**Aflame Sunday Celebration Message – 22 July 2018**

**Minister : Pastor Jimmy S Goh**

**Theme : GOD’s Promises Thru CHRIST (1)**

**In last of my Sermon Series – our Old Carnal Nature has to Die, so CHRIST is Formed in us. Galatians 2: 20 – 21 (NLT)**

My *old self* [I, Sinful Nature] has been crucified with CHRIST. It is no longer I [Carnal, Flesh Nature] who live, but CHRIST lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of GOD, Who loved me and gave HIMSelf for me.

I do not treat the Grace of GOD as meaningless. For if keeping the law could make us right with GOD, then there was no need for CHRIST to die.

**~ CHRIST Died so that our Old Nature be Crucified with HIM, so by Grace HE is Living in us. ~ By the SPIRIT, in Faith, then the Old Sinful Nature has NO Craving Power to Overpower us.**

**We are Reborn by the SPIRIT to be Free, so Live in the Freedom of Being Set Free – Freedom.**

***~*** *My little children, for whom I labor in birth again* ***until CHRIST is formed in you - Galatians 4: 19.***

**~ Galatians 5: 1** Stand fast therefore in the Liberty by which CHRIST *has made us* Free, and do not be entangled again with *a yoke of bondage*.

**Spiritually our Attitude that CHRIST is Formed in us, our Whole Being is Bought by CHRIST.**

**1 Corinthians 6: 17 – 20**

But he who is joined to the LORD is One Spirit with HIM. Flee sexual immorality.

Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the Temple of the HOLY SPIRIT Who is in you,

Whom you have from GOD, and *you are not your own* ? For you were bought at a price; therefore Glorify GOD *in your Body and in your Spirit*, which are GOD’s.

**We cannot fool GOD Who knows All, how we are Sowing in our Lives, to please Self or SPIRIT. Galatians 6: 4, 8 (NKJ/NLT)** But let *each one examine his own work*, and then he will have *rejoicing in himself alone*, and not in another.

For he who *sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption*, but he who sows to the SPIRT will

of the SPIRIT reap Everlasting Life.

Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will *harvest decay and death* from that sinful nature. But *those who live to please the SPIRIT* will harvest Everlasting Life from the SPIRIT.

**2 Corinthians 13: 5 (NLT/NKJ)** Examine yourselves to see if your faith is genuine. Test yourselves. Surely you know that

JESUS CHRIST is among you; *if not*, you have failed the test of genuine faith.

Examine yourselves as to whether you *are in the Faith*. Test yourselves. Do you *not know yourselves*, that JESUS CHRIST is in you ? - unless indeed *you are disqualified*.

**~ Examine Ourselves Truly, if you are Living in Following CHRIST Genuinely ?**

**~ Examine Ourselves if your Faith is in the Truth, CHRIST is Formed in you ? HE is you ?**

**Hebrews 12: 1 – 3 (NLT)**

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the *Life of Faith*, let us

***strip off every weight*** that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us

Run with endurance the Race GOD has *Set before us*. We do this by *keeping our eyes* on JESUS, the Champion Who *initiates and perfects our faith*. Because of the Joy Awaiting HIM, HE endured the Cross, disregarding its shame. Now HE is seated in the Place of Honor beside GOD’s Throne.

Think of all the hostility HE endured from sinful people; then you won’t become weary and give up.

**Life of Faith > Each Race Set by GOD > Endurance > Life Pattern from Beginning till End.**

**~ Strip Off Every Weight, which Spiritually Expose our Eyes, our Hearts, our Humility.**

**~ Not to Carry Burdens emotionally wearing out our Souls – Anxiety, Worries, Earthly Desires.**

**The World is in the Urgency of the Hour for Winning Souls, thru CHRIST’s Salvation.**

**~ Reference Isaiah 53: 4 – 6.**

**~ And HE bore the sins of Many and made Intercession for the Transgressors – Isaiah 53: 12b.**

**We are Saved & Called by the LORD, not for only Own Salvation but the Salvation of As Many. Isaiah 54: 1 – 4**

"Sing, O barren, you who have not borne ! Break forth into singing, and cry aloud, you who have not labored with child ! For *more* *are* ***the children of the desolate*** than the children of the married woman," says the LORD. "Enlarge the place of your tent, and let them stretch out the curtains of your dwellings; Do not spare; Lengthen your cords, and *strengthen your stakes*. For you shall *expand to the right and*

*to the left*, and *your descendants* *will inherit the nations*, and ***make the desolate cities inhabited.***

"Do not fear, for you will not be ashamed; Neither be disgraced, for you will not be put to shame;

For you will forget the shame of your youth, and will not remember the reproach of your widowhood anymore.

**Isaiah 54: 6**

**For your Maker *is* your Husband, The LORD of Hosts is HIS Name; and your Redeemer is the**

**Holy ONE of Israel; HE is called the GOD of the whole earth. For the LORD *has called you***

***like a woman forsaken* and grieved in spirit, like a youthful wife *when you were* *refused*,"**

**says your GOD.**

**The LORD has Called us to be as A Husband, Given by the Promise of the FATHER’s Love. 2 Peter 3: 9**

The LORD is not slack concerning HIS Promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, *not willing that any should* *perish* but that *All should come to repentance*.

**2 Peter 3: 8 – 13 (NLT)** But you must not forget this one thing, dear friends: A day is like a thousand years to the LORD, and

a thousand years is like a Day. The LORD isn’t really being slow about HIS Promise, as some people think. No, HE is being *patient for your sake*. HE does not want anyone to be destroyed, but

*wants everyone to repent*. But the Day of the LORD will come as unexpectedly as a thief. Then

the heavens will pass away with a terrible noise, and the very elements themselves will disappear in fire, and the earth and everything on it will be found to deserve judgment.

Since everything around us is going to be destroyed like this, what Holy and Godly lives you should live, looking forward to the Day of GOD and hurrying it along. On that day, HE will set the heavens on fire, and the elements will melt away in the flames. But we are looking forward to the New Heavens and

New Earth HE has promised, a World filled with GOD’s Righteousness.

**Looking unto JESUS is our Focus with *Heavenly Desires*, *not Seduced* by Earthy Cravings.**

**2 Peter 3: 14 – 16**

Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by HIM in Peace,

*without spot and blameless*; and consider that the *Longsuffering of our* LORD is Salvation - as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the Wisdom given to him, has written to you, as also in all his Epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people *twist to their own destruction*, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.

**From our Own Hearts, we must be Able to Confess our Faith, we Witness to others by Faith. Romans 10: 9 – 10 (NLT)**

If you openly declare that JESUS is LORD and believe in your heart that GOD raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with GOD, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved.

**Romans 10: 11, 13 – 17 (NLT)**

As the Scriptures tell us, “Anyone who trusts in HIM will never be disgraced.”

For “Everyone who calls on the Name of the LORD will be saved.”

But *how can they call on* HIM to save them unless they believe in HIM ?

And how can they believe in HIM *if they have never heard about* HIM ?

And how can they hear about HIM unless someone tells them ?

And how will anyone *Go and Tell* them without being sent ?

That is why the Scriptures say, “How *beautiful are the feet* of Messengers who bring Good News! ”

But *not everyone* welcomes the Good News, for Isaiah the prophet said,

“LORD, who has believed our message?”

**So *faith comes from hearing*, that is, hearing the Good News about CHRIST.**

**From Beginning, Foolish & Wicked People wouldn’t Worship the GOD, Darken & Confused. Romans 1: 20 – 22 (NLT)**

For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything

GOD made, they can clearly see HIS Invisible Qualities - HIS Eternal Power and Divine Nature.

So they have no excuse for not knowing GOD. Yes, they knew GOD, but they wouldn’t worship HIM

as GOD or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what GOD was like.

As a result, their *minds became dark and confuse*d. Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools.

**Walking Close to the LORD as the Centre of our Lives, Wisely in HIS Will, Redeeming Time.**

**Ephesians 5: 15 – 17**

See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, *Redeeming the Time*, because the

*days are evil*. Therefore do not be unwise, but *understand what* the Will of the LORD is.

**The LORD’s Promise is A Call of Salvation to Enter into HIS Presence to be at Rest with HIM. Acts 2: 32 – 33 (NLT)**

GOD raised JESUS from the dead, and we are all witnesses of this. Now HE is exalted to the

Place of Highest Honor in Heaven, at GOD’s Right Hand. And the FATHER, as **HE had** ***Promised***,

*gave* HIM the HOLY SPIRIT *to pour out upon us*, just as you see and hear today.

**Acts 2: 38 – 39**

Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the Name of JESUS CHRIST *for the remission of sins*; and you shall receive the Gift of the HOLY SPIRIT. For the Promise is to you and to your children, and to All *who are Afar Off*, as many as the LORD our GOD *will call*."

**FATHER GOD’s Promise is for All by their Faith, to Enter into HIS Spiritual Rest, thru CHRIST. Hebrews 4: 1 – 2 (NLT), 2 (NKJ) GOD’s Promise of entering HIS Rest** still stands, so we ought to tremble with fear that some of *you might fail to experience it*. For this Good News - that GOD has prepared this Rest - has been announced to us just as it was to them. But **It did them no good** because they *didn’t share the faith* of those who listened to GOD.

For indeed the Gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the Word *which they heard*

***did not profit them, not being mixed with faith*** *in those who* heard It.

**Romans 1: 16 – 17 (NKJ/NLT)** For I am *Not Ashamed* of the Gospel of CHRIST, for it is the Power of GOD *to salvation for everyone*

*who believes*, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in It the Righteousness of GOD is revealed *from faith to faith*; as it is written, "THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

For I am not ashamed of this Good News about CHRIST. It is the **Power of GOD at work,**

***saving*** ***everyone who believes*** - the Jew first and also the Gentile. This Good News tells us how

GOD *makes us Right* in HIS Sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith.

As the Scriptures say, “It is through faith that a righteous person has life.”

**We in CHRIST, have Received the Promise of the FATHER, to be Baptised in the SPIRIT.**

**Acts 1: 4 – 5**

And being assembled together with *them,* HE commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to

wait for the Promise of the FATHER, "which," HE said, "you have heard from ME; for John truly baptized with water, but *you shall be baptized with* the HOLY SPIRIT not many days from now."

**Acts 1: 8 (NLT)**

But you will receive Power when the HOLY SPIRIT comes upon you. And you will be MY Witnesses, *telling people about ME everywhere* - in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

**Declaring & Proclaiming the Word, Good New of JESUS, there be the Power to Save Many.** **Acts 16: 31 – 34**

So they said, "Believe on the LORD JESUS CHRIST, and you will be saved, you and your household." Then they spoke the Word of the LORD to him and to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night *and washed their stripes*. And *immediately he* *and All his family were baptized*. Now when he *had brought them into his house*, he set food before them; and *he rejoiced, having*

*believed in* GOD *with All his household*.

**We will Bring Hope by the Power of the SPIRIT, when we are Filled Ourselves by the SPIRIT. Romans 15: 13**

Now may the GOD of Hope *fill you with all Joy and Peace in believing*, that *you may abound* in Hope

by the Power of the HOLY SPIRIT.

**John 14: 12**

"Most assuredly, I say to you, *he who believes in* ME, the works that I do he will do also; and *greater works than these* he will do, because I go to MY FATHER.”

**Our LORD JESUS CHRIST has Entrusted us, HIS Spiritual Body**

**~ Empowered us for Doing Greater Works than HIS Short Time on Earth.**

**~ Envisioned us for our Destiny to be with HIM, with Many more Given the Same Hope.**