:1, "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God." KJV

Rom 13:1, "LET EVERY person be loyally subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God [by His permission, His sanction], and those that exist do so by God's appointment." AMP

Let us be careful to see if the candidates of our choice willingly recognize that they themselves are under certain authority. The authorities may be God, His Word and in respect to our country, our Constitution itself. Let us be careful to see that the President of choice will not put himself above the Constitution. Let us be careful to note that the coming administration should not be guilty of unconstitutional acts.

6) Choose people who are not known to be rebellious especially against a duly constituted authority.

Rom 13:2, "Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation." KJV

Rom 13:2, "Therefore he who resists and sets himself up against the authorities resists what God has appointed and arranged [in divine order]. And those who resist will bring down judgment upon themselves [receiving the penalty due them]. AMP

- to be continued -



Members of the Board of the Global Filipino Movement (GFM) led by its officers, Bp Ef Tendero, Dr Allen Roxas and Pastor Reuben pose for picture with President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, Senator Christopher Lawrence Bong Go and Dept of Migrant Workers Secretary Mamao during the groundbreaking ceremony of the OFW Center last Thursday, Apr 7. The OFW Center will be built by GFM to serve as a One-Stop-Shop Ministry Service facility for the OFW in partnership with government agencies, churches and NGOs.