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Money Matters

Good Stewardship

“By much slothfulness the building decayeth; and through idleness of the hands the house dropeth through. A feast is made for laughter, and wine maketh merry: but money answereth all things.” (Eccl.10:18-19)

A good steward in times like these doesn't spend all that he has, but he saves for those who have not.

Support for the ministries and articles for this Newsletter can be mailed to:

The Covenant Newsletter
P.O. Box 8212
Los Angeles, CA 90008
(USA)

THE HOLY CONVOCATION
2009 THEME:
“AGENTS OF CHANGE”
JOHN 8:42

THE INSTITUTIONAL HOUR IS THE TEACHING ARM OF 3Cs
AN OPEN INVITATION IS EXTENDED TO ALL TEACHERS

Operations and Practices
The Uniqueness of 3Cs

- We are a multi-cultural jurisdictional board
We are a non-denominational, multi-cultural body of believers
We are international in scope
We are geared to build the body of Christ
We are conceived to enhance, through prayer, supplication and fellowship, rather than change by mandate
We are to enable and assist ministers and ministries
We are biblically based in operation and practice

The Convention of Covenanting Churches
P.O. Box 8212
Los Angeles, CA 90008, USA



The Covenant

June, 2009

INTERNATIONAL FOOTPRINTS

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10th Year
2009
International Holy Convocation
July 29 through August 2, 2009
Sheraton Hotel Cerritos California
All are Invited!

Bishop Napoleon D. Rhodes, Prelate
Bishop Eddie Jernagin, Assisting Prelate
Bishop Amos Hamilton, Chief of Staff

Leaving our footprints. . . the members of 3Cs have unique opportunities in touching lives of the poor on several continents. Bringing the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ, and hope for their tomorrow are principal messages delivered through international hands-on and foot walking excursions into sparse and remote towns, streets, and villages. Walking and talking, we go as Jesus commands into the uttermost parts of the world.
Dominican REPUBLIC AND HAITI. April 29 to June 19, 2009 (six weeks) presented an awesome learning experience for Bishop Alas of JESUS IS THE HEALER INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES, joined by Pastor Rubin of HONDURAS, as they traveled the land for Christ, teaching the gospel as a new way of life. Alas commented that “the people are existing, they are not living and they must be taught to live the abundant life in Christ Jesus.” He says, “we do not go to 5 star hotels to bathe and rest, we must go live with the people.” Throughout Santo Domingo, Barjona, Dominican Republic, and Haiti the people need clothes, shoes, and basics. They eat rice and beans everyday, nevertheless, they love God and want more from God. He said, “we must teach them the victorious, overcoming, sufficient living through Christ and not only His sufferings”. Further, he stated, “a poor

mind is not a poor country, rather it is a poor life and lifestyle”. We must teach and renew their minds so that they grow responsibly in order to give, and receive their inner healings to have peace, joy and contentment (not in things) but in Him and within themselves.
SAN PEDRO, SULA, HONDURAS. November, 2008 (five weeks) witnessed an outpouring of love, and praise unto the Lord. Pastor Rubin (without physical eyesight) orchestrated many local pastors and churches. They are building a much larger church. Bishop Alas was used mightily in uplifting all in attendance.
UGANDA, AFRICA. SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2008 (four weeks) presented encounters against the widespread practices of voodoo. It reminds us of how evil spirits, diviners and witchcraft have beguiled and deceived whole continents. Bishop Alas participated with Christian pastors in deliverance services for the liberation of captives with generational family curses.
DAVAO, PHILIPPINES. March-April 2008 (four weeks) experienced the humbling conditions of abject poverty, nonetheless, grand praise and acknowledgement of the goodness of our God was demonstrated everywhere. Bishop-elect Roberto Abrina, operator of a fully equipped local radio station hosted Bishops Rhodes, Jernagin,

Hartwell and Alas as they ministered during Easter week to hundreds in attendance.
CUBA, PUERTO RICO. Travel is being scheduled with Bishop Alas for the end of 2009.



BISHOP ALAS PLANTING FOOTPRINTS OF MINISTRY



Worship In Davao Philippines



Children in Need

Story contributed by Bishop Jose Alas

SUCCESS IS MINE IN 2009

BISHOP NAPOLEON D. RHODES



Some call it... "coincidence", some call it "luck", some call it "divine intervention", and some call it the "divine will of God".

Jochebed, a Levite woman, defied the edict of Pharaoh and refused to let the midwife kill her son, Moses. Instead, she hid and nursed him for three months, and when she could no longer hide him, she placed him in a basket covered with tar and pitch and placed the basket among the reeds along the bank of the Nile River. His sister stood at the edge of the river to see what would happen to her brother, Moses.

While walking along the riverbank, an attendant of Pharaoh's sister found the child-Moses crying among the reeds and felt sorry for him. Moses' sister, who was observing the incident, asked if she should go and get a Hebrew woman to nurse him. When the request was approved, she went and got their mother, who nursed the child-Moses throughout his childhood years.

I believe that there are times when we, as Christians, are hid under the wings of Almighty God, to rest and gain strength for the next phase of our Christian journey. When we are released, it's not without the watchful eye of an "angelic-like presence" whose task is to make sure we reach our journey's end.

So it was with Moses. Death had been decreed for all newborn Hebrew males, but the divine will of God was that Moses live for he had a divine appointment. Therefore Moses' death decree was cancelled when God placed a defiant spirit in child-Moses' mother.

It was the practice of the Hebrews to give children back to the Lord on the eighth day following their birth. This dedication placed the onus on God to protect the child from hurt and harm, and to bring him to the place that He has prepared for him.

Surely a child of three months could not protect himself and surely some divine impulsiveness led Jochebed to place a baby of such a tender age in a basket and put the basket among the reeds (weeds) along a riverbank.

Many times we find ourselves in weeds among a flourishing economy, unable to help ourselves and at the mercy of our surroundings and calloused individuals. And, it seems we go from one weed field to another without much grace in between. But when we look back, as Moses must have done many times afterward, we can see the hand of God in the act of some distant person or "angelic-like presence", helping or running to get help, as when Daniel's prayers were answered.

Jewish young men are usually given a rite-of-passage called a Bar Mitzvah, when they reach their 13th birthday. This is an age-old custom and is used today by traditional Jews. It is when a Jewish boy goes from boy-hood to man-hood and is thereafter taught how to be a man by his father and men of the tribe. Until that time they are raised and nourished by their mother.

It is believed that Jochebed had 12 years of influence on the child-Moses before he was delivered to pharaoh's sister, as her son, to be taught the ways of the Egyptians and given to serve their cause as one of the princes of Egypt. Twelve years to indoctrinate him on the history and life of the Hebrew people, to place in him a love for a people that had done so much for Egypt and were now poorly treated slaves.

There are times when you will feel that you have given so much and received so little. Whatever the case or cause, don't forget that you are a child of God. Remember your early training and that you have purpose.

Don't stop giving and hoping, no matter the situation. God is still on His throne. Know that it's all worked out in advance.

You are just going through another weedy field, in route to another victory.

When in the field, rejoice, knowing that God is only toughening you up for the next round of victories.

It is the divine will of God that you prosper and be in divine health, even as your soul prospers.

It is not a coincidence, luck or an accidental intervention that brought you through and will again and again, and again. It is God's will for your life worked out before the foundation of the earth. **You were born to be prosperous and successful ... and your success is God's perfect will for your life.**

Repeat these words over and over again:

"Success is mine in 2009!"

its keeping ability to prevent you from failing. The stabilizing factor that is God's presence within you provides the peace you need in the midst of a raging storm! Anytime the "why me" syndrome arises in the midst of your storm, always try to let God be glorified.

Nevertheless, through every suffering experience of God's chosen ones, we are "more than conquerors". The warring experience is a set up for Satan's destined defeat! So then, if this is true, one should not ask the question "why me?" One should know that God knows the beginning from the ending and if your faith is unshakable, you win and to God's credit goes the glory!

REED SEMINARY

3Cs Bishop Jimmie Hartwell, president of Reed Christian College and Western Theology Seminary, celebrated the 71st year of service to the Christian community. In an environment of excitement and enthusiasm in Southern California, the class of 2009 was presented and conferred degrees in Theology. President Hartwell, in his 16th year as leader of the institution spoke of the mission of Reed Christian College to provide a complete Christian education to Pastors, Missionaries, Evangelist, Church School Teachers and Church Administrators. The expressed purpose is to "Reach the unreached, bring the un-brought, catch the uncaught and teach the untaught." Staff

WHAT IS MEANINGFUL WORSHIP



The worship I do should be the worship God embraces, the worship He inhabits and the worship He responds to! What then is worship? Is it the response of "Praise the Lord" at the common demand from another to "Praise the Lord Saints"? Is it merely the clapping of our hands when we are admonished to worship the Lord during a worship time in church? Or is Worship standing in the sanctuary with hands raised and a mighty shout from our mouths of Hallelujah? I would venture to say that all of these have some elements of worship in them, however, if I wanted to get to God to receive from Him I believe I would need to know better what meaningful worship is to him.

Let's look at the biblical definition of worship; to lie prostrate, to lap like a dog, to kiss up, to honor. In the passage of scripture where Jesus is speaking to the Samaritan woman He speaks of true worship; the worship that brings God's desire to dwell with us and to respond to us is the worship attitude that kisses up to God; "Lord, how can I make you feel good today" and

BY PASTOR C. LAMONT LEONARD

true worship always has us looking at what we can do for God not "what can God do for me, how can He make me feel better?"

As fans of great singers, entertainers or sports figures we can take lessons from how we worship them; ah, that probably rubs some the wrong way, however, it is what we do when we applaud, scream wave our hands and say, "GO AHEAD AND SING CHILD". When a basket ball player dunks the ball and we rise to our feet at such an awesome show of dominance and power, we are displaying worship (we are honoring, praising), after all the Bible tells us to give honor to whom honor is due! Worship is doing the wave in a stadium, passionately talking about the accomplishments of a person in such a manner that we try to persuade others to view the person in the same light as we do. We are bringing honor to that person we are showing our appreciation, we are in some ways saying that this person is the best at what he or she does thus ascribing honor to them. Please understand this is not bad, we have not put anyone before God by doing what we do, we are merely in most cases giving honor to whom honor is due as the scriptures say. This brings glory to God when the person we honor honors God by his life.

If we could understand better this concept of what worship is to God then I believe we would experience a greater response from Him everyday, I believe we would see greater results of His presence in our church gatherings and greater day to day manifestations of God's grace to us in our daily living.

Finally, our worship should move God not us or anyone else, our worship toward others should bring the glory back to God and not the man or woman we appreciate. My worship should always be an example and testimony of how great God has been to me and others.

I worship to please God and perhaps he will enjoy me kissing up, bowing down, and giving him standing ovations, applauding His great acts before He performs them.

TRAVEL WITH 3CS



Bishop Napoleon Rhodes and wife, Ruth; Bishop Alfred Smith and wife, Iris at the W.J. Marriott Hotel in Phoenix, Arizona where Pastor

Martin Haghani and wife were honored by Persian residents. The photo above is the gathering at the J.W. Marriott Hotel in Phoenix,

Arizona to honor the newly installed Martin Haghani who was ordained a Christian Pastor by The Convention of Covenanting Churches at the 2008 Holy Convocation. The affair was a virtual who's who in the Persian community.



Above, a church service in the Philippines

With an invitation from Bishop-elect Roberto Abrina, Bishops Napoleon Rhodes, Eddie Jernagin and Jimmy Hartwell carried the message of "Unity in Jesus" to the Philippine people during Easter Week 2008.

OUR NEWEST STAFF MEMBER



After the final benediction of our 2008 Holy Convocation, Pastor Marques Johnson made a firm commitment to join our fellowship of covenanting churches, and what a bless-

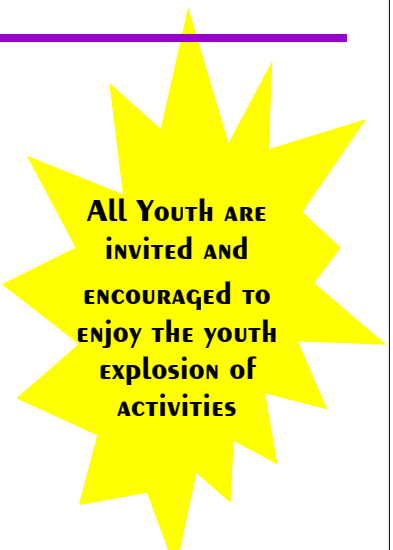
ing and inspiration he has been. He came with a heart to work! Marques Johnson is the pastor of Another Level Christian Fellowship. He just celebrated his 2nd anniversary June 14, 2009.

Pastor Johnson is a most valuable member of 3Cs. He has lifted a great amount of the planning from the shoulders of the few who worked so diligently over the years preparing for the convocations.

Pastor Johnson is formally from Pennuel Baptist Church in Los Angeles, and attended One, One, One Bible Seminary in Long Beach CA. He is the nephew of our own

Bishop Alfred Smith. Pastor Johnson has extensive experience in the organizing and administration of Christian Child Day Care facilities. This vital ministry will be an asset to expanding the outreach ministry of 3Cs. We are most fortunate to have Marques as part of our team—certainly a man of honor and valor.

His youthful vigor will aid in supporting youth ministries for 3Cs and lend insight into the hearts and minds of young people.



DON'T SAY "WHY ME" BY BISHOP EDDIE JERNAGIN Original article edited



To my covenant partners, you are my friends, glory be to God our Father and the peace of God be unto you in these tumultuous times.

I write to convey words of comfort and direction, regardless of what you're going through, that you maintain constant and contiguous faith in Him. The Lord will not forsake you, nor will He put more on you that you can bear.

Stop saying "why me Lord" and let your light shine unto men so that they glorify our Father. The "why me" syndrome perhaps occurred countless times in the minds of individuals who have often wondered why a rough situation has occurred in their life. You have undoubtedly had your share of problems that were troublesome.

Perhaps, as far as you are concerned, you've had more than enough! As puzzling as negative experience can sometimes be, there are distinct times

when they must occur if we are to reach a certain level of maturity. For the Christian to mature in their walk with Christ, there are challenging moments permitted by Divine design for the expressed purpose of elevating the child of God. Opportunity is always presenting situations for the children of God to allow their life to testify that the presence of Christ is at hand. Whenever a tough circumstance is prevalent, the residence of God's power within you is given an opportunity to prove