

He said:

²⁵ *I know that my redeemer lives,
and that in the end he will stand on the earth.*
²⁶ *And after my skin has been destroyed,
yet in my flesh I will see God;*
²⁷ *I myself will see him
with my own eyes, I, and not another.
How my heart yearns within me! (Job 19:25-27)*

During His ministry on earth, Jesus enlightened the misguided Sadducees about this spiritual reality by saying:

³⁴ ... *“The people of this age marry and are given in marriage.
³⁵ But those who are considered worthy of taking part in the age to come and in the resurrection from the dead will neither marry nor be given in marriage, ³⁶ and they can no longer die; for they are like the angels. They are God’s children, since they are children of the resurrection. ...”*

Spiritually speaking, the Church is currently the temple of God.

This sense is reflected by the Apostle Paul in his epistle to the Ephesians. He wrote:

¹⁹ *Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹ In Him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²² And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by God’s Spirit. (Ephesians 2:19-22)*

The apostle Peter also wrote the following:

⁴ *As you come to Him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to God—⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house^[a] to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 2:4-5)*

In the physical sense, the Second Coming of Jesus Christ will be glorious, and as prophesied by the prophet Haggai, the millennial temple at Jerusalem will be most glorious - an expression of the beauty of the Spirit of the Lord.

The Christian Walk

The Apostle Paul describes the current status of believers:

And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into His image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. (2 Corinthians 3:18)

This verse describes the progressive sanctification of believers as we continually being transformed into the image of Christ Jesus by growing into the knowledge of Him. Spiritually speaking, all believers from the moment of conversion now have unveiled faces. Through continual contemplation of the Word of God, we are being transformed from one level of glory to another until we see Christ Jesus face to face in eternal glory.

The Apostle John assures his readers:

² *Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be, has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. ³ All who have this hope in Him purify themselves, just as He is pure. (1 John 3:2-3)*

The usual unforeseen changes in circumstances that affect our lives are to be ordered through the power of the Holy Spirit. We are urged to keep the past and the present in proper balance. We are encouraged not to dwell on the past, but to maintain an eternal perspective on life, and a continual quest to embrace divine revelation. Although we might not frequently reflect on it, we have the constant power to overcome our trials throughout our sanctification. This power is the same as the mighty strength that God the Father exerted when God raised Jesus from the dead and seated Him as His right hand in the heavenly realms. (See Ephesians 1: 15-23). This is indeed a profound spiritual truth.

Whilst some opine that the former days were far better than the current ones, the Christian worldview takes a balanced approach. What is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. We live by faith and not by sight. (2 Cor. 4:18; 5:7)

Believers’ faith and hope in their future glory are grounded in our knowledge of the Word of God, the source of objective truths, as revealed in the Holy Bible by our Supreme Creator. All truths are God’s truths.

We must be prepared to respond wisely to those who say that ‘Christians are so heavenly minded that they are no earthly good’, and also to those who consider Christianity as mythical. We should not be deterred by such remarks.

The following words of an unknown songwriter read:

*Laid hold by vision of His house,
We build earnestly, from indifference roused.
Although the world thinks us as fools,
To God we’re exceedingly precious jewels.
Our eyes behold eternity,
Glorious destiny seen transparently.
Arise! Make haste this age to turn
That the glory longed for may soon return!*

We should always be mindful of 1 Corinthians 2:14 which states:

¹⁴ *The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit. (1 Cor. 2:14)*

Romans 8: 17-30 is a clear revelation of believers’ future glory, and we should continually be inspired by those words.

Romans 8:28-30 states:

²⁸ *And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his*

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purpose. ²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰ And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

God has created all things for God's glory. The crown of God's creation is humankind, and believers are being made anew to conform to the likeness of Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior.

With all these revelations in mind, and given that believers currently have eternal life in Christ, how should we engage in our communities?

Believers in Christ are to live lives that are worthy of the calling we have received.

Not claiming to be perfect, Christians are called upon to be exemplars in our society. The quality of our inter-personal relationships must be for the glory of God. Wisdom must prevail, and we should continually pray for it. We should be aware of the adopted cultural norms that potentially compromise the Christian message. Whilst avoiding bigotry or hypocrisy, we should always have an evangelistic outlook. Our chief end is to glorify God and enjoy His presence forever. When Christ our life appears, then we will also be appearing with Him in glory.

The divine invitation to anticipate the future glory is the gospel of Jesus Christ, and believers are urged to spread it. Humanity is destined for glory, but only through the shed blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Moderator and General Secretary of the UCJCI Visit the CIRMC

On Thursday, October 27, 2022, Moderator Rt. Rev. Gary Harriott and General Secretary Rev. Norbert Stephens arrived at Grand Cayman for a five-day visit. It was the first official visit by such high-profile Church leaders of the UCJCI to the Cayman Islands since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The busy schedule, full of engagements from morning till evening every day, included meeting with Members of the Council, a radio recording for the 'Worship the Lord' Programme, spending a pastoral Retreat with Ministers and Lay Pastors, attending a Council wide Youth Event and a Men's Fellowship Breakfast, visiting the retired Ministers, the Beth Shalom Mission House, the Bethesda Counselling Centre, and the Cayman Prep and High School. The special guests also participated in the 100th Anniversary Celebrations of the Elmslie Memorial United Church Sanctuary and preached on Sunday morning at the East End and South Sound Congregations.

Speaking at the Special Council Meeting and at the Retreat the Moderator and the General Secretary, among other things,

expressed their appreciation to the leadership of the CIRMC for the successful completion of the realignment of Charges within the bounds of the CIRMC. The realignment model implemented by the CIRMC is now being used in the other three regional Mission Councils. The CIRMC was also commended for effectively addressing and managing the challenges the local Congregations face as the result of the pandemic.

The Moderator and the General Secretary concluded their visit to the CIRMC on October 31, 2022.



Meeting with Council Members at the Council Office



Group photo from the Moderator's Retreat with Ministers and Lay Pastors in Cayman Kai



Participation in the Men's Fellowship Breakfast held at the John Gray Memorial United Church

WEBSTER MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH
PRESENTS

AN EVENING OF MUSIC

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2022
@ 6:00pm
261 Bodden Town Road

COME & BE BLESSED
With Performances from our
Sister churches
Local Gospel and Community Performers



Cayman Council Women's Fellowship

Thanksgiving Lunch

Thursday, 24th November 2022
11am to 2pm
Elmslie United Church Hall

Menu
Turkey
Ham
Macaroni & Cheese
Potato Salad
Rice & Beans
Sweet Yam Casserole
Apple / Cranberry Sauce
Dinner Rolls
Apple Pie / Cassava Cake
Soft Drinks /Water
Ticket: \$16.00
Tickets available from Women's Fellowship Members

22nd Sunday in Pentecost


November 6, 2022

From Former to Future Glory


Haggai 1:15b – 2:9; Job 19:23-27
Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
Luke 20:27-38

When the children of Israel faced the reality of the destroyed temple, they knew that God's presence was no longer with them. They were traumatized by the removal of their final visible proof of God being with them. God reminds them that faith is more about Who is on the inside, than what is seen on the outside.

The current situation locally (economic and social in both Cayman and Jamaica) may incite despair of 'back in the days', the 'Good ole Days', and the temptation to consider that God has forsaken the believers. But remember - When faced with life's disappointments, like Job, we must declare that regardless of the now – 'I will behold God for myself'



The Cayman Islands Girls' Brigade
Invites you to attend
The Official Naming and Dedication
of the
Olive Miller Memorial Building



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH, 2022
at 4:30 PM
PROSPECT YOUTH CENTRE

Reveal of Commemorative plaque and display immediately after dedication



Elmslie Memorial United Church's
Youth Ministry
Presents

CAYMAN Culture Night

2022

CHURCH HALL
FRIDAY
NOV 11
7 PM

ADMISSION:
\$5

Refreshments on sale

Featuring:

- Elmslie Dance Ministry
- Cayman Islands Folk Singers
- Radiance Maypole Dancers
- Cayman Islands National Dance Company and more...



Worship
THE
LORD
Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council
Sundays at 7:45am on Radio Cayman

on Radio Cayman 89.9
every Sunday at 7:45 am

November 6, 2022
Mr. Herman Wilson

Published by the Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands
292 Prospect Point Road
P.O. Box 1700 Grand Cayman KY1-1109 CAYMAN ISLANDS
Tel: 1 345 947-1963 Email: rdgs@cicucjci.com or cirmcinfo@gmail.com
Website: unitedchurch.org.ky