

2016 New Year Camp Meeting

New Year's Message of Welcome

By

Elder Enoch Ofori Jnr

Title: In Him is “Yes” now and forever!

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“Greater Love has no man”

He has done it again. Our blessed life today, at the start of a new year, *having weathered all the storms of the past twelve months*, is the testament to His faithfulness.

We are warned in Proverbs 25:19 that “Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble is like a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint”. But glory to God! The Lord Jesus Christ does not have an iota of unfaithfulness in Him. On the contrary, He’s a dependable friend—a friend who has gone beyond the common obligations of friendship and has laid down His life for us.

“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends” (John 15:13).

That much He has done for us in a display of pure love and altruism. It’s therefore unreasonable to entertain any doubts whatsoever about His concern for us. We can absolutely stake our future and very life on Him. There’s “no shadow of turning” or inconsistency in Him.

His Word is faithful—like Himself. It’s as trustworthy and dependable as Himself. So you have no business differentiating between the two—that God in His real Self is more to be trusted than the word that He has sent. His Word is literally His bond! And that is what our lives are a living testimony to!

This was the wonderful truth the Apostle Paul shared with the believers in Corinth in his second epistle to them and which I am sharing with you so that you might come to appreciate more fully

the unequalled blessing that have become yours by the Word that has come to you from the glorious Father!

“But as God is true, our word toward you was not yea and nay.

“For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us, even by me and Silvanus and Timotheus, was not yea and nay, but in Him was yea.

“For all the promises of God in Him are yea, and in Him Amen, unto the glory of God by us” (2 Cor. 1:18-20).

And fittingly and rightfully will the glory be His forever!

But how can we be sure God is as true as His word which He has put in our mouth? What is the evidence?

It's the Messiah who makes God Real in our Lives

The evidence is found in the Christ who was preached unto us. The gospel of His salvation work, including His sacrifice and saving grace, is a reflection of God's faithfulness. For it is Christ Jesus, the Son of God, who makes GOD real in our life; it is He who situates Him in our human experiences as *Emmanuel* – “God with us”! (Matt. 1:23). He is the “image of the invisible God” (2 Cor. 4:3; Col. 1:15); “God in the flesh” (1 Tim. 3:16). “No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared Him” (John 1:18)—by showcasing His attributes of truth, mercy, love, etc.

And His gospel of truth is self-validating. The Corinthians needed not see Jesus in flesh, but the gospel they heard of Him *demonstrated* that He was faithful, genuine and no fake. It healed their bodies, saved their souls, empowered their spirits and liberated them from the power of sin and Satan!

Yeshua was and is real, and He's the Word of God. That is the proof. If you want evidence of God's faithfulness (what He can do in your life according to His word), look at Jesus' track record in your own life and in that of other believers.

And if Jesus is true so is God who has made Himself known by His Word—Christ, the “word made flesh” (John 1:14). His word can be relied upon.

In this Church, we know we can unreservedly rely on God's word because Jesus has been so real to us—a living experience in our lives. We have received salvation in His name, healing in His name, deliverance in His name, and a thousand other blessings in His name!

There's no way God or His Word can be untrue or inconsistent in their claims.

It's always Yes!

For all the promises of God to us, the fulfilment of which we have since experienced in our lives, are “Yes” and “Amen” and so is every other promise of God right from Genesis to Revelation!

Christ is the instrument of all divine promises, and so far the evidence of our blessed Christian life is that He has been spectacularly good at fulfilling God's promises to us:

“And we declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers,

“God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that He hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art My Son, this day have I begotten Thee” (Acts 13:32-33).

No promise of God will be left unfulfilled. The fulfilment of all His promises is guaranteed through Christ. As surely as none of the promises to the forefathers failed, so none will fail in our case. At the dedication of the Temple, King Solomon testified to God's faithfulness in a prayer recalling His promises to Moses and David, representing two great epochs in the history of God's people, Israel:

“Blessed be the LORD, that hath given rest unto His people Israel, according to all that He promised: there hath not failed one word of all His good promise, which He promised by the hand of Moses His servant” (1 Kings 8:56).

“And said, O LORD God of Israel, there is no God like Thee in the heaven, nor in the earth; which keepeth covenant, and shewest mercy unto Thy servants, that walk before thee with all their hearts:

“Thou which hast kept with thy servant David my father that which Thou hast promised him; and spakest with Thy mouth, and hast fulfilled it with Thine hand, as it is this day” (2 Chron. 6:14-15).

The faithful One won't fail us over the course of the new year. He is the Alpha and Omega (Rev. 1:4, 8), and His promise is that whatever we pass through this year, He won't leave us or forsake us (Heb. 13:5-6). What He has affirmed with His mouth, He will fulfill with His right hand—“Christ, the power and the wisdom of God”, who's “seated on the right hand of the Majesty on high” (1 Pet. 1:22; Heb. 1:3). Believe Him. He will bring us to a place of abundance (Ps. 66:12). Your own life is the vindication of His promise of truth. He has been good to you—that your soul knoweth right well. The time for His praise has come. Halleluiah!