

Let Us Proclaim He Is...Faithful

(In Celebration of a Planted Church)

“Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 1:6)

Hallelujah! Burst into song, Shout for joy! ***“Give thanks to the Lord, call to his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. Glory in his holy name; let the heart of those who seek the Lord rejoice.” (Psalm 105:1-3)***

A day to be remembered always where few of men known by their zeal to the Lord came to this place. They came inspired by God who was among them to plant a new seed in this city where the land is thirsty and to the Word of God there is longing. With hearts full of prayers they guarded this new seed. They were anxious not to be taken by the birds of the sky. And when it started to grow the gardeners began to think how to protect it from the scorching wind of evil one, and from draught that may come from the law of the land.

Many worked hard to serve small tree and to make it grow, but among all workers the faithful God is in the mid. They planted, they watered, but God supplied all the needs. God made it grow and protected it till this day.

Today’s verse is from one of the Paul’s captivity letter to the people of Philippi. It is worthy to mention that Paul was the one who founded the Church in Philippi. Paul and Silas stayed in this city only for several days. And one day while they were preaching and casting out demons they had been seized and severely flogged. They were welcomed guests in prison, and they spent a warm night of praise in there until God’s miraculous intervention ended with their release. During such short period of time God performed His plan to place in the ground a new hope for the people of Philippi, the church of God. ***(Acts 16:11-40)***

In his letter to the Philippians, Paul’s heart was full of thanksgiving to God for the Philippians who shared with him the gospel from the first day of his arrival to this city. In his mind Paul summoned up all the difficult moments that he spent there, and in his heart he claimed that God was the one who planted that seed, and so he wrote to them that ***“He who began the good work in you...”***

And today in comparison, the faithful God who planted the church of Philippi is the same God who planted our church here as well. The Lord took care for this small bush until it became as it is now, a big and loving family. God cared for this tree until it bore fruits and

became the place of refuge and the source of blessing to many souls, sharing to them His love through the message of the truth.

To those who witnessed the establishment of our church, and to those who carried the banner from the early days, to those hearts and lips that never ceased to pray, and to those who never abstained from the call for the progress of this Church, they are witness as well how *God is so Faithful* in His regular presence to all the ministries. They witness how God is faithful to provide every need, and how He is faithful to keep and fulfil His promises. They witness how He is faithful in taking the hands of the weak and He leads the meek. They witness how He is faithful in refreshing us by bringing new souls to our church and shows us the fruit of our hard acts. They witness what is peculiar to Him, that He is God of difficulties, His pleasure in hurdles, and how He is diligent to pave the way in the face of troubles. And they are the witnesses, ***“With Him obstacles become the fountain for progress.”***

Today, as we stand rejoicing on the road, and looking back the long way that we passed behind, and the barriers that we overcame, one thing needs to be presided in our minds: *‘Not to forget to look forward to the remaining part of the path that we ought to finish.’* Hallelujah for the antecedent success and full respect to the old stories of the past, but ahead more is waiting for you, ***“Do you not say four months more and then the harvest? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.” (John 4:35)***

We should continue on the same way with Him, and as we cherish all God’s favours’ in us we should keep our bodies in fervour to serve Him. Do not be tempted to look back, or to be satisfied with the history that passed, but to concentrate on what we ought to give and the work that we need to add. We have to focus our eyes and to maintain our efforts till the end of the way. We have to preserve till the coming of the most glorious day, the day of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Brethren, being confident of this, that the same faithful God who walked with you in the past days of your ministries He will keep observing you, and He will be like the cloud in your days and the fire in your nights to determine your steps. And being confident of this, when the way becomes crooked this is His delightful moment to interfere to push the body forward. For He is the one who creates the design and we should follow. He is the one who plans and we should obey, ***“For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.” (Philippians 2:13)***

My Dear and Beloved: Being confident of this, that God is faithful! And if there be a word to be said today, let it be:

My Prayer: Thank you Lord for all what you have done, and thank You for all what you are going to do in our Church, that even may transcend our own knowledge and understanding. But we are confident of this and this is our capital, ‘YOU ARE FAITHFUL, LORD!’