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April 2021 Newsletter

Bishop told the GCJ Saints that there's great gain in God



FORT WALTON BEACH, FLA. – “There’s no loss in God but great gain,” said Bishop Charles D. Smith, Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Bishop and Pastor of Promise Church, via Zoom Friday night, April 23, 2021.

Because of the Coronavirus pandemic, Bishop Smith has been teaching, via Zoom on Sunday mornings, Tuesday and Friday nights during these times of stay-at-home orders in effect in many states.

Bishop Smith taught from John 4:13-24 where verses 13-15 say, “Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: but whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but that water I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life. The woman saith unto Him, Sir, give

me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw.”

Bishop Smith said that just like the woman at the well, when people come to God, they need to know that what God has for them will last forever and it is eternal life. “Everything else God blesses us with is earthly and temporal.”

“When people come to our churches, we need to give them Jesus. It doesn’t matter what church they go to as long as the Spirit of God is in that church. Because for anyone to get a blessing, it must come from the Holy Spirit,” said Bishop Smith.

“But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth” (John 4:23-24 KJV).

In conclusion Bishop Smith said, “The saints in Hebrews chapter 11 all died in faith not having received the promise, which was eternal life; we must hold on until we get eternal life.”

In the Photos: Bishop Charles D. Smith teaching at Promise Church in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., April 23, 2021.

The Bishop's Corner

We Need Eternal Life

Praise the Lord Saints,

“Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So, when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (I Cor 15:51-57 KJV).

God is going to, “change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body, according to the working whereby He is able even to subdue all things unto Himself.” (Phil 3:21 KJV) When Jesus comes back, God is going to exchange our vile bodies for new immortal bodies with the same power He used to raise Jesus from the dead; “And so shall we ever be with the Lord” (I Thes 3:17b KJV). Because things in this life are temporal, we need, first, to make sure we have eternal life in God, and then place our hope in God's eternal life.

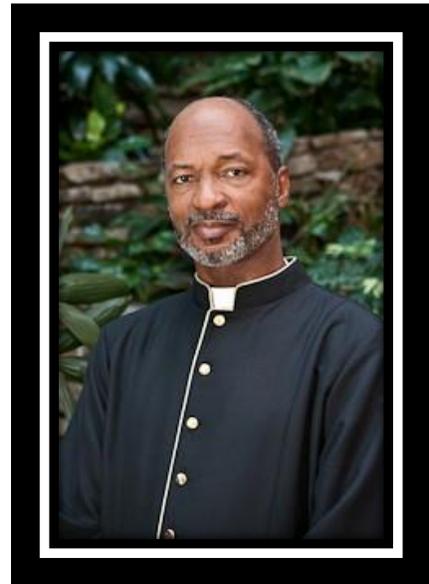
At the time God saves us, before He works out anything else in our lives, He gives us eternal life first. It is then left up to us to work with the Holy Ghost so He can keep us until we obtain eternal life: “In whom ye also trusted, after ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory” (Eph 1:13-14 KJV).

Eternal life is the greatest gift God has given us. Christ is the first to be resurrected into immortality and to be given eternal life: “But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive” (I Cor 15:20-22 KJV).

When Jesus saved us, we became citizens of Heaven and because of that, God won't allow things to happen to us that we cannot bear. “There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it” (I Cor 10:13 KJV).

God bless you,

Bishop Charles D. Smith
Gulf Coast Jurisdiction



More April stories

Category: Events

One church celebrated Resurrection Sunday, dedicated a baby and recognized the achievements of an honor roll student.



- **From Lily of the Valley:**

On Easter "Resurrection Sunday," Christopher and Chantha Mastin dedicated their son to the house of God. We pray that we will all continue to stand in the Lord and keep him in the house of God all the days of his life.

Sister Sereese Davis: "I was honored to be chosen to be his Godmother as he was dedicated on the same day we celebrate our Savior was risen."



In the Photos: Pastors Tony and Deborah Sewell and his uncles and aunt, who came to celebrate his special day.



In the Photos: Pastor Tony Sewell, Brother Isaiah Sewell and Exhorter M'Khayla Dutton.

- **From Lily of the Valley:** Brother Isaiah Sewell made the President's Honor Roll at his school. Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, this has been a tough time for a lot of children, but Brother Isaiah still excelled. We are happy to celebrate him as he sets a great example for the youth in Lily of the Valley.

Sister Sereese Davis: “Congratulations Brother Isaiah!”

Category: Testimony

The saints are grateful to God for prayer and the blessings of the Lord.

Praise the Lord Saints,

I would like to personally thank those of you who rushed in last Friday to uphold my family and me after such unexpected news. I want to thank those who came early in the week to help prepare for the funeral service and provide assistance for business matters. I thank the saints who were there for the viewing of the body to greet our family and offer kind words of condolence. I appreciate those who were able to attend the funeral service in person and on livestream and sat in prayer for our strength. I thank those who followed the family to the burial service and supported us as we laid my husband's body to rest. Thank you to those who came to eat with the family to

lift us up. And thank you to those who were able to stay for Friday night service and minister to our soul. It was a week of comfort and sweet fellowship.

For those who were not able to attend but called, sent messages, posted on the funeral page, mailed cards, and sent flowers and donations, I truly appreciate your outpouring of love and support for me and our children. Your affection and care for my husband did not go unnoticed, in life, nor now in death. He had a special love for the saints of God. Thank you especially to the Board of Directors, International Missions Department, and Pastors.

It was the prayers of the righteous (and the Holy Ghost) that held me up and is upholding me now as we move forward in Jesus' name, looking for His appearing that we may see our loved one again in that day.

With love and heartfelt appreciation,
Minister Mary Ann Godwin and Family

God is a healer!

Sister Dynia Lewis sprained her ankle while practicing track at her school. Her mother Sister Nova Lewis called and asked me to pray for her. I prayed and the Lord immediately caused the swelling to go down and gave her a healing. I praise God, and give Him all the glory for His healing power!

Pastor Paulette Harrison
Prince of Peace Church

Category: Prayer Request

The saints need healings and comfort.

- **From the Editorial Staff:** The saints below need prayer. If you have a prayer request, please submit it to the monthly newsletter. We will run the testimonies of saints' answered prayers in the newsletter. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:16 KJV).

Elder T'Angela Rogers (Healing)
Minister Norma Taylor's Mother (Healing)
Minister Joseph Johnson (Healing)
Brother Joshua Henderson (Healing)
Elder Paulette Harrison (Healing)
Brother Anthony Burrell (Complete Healing)
Elder LaToya Smith's Father (Complete Healing)
Minister Chemiese Hall's Niece (Healing)
Minister Chemiese Hall's Sister (Comfort)
Sister Francesca Di Chiaro (Healing)

Sister Alyssa (Minister Desiree Sewell Walker's daughter) (Healing)
Minister Danni Garcia's Mother (Healing)
Minister Tina Martin's Father (Healing)
Sister T'Shaura Gay's Mother (Healing)
Minister Sirita Loiseau (Healing)
Mother Dorothy Harrison (Healing)
Minister Lajoya Shelly (Healing)
Jeffery Byrd (Elder Angela Jenkin's Uncle) (Healing)
Deaconess Lisa Gibson (Healing)
Minister Leslie Allen (Healing)
Mother Judy Jones (Healing)
Minister Priya Luchmun (Healing)
Minister India Rogers (Healing)
Elder Paula Smith (Healing)
Elder Deborah Sewell (Healing)
Minister Eartha Howard (Healing)
Elder Bonita Russell (Healing)
Sister Barbara Cooper (Healing)
Exhorter Travis Sewell (Healing)
Minister Kourtney Littlejohn (Healing)
Bishop William Lee III (Healing)
Elder Carolin Taylor (Healing)
Minister Janice Spivey (Healing)
Elder Deborah Sewell's Mother (Lois Franklin) (Healing)
Elder Deborah Sewell's Sister (Loretta Green) (Healing)
Minister Monique Pullin's Uncle (George Pullin) (Healing)
Minister Lynn Knox's grandson (Elijah) (Healing)
Minister Crystal Derico (Healing)
Sister Frankie Ware (Healing)
Elder Kim Chisolm (Healing)
Brother Arthur Thompson (Complete Healing)
Elder Gary Watson, Jr. (Healing)
Elder Jacqueline Terrell (Healing)
Pastor Luther McCaskill's Uncle (Rickey Golden) (Healing)
Pastor Luther McCaskill's Mother (Janice McCaskill) (Healing)
Minister Janice Spivey's Father (Brother Leon Motley) (Healing)
Minister Keta McCaskill's Mother (Louise Knox) (Healing)
Sister Eleanor Rogers' Mother (Ms. Rosa Welcome) (Healing)
Elder T'Angela Rogers' Mother (Healing)
Godwin and Waters Family (Condolence)
Sister Erica Payton and Family (Condolence)

Category: Upcoming Events

- **From the Evangelistic Team:** Below are the Evangelistic team members for the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction. Please pray 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 evangelists listed below to check his or her availability.

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

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- **From the Administrative Staff:** Saints please be mindful of these upcoming events.

The 2021 Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Jan 4	CLGI Consecration Begins	N/A
Jan 16	GCJ Youth & Young Adult Conference	Gulfport, MS
Jan 22-24	Southeast Jurisdictional Conference	Augusta, GA
Jan 27	CLGI Consecration Ends	N/A
CANCELLED	Bishop Smith Anniversary & B-Day	FWB, FL
Feb 13-14	Southwest Jurisdictional Conference	San Antonio, TX
Mar 18-21	Bishop White's Anniversary	Columbus, OH
CANCELLED	GCJ Elect Ladies/Brotherhood Conf.	FWB, FL
Apr 9-11	Northeast Jurisdictional Conference	Waldorf, MD
May 1-2	Elder Sewell/Sewell Pastoral Anniversary	Thonotosassa, FL
Jun 1	CLGI Consecration Begins	N/A
Jun 5-6	Elder Harrison Pastoral Anniversary	Jacksonville, FL
Jun 23	CLGI Consecration Ends	N/A
CANCELLED	IYYAC/Brotherhood/General Assembly	Mobile, AL
Jul 24-25	Elder Russell Pastoral Anniversary	Montgomery, AL
Aug 6-8	First Jurisdictional Conference	Columbus, OH
Aug 19-22	South American Jurisdictional Conference	Paramaribo, Suriname
Sep 4-5	Elder Calix Pastoral Anniversary	FWB, FL
Sep 17-19	International Missions Conference	Columbus, OH
TBD	GCJ CE Recreational Fellowship	TBD
Oct 9-10	Holy of Holies Tabernacle Anniversary	Holiday, FL
Oct 8-10	PNW Jurisdictional Conference	Honolulu, HI
Oct 22-24	European Jurisdictional Conference	Rodenbach, Germany
Oct 29-31	Central States Jurisdictional Conference	Kansas City, MO
Nov 19-21	Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Conference	FWB, FL
Dec 4-5	Elder Thompson Pastoral Anniversary	Gulfport, MS

If you read this Gulf Coast Jurisdictional monthly newsletter and enjoy the articles, please help us keep it going by submitting articles and photos to eldruthlath@gmail.com so we can enjoy reading and seeing the activities at your church.

Thanks to all of you who faithfully support the newsletter with your monthly inputs.

*Very Respectively,
The Editorial Staff*
