

Bishop Smith encouraged the saints on Resurrection Sunday



In the Photos: Bishop Charles D. Smith doing communion at Promise Church in Ft. Walton Beach, Fla.

FORT WALTON BEACH, FLA. – “We must believe in the resurrection of Jesus in order for us to be saved (1 Corinthians 15),” said Bishop Charles D. Smith, Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Bishop, and Pastor of Promise Church, while preaching on Sunday morning, April 9, 2023. Those who could not make it to the church were able to participate via Zoom.

Bishop Smith said that when Jesus was praying in the garden of Gethsemane before He went to the cross, He was looking for the joy that was set before Him (Hebrews 12:2). Jesus believed that God would raise Him from the dead—but He need the angels to strengthen Him in the garden so He could make it to the cross. “We must live a life as though we have been crucified with Christ and risen from the dead with Him. We must keep our minds on heavenly things and not on things of the earth,” said Bishop Smith.

“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me” (Galatians 2:20, NKJV). “If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God” (Colossians 3:1, NKJV).

The Bishop's Corner

The Bishop's Corner

Two Resurrections

Praise the Lord Saints,

“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. For as the Father has live in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man. Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation” (John 5:24-29, NKJV).

There will be two resurrections, the first one is for the righteous and the second one is for the unrighteous. You must tell yourself, “I must be in the first resurrection.” Those in the first resurrection, which includes 5 Raptures, will reign with Christ 1,000 years. “Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall reign with Him a thousand years” (Revelation 20:6, NKJV).

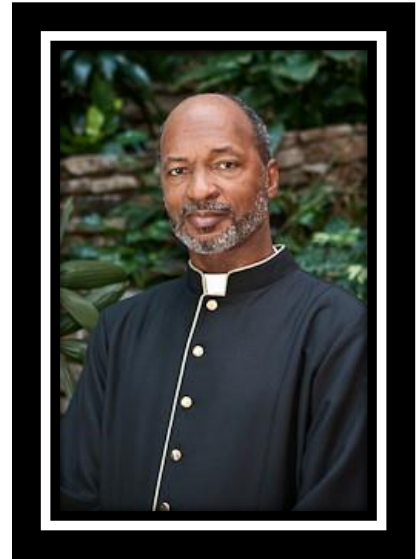
Jesus, who Himself had no sin, died for the sins of the world; and was raised from the dead after 3 days and 3 nights by the Power of God. When we believe on Jesus Christ and He comes into our life it should be a great celebration because there is nothing greater in a human's life than to be born again, except for the Rapture. Our life is supposed to reflect Christ because we have the Holy Spirit to help us.

The Holy Spirit needs to remind us daily of Jesus' resurrection and refresh us in the Lord so that we can continue to grow in the spirit. We must allow the Holy Spirit to have his way in our lives and not hinder him by giving him a small cramped space to operate in us. The Holy Spirit puts up with a lot of junk in us, so we should want every part of ourselves to be resurrected and made new by the Spirit. We should always want to keep growing in God by allowing the Holy Spirit to have full reign in us. Never tell the Holy Spirit that he is wrong because he is the Spirit of truth, and it is him that will change us to immortality.

“Behold, I tell 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 trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality” (1 Corinthians 15:51-53, 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 April stories

Category: Events

During the month of April, one church had a ladies' tea.

- **From Christ the Redeemer:** Christ the Redeemer's Elect Ladies Department recently hosted a tea. The theme was "Teaching, Encouraging, and Admonishing One Another." There was plenty of food, games, and encouragement. The ladies discussed celebrating the unique things about themselves and finding the room to grow. They learned many things such as how to be a good guest/hostess, how to make a prayer box, and how to pour the perfect cup of tea!



Missionary Hannah James: "We were all blessed and encouraged."



In the Photos: Christ the Redeemer ladies enjoying the tea and fellowship.

Category: Departmental Announcements:

- **From the GCJ Evangelistic Department:** Below are the members of the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Evangelistic Department. 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 her availability.

1. Elder Ruth Latham – *Revival at Holy of Holies Tabernacle, Holiday, Fla. (Aug 11-13, 2023)*
 2. Minister Crystal Derico
 3. Minister Shaundra D. Smith
-

Category: Prayer Request

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 Deborah Sewell (Healing)
Minister Eartha Howard (Healing)
Elder Bonita Russell (Healing)
Sister Barbara Cooper (Healing)
Minister Kourtney Littlejohn (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 Stepfather (Healing)
Minister Kourtney Littlejohn's Sister (Veronika) (Healing)
Elder Treani Thompson (Healing)
Elder Lakesha Sewell (Healing)
Brother David Hawkins (Healing)

Category: Upcoming Events

- **From the Administrative Department:**

The 2023 Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Calendar

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Events</u>	<u>Locations</u>
Jun 5	CLGI Consecration Begins	N/A
Jun 3-4	Elder Harrison Pastoral Anniversary	Jacksonville, FL
Jun 28	CLGI Consecration Ends	N/A
Jun 30-Jul 9	IYYAC/Brotherhood/General Assembly	Mobile, AL
Jul 22-23	Elder Russell Pastoral Anniversary	Montgomery, AL
Aug 4-6	First Jurisdictional Conference	Columbus, OH
Aug 24-27	South American Jurisdictional Conference	Paramaribo, Suriname
Sep 1-3	North Carolina/Central States Juris. Conference	TBD
TBD	GCJ CE Recreational Fellowship	TBD
Sept 15-17	CLGI Missions Conference	Columbus, OH
Oct 7-8	Holy of Holies Tabernacle Church Anniv.	Holiday, FL
Oct 6-8	PNW Jurisdictional Conference	Lithonia, GA
Oct 20-22	European Jurisdictional Conference	Rodenbach, Germany
Nov 17-19	Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Conference	FWB, FL
Dec 2-3	Elder Thompson Pastoral Anniversary	Gulfport, MS
Dec 31	New Year's Eve Service	TBD

*Please note that events and dates are subject to change.

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*
