



<http://www.gulfcoastclgi.org>

*May 2022 Newsletter*

## **Our Bodies Have Not Been Redeemed**



FORT WALTON BEACH, FLA. – “Even though we’re saved and filled with the Holy Ghost, our bodies will still try to sin,” said Bishop Charles D. Smith, Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Bishop and Pastor of Promise Church via Zoom on Tuesday night, May 31, 2022, at Promise Church. Those who could not make it to the church were able to participate via Zoom.

Bishop Smith taught from Romans chapters 6 and 7, 2 Corinthians 3:18, Luke 12:43-48 and James 4:17. “The Holy Ghost never does anything against our will so He is never going to take over our body to control it, but He will give us the power to control our body,” said Bishop Smith.

Bishop Smith encouraged the saints that Apostle Paul tells us not to yield to sin but righteousness. Romans 6:12-14 reads, “Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under the law but under grace.” (NKJV)

Bishop Smith said, “When the Holy Ghost tells us not to do something and gives us the power to control our body and keep it under subjection, we should obey Him. The only thing that hinders the Holy Spirit from flowing in us is our soul when it works against the Spirit.”

“The Spirit desires to continually change us as in 2 Corinthians 3:18,” said Bishop Smith. “But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.” (NKJV)

“But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.” (1 Corinthians 9:27 NKJV) “We must decide to serve God ourselves and realize that we need the Holy Ghost to help us keep our body under subjection,” concluded Bishop Smith. “Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.” (James 4:17 NKJV)

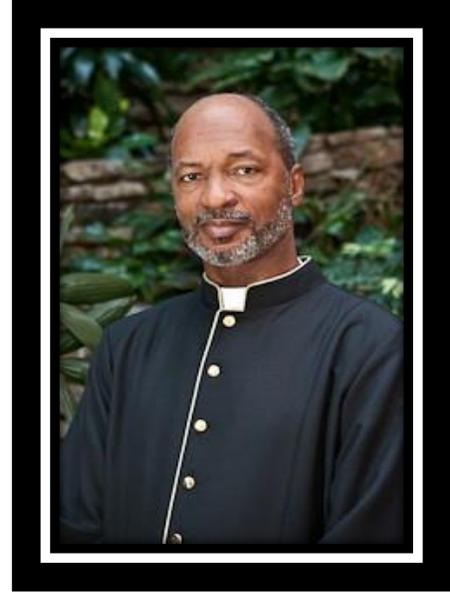
**In the Photo:** Bishop Charles D. Smith, GCJ Bishop and Pastor of Promise Church, preaching in Fort Walton Beach, Fla.

# The Bishop's Corner

## *The Whole Armor of God*

Praise the Lord Saints,

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girted your waist with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayers and supplication in the Spirit, and being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.” (Ephesians 6:10-18 NKJV)



Putting on the whole armor of God means putting on everything that God has given us to fight against the wiles of the devil. It is hard to fight when we're burdened down and have not been refreshed by the Holy Ghost. When we're sick, we can't fight, because we need to be whole before we go to battle. In Ephesians chapters 4-5, God is getting us spiritually healthy so that we are able to put on the whole armor and in Ephesians chapter 6, He tells us what that armor is and gets us ready to go to battle.

New believers in God need to learn about God before they put on the whole armor of God and try to fight because they are not yet ready for battle. We all need to know that somebody is bigger than we are (God) when we go through situations in our lives. We need to know that God is real, He has not lost His power, and God is on our side.

Before we put on God's armor, we need to go through our spiritual checklist to see if we've been pleasing to God, and if we find that we have been, then we are ready to put on the whole armor of God. We don't wrestle against flesh and blood (physically with one another), so God gives us what we need to rebuke the devil and stand against his schemes, strategies, and deceptions and be ready and able to hear and believe the word of God. We must do all we can do to put on the helmet of salvation, which is important because we can't live without our head and salvation is a must in God, so we need to make sure we're saved. The breastplate of righteousness is our right-standing in God, and it points to our holiness. The breastplate is only as strong as the righteousness of the person wearing it. The breastplate is only strong when our righteousness and holiness are there. The devil attacks our righteousness and holiness by making us feel guilty. If we're not living holy, nothing else matters, and when we're not living righteously is when the devil comes with temptations. In Ephesians chapters 4-5 the word gives elements of our righteousness. The devil never attacks our head (helmet of salvation) by coming to us and telling us not to be saved, but he attacks our breastplate of righteousness. “Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord.” (Hebrews 12:14 NKJV)

God bless you,

Bishop Charles D. Smith  
Gulf Coast Jurisdiction

**For more of Bishop Smith's teachings, go to the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Website at <http://www.gulfcoastclgi.org> and click on “Encouragement” then “Teachings.”**

## More May stories

### Category: Events

*During the month of May, one church had a successful book drive; one church had a pastoral anniversary; two churches celebrated birthdays; another church had a Mother's Day celebration and held a Women of Dignity Conference; and two churches had school graduations.*



- **From New Covenant:** New Covenant thanks God for helping it and the organization Destiny Driven meet and exceed their donation goal in sponsoring a book drive for Elmore County and the city of Clanton, Alabama prisons. The church along with the organization was also able to donate to several mobile libraries.

*Elder Bonita Russell:* “We were blessed to be a part of this effort.”

**In the Photo:** Members of Destiny Driven sorting the books.

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- **From Lily of the Valley:** Pastors Tony and Deborah Sewell celebrated their 34th Pastoral anniversary April 30 – May 1, 2022. On Saturday, Minister John Williams preached, imparting a blessing on the saints concerning (spiritual and physical) healings and the love of God. On Sunday, Elder (Dr.) Crystal Lucky preached and reminded those present of the importance of being ambassadors for Christ in the current world, as well as the importance of continually and actively demonstrating the love of God. Bishop Charles D. Smith encouraged the pastors and prayed for the people. Every part of each service was Holy Ghost led and filled with the presence of God. Pastors Tony and Deborah Sewell thanked everyone present, saying how they were blessed because God touched, in some way, everyone who was there.

*Sister Sereese Davis:* “We were all refreshed and renewed.”



**In the Photo:** Saints enjoying the Sewell's Pastoral Anniversary celebration at Lily of the Valley Church.

**Sewell's Pastoral Anniversary Photos Continued:**



**In the Photos:** Saints enjoying the Sewell's Pastoral Anniversary celebration at Lily of the Valley Church.

**Sewell's Pastoral Anniversary Photos Continued:**



**In the Photos:** Saints enjoying the Sewell's Pastoral Anniversary celebration at Lily of the Valley Church.

**Sewell's Pastoral Anniversary Photos Continued:**



**In the Photos:** Saints enjoying the Sewell's Pastoral Anniversary celebration at Lily of the Valley Church.

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- **From Holy of Holies Tabernacle (HHT):** HHT celebrated the mothers on Mother's Day. HHT also celebrated the women and girls at the Women of Dignity (WOD) conference. At the WOD conference the women and girls were taught that they were created for a purpose. This teaching was founded upon Ephesians 2:10 which says, "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."

*Minister Kim Mastin:* "We had a blessed time."

**Holy of Holies Tabernacle Mother's Day continued:**



**In the Photos:** HHT saints enjoying the Mother's Day celebration.

**Holy of Holies Tabernacle Mother's Day continued:**



**In the Photo:** HHT saints enjoying Mother's Day.

**Holy of Holies Tabernacle Women of Destiny Photos:**



**In the Photos:** HHT saints enjoying the Women of Destiny Conference.

**Holy of Holies Tabernacle Women of Destiny photos continued:**



**In the Photos:** HHT saints enjoying the Women of Destiny Conference.



- **From Holy of Holies Tabernacle (HHT):** HHT celebrated two birthdays in the month of May. The church celebrated Sister Yarity's birthday and gifted Minister Kim Mastin a "surprise" birthday getaway.

*Minister Kim Mastin:* "All the members enjoyed this month of great celebrations."

Happy  
Birthday!



**In the Photos:** HHT saints enjoying the birthday celebrations.

**Holy of Holies Tabernacle Birthday celebrations photos continued:**



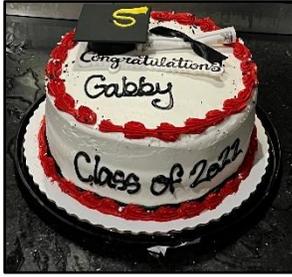
**In the Photos:** HHT saints enjoying the birthday celebrations.

- **From Holy of Holies Tabernacle (HHT):** HHT celebrated its students for their achievements during the school year. Their achievements include 3.00 and higher GPA, Honor Roll, Student of the Year, Leadership Awards, and more. Congratulations to Monica Brewer who graduated from elementary and special congratulations to LaToya Brewer who graduated from high school.

*Minister Kim Mastin: “We are proud of all our students.”*

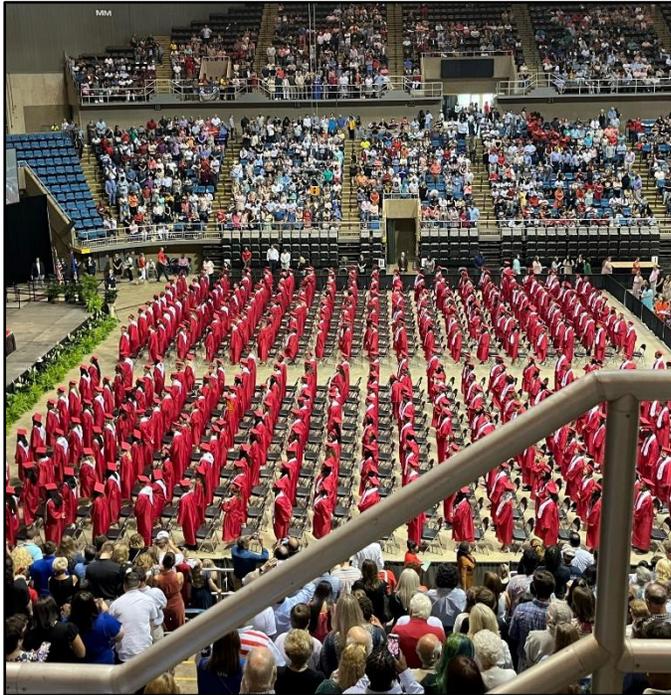


**In the Photos:** HHT saints celebrating students' awards and school graduations.



- **From Christ the Redeemer (CTR):** CTR celebrated Gabrielle Burton who graduated from high school. Family and friends came together to show their love and support for her.

*Minister Kourtney Littlejohn:* “Congratulations, Gabby!”



**In the Photos:** CTR saints enjoying the graduation celebration for Gabby.



- **From Prince of Peace (POP):** Sister Euda Thomas and her husband celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary. POP also celebrated Pastor Paulette Harrison’s and Sister Thomas’ birthdays.

*Elder Paulette Harrison:* “We wish Sister Thomas all the best on her 78th birthday.”

**In the Photo:** Elder Paulette Harrison, Sister Euda Thomas, and family celebrating their birthdays.

**Prince of Peace Birthday celebration photos continued:**



**In the Photo:** Elder Paulette Harrison, Sister Euda Thomas, and family celebrating their birthdays.

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- **From Promise:** Elder Paula Smith, Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Elect Ladies Director, was the Mistress of Ceremony during a service at the 2022 Church of the Living God International (CLGI) Elect Ladies Conference, held May 27-29 in Lithonia, Ga.

**In the Photo:** Elder Paula Smith and attendees at the CLGI Elect Ladies Conference.

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### Category: Prayer Request

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*The saints need healing 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 avails much" (James 5:16b NKJV).

Elder T'Angela Rogers (Healing)  
Elder Paulette Harrison (Complete Healing)  
Minister Sirita Loiseau (Healing)  
Minister India Rogers (Healing)  
Elder Paula Smith (Complete Healing)  
Elder Deborah Sewell (Healing)  
Minister Eartha Howard (Healing)  
Elder Bonita Russell (Healing)  
Sister Barbara Cooper (Healing)  
Minister Kourtney Littlejohn (Healing)  
Bishop William Lee III (Complete Healing)  
Elder Jacqueline Terrell (Healing)  
Elder Angela Jenkins (Healing)  
Sister Nancy Torres (Healing)  
Sister Eleanor Rogers' Mother (Ms. Rosa Welcome) (Healing)  
Elder T'Angela Rogers' Mother and Step Father (Healing)  
Minister Kourtney Littlejohn's Sister (Veronika) (Healing)  
Sister Omekia Whitney (Healing)  
Bishop Jay Johnson and Family (Condolences)  
Stovall, Rule and Thompson-Jones Families (Condolences)

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## 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

### Revival Dates

August 12-14: Holy of Holies Tabernacle

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

### *The 2022 Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Calendar*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Jun 6	CLGI Consecration Begins	N/A
<b>Cancelled</b>	<b>Elder Harrison Pastoral Anniversary</b>	<b>Jacksonville, FL</b>
Jun 22	CLGI Consecration Ends	N/A
Jun 24-Jul 3	IYYAC/Brotherhood/General Assembly	Mobile, AL
<b>Jul 23-24</b>	<b>Elder Russell Pastoral Anniversary</b>	<b>Montgomery, AL</b>
Aug 5-7	First Jurisdictional Conference	Columbus, OH
Aug 25-28	South American Jurisdictional Conf.	Paramaribo, Suriname
<b>Sep 3-4</b>	<b>Elder Calix Pastoral Anniversary</b>	<b>FWB, FL</b>
Sep 2-4	Central States Jurisdictional Conf.	Kansas City, MO
Sep 2-4	North Carolina Pre-Jurisdictional Conference	TBD
<b>Sep 17-18</b>	<b>GCJ Missions Conference</b>	<b>Gulfport, MS</b>
<b>TBD</b>	<b>GCJ CE Recreational Fellowship</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Oct 8-9</b>	<b>Pastor Mastin's Pastoral Anniversary</b>	<b>Holiday, FL</b>
Oct 7-9	PNW Jurisdictional Conf.	Honolulu, HI
Oct 21-23	European Jurisdictional Conf.	Rodenbach, Germany
<b>Nov 18-20</b>	<b>Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Conf.</b>	<b>FWB, FL</b>
<b>Dec 3-4</b>	<b>Elder Thompson Pastoral Anniv.</b>	<b>Gulfport, MS</b>

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*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](mailto: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*

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