



GULF COAST JURISDICTION
July 2018

“The Church in the Millennial Age”

Churches convene for 2018 annual General Assembly

MOBILE, ALA. – The Word of God encouraged the saints in churches and Bible studies from around the world to be instant, preach the Word, endure afflictions, fight a good fight of faith and finish their course at The Church of the Living God International, Inc. annual General Assembly.

The General Assembly, held July 3-8 at the Arthur R. Outlaw Convention Center, brought CLGI congregations to one meeting place so the Holy Ghost could lead in worship, seminars, fellowship, spiritual education and training.



The GA also included a Veterans’ appreciation on July 4. This year’s theme was the church in the Millennial Age.

“I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;” (II Timothy 4:1)

Bishop Charles D. Smith, Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Bishop and Pastor of Promise in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., encouraged the saints to know what God has charged them to do. “I am in this church because of the miracles, signs and wonders. If it were not for the Doctrine of God that we have, I would not be saved,” said Bishop Smith. “While I was trying to make up my mind whether I wanted to be saved or not, Jesus had already died for me,” he added. “There are 16 different doctrines in the CLGI Constitution and By-Laws and I need them to be right, because I need God to be the power and glory. I need the Father, Son and Holy Ghost to be three separate people, so when I pray there’s someone in heaven to hear me,” said Bishop Smith.

“We have to preach the Word of God. When there is trouble in the church, don’t talk about it, just preach the Word and God will settle all things,” he said.

All of the preachers at the general assembly gave powerful words to encourage the saints and help them stand until Jesus comes back on a cloud.

In the Photo: Elder Ruth Latham giving flags to the CLGI Board of Directors at the 2018 Veterans’ Appreciation on July 4.

The Bishop's Corner

Be in that crowd

Praise the Lord Saints,

I praise God who has given us all things that pertains to life and godliness. What we must do now is die to ourselves daily, so that the Holy Spirit can give us newness of life. In God, there is always death, burial and resurrection. We always want to be a part of the resurrection, so that we can be in the number that John saw in Revelation.

John saw a number that no man could number and we must make sure that our face is in the crowd. "After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands: And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which setteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb." (Revelation 7:9-10).

Heaven is not a myth, it is real and we have to make up our mind about that. The biggest thing we have to overcome is ourselves. When we come up with excuses, we are looking for a way out of God.

The Bible tells us in I Corinthians 10:13 that God will provide a way of escape in any situation that we may be able to bear it. Those people in the crowd that John saw are overcomers. "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son." (Revelations 21:7)

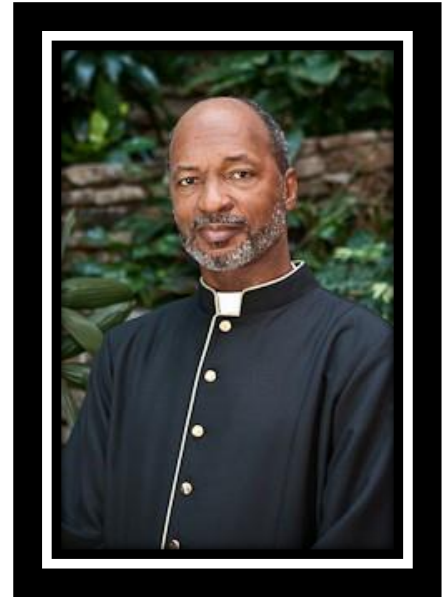
John was alone on the Isle of Patmos in prison and made up his mind that he was going to obey God anyway. In his distress, he writes to us that he was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day to tell us about heaven. We must obey God and not rebel against His Word. "And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry." (I Samuel 15:22-23)

We must continue to do the things of God, so we can make it to heaven. The things that the Holy Ghost wants us to do are in I Thessalonians 5:11-22. "Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do. And we beseech you, brethren, to know them, which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And to be at peace among yourselves. Now we exhort you, brethren warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men. See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men. Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. Quench not the Spirit. Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearances of evil."

Continue to be faithful, steadfast and unmovable and let nothing separate you from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus!

God bless all of you,

Bishop Charles D. Smith
Gulf Coast Jurisdiction



More July stories

Category: Events

Church members welcomed a new baby and congratulated an exhorter on his promotion in the ministry.

- **From Christ the Redeemer:** Christ the Redeemer saints welcomed a new member to the family, Jason Madamidola! The little man and his mother, Sister Madamidola, are doing great.

Minister Kourtney Littlejohn: “We congratulate the Madamidola family on the birth of little Jason and pray God’s blessings on all of them!”

In the Photo: Sister Madamidola and her new baby.



- **From Christ the Redeemer:** The anointing has fallen on Brother Tyrone Brinkley once again and he is now an Exhorter. He had already taken on the mantle as the Minister of Music for Christ the Redeemer.

Minister Kourtney Littlejohn: “We are very proud of Exhorter Brinkley!”

In the Photo: Pastor Carlos Thompson anointing Exhorter Tyrone Brinkley for the work of the ministry.

Category: Testimonies

God’s miracle working power is still evident in the lives of the saints.

- **From Elder Ruth Latham:** I praise God for a miraculous healing at this year’s CLGI General Assembly. I partially tore my right shoulder rotator cuff in September 2017, but did not know it because the pain was gradual. In April of this year, my shoulder became

very painful. I went for my annual physical and told my doctor of the issue in my shoulder. He made an appointment for me with a local orthopedic surgeon. I had an MRI done on my shoulder and found that I had a partial tear as well as bursitis. It became very uncomfortable to sleep, because of the pain and I had to use a pillow under my arm for comfort.

The orthopedic surgeon said that the injury would not heal, but could possibly get worse and recommended surgery. Fear caused me to choose to have the surgery, but I did not have peace about my decision. The doctor said after the surgery, I would not be able to drive for two weeks and would have to wear a shoulder sling. The doctor also said I would not retain full use of my shoulder for about nine months. I scheduled the initial surgery for 25 June, the Monday leading up to the IYYAD conference. The pain from the needle, used to put in the dye before the MRI, lasted one week and was unbearable. The Holy Spirit asked me if I thought I could bear having surgery right before attending IYYAD. My answer was no. I rescheduled the surgery for 16 July, following the General Assembly. I still did not have peace about my decision to have the surgery. I finally decided not to have the surgery. When I made that decision, peace came. I believed the Lord did not want me to have the surgery, because He was going to heal me. I began to quote and believe Isaiah 53:5 ... With his stripes I am healed. I was limited in the use of my right arm as I packed for the GA and thereafter. I arrived late on Friday night for the start of the IYYAD conference. Each day during that conference, I became even more limited in the use of my right arm. The Holy Spirit told me to fill out a prayer request form, so I did. The saints began to pray for me during each service and my shoulder began to improve day-by-day.

At the Friday 2:00 pm miracle service, during praise and worship, the Holy Spirit told me to raise my hands. I had not been able to raise my right arm since I had arrived for the IYYAD conference, but was able to raise both arms at that time. I was excited, so began to try my right arm with other movements that I was not able to do before, such as clapping my hands. I was able to do all the movements, including carrying my purse back to my room. I wanted to test my shoulder while I slept, so did not give a healing testimony on Friday night. I slept very well that night without any pain or discomfort. I believed then that God had healed me. I gave a testimony on Saturday night at the GA that the Lord had healed me of a partial tear to my right shoulder rotator cuff and bursitis. I praise God for the effectual fervent prayers of the righteous and His miracle working power!

Category: Upcoming Events

- **From the Evangelistic Team:** Below is the 2018 schedule of revivals throughout the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction. Please pray for the Evangelistic team that the Lord will use them mightily to speak words that are Spirit and life and confirm His Word by miracles, wonders and signs. If you need a revival at your church, please contact one of the evangelist listed below to check his/her availability.

2018 Revival Schedule

Aug 7-8 (Tue-Wed) *Christ the Redeemer*, Gulfport, Miss. (*Confirmed*)

Aug 9-10 (Thur-Fri) *Promise*, Ft Walton Beach, Fla. (*Confirmed*)

Aug 19 (Sun) *Prince of Peace*, Jacksonville, Fla. (*Confirmed*)

Aug 21-22 (Tue-Wed) *Lily of the Valley*, Thonotosassa, Fla. (*Confirmed*)

Oct 25-26 (Thur-Fri) *Spirit of Christ*, Ft Walton Beach, Fla. (*Confirmed*)

The Evangelistic Team Members

1. Elder Ruth Latham
2. Elder Tom Calix
3. Minister Crystal Derico
4. Minister Shaundra Smith
5. Minister Sirita Loiseau
6. Minister Desiree Walker

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- **From the Editorial Staff:** Saints please be mindful of the below upcoming events for the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction.

The 2018 Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sep 21-23	Elder Calix Pastoral Anniv.	FWB, Fla.
Sep 29-30	GCJ CE Recreational Fellowship	Thonotosassa, Fla.
Nov 15-18	Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Meeting	FWB, Fla.
Dec 1-2	Elder Thompson Pastoral Anniv.	Gulfport, Miss.