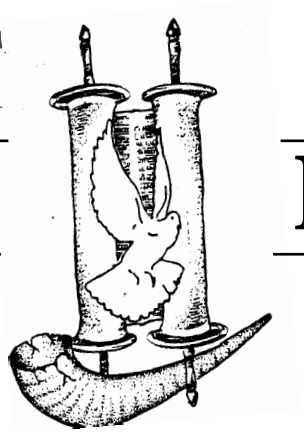
GELOOF FAITH

In Die Woord In The Word



Geloof is uit die gehoor en die gehoor is deur die Woord van God Rom. 10:17

Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. Rom. 10:17

POSBUS 232, BALLITO, 4420 · TEL: (032) 551 1836 / 551 2419 · FAKS: (032) 552 5411

WEBSITE: www.stangerchristiancentre.com E-MAIL:stangerchristiancentre@gmail.com

VREDE TE MIDDE VAN BEPROEWINGS

Baie Christene is vandag bekommerd en leef in vrees. Ons kry baie briewe van gelowiges by die Sentrum oor hierdie probleem. Jesus sê egter vir ons in **Joh. 14:27: Vrede laat Ek vir julle na, my vrede gee Ek aan julle; ... Laat julle hart nie ontsteld word en bang wees nie.**

Jesus word dan ook in die Skrif die Vredevors genoem en met Sy geboorte het die engele uitgeroep: "Vrede op aarde!" Een van die primêre redes waarom Jesus aarde toe gekom het en aan die kruis gesterf het, was dat ons met God versoen kon raak en Sy vrede elke dag van ons lewens kan ondervind.

Paulus het dan ook gesê hoe om God te volg, dit sluit ook God se vrede in: **Want die koninkryk van God is nie spys en drank nie, maar geregtigheid en vrede en blydskap in die Heilige Gees. Want hy wat Christus hierin dien, is aan God welgevallig en by die mense geag. Laat ons dan najaag wat tot vrede en onderlinge stigting dien (Rom. 14: 17 – 19).**

Dit wil nie sê dat ons geen probleme, beproewings, sorge of vervolging sal hê nie. Ons sal dit ondervind soos Paulus dan ook in **2 Kor. 7:5** sê. Al hierdie dinge probeer om ons geloof in Jesus Christus op die proef te stel. Ons moet egter aanhou om Hom te dien in geregtigheid, vrede en vreugde in die Heilige Gees. Dit is nodig om vrede in alle omstandighede te hê! Dit is dan ook Paulus se gebed vir die kerk: **En mag Hy, die Here van die vrede, julle altyd vrede gee op allerlei wyse! (2 Thess. 3:16)**

Dit lyk onmoontlik om vrede te hê wanneer alles wat ons in die gesig staar besig is om ons te oorweldig van vrees: die lyding, smart, beproewing en katastrofes. Dit is wat die profeet Sagaria van Jesus gesê het: **om te skyn oor die wat in duisternis en doodskaduwee sit, om ons voete na die pad van vrede te rig (Luk. 1:79).** Jesus rig ons voete op die pad van vrede. Jesus het self gesê:**" dat julle in My vrede kan hê" (Joh. 16:33).**

God wil hê dat ons, Sy kinders, vry van alle sorge en bekommernis moet leef. Ons behoort alreeds daarin te wandel, omdat ons dit weet, dit verklaar en die Woord dit bevestig. Tog is daar so baie van ons wat nog nie daarin wandel nie. Dit is God se begeerte dat ons vry kan wees: **Wees oor niks besorg nie, maar laat julle begeertes in alles deur gebed en smeking met danksegging bekend word by God. En die vrede van God, wat alle verstand te bowe gaan, sal julle harte en julle sinne bewaar in Christus Jesus (Fil. 4: 6-7).**

Hier moet ons egter besef dat wanneer ons uit die binnekamer beweeg, ons gebede nie dadelik verhoor is nie, dit kan gebeur, maar gewoonlik is die siekte nie dadelik weg nie, die probleem nie dadelik opgelos nie. God het ons egter aangeraak met harte vol vrede. Al ons vrese, angs en spanning is weg, omdat ons in die Skepper se teenwoordigheid was.

Ons kan nie vrede, te midde van ons probleme hê, sonder 'n nuwe aanraking van Sy hand nie.

Want Hy is ons vrede, Hy wat albei een gemaak en die middelmuur van skeiding afgebreek het (Ef. 2: 14).

Vandag kry ons mense wat aanspraak maak dat hulle "vrede" sonder Jesus het. Hoe hart verskeurend en tragies is dit dat mense so mislei kan word. Dit is 'n valse gevoel van sekuriteit. Mense sien nie meer kans vir teenspoed nie, dit veroorsaak dat hulle na verskillende Oosterse gelowe en leerstellings gryp. Hierdie leerstellings gee voor dat dit vrede gee. So verklaar baie aanhangers dat hulle vrede verkry deur hulle af te sonder en te mediteer of dieselfde mantra te herhaal. Hierdie mense ontvlug na 'n droomwêreld of gee hulself oor aan leegheid. Die oomblik wanneer die druk van die wêreld terugkeer met probleme, kommer en angs; verdwyn hul vrede.

Net Jesus kan ons Sy vrede gee te midde van elke probleem wat ons in die gesig staar. Hy alleen kan die

(Vervolg op Bl. 2)

(Vervolg vanaf Bl. 1 - Vrede te midde ...)
leegheid met Sy vrede vul en ons herstel met oorvloedige lewe. Hierdie vrede word gedurig vernuwe.

Ander mense maak weer staat op selfbeskikking. Dit is mense wat besef dat hulle op die verkeerde pad is deur hulself en mense seer te maak, en 'n nuwe blaadjie om te slaan. Hulle raak ontslae van hul slegte gewoontes en doen wat reg is. Hulle was nuwe mense, maar moes hard werk om die vrede te verkry. Hulle glo ook dat God daarmee tevrede is.

Ons weet egter dat die Woord sê**: "aangesien uit die werke van die wet geen vlees voor Hom geregverdig sal word nie" (Rom. 3:20)**. Wanneer die selfbeskikkende persoon egter in sonde verval sal hy sy vrede, waarvoor hy so hard gewerk het, verloor en sal hy verswelg word deur sy misleiding.

"Omdat ons dan uit die geloof geregverdig is, het ons vrede by God deur onse Here Jesus Christus" (Rom. 5:1). Ons het 'n vaste fondament nodig vir ons vrede. Die Woord sê dan ook vir ons dat dit vryspraak, ook regverdigmaking genoem, is. Omdat Christus ons voor die Vader vrygespreek het, kan ons vrede hê. Om vrede te verkry is dit noodsaaklik om die betekenis van vryspraak te verstaan.

Vryspraak bestaan uit twee beginsels. Eerstens verklaar dit dat ek vrygespreek is van al my sondes deur die bloed van Christus wat dit uitgewis het. My sondes en ongeregtighede word nie meer teen my gehou nie, want Jesus Christus het aan die kruis ten volle daarvoor betaal.

Die betekenis van om vry te spreek is om iemand onskuldig te verklaar. Hier beteken dit dat ons skuld ten volle betaal is deur Christus en dat God tevrede is. Jesus "**wat oorgelewer is ter wille van ons misdade en opgewek is ter wille van ons regverdigmaking" (Rom. 4:25).**

Die tweede beginsel van vryspraak is dat ons in God se oë heilig verklaar is. Dit kan ons nog steeds nie verkry deur ons werke nie, selfs nie eers as ons dit kan regkry om reg te lewe nie. Vrede kom nie van wat ons doen of hoe ons voel nie.

Dit is hoe meeste van ons gelewe het en miskien nog lewe. Ons het verwag dat God ons moes seën volgens ons werke en prestasies. So kom en gaan ons vrede oor hoe ons voel – goed of hopeloos. Ons weet egter in ons harte dat ons uit genade gered is en nie volgens ons goeie werke nie.

Miskien wil jy met jou hele hart God behaag, maar jy oordeel jou stand by God deur die hoeveelheid goeie dinge wat jy gedoen het. Jy moet egter daarop let van wat Jesus reeds vir jou gedoen het. Jy beoordeel egter jou innerlike vrede en ook jou redding met jou werke.

Dit werk nie so nie! Deur jou eie werke kan jy nie jouself regverdig nie. Jy kan nie God se vrede deur Christus verkry voordat jy nie die fondasie verstaan nie. Jy verkry dit slegs as jy weet dat jy in God se oë regverdig is deur Jesus se bloed wat gestort is. Slegs om hierdie rede is jy aanvaar in die Geliefde.

Die enigste manier om God se vrede te verkry is om die waarheid van wat Christus vir ons gedoen het vir onsself toe te eien. Sy Woord sê: "**En laat die vrede van God, waartoe julle ook in een liggaam geroep is, in julle harte heers, en wees dankbaar" (Kol. 3:15).**

Totdat ons Jesus in die ewigheid ontmoet sal Hy ons bly vryspreek. Ons geloof in Hom sal aanhou om heilig makende krag in ons op te wek. **Sodat hulle deur die geloof in My vergifnis van sondes en 'n erfdeel onder die geheiligdes kan ontvang (Hand. 26:18).**

Baie Christene leef in vrees vir God omdat hulle hulself veroordeel oor dinge wat hulle gedoen of gesê het en die Heilige Gees bedroef het en glo dat God vir hulle kwaad is. Wat sê die Woord hieroor? Jy moet dit bely en berou hê. God het nie Sy rug op jou gedraai nie. Onthou net dat jy geregverdig en vrygespreek is in God se oë en deur die bloed van die Lam. Die Vader het jou ook as heilig aanvaar, daarom het jy die reg om in Sy teenwoordigheid in te gaan. Dit kom baie duidelik na vore in die gelykenis van Jesus oor die Verlore Seun. Die vader het hom vergewe, hom omhels, 'n kleed en 'n ring vir sy vinger gegee en daarna het hulle fees gevier. God het alles vir ons gedoen.

Satan is steeds besig om ons by God aan te kla van alle soorte sondes wat ons onlangs gedoen het en met sommige daarvan is hy reg. "**Die aanklaer van ons broeders ... wat hulle aanklaag voor onse God, dag en nag" (Openb. 12:10).**

God, ons Regter, het egter geen saak met Satan nie, omdat ons alreeds vrygespreek is en hy moet die aftog blaas.

Ons hoef nie ons Regter te vrees nie, want Hy is aan ons kant en het al ons oortredings uitgewis. Dit staan in die Woord: **"U het al my sondes agter u rug gewerp" (Jes. 38:17), "U sal al hulle sondes in die dieptes van die see werp" (Miga 7:19)** en "**Ek, Ek is dit wat jou oortredinge uitdelg om My ontwil, en aan jou sondes dink Ek nie" (Jes. 43:25").**

Stel jou voor dat God, ons Regter, voor die aanklaer staan en vra: **"Wie sal beskuldiging inbring teen die uitverkorenes van God? God is dit wat regverdig maak?" (Rom. 8: 33)**

Benut jou voorregte ten volle. Moenie 'n las van skuld en bekommernis dra nie. Dit is die Vader se begeerte dat jy moet weet hoe rein jy nou reeds in die hemel is. Hy begeer dat jy die vrede wat joune is nou reeds vir jouself sal toe-eien.

(Vervolg op Bl. 3)

(Vervolg vanaf Bl. 2 - Vrede te midde .....)

Petrus praat in sy tweede sendbrief van die vernietiging van die wêreld deur vuur. Selfs in so 'n grusame tyd, roep hy ons om vrede in ons gemoed te hê**. "Terwyl al hierdie dinge dan vergaan, ... waardeur die hemele deur vuur sal vergaan en die elemente sal brand en versmelt... Daarom, geliefdes, terwyl julle hierdie dinge verwag, beywer julle dat julle vlekkeloos en onberispelik voor Hom bevind mag word in vrede" (2 Pet.3: 11-12,14).**

Daardie dag wanneer ons na Sy spyker-deurboorde hande sal kyk, sal ons besef dat Christus, die Bron van ons vryspraak, meer vir ons gedoen het as al ons belydenis van sonde en goeie werke ooit vir ons sou kon doen.

Neem 'n besluit en moenie deur werke probeer om by God uit te kom nie. Glo dat Jesus al jou sonde op Hom geneem het en dat jy daarom die reg het om deur Hom in God se teenwoordigheid in te gaan. Wanneer God na jou kyk sien Hy in werklikheid vir Christus. Paulus het van die : "ou mens" gepraat, wat God nie sien nie, maar die "nuwe mens" in Christus. In Christus is ons verlos, vrygekoop en vrygemaak.

"...Die enigste manier om God se vrede te verkry is om die waarheid van wat Christus vir ons gedoen het vir onsself toe te eien. Sy Woord sê: "En laat die vrede van God, waartoe julle ook in een liggaam geroep is, in julle harte heers, en wees dankbaar" (Kol. 3:15). .."

Jy het geen rede om bekommerd of bevrees te wees nie. As jy jou sonde bely het en op die bloed van Jesus vertrou, is die sonde vergewe en heeltemal weg. Jy is vrygespreek en geregverdig. **"Daar is dan nou geen veroordeling vir die wat in Christus Jesus is nie" (Rom. 8:1).** Onthou net dat bekommernis en vrees van Satan af kom. Sê dus vir hom: "Satan kyk na die deurboorde hande van Jesus, dit is die betaling vir my sondes. Jy kan my nie daarvoor aankla nie. Jesus pleit vir my en deur Hom is ek in God se oë geregverdig. Ek is skoongewas en gereinig deur my geloof in Jesus, en ek weet dat God my liefhet."

God sê vir jou: "Kom met vrymoedigheid in My teenwoordigheid. Vra vir groot dinge van My, sodat jou blydskap volkome kan wees." Dit is dan ware vrede!!

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Dit is vir ons baie belangrik om vir u 'n persoonlike bedankings briefie te stuur, daarom versoek ons u om asseblief u deposito strokie, met u volle naam en volle adres te pos of te faks. Ons sal dit ook waardeer as u vir ons u naam en adres langs u deposito strokie neer skryf wanneer u dit faks, omdat die faks nie altyd leesbaar is nie.

The commands of Jesus to His Disciples, Past and Present

Jesus knew that His time here on earth was limited, but that the work He started had to continue until the end of the world. (Matt. 28:18) Jesus realised that in order for His work to continue, people/disciples would have to be continually trained. Let us look at how Jesus provided such teaching, and what His instructions were to His disciples at that time, and also to us, who are His disciples today.

Matt. 9 reading from verse 37: **Jesus said to His disciples: The harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few, ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore to send out workers in the harvest field.** In the first verse of the very next chapter, Jesus sent labourers out and it is very interesting to note what He instructed them to do in order to bring in the harvest.

Jesus came to earth to do the will of God. He came to preach the good news of the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick. The instructions Jesus gave His disciples were very important, because it meant that the spreading of the Good News to the whole human race was to be left in their hands. Jesus had to make sure that they knew what the will of God was, so that when they came under pressure they would not be shaky or compromise the truth, but would be able to stand firm and continue in the will of God. Let us look and see how Jesus prepared them for the task that was before them, by teaching them and encouraging them.

Matt. 10: 1: He called His twelve disciples to Him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to cure every kind of disease and sickness. How wonderful and accurate the Bible is, for in Psalm 103: 1 – 3, David calls out and says: **Praise the Lord, O my soul, all my innermost being, praise His Holy Name… and forget not all His benefits… He forgives all my sins and heals all my diseases. Jesus then came and healed every sickness and disease.** Jesus sent His disciples out, giving them authority and power over evil spirits and to heal every sickness and every disease! Hallelujah!

Matt. 10: 7: Jesus said: Preach this message – The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand. Jesus was instructing His disciples, telling them to do the same as He did! Preaching the good news and healing the sick! Because He was busy doing the will of God!

Jesus continues His instructions in **Matt. 10: 8: Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received freely give.** What did the disciples freely receive? The Good News! *They freely received authority and power over demons. They freely received the power to heal those that were sick.* However in the same breath I must add that it was Jesus who paid dearly at Calvary in order that we might freely receive! Jesus said: "Freely you have received, freely give." Jesus did not say that the disciples must first go into the towns and see who was worthy, or who was living a perfect life or who was abiding by the law, and then heal only those. No! Jesus simply said: *Heal the sick!* There were no conditions attached.

What was Jesus doing here? He was instructing His disciples in the way they must walk, firmly grounding them in the knowledge of the will of God. Jesus looked these men squarely in the eye and said in effect: "now you go out and heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers. Give freely to others as I have given freely to you. I have given you authority over all sickness." Authority means the necessary power, complete freedom of action against demon powers. They had authority to act against all sickness and disease in Jesus' Name. All they had to do was believe His Word and act upon what they believed.

Perhaps you might say: "Yes, but all this was only meant for the twelve disciples. It does not include us." Turn to Matt. 28 and let us see this instruction in context. Let us have a look at what Jesus said to His disciples with regard to what they had to teach us. Reading from verse 18**: Then Jesus came to them (His disciples) and said: All authority in Heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you.** (Teach <u>them</u> means teach <u>us</u>) Jesus continues**: and surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age.** As the end of the age (world) has not yet come, then surely this instruction is still for us today!

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4 - The commands of Jesus…)

Jesus instructed His disciples, to teach all nations to do the things He taught them to do and these instructions are also for you and me who are His present -day disciples, God's children. When we read Mark chapter 16 verse 15 we see this command put in a slightly different way. And He said to them: **Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation! In the following three verses we read that *those who believe,* the believers (you and I) will lay hands on the sick and they shall recover!**

No teacher or evangelist can single-handedly win every soul for Jesus in this beautiful country of ours – it is for every believer to do his share. We will succeed when we start putting God's Word into practice. Man-made doctrines and ideas will not help us bring in the harvest, we need to follow Jesus' example and do the will of the Father, His way.

Jesus said: **Teach all nations. *They that believe* will be saved and *they (the saved)* will lay hands on the sick and they shall be healed:** The beauty of this is that according to God's Word, you have authority over sickness and disease as a believer in Jesus. Jesus has overcome sickness and disease. Sickness and disease are the works of the devil, and Jesus completely disarmed Satan once and for all on the cross! (Col. 2:14-15)

An interesting thing about Jesus' disciples was that He gave them power and authority over all sickness and disease. They were obedient and acted upon the instructions with the authority that He gave them. Sickness and disease were no threat to them, because sickness and disease could not withstand the authority Jesus had given them in order to bring in the harvest.

Jesus continued in Matt. 10: 40: **He who receives you receives Me.** The 12 disciples went in Jesus' Name, which carried His authority. And he who receives Me receives the One who sent Me.

We read in Luke 9: 1 – 2: **When Jesus had called the twelve together, He gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to heal diseases, and He sent them out to preach the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick. Verse 6: So they set out and went from village to village, preaching the gospel and healing people everywhere.** They did precisely what Jesus commanded them to do. They preached the good news and healed people everywhere. Freely they gave what they had, which was the Name of Jesus, and they expected people to be healed. If we want to confirm what Luke has said, we can refer to Matthew and Mark, who said the same thing.

Let us now read Luke 10 verse 1 and see how Jesus instructed 70 more disciples and sent them out. They received the same instructions as the twelve disciples.

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them out two by two to every town and place where He was about to go. Verse 8 – 9: When you enter a town and are welcomed, heal the sick who are there and tell them that the kingdom of God is at hand.

Perhaps you have never realised that healing the sick is part of the preaching of the Good News. We see that, every time Jesus told His disciples to go and preach the good news, He told them to *heal the sick as well*! Healing goes hand in hand with redemption! Why is healing so important to God? Because He wants His people to be whole – God's desire for you is that you be whole! God wants you to know that He loves you and it is His desire that you taste of His grace and that you place your complete trust in Him.

Maybe you are a minister of the gospel and until now you have always felt you have been called to only preach the gospel. The Bible, however, combines this calling with the healing of the sick, because healing is definitely part of the gospel of Jesus Christ. *If you do the one, you must do the other.* It is not optional; it is a direct command!

If one had to choose between salvation and healing, salvation would be the obvious choice, but, praise God, He does not expect us or want us to have to make a choice between the two. *God gives us both!* It is God's will and plan for the body of Christ on earth, *and God's plan is always better than yours or mine.* God's wisdom is so much greater than man's wisdom and God's ways are higher than our ways!

The Gospel we preach is indeed Good News, because God is so good that He provides for complete deliverance of spirit, soul and body through the finished work of Jesus our Lord and Saviour at Calvary.

The seventy disciples returned to Jesus with gladness and joy because they cried out: Lord, even the demons submit to us in Your name. (Luke 10: 17) Luke 10: 19: **I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of**

(Continued on page 6)

the enemy, nothing will harm you.

These instructions still apply to us today. *When you enter a town, preach the gospel and heal the sick.* God's will and His instructions remain the same. Jesus did the will of God, then He sent out twelve disciples and they did the same, He then sent out seventy disciples and they did the same. We read in Mark 16: 15 – 18: how Jesus gave precisely the same instructions to His church, to His body on earth, to you and me who are His disciples. He said to them, **Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe; In My Name they will drive out demons, they will speak in new tongues, they will pick up snakes with their hands and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all,** (He speaks here of the works of the enemy/devil) **they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well.**

I am so grateful to God that His commands and promises stand just as firm today as in Bible days – nothing has changed! The disciples went into the world and did everything that Jesus had commanded them. In the book of Acts chapter10 verse 38 – Peter gives a summary of the ministry of Jesus while He was here on earth: How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how He went around doing good and healing ALL who were under the power of the devil, because God was with Him. **Jesus went around doing good and healing the sick... and He told His disciples to do likewise. Jesus also clearly showed that everybody He healed had been afflicted by the devil and was not suffering from sickness originating from His Father God!**

The disciples were obedient and enthusiastic because they had accompanied Jesus and had seen Him ministering to the people. Everything was a reality to them. However, throughout the ages, the reality and practicality of God's Word has been watered down, and people don't see these truths as being for themselves personally. The church has taught them that miracles no longer occur today! Miracles were only for Bible days!

We read in **1 Joh. 5: 10: Anyone who believes in the Son of God has this testimony in his heart. Anyone who does not believe God has made Him out to be a liar, because he has not believed the testimony God has given about His Son. If you believe someone then you usually do what he says.**

If the church, the body of Christ, had continued to be obedient to Jesus' commands, things would be very different today! However, it is not too late to repent of our disobedience and , as in the days of old, *go out preaching the gospel and healing the sick.*

The blue- print for the church is found in the book of Acts. We read there how the New Testament church functioned, and, as we are still living in the "church age", we ought to be doing the same things in our churches that we read about in the book of Acts. The book of Acts does not have an "Amen" at the end of it, because the church era is not over yet! We should be preparing ourselves for the end of the age when Jesus comes back for His church, allowing Him to teach us His ways so that we will be "without spot or blemish" when He returns. The early church is spoken of in Acts 5:15-16 which tells us**, As a result, people brought the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and mats so that at least Peter's shadow might fall on some of them as they passed by. Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by evil spirits and ALL of them were healed.**

The people expected healing and miracles to take place, and this is the reason they brought their sick to the disciples. The disciples had a reputation of healing the sick and driving out demons. This was because they carried out the commands of their Master. It would appear as though the people received Peter in the same manner as they would have received Jesus, because they longed for his shadow to fall on them! Do you think this disturbed God? I don't believe it did because Jesus appointed His followers - believers (and that includes you and me) to carry out His commands. This is why He sent the gift of the Holy Spirit to empower us after He had ascended to His Father in heaven. Jesus died for the forgiveness of our sins, but He also came to destroy the works of the devil and to reconcile man to God.

God did not send Jesus to die on the cross so that we might inherit eternal life alone, but so that we could be conformed into His likeness. We know that the heart of Father God is filled with excitement when He sees us acting as Jesus did while He was on earth!

Peter's shadow did not have any supernatural qualities, but what he did have was the power of God's Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit of God was able to heal and deliver through him because Peter was obedient to the commands of Jesus who said in Luke 24: 49: **But you must wait in Jerusalem until you are empowered with power from on high.** Peter and the other disciples knew what Jesus expected of them, because daily they had watched Him performing miracles. When Jesus told the disciples to wait in Jerusalem in order that they might receive power to be His witnesses, they waited with great expectation in their hearts because they had seen this power in action many times.

The ministry of the early church was powerful and right there in their midst men and women were delivered from sickness and disease. There are people who have attended our meetings and can testify that they were healed whilst the Word was being preached. Satan departs with his sickness and disease when the truth of God's Word is being preached and people are being saved!

The Bible also teaches us that God's Word is life and healing for our bodies and that we are not to neglect or disregard His Word. (Prov. 4: 20 – 22; John 6: 63).

Did the healing power of God cease when Jesus went up to heaven to be seated at the right hand of the Father? No, as long as people are obedient to the commands of Jesus, the Spirit of God does the same work through them as that which God did through our Lord Jesus, and the sick are healed. Jesus Himself said in John 14: 12: **I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in Me will do what I have been doing, he will do even greater things than these...**

The ascension of Jesus into heaven enabled Him to send His Holy Spirit to earth so that the believers might be empowered with Spiritual gifts from on high to be His witnesses. The Word teaches us that we are one with Christ, when we become part of the body of Christ through salvation.

We have now seen without a shadow of doubt that in the church of Acts sickness and disease were cast out because men realised that their responsibility was to preach the gospel and heal the sick. The command is also directed at us as we read in: Matt. 28: 19**: Make disciples of all nations... teaching them to do everything I have commanded you... to the very end of this age**. Isn't it exciting to know that the Spirit of God desires to move in our midst, just as He did in the church of Acts, and in the ministry of Jesus?

I believe that you now realise that God desires to use you and me to reveal His miracle- working power by preaching the good news and healing the sick. We should delight to do His Will and to be obedient to His commands as His children. 1 John 2: 4: **The man who says, I know Him, but does not do what He commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him.** ·

Skatkis

Spr. 15:15: "Al die dae van die bedrukte is sleg (deur angstige gedagtes), maar die vrolike van hart het gedurigdeur fees (ongeag omstandighede)."

Dit is 'n belangrik Skrif om na te gaan wanneer jy versoek word om depressief te raak .... God wil hê dat ons die goeie in al ons omstandighede moet sien en die Bybel sê om te juig in beproewing! Wanneer jy leer dat God jou liefhet en 'n plan vir jou het vir alles wat jy nou deurgaan, dan sal jy werklik gedurigdeur fees hê! Volgens hierdie Skrif is diegene so gemaak as gevolg van hul angstige gedagtes! Angstigheid is afkomstig van ons gedagtes deur nie te kry wat ons wil hê, hoe ons dit wil hê en wanneer ons dit wil hê nie! Bekommernis oor ons finansies, verhoudings, gaan verder met die lys ...

Die woord voorgevoelens beteken hier: angstige bedugtheid; 'n gevoel dat iets onaangenaam gaan gebeur. Dit is vrees en nie vertroue nie, en die manier hoe 'n mens dit moet teenstaan, is om 'n hart vol blydskap te behou ongeag die omstandighede! Hier is dit hoe om 'n hart vol blydskap te behou nl. **Fil. 4:4: "Verbly julle altyd in die Here; ek herhaal: Verbly julle!"**

Die woord verbly hier is die woord " om jouself te verbly." Die manier om dit te doen is om jou te verbly in wie Hy werklik is volgens Sy woord en in jou lewe! Op die manier sal Hy groter word as alles wat veroorsaak dat jy angstig word! Ek weet nie van jou nie, maar ek gaan kies om aanhoudend fees te vier ongeag van die omstandighede!!

UIT ONS KANTOOR

JY MAAK SAAK VIR GOD!

Liewe Familie in Jesus,

Hierdie brief kan vol wees van my persoonlike afkeer oor die dinge wat daagliks plaasvind, nie net in ons pragtige land nie maar regoor die wêreld! Ek kan skryf oor die voortgaande korrupsie, die gebrek aan gehoorsaamheid, die moontlikheid van die onderrig van homoseksualiteit aan skoolkinders deur "gays", die wetteloosheid en natuurlik die steeds toenemende misdaad, nl. totale wettelike onsedelikheid, en goddeloosheid seëvier. Ek is verseker baie is bewus van alles wat op hierdie oomblik rondom ons plaasvind en dit maak my hartseer, maar ek kan my nie voorstel hoeveel te meer dit die hart van ons Hemelse Vader bedroef om te sien hoe Sy skepsels op so `n manier optree, wanneer dit glad nie Sy doel vir die mensdom was nie! Ek kan op dit alles uitbrei, maar ek het besluit om eerder te skryf oor wat ek en jy moet doen, terwyl dit alles rondom ons aangaan, en dat daar nog tyd is! Ons behoort meer God se Woord te beoefen en dit dan uit te spreek vir almal om te hoor! Instede om te veroordeel eerder die evangelie aan hulle oor te dra en die waarheid sal hulle bevry. Die Woord sê, hoe sal hulle weet as iemand hulle nie vertel nie? Jesus het gesê dat Hy nie vir die regverdiges gekom het nie, maar om die sondaars te red. Want so lief het God die wêreld gehad (dit sluit daardie sondaars in) dat Hy Jesus gestuur het om vir almal te ly op daardie kruis.

Baie van julle mag dink dat ek hierdie twee Skriftuurlike onderwerpe oorbeklemtoon, nl. "geloof in God te hê" en "die Woord van God te spreek", maar as gevolg van die afvalligheid in hierdie laaste dae, onder so baie sogenaamde Christene, kan ek myself nie keer om gelowiges in die Here Jesus Christus te waarsku en te vermaan om ernstige aandag aan hierdie twee belangrike aspekte van ons Christelike wandel te gee nie. Die rede waarom ek dit sê, is omdat ons in **Heb.11:6** lees: **En sonder geloof is dit onmoontlik om**

God te behaag; want hy wat tot God gaan, moet glo dat Hy is en `n beloner is van die wat Hom soek. Met ander woorde, ons kan nie eers begin om God te behaag as ons nie geloof in Hom het, en Hom vertrou in elke area van ons lewens nie. Dus, as ons Hom vertrou, sal ons verseker die taal spreek wat Hy aan ons gegee het om te spreek volgens Sy Woord! Soos ons die totale wanorde sien wat ons in hierdie wêreld omring, en na die negatiwiteit luister wat daarop volg, alhoewel dit alles waar is, kan ons baie maklik ingetrek word in daardie plek van ellende en wanhoop, wat presies is wat die duiwel georkestreer het.

Jesus het dit duidelik aan ons gestel, dat wanneer hierdie eindtyd beproewings opvallend word, dat ons moet opkyk, want die tyd van ons Verlossing (die Wegraping) is naby **(Luk. 21:28)**. Hy het ons ook vermaan deur te vra, dat wanneer Hy terug kom sal Hy geloof op die aarde vind? **(Luk. 18:8)** Dan lees ons weer aan die einde van Matt. Hoofstuk 24, en die hele hoofstuk 25 van Matt., dat Jesus ons, deur middel van gelykenisse waarsku. Gelykenisse wat ons waarsku, om volgens Sy bevele, wakker te wees en besig te wees met werke van geloof, wanneer Hy terug kom. Ons vind dit in die briewe van Jakobus: **Net so is ook die geloof, as dit geen werke het nie, in sigself dood. Maar iemand sal sê: Jy het die geloof en ek die werke. Toon my jou geloof uit jou werke, en ek sal jou uit my werke my geloof toon. Jy glo dat God een is. Jy doen goed; die duiwels glo dit ook, en hulle sidder. Maar wil jy weet, o nietige mens, dat die geloof sonder werke dood is? (Jak.2:17-20)**

Laat ons dus in ons harte die voorneme hê om reg te wees vir ons spoedig terugkerende Koning, met ons geloof in Hom in werking, Sy Woorde op ons lippe en ons harte en hoofde na bo gerig!

Ons almal by die Stanger Christelike Sentrum wil julle bedank vir jul kosbare en onskatbare ondersteuning vir die Here se werk wat uitgaan deur ons land, kosbare siele red en siek liggame genees. Sonder jul gebede en liefdevolle getrouheid sou ons nie by magte wees om die verlorenes en behoeftiges te bereik nie. Ons weet dat die Here julle en jul geliefdes oorvloediglik sal seën, want julle harte en skatte is by Hom.

Wees verseker van ons dankbaarheid en gebede

Baie liefde groete

Meg en die Gebedspan