

Jesus

THE LIGHT *of* THE WORLD

Southern Africa Annual Camp Meeting: 12-19 December 2021



Theme: *God's fellowship with his own*

2021 Southern Africa Camp Meeting Overview

The 2021, Southern Africa Camp Meeting was memorable and distinct from other Camp Meetings. Pre-camp meeting preparation was characterized by morning prayers, the brethren convening from 5am – 6am virtually on the ZOOM platform every Monday to Saturday. Those who did not have access to the platform gathered physically at the church sites or joined in the Spirit from their homes. The camp meeting was unique and memorable as we worshiped together with some of our brethren following re-unification after nearly two decades apart. The separation had occurred after the enemy of our souls brought in some misunderstandings following leadership change in the Southern Africa District.

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, this camp meeting was graced by some brethren physically attending services at the Highfield, Harare church whilst many joined in the services online through Zoom, YouTube and Facebook. Services were livestreamed on these platforms from different countries: Zimbabwe, South Africa, Namibia, Botswana and Malawi. Zoom attendees peaked at over 250 and online viewership on other platforms peaked at 64

views during the camp meeting. In Zimbabwe, brethren from across the country travelled to Harare for the Workers' Conference. About 278 people physically attended the workers' conference and 450 people attended the Opening Service in person at the Highfields, Harare church.

Ordinarily the camp meeting runs for a fortnight, but due to limitations associated with a virtual camp meeting, this year the camp meeting was held over nine days. There were three services during the weekends and two services during the week. Because the normal school calendar was disturbed by the lockdowns and many of the brethren's work schedules were also disturbed, bible teachings were held in the evenings when many people would be available. The youth services and the children's service were held at 1500 hours, when many of the young people would be back from school. An inspirational concert was featured on the last Saturday of the camp meeting which took the brethren down memory lane and it felt as if we were all gathered in one place! Some of the featured services are summarized in the following pages:

Bible Teachings & Devotional Services

God's fellowship with His Own people:
By Regional District Superintendent
Brother Onias Gumbo



This bible teaching opened by a text from Genesis 1:26-28 revealed that fellowship entails the existence of a relationship and that mankind lost fellowship with God when Adam disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden. Eve was clear of God's instruction regarding the tree in the middle of the garden but she chose to disobey. In like manner the word of God has been revealed to mankind and all have been given the choice of whether or not to obey the truth.

Attendees were exhorted to be born again, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost and fire in order to put on and maintain the image of the new man created in the likeness of God. Signs and wonders will follow as part of the package of privileges received from God. Therefore Christians have no need to go about scouting for signs and wonders. God's

fellowship with His own is enjoyed miraculously on a daily basis and will last eternally for those who strive to remain as the beloved children of God.

The Kingdom Of God: By Brother
Newton Jaravani

The bible teaching had a climax on Psalm 15: 1- 5. It drew parallels between earthly authorities, their leadership styles and the glorious soon coming reign of Jesus Christ, to show that the imperfections in earthly kingdoms will be no more. Instead it will be a powerful, peaceful and glorious kingdom of Christ and his saints. An opportunity to enter God's kingdom is presented through salvation as Nicodemus was told in John 3:3.

Many Jews including Pharisees and Sadduces failed to recognize Jesus because they expected the Messiah to come with much pomp and fanfare befitting earthly kingdoms. Their hearts were hardened through unbelief which made it impossible for them to be partakers of God's plan of salvation. Even in our day a lot of people are bound by unbelief. Christ is the way for "whosoever will" to enter the heavenly kingdom.

At the end of time, Christ will hand over His Kingdom back to the Father. While He sits at the right hand of God's throne today, whosoever will may come and be released

from the servitude of sin. Those who are saved, and remain faithful will enjoy the eternal rewards in God's kingdom.

The Three Basic Christian Experiences: By Brother Zaccheus Oyedukun

This bible teaching which opened with Psalms 11: highlighted that the experience of salvation frees one from the bondage of sin and condemnation. To receive the experience, one believes with the heart, with their mouth confession is made. Sanctification deals with the inbred sin that makes all human beings inclined to a sinful nature. In order to be sanctified one must consecrate their life and faithfully approach God in prayer. Sanctification is evident in believers' holy actions, reactions and motives. Sanctification manifests in unity among believers. The Baptism of the Holy Ghost and Fire avails power for service. In order to receive the gift, one must fully dedicate one's life to God. These three Christian experiences are foundational and instantaneous but the evidence is continuous.

The Rapture of the Church: By Brother Lordick Motshidisi

This bible teaching indicated how God always spares His own people from His wrath. The

people in the days of Noah, could not fathom the possibility of a flood. While they were in their spiritual slumber, it rained heavily and suddenly the flood was upon them. While the saints of God will rejoice to be raptured with Christ, it will be a time of terror for those who will not be prepared. The question still begs " Are you ready for the rapture?"

The second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ is distinguished by two separate events: the rapture of the church and the revelation of Christ. Christ will first come secretly to take His waiting bride to the Marriage supper, then return publicly with His saints to reign on earth for a thousand years. The rapture will be sudden and without warning. As a thief comes at a time when the household is relaxed and least expecting him, Jesus will return, when people are least expecting him. Blessed are those servants who will be found ready when the Master comes because they will be greatly rewarded.

The Great Tribulation & the Antichrist- By Brother Confidence Nemaungane

The bible teaching showed that the Great Tribulation will take place between the rapture of the church and the revelation of Christ. While the marriage supper is taking place in heaven, the great tribulation will be ongoing on earth. The great tribulation will

last for seven years. The man of sin will be revealed in the form of a human being who will be used mightily by Satan to show signs and wonders to deceive nations. All those whose names are not written in the book of life will worship him. The devil will put a mark of 666 on his followers to identify them with himself and no one will be able to buy or sell without the mark.

The era of the Great tribulation will end at the return of Christ at his revelation. We must all aim for the rapture of the saints so that we will be spared from pain and distress of the Great tribulation.

The Great White Throne Judgement- By Brother Kwaziso Bhosha

The Great White Throne Judgement expounded from Revelations 20: 11-15 takes place at the end of the millennial reign of Christ before the New Heaven and New Earth are ushered in to replace this sin blighted world. This bible teaching emphasized the importance of being saved to have our names written in the Lamb's book of life. Those whose names are found in the Book of life will escape the Great White Throne Judgment and its consequent penalty of the second death in the lake of fire. It was revealed that God maintains efficient and complete records in heaven. Those who did not repent will appear at the Great White Throne

Judgement. All men will be judged according to their works. Saints were admonished to be overcomers and have a part in the first resurrection which will occur at the rapture of the Church so that the second death may have no power over them.

Distinction from the World- By Brother Assah Chimeri

This bible teaching showed distinguishing attributes for God's people in a sinful world. Separation from the world is a command from God Himself. Our being in the Gospel is through Jesus Christ who was never of this world. True Christians live on this earth without a love for things of this world. Daniel purposed in His heart that he would not to defile himself with the food of the king and was able to stand for his faith. The three Hebrew boys chose to be thrown into the furnace than to bow to the king's idol. There are many examples in the Bible of people that chose to distinguish themselves from the world.

Self-denial is key in being separate from the world. In addition, brotherly kindness is a key distinguishing factor between the children of God and the world. When Christ is in us, He will not allow us to conform to the methods and practices of this world. He desires us to be like Him – distinct and separated from the world.

Worshipping God: By Brother Onias

Gumbo



The bible teaching revealed that worshipping God is the business of the redeemed children of God. When one is in

Christ, one is a new creature. The new creature is able to appreciate God, to understand the value of God and to fear him. The kind of understanding that the new creature is given, impacts the person's actions and way of life. The new way of life is the true worship of God. This kind of worship brings about the full surrender and acceptance of the superiority of God over

one's whole being.

Some examples of true worshippers of God in the Bible include the poor widow who gave the little she had. Jesus said that of all the people that had given their gifts, the widow was the greatest giver. We also read of how the believers in the early church were selling all they had and sharing all with the other believers. Their mindset was "Take all, but give me Jesus!" The wise men from the East came to worship the baby Jesus with precious gifts. Their goal was to offer their lives, treasures and hearts to God. This is what worship entails!

The Holy Spirit is in charge of worship in those that are new creatures. Worshipping God will begin on this earth and it will last throughout eternity.

Youth, Children & Evangelistic Services

The Mind Of Christ: By Brother

Killian Nyamuona

This evangelistic message taught that the thoughts of a person determine that person's destiny. The authority who wins and controls one's mind controls one's destiny. The world is constantly supplying information that congests man's mind in a bid to win all the attention. Social media is awash with all kinds of information. The word of God tells us about vain thinking in Philippians 2:3 and

Ephesians 4:18-20 reminding us that vain thinkers will have darkened thoughts. The devil whispers to their ears suggesting that what is good is evil and what is evil is good. Those who obey him end up chasing after evil to their destruction instead of righteousness.

James 3:14 warns the Christians about the danger of the carnal mind, which focuses on earthly, sensual, and devilish activities. Saved youths were admonished not to want to be like the children of the world but desire the sincere milk of the world in order to

mature spiritually.

Shall He Find Faith On Earth?- By Brother Samuel Jegede

Another youth service warned of the danger of the little foxes that spoil the vine as written in Songs of Solomon 2 vs 15. Youths were reminded not to love the world and its evil treasures as this has caused many to experience spiritual shipwreck in their lives.

For one to have faith in God, the first step is for one to receive salvation. This generation is full of young people who believe they know it all and are wise in their own eyes. Despite what the world may say, the timeless principles that God put in His word stand true over the ages. If youths stand up together for what is right before God, that will build future generations which fear God.

The Dangers Of Apostasy- By Brother Sydney Kaseke

This Youth Service expounded the text from Romans 1:21, warning all people not to ignore the word they have heard. It was revealed that God can leave a stubborn person to their devices, leading to their inevitable destruction but an opportunity to escape and hide under God's wings was still available.

Over the years, many individuals had turned against the principles of righteousness they once embraced. The Church of God lost many youths to the world. Since they rejected God, God also rejecting them, resulting in them losing their lives miserably under questionable circumstances.

All were reminded to put a high premium on godliness and consider the immense sacrifice that Jesus Christ made for the salvation of mankind.

God's Kindness To The Sinner- By Brother Jameson Nkiwane

This Evangelistic message expounded from Luke 7:37-50 revealed Christ's love and mercy toward the worst sinner. The brokenness in the heart of the woman who was considered a sinner by Simon, a renowned Pharisee who was privileged to invite Jesus for supper at his home, paid an eternal dividend when she was saved. Jesus prophetically let this woman honour Him by anointing his feet with her precious ointment and wiping them with her own hair shortly before Jesus died on the cross and was hurriedly buried.

The message warned of the danger of self-righteousness exhibited by the Pharisee who doubted that Jesus was indeed a prophet. Carnality still causes many people like Simon

to miss glorious opportunities from God. Without confession of sins committed, good works alone cannot bring salvation for the soul, but Jesus will never disappoint a penitent seeker.

The Gospel That Comes By Revelation- By Brother Edwin Mashau

This evangelistic message highlighted the importance of receiving a revelation of Christ in this life. If Christ does not reveal himself to us, our worship will be void of the requisite understanding. The criminal confessed how he was justly being crucified for his sins and how Christ was undeserving of the cruel death on the cross. Unlike his counterpart who despised Jesus, his penitent, simple and short prayer of faith: *“Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom”* immediately transformed him from a malefactor (a robber) destined for hell into a saint destined for Paradise. This incident illustrated the sufficiency of the price paid for the salvation of mankind.

The Word Of God Is Light- By Brother Christopher Nkhata

The Evangelical Message was expounded from Psalm 119:105. David said *“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”* David was declaring that as he went about his everyday life, the word of God led

and directed him! Christians should wholly depend on the word of God for enlightenment through the Holy Ghost.

Reading from 2 Kings 22, Hilkiah found the book of the law of God which was lost. How sad to have the essence of the word of God missing from the church! The book was given to Shaphan the scribe who in turn read it before the king. When the king heard the words of the book, he rent his clothes in humility. He realized that there was grave danger looming ahead.

In our day many perils including drought, pestilence and earthquakes ravage many countries. The world is currently reeling under the scourge of COVID 19 and its variants because people’s hearts have departed from God. Scientific language expressions are used to blind man to the effects of the wrath of God, as man desperately try to explain certain disastrous occurrences under natural phenomena such as climatic change yet their origin is spiritual and a curse to the human race. Only full surrender to God and submission to His revealed will through the word can save mankind from these catastrophes which are propelling man to their eternal damnation.

Marriage Seminar- Anchored by Brothers Kwaziso Bhosha and Felix Panganayi



Highlights of the seminar included topics such as preparing for marriage, courtship, counselling, the wedding day and the ministry's support for

newlyweds.

Marriage is a divinely instituted union between man and woman and any other unions outside that are an abomination to God. There is absolutely no room for divorce and remarriage when the other party is alive. The example of Eliezer seeking a wife for Isaac under lined the importance of marriages being authored by God while individuals are in prayer. Marriage should be based on the exposition of the whole truth with individuals making realistic representations of their faith in God and towards each other. Sexual and spiritual purity should always be maintained not only during courtship, but also throughout any successful marriage.

Family finances are God's provision to be well managed with responsibilities being considerably shared between husband and wife since the two have become one. As conflicts are inevitable in marriage, what matters is that when they occur, they are resolved in a godly manner. Humility and honesty are necessary ingredients of successful marriages.

Children's Service: A Gift- By Sister Evidence Rusere



The Children Service highlighted that God loves children. Because of this, He gave Jesus Christ to

save us from our sins. A gift is something that we do not deserve or choose. God loved us so much that He gave us a wonderful gift – Jesus. When one gets a nicely wrapped gift and they do not know what is inside, what is it that matters the most? The gift wrap or the gift inside? It is the gift! Some children act as if it is the wrap that matters. Some children come to church to play. Others say they will get saved later. They are like that child who receives a teddy bear present from their mum or dad. They quickly open the present, throw away the teddy bear present, and start playing with the wrapping paper. When Jesus says, "Give me your heart, " some children refuse and promise to give Him their hearts when they are older.

If you accept salvation, you are like an obedient child accepting a precious gift from a loving parent. You will love it and play with it. This gratifies the parent to buy you more gifts. Have you accepted this wonderful gift of Jesus as your friend?

Pictures from the Camp Meeting

