

HERALD OF THE NEW KINGDOM

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BROTHERHOOD OF THE CROSS AND STAR

SATURDAY APRIL 18 - FRIDAY 1 MAY 1987

VOL. 3 NO. 18

PRICE N1.00

Sam Mbakwe answers the call

CHIEF SAM MBAKWE, the erstwhile governor of Imo State and a lawyer of repute had answered the irresistible call of the Iron Rod Ruler of this age.

Recently, he breezed into 34 Ambo Street headquarters of Brotherhood of the Cross and Star to see physically the Sole Spiritually Head of the Universe, Leader O. O. Obu and pay obsequiousness to the ruler of the universe.

As a prelude to the coming, the Holy Father sent some ordained ones to go and of-

fer him prayers and the prayers and the spirituals became very efficacious to the chief who, in the wake of this surprising development, was moved to come and see Leader O. O. Obu physically with the hope that if he is so gracefully healed and blessed as an outsider, then the grace is much abounded inside.

In his testimony in the height of "my absolute conviction", he said that he is gratified to realise the presence of the diety of Leader Olumba Olum-



The Sole Spiritual Head, Leader U. O. Obu showing Brother Sam Mbakwe around His vestry.

ba Obu in our midst.

He claims to have been visiting Calabar but was unable to identify Him, accepting that "with a rare phenomenon of this magnitude in our mid-

st, then the whole universe had been subjected to eternal rule."

He then urged all seeking for power to realise that it is unnecessary for Nigerians to go overseas or any-

BCS stamps presence in Liberia

A MODERN church, Complex to contain a cathedral, a school, healing home and guest house is to be constructed in Monrovia, Liberia by the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star.

Announcing this proposal in Monrovia, the Brotherhood Leader's Representative for Liberia, Brother Joe Renner said the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star has attracted many Liberians into the fold.

Brother Renner was briefing a delegation of

the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star from Nigeria during their recent visit to Monrovia to find out the progress of the Brotherhood in Liberia and the problems confronting brethren there.

The Nigerian delegation, led by Pastor A. O.E. Ekanem, the Brotherhood Leader's Representative for Overseas countries included Pastor S.I.U. Etuk, Pastor Umoh James Umoh, Apostle E. A. Nyong, Deaconess Mary Mong and Deacon-

ness J. M. Konu.

In his briefing, Brother Renner said the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star has been incorporated. He estimated the cost of building the complex in Liberia at more than N60,000.

He said he and the wife, Sister Victoria Renner have concluded arrangements to buy land and donate to the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star in the heart of the capital for the benefit of many baptised members who

are not able to be worshipping at Caldwell Bethel.

Brother Renner said the brethren in Monrovia were making serious efforts to spread the Father's gospels to all parts of the country.

In his respond, Pastor Ekanem urged Brotherhood members in Liberia to do their best to justify the opportunity God has given to them by admitting them into the Brotherhood Kingdom.

He advised them to hold regular meetings of their fellowships and associations so as to discuss common problems and find solutions to them.

Pastor Ekanem stressed the need for the brethren to bear one another's burden by visiting the sick and attending to the needy and the handicapped.

He said God will always reward those who work for him diligently.

by Pastor Umoh J. Umoh.

Religious Worship

Contd. from page 1

Head said the violence referred to is not the physical struggle to maim, maul or kill other people, "rather, it subsumes the personal endeavour to practise the attributes of Jehovah God and His Christ."

He therefore advised His adherents not to be wary with the world's mockery or scandal for "what happened in the days of Noah will surely happen to this generation."

Also, "if the children of Israel had known that their rejec-

tion of Jesus the Christ shall bring them untold hardship and deprivation, they would not have tried to reject Him let alone killed Him" the Holy Father said, noting that "up till today, the innocent blood is still haunting the entire nation of Israel."

He finally urge all to walk in the Spirit so that we may be worthy of the invitation extended to us, assuring that "what the Father has closed, nobody can open and whatever the Father has opened, nobody can close."

way to seek for help of any dimension from other sources "for we have got what has overshadowed all other sources."

In his words of testimony to thank the Father for His wondrous works on earth, Pastor (Chief) Charles Chiaghalam, one of those who the Father used as the instrument to draw Chief Sam Mbakwe into this kingdom said that if it had been by the grace of the Holy Father that Chief Sam Mbakwe is invited into this kingdom, "then calling Ronald Reagan of U.S.A. is a foregone conclu-

sion."

He that it is a very impressive moment to have Mbakwe here and for him to accept Brotherhood as the last hope of all creations concluding assuringly that all those who are of His must answer His call, for on hearing His voice, nobody should harden his hearts.

An Imo State High Court Judge, Elia Mbaochi and Pastor (Chief) Charles "Tonyblack" Chiaghalam were the instruments used in bringing Chief Sam Mbakwe to this fold. He has accepted baptism.

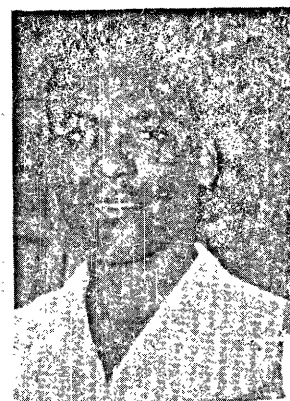
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When you have Christ

He started preaching to the people that he was thankful to God because they had not taken what belonged to him. Christ belongs to him and that alone cannot be taken from him.

After three weeks, our Lord Jesus Christ worked wonders for this young man. Jesus entered into the hearts of men and people started sending cheques, some of them twenty thousand, others million, to this young man. Cheques were coming in and cars and all sorts of wealth; until the robbers were angry. They regretted their action because it has turned into the young man's blessings.

Brethren have you seen that? This man was given much wealth



Lawrence Ubah

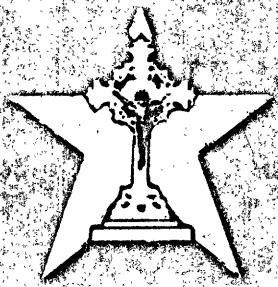
th until robbers thought that they did not steal anything from him after all compared with what he later had.

It stands out then that if we were to love our Lord Jesus Christ, we would not have any problems, and your testimonies will have neither a beginning nor an end.

Culled from the Fathers Gospel Brother Lawrence Ubah



Pastor Asuquo O. E. Ekanem, the Leader's Rep to all oversea countries pose with some Liberian brethren during one of his visits to the Liberia. Extreme right is the Leader's Rep. in Liberia Brother Joe Renner.



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Nobody can Regulate Religious Worship

Leader O. O. Obu

THE ONE month long April 1987 Pentecostal meeting started on April 3, 1987 with the Sole Spiritual Head, Leader O. O. Obu warning those who parade around and pride themselves in causing confusion and blackmailing the children of the living God to beware and play it cool for the owner of the vineyard is now on earth and has taken dominion over all creations.

He warned that the situation now has drastically changed from what it used to be, for, "yesterday, those who were worshipping God were persecuted and killed, but in this era of the Holy Spirit, God has made the kingdom of this world to be His own and that of His Christ."

He questioned the rationale for the regulation of religious worship describing it as unnecessary and uncalled for, warning people who try to test the devastating powers of God to be careful, "for God cannot be tossed around anyhow."

"You know what happened to Nebuchadnezzar, Pharaoh and King Herod who tried to regulate the worship of God," the Holy Father exposed, saying that these things provide lessons to enable people question themselves about their ultimate destination, wondering why the people of the world cannot learn from the past mistakes of others.

He also intimated about the people of old who refused to be intimidated by rulers



Leader O. O. Obu - do not fear anything or anybody but God alone.

who wanted to regulate religious worship. He specifically mentioned Shedrack, Meshack and Abednego who refused to obey the king and were thrown into a furnace of fire and Daniel who refused to worship the king and was thrown into the lions den.

He said that today is different from yesterday for "it was only in the past that people were debarred from serving and walking according to God's directives," ur-

ging Peter to put back, "thy sword into its sheath for whoever takes up the sword shall perish by the sword."

The Holy Father assured that "this war" is not a carnal but spiritual warfare urging that nobody should fear neither man, apparition, mermaid but Jehovah God and His Christ who has taken dominion in heaven and on earth, with all His host of angels.

"No human being rules again. No angel rules again. No other spirit rules again. If

you observe carefully what is going on, emperors are suffering, barons and money magnates and those who arrogate positions to themselves are suffering" The Holy Father said, assuring that "this is the resultant effect of fighting against a more superior power."

The Sole Spiritual Head revealed that in the near future, all churches, organisations, secret societies and all creation shall be one, saying that "it is repugnant there-

REFLECTIONS

"But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully. Knowing this that the law was not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, for the whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine. According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust." 1 Timothy. 1:8-11.

The Holy Father's comments on ban imposed on religious activities in Nigeria.

fore for anybody whatever his position, to cause division or sow seeds of discord whether in the church, government or community."

Explaining the Biblical portion that talks about the kingdom of God suffering violence and the violent take it and own it, the Sole Spiritual

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Elders to launch certificate

THE ELDERS International Fellowship will, on Easter Monday, April 20, 1987, the day schedule for their April Pentecostal Meeting with the Holy Father, unveil and issue to members the "Elders Certificate" duly signed by the Holy Father.

In a chat with our reporter, the International Chairman of the Fellowship, Elder J. E. Etim said that the aim of the certificate is to enable the fellowship know the total number of the real functional elders in the fold.

The Chairman said that it will also enable the fellowship to weed out the fake from amongst them and check those who abuse the elders designation.

He said the production of the certificate is in obedience to the Holy Father's instruction that the fellowship should make certificates to be able to recognise genuine elders.

He therefore urged all areas, zones and states to send their representatives with

names of genuine elders together with the agreed cost of the certificate to the meeting of Easter Monday so that they will collect their certificate.

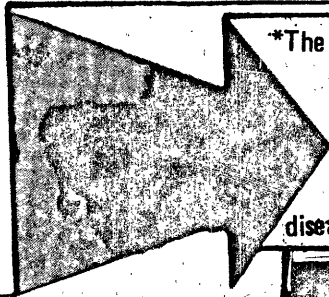
Also, the International Elders Fellowship Secretariat and Guest House situated at 25, Efiu Okoho Street opposite SCS Secretariat will be declared opened at 2 p.m. on the same day.

The three bedroom flat, the Chairman of the fellowship intimated out reporter, is now equipped to serve as the Guest House for elders who visit Calabar and do not have a place of residence in the town.

Already, according to the report, over N14,000 has been expended to complete and renovate, and partially furnish the house to meet the required standard.



Elder J. E. Etim



*The greatest physician Leader O. O. Obu

heals me of venereal disease. - Page 4.



*The Supernatural Teacher talks of the Holy Spirit urging all the receive Him.

- Page 7.



*Pastor Okon A. Essien-Umo lays bare the concept and duties of the Holy Spirit.

- Page 14.

*And a lot more.

HERALD'S OPINION

Whatever a person believes, to him, is his very existence because it borders on his personal conviction of what is true and real. That is why every religious sect or tenet, be it Christianity, Paganism, Islamism, Buddhism, Hinduism and the rest of them, can only be accepted on personal conviction and not by brute force.

There is no true religion that teaches its practitioners or adherents to sow seeds of discords or strife. Most known religions of the world; as shown by historical records, have lofty and peaceful ideals. That is why nearly each civilization has a religious undertone to it.

Nigeria is a secular country and any leadership that runs it as such can be assured of peace and tranquility. But when a government indulges and involves itself, out of sentiments, on religious matters, there is no doubt that it will run, sooner or later, into problems.

That is why the Federal Government of Nigeria cannot completely exonerate itself from the recent religious disturbances that engulfed some parts of the country. The government fueled the religious fanaticism by its unilateral action of joining the Organisation of Islamic Countries (O.I.C.) thus making the Moslems, even, think that the governance is pro-Islam and so they can fight for this country to become an Islamic State and

The Handwriting on the Wall

go scotch free.

That is why we view the recent religious disturbances in the country as God's handwriting on the wall. It is a warning to trouble makers who want to inhibit the worship of the true God by His children to beware of the wrath of God.

It would have been alright if the Holy Spirit had been allowed to operate freely without being inhibited. But, whether the world likes it or not, the reign of the Holy Spirit is total because it has been spiritually affirmed.

For as the Holy Father, the Sole Spiritual Himself proclaimed "Something must happen, so that something will happen.

Come to think of it, is it not the theocratic government of God that should dictate to the secular governments as it concerns matters of divine arrangements so that those in government can re-arrange their thinking and priorities?

This is necessary so that those in government might not be found to go in opposition to God, because God is a consuming fire, and it is a fearful thing to collide with Him. That is why we emphasize that the recent indiscriminate clamp down on religious worship cannot bring solutions to the issues of religious intolerance and disturbance in Nigeria.

For religious organisations to be advised to regulate their worship to please government is complete injustice for worshipping God is supposed to be more regular than our

eating. Infact, it is just like the government regulating when one should breathe air, a situation that is above their control.

Government should not be seen as a threat to good works which every religion should stand for and practicalise. Any religion that preaches chaos, discrimination and fanaticism can be looked at as one that does not know what they worship.

The government should, in the final analysis look inwards to see those who manure and water religious disturbances and punish them accordingly and not place a blanket regimentation on religious worship.

They must also prove to all that there is no extra-ordinary tolerance and favour to idiosyncracies and misdemeanours of one religious sect to the detriment of others despite the fact that it (the sect) behaves as though it is their birthright to cause religious intolerance and disturbances.

These are points the government must address itself to, for the constitution of this country gives the inalienable right to the citizens of Nigeria to belong to any religion of their choice and worship their God anytime, anyhow, anywhere and anyday they feel like.

It is very dangerous to hinder the works of the Most High God and very fearful to fall into the hands of God. Afterall, it is better to hearken to the voice of God than to the voice of man.

Those who have ears, let them hear.

REACTION

Sponsored programme: Is the customer not always Right?

POEM MYSTERIOUS GOD

Brotherhood of the Cross and Star has many ways of spreading the good tidings of great joy to the inhabitants of the world. In this line, we benefit from the service of Cross River Radio as well as the Nigerian Television Authority Channel 9, Calabar, while they enjoy our patronage. To my knowledge these services are duly paid for.

The aspect of whether Brotherhood keeps her side of the bargain does not arise, since it is as sure as daylight that payments are promptly done and the materials regularly supplied. The question of whether CRR and NTA keep their part of the bargain is not wholly the issue at stake.

Within the confines of business, the CRR gives the money worth. For that, they have our blessing. But I must mention that we are customers and

our effort needs commendation.

The corporation runs free religious programmes, mostly on Sundays, for religious organisations apart from Brotherhood. Will it be too much for the Cross River Radio to show a little appreciation for our patronage by allowing us the opportunity to occasionally benefit from such free services? Or is it rotational and is it not yet our due? Whatever the case, by simple reasoning, I think we deserve a chance.

Though I have come to understand that where there is no fight for it, there is no freedom, I am not in for a fight, not even with words as a weapon. But where is reason? Where is justice? Where is fairplay? When a man scarcely gets enough in exchange for what he pays? That is what happens with NTA.

It has been frequent-

ly observed that the purported one-hour programme rarely enjoys anything close to one hour. Yet Brotherhood pays for every minute of that hour. Is gratitude imprisoned? Is inducement born dead? What shall we say then? What prevents a recorded two hour programme from filling up one hour after editing?

Apart from the timing, there are instances where materials meant for telecast were discarded for some thing else without permission, explanation or care. Two cases quickly come to mind: namely a gospel delivered sometime in April 1986 titled, *Flee Fornication* and that delivered on Sunday 28th September 1986 titled *What Is Nigeria's Ideology*.

In my own little way of thinking since we pay for the services, we should get what we want. If, for any reason at all the NTA feels that

a gospel is not in the best interest of the government, that should be cleared with their customers.

Additionally, the programme does not only end in Calabar. Can the NTA Channel 9 not improve upon their production? When the Father is praying should there not be a superscription across Him to tell the viewers who is doing what? Thousands do not also understand what the Father does after the sermon when He stands up to raise His hands during "Silent Prayers". No one, I am sure, pays the NTA to film empty benches, or those sleeping. There are more things I am sure they can improve upon.

I therefore call on the authorities of the NTA, the Cross River Radio and whoever else is concerned, to please, strengthen our already existing cordial relationship.

Bro. John Effiong Itu

God is mysterious

His ways, understanding and knowledge are mysterious
Mysterious Creator Create all things positive and negative.

Mysterious Creator created everything good and bad, black and white, hot and cold long and short, small and big

Mysterious Creator created all in prosperity, in adversity, in sadness, in joy, in humbleness and in pompousness

Mysterious Creator categorised them
Look at your fingers — are they all equal? look at the trees in the forest, are they all big? or are they all small, Are they all fruitful or are they all fruitless?

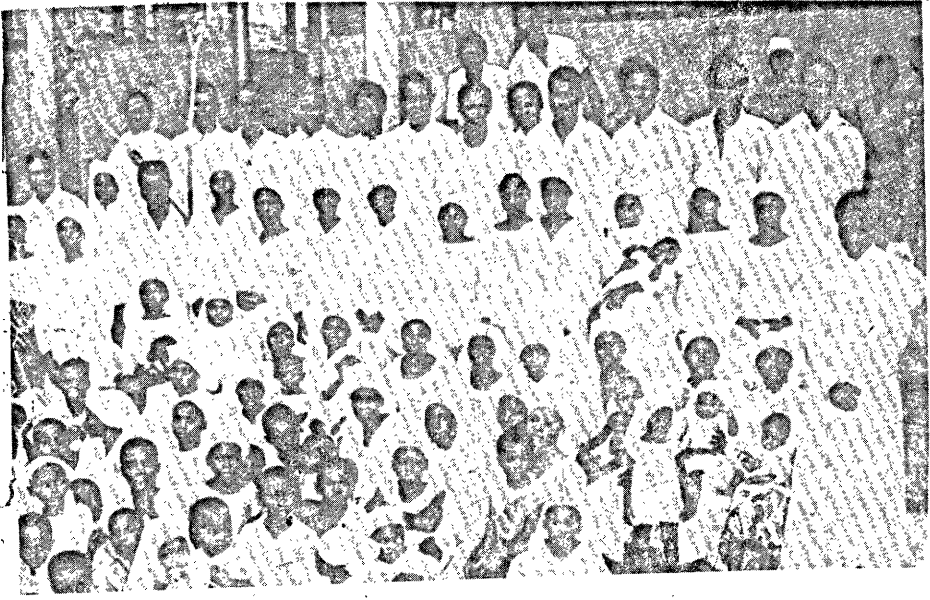
Mysterious Creator seasoned them all
There is time to labour and time to harvest, time to work and time to play, time to Love and time to hate

Mysterious Creator created all things negative and positive. Think about a market; some buy, some sell. All cannot sell, likewise all cannot buy. Some are tall, some are short. Some are rich, some are poor. There is ambition and destiny, ups and down

Considering all these, why do you worry? why jealous one another? why do you lament
Everything is pre-destination, take your life the way you see it. Why do you regret your position?

Sister Angelina Akalazu,
Aba, Central Bethel.

NEWS IN PICTURES



Evo Abasi Bethel 1, Oron pose for a photograph after their visit to the Holy Father.



Bauchi State Elders fellowship led by its Chairman, Bro. Nsikan S. Udombon visited the Holy Father in His vestry recently.



H.R.H. Obong F. E. Ekanem, Clan Head of Ikpa Ibom, welcomed by the Father during his maiden visit.



Reading Pulpit donated to the Holy Father by the Ibesikpo Asutan Area BCS led by Pastors B. E. U. Anvan and Pastor T. T. Akpan.



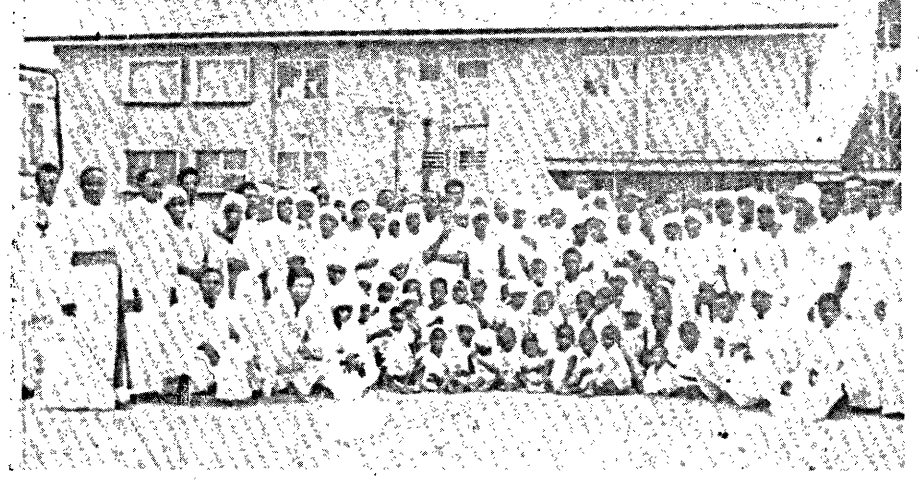
The Amuzu Spiritual Hospital, Aba Obiom, Ngwa L.G.A. led by Apostle Nicholas Yogu recently visited the Holy Father.



All Ordained sister's on behalf of Imo State Women Gen. Fellowship came to thank the Father on Holy Mother's visit to Imo State.



The Holy Father addressing the entire members of 51 Ngo Street Bethel, P.H. during their visit to Him at His vestry.



Kalabari brethren from Mile 1 and Bugum, bethels led by Apostle (Chief) R.M. Princewill visited the Holy Father during the reception of the Holy Spirit.

THE PULPIT

Contd. from P.13

could destroy the temple and reconstruct it within three days. The people again did not understand Him as they did not know the temple He meant. Christ made it clear that He willingly surrendered His life, that no man would snatch it from Him and He would retrieve it if He so desired. When He talked of destroying the temple and rebuilding it in three days, the people looked at Him as a mad person. They told Him that it took their fathers 47 years to construct that temple which He claimed could be rebuilt within three days if destroyed. The people took that statement as clear evidence of His insanity. No man would have been able to hurt Christ if He had not consented to. Unlike human beings, He is not subject to human destruction. He came to lead men to the truth. God changes not, and He is not subject to men's opinions. He abides in you and in all things. Listen to Him alone and do His will. Do not emulate your parents, government or friends. If you do, the people and institutions will lead you astray.

*He told the Jews that if they desired to know the source and efficacy of His words they should practise them. It is necessary that all of us should emulate and obey Christ. Brotherhood of the Cross and Star is the New Kingdom of God, the path way to life, light, love and truth. People are merely wasting their time, money and energy to investigate Brotherhood. Nobody takes Brotherhood of the Cross and Star seriously, not even the members. But it is the New Kingdom as well as the Christ. The condition in it is No Cross, No crown. This explains why He said that he who overcomes will be made a pillar in His Father's temple and rule over nations. As Christ overcame death and was crowned so also shall we overcome and be crowned. This means oneness which is Brotherhood by implication.

Our Golden text be read once again.

GOLDEN TEXT: JOHN 7:16-17

Jesus answered them, and said. My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.

If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself."

THE TRUTH IS UNSHAKEABLE

Christ has proved the truth beyond doubt. His teaching are the golden fleece that the whole world has rejected. The attendant benefits for practising the word of God are so great. Instead of the world to practise Christ's teachings, they rather come in here to carry out various research work which avail them

nothing. Anyone who wants to live should endeavour to practise God's injunctions at all times. We should refrain from what He tells us to refrain from. We are all brethren therefore, we should live without deceiving, cursing and cheating others. If we should practise that from this year 1995, your prosperity and joy will be boundless. The more we give testimonies about the love and power of God, the more He is glorified. The Mosaic veil which had blocked man's eyes and ears are removed by the Father through His words.

*Any man who desires to know the source and power of any teachings should practise them. If the whole world should practise these teachings before the end of this year, peace, prosperity and love will return to mankind. In the same token, if all Nigerians and indeed Africans practise this gospel, their problems will end. This gospel is the panacea to our sickness, hunger, poverty and all problems.

This is the moment of decision so take a decision now and free yourself from sin once and for all. He has instructed us to stop eating meat and fish, stop drinking and fornication. God did not create the animals, fishes and birds for human consumption rather man was given the authority to superintend over them.

It is not God's wish that any should perish. This explains why the gospels are made available to the whole world in cassettes, video and through the print media. Because of the abundant peace, love, joy and prosperity, the whole world testifies that it is God that works here. I am not God but I insist on the words of Our Lord Jesus Christ that, if the people want to know whether the words are Christ's or of His Father they should practise them. Any man who wants to see God physically and feel His impact must practise His words. God is revealing Himself in various ways to those who believe in Him. Here we do not use orchestra instruments, no burning of candles or incenses and no incantations or any form of ritual. It is enough in believing in Him and keeping His commands. Even satan now affirms that God is now on earth. It is not man, angel or spirit that is responsible for what is happening now. I now urge the entire world to practise the teachings of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

THE ADVENT OF THE PROMISED COMFORTER:

As it was prophesied that Christ would come as Messiah whose blood shall wash away the sins of men and it happened so also is the fulfilment of the coming of the Comforter by Our Lord Jesus Christ. In His dialogue with the samaritan woman, Christ told her that a time would come when true worshippers

of God shall worship Him in Spirit and in Truth for He desires such to worship Him. It is now mandatory that all men should worship Him and keep His commandments. It is only by practising the teachings of the Holy Spirit that will really introduce you to God and avail you of His abundant blessing.

OLD PROPHECIES FULFILLED

All the prophets of old including Malachi bore eloquent testimonies about the coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ. And Christ testified about the Holy Spirit when He said it was expedient that He went away to pave the way for the Holy Spirit to come and lead men to the truth. The Holy Spirit has now come and His impact and presence is felt the world over. Any man or creature that refuses to obey Him should pray fervently for himself.

Christ said that it was destined for man to die but once and thereafter judgment. It is written that Our Lord Jesus Christ, in His second

time they started work. That is a true indication of equal distribution of the Holy Spirit. Any man who is devoid of the Holy Spirit is in great trouble. Anybody who complies with the injunction of God is endowed with the Spirit of God and cannot make mistakes. Any man who refuses to comply with God's injunctions should blame himself.

THE POWER BEHIND BAPTISM

Our Lord Jesus Christ was on earth for 30 years but could not perform any significant work. But from the moment He got baptised He received the Holy Spirit. It was only then that He made that declaration: 'I and my Father are One.' All the words He spoke came from the Father. He was responsible for nothing and did not claim any responsibility for whatever he did. It was the Holy Spirit in Him that did everything. This explains why He said to His Father, 'into thy hands I commit my spirit.' Soon after that statement He gave up the ghost. His experience of death could be compared to one changing his former clothe to put on a new one. After three days, the Father returned into the body of Christ and He resurrected. This is what will happen to all obedient children of God.

But there is no prophet or even Christ's disciple that did His will.

THE ABODE OF GOD

It is said that, any man who loves God would love his brother. Man is the temple of God and His abode. If a man is killed, it means that God has lost his dwelling place. If you slap a man, or cause problem to that 'temple', it means it is the owner of that house who is put in pains. If a man drinks, smokes, fornicates or defile the temple in any way, it is God who is denied a dwelling place.

Therefore, we should endeavour to keep God's temple clean always in order that He could come in and abide there. Beloved, I shall not take you much further; it is said that a stroke of the cane is sufficient unto the wise. He that has ears should hear. May God bless His Holy Word. Amen.

coming shall have nothing to do with sinners. He would come to those who had prepared themselves for Him. For this reason, He said, "come to me all you that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." His rest is the commandments that He gives to people to repent of their sins and be baptized. Once you confess your sins, repent and are baptized, you will receive the Holy Spirit and your way will be clear. Read Matthew 20:1 - end. The story that a man once hired labourers into his field and promised to pay each of them a penny at the end of the day is a parable. It is not that he actually paid them a penny as such. It was the Holy Spirit. Those who began work in the field earlier than others were paid equal fee not minding the

MEETING

A meeting of the Board of Directors of Brotherhood Worldwide Communications Limited has been scheduled for Saturday, February 11th, 1995 at the Conference Hall of the Company by 6 p.m.

According to the Chairman of the Board, Bishop (Dr.) G. I. S. Amadi the meeting is scheduled to enable members review the operations of the Company for last year and also set goals for the current year.

He said that attendance at the meeting is mandatory and that those who absent themselves without excuse shall be regarded as having resigned their membership of the Board.

Thank You Father.

NEWS

YAKURR GETS ANOTHER PENTECOSTAL CENTRE

By Moses Tom

The Holy Father, Leader Olumba Olumba Obu has given approval for the creation of another Pentecostal Centre in Yakurr Local Government Area of Cross River State.

The Pentecostal Centre created in July, 1994 at Nko is the second in Yakurr Local Government Area, the first being at Ugep, the Headquarters of Yakurr.

The Pentecostal Centre comprises fifteen bethels and include, Nko Bethel (I), Nko Bethel (II) Nko Bethel (III), the Ekori Township Bethel, Ekori Afikpo Bethel, Mkpani, Agoi and Agoi Ekpo Bethels.

Others are; Ekom Agoi, Lebang, Ekpeli Bethels, Inyima and the Asiga Beach Bethels.

By this development, the Father has appointed Elder (Major) E. O. Mbang as the Area Leader's Representative while the Nko Bethel I has been elevated as the new Pentecostal Centre and had since been renovated to befit its status.

Similarly, plans are in top gear to erect a commensurate cathedral in the area.

In a related development, the headquarters of the Yala Pentecostal Centre in Okpoma has been moved to Liokom where there is a higher concentration of Brotherhood activities and a large number of brethren, who are dedicated in the service to humanity and to uplift the Father's work.

Also, the Leader's Representative of Cross River State, Apostle Nicholas Odum will soon embark on tour of all the Pentecostal Centres in the State to ascertain the pace of work in the various centres.

During the tour, any Centre found to be performing below expectation will be scrapped. All Centres are therefore advised to update their records and forward same to the World Headquarters for ratification.

This directive which follows the observed high-level indiscipline and misappropriation of proceeds accruing from some of those centres further enjoined all

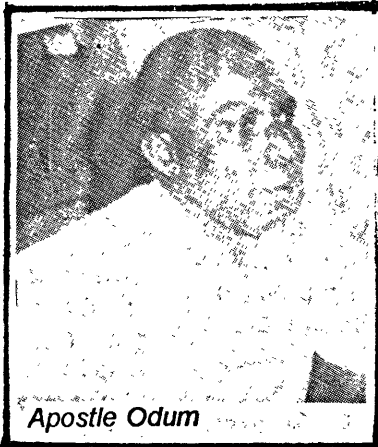
Pentecostal Centres to cooperate with the Cross River State Leader's Representative, Apostle Nicholas Odum and make all documents available to him for proper assessment and onward transmission to the World Headquarters.

Meanwhile, the Father has given autonomous power to all the Pentecostal Centres to operate but advised that they should however, be answerable to the World Headquarters.

He warned that all the executives, centres, fellowships and areas found wanting in their capacities would be replaced by capable and dedicated workers.

The Father pointed out that it was now mandatory for all the bethels to make monthly purchase and keep

every copy of the New Kingdom Trumpet Newspaper to keep it adequately informed of the happenings in the BCS. world and serve as ready source of reference.



Apostle Odum

To enhance the effective running of the newly created pentecostal centre, the following executives members were appointed. They are, Elder (Major) E. O. Mbang

Area Leader's Representative, Elder (Sister) M. Ekpo, Co-Leader's Representative, Elder Akpama Egbe Isokon, Deputy Leader's Representative, Deaconess P. Mba, Women's President, Elder Egu Eta, Area Chairman, Elder Usang Ofem Ibor, Vice Area Chairman, Elder Francis Etim Iyamba, General Secretary, Elder Egy Eni, Financial Secretary and Elder Ofem Akpama Mbang as Treasurer.

Those in the Area Executive Planning Committee are: Elder R. E. Onun, Chairman, Deaconess Ayo Michael, Deputy Chairman, Elder Hycienth O. Ubi, Secretary, Elders Edet Igrri Ebri, Financial Secretary, Enang Ikpi, Treasurer, Mbang Obono Eko, Store-keeper

and Godwin Ibiang, Stores Assistant.

Again, the following were elected as chairmen of Fellowships for the area; Elder Attah J. E. Willie, Chairman Men's Fellowship, Elder Mbang Usang, Chairman Choristers' Fellowship and Brother Wokakan. Egbe Isokon, the Choirmaster General.

Others are, Elder Adiah Hycienth Ofem, Financial Secretary, Women Fellowship, Sister Felicia Eni Ibor Choristers' Mother/Treasurer, Sister Isu Ofem, Secretary Women's Fellowship and Beatrice Akpama, Deputy Chairperson Women's Fellowship Brother Okon Dan Etok was elected Chairman Preacher's Fellowship.

Thank You Father

ABAS ELECTS NEW EXCO.

by Ephraim Sunday.

In keeping with the divine directives of the Holy Spirit on offices in Brotherhood of the Cross & Star, the Association of Brotherhood Academic Students (ABAS) International

met recently at the World Headquarters of Brotherhood of the Cross and Star, to fix new date for pilgrimage to the Holy Land - Biakpan and effected changes in the International Executive Council.

IKONO AREA RECEIVES LEADER'S REPRESENTATIVE

By Elder Tom Akpan

The Ikono Area of the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star recently at Ibiaku Ntok Okpo, the Headquarters of Ikono L.G.A. organised a special service to receive their Leader's Representative, Apostle U. A. Ekanem.

Speaking, the Chairman of the occasion, Brother Emmanuel Bernard enjoined members to use their endowed resources for the glorification of God and to always regard Leader's Representatives, as agents of God.

He maintained that, the positions held in the New Kingdom were to enhance the manifestation of the directives of the Holy Spirit and cautioned those who oppose Leader's Representatives to be careful.

Also speaking, the Area Leader's Representative and Guest of Honour at the occasion expressed gratitude to the Father for gran-

ting him the grace to attend the reception service.

He advised brethren in the area to maintain their identity and be steadfast in their different responsibilities to the Father. He also warned against the habit of opposing the Father's Representatives by some members of the fold.

Earlier, the Area Deputy Leader's Representative, Elder Edet U. Mfon advised members to be discreet in their utterances against the Father's chosen instruments and to always remember the Father's pronouncement on the day of their appointments.

In his vote of thanks, the Area Chairman, Elder E. A. Inyang Akpan expressed delight to the Sole Spiritual Head, donors and members of the planning committee for the successful organisation of the occasion and also to others who attended the occasion. He prayed for God's abundant blessings on all.

The Holy Father had directed that the Executive Bodies of Fellowships and Associations in Brotherhood of the Cross and Star (BCS) be dissolved annually to create room for changes, and growth ABAS, which end of year general meeting was attended by ABASITES all over the world X-rayed her programmes, achievements, prospects and problems of the International Executive Council for 1994 session.



Apostle Humphrey

In His divine message the Holy Father advised all ABASITES to be law abiding and keep to the tenets of the New Kingdom of God on earth to enable them evangelise the academic environments easily and effectively.

The 1994 session of the Executive Council of ABAS International stood dissolved on 3rd January, 1995 and the

following officers were either retained, elected or re-elected. Apostle G. O. Humphrey President, Bros Tom Inyang Akpan/Inokon I. Inokon - Copresidents, Bro. Effiong Eyefoki - Vice president, Bro. Ephraim Sunday - Secretary General, Sis. Nsikak Ekim Assistant Secretary, Sis Idoreyin Ukoetteh - Financial Secretary, Bro. Patrick E. Okolo - Asst. Financial Secretary; Deaconess B. M. A. Oworen - Treasurer, Elder E. T. David - P.R.O.1; Sister Obia Arikpo - F.R.O. 2, Sister Ubong Nsek - Welfare Officer 1; Bro. Solomon Ogutum - Provost 1 and Bro. Wilfred Fubara - Provost 2.

Others are Bros Mgbowaji Micha - Welfare Officer 2, Umoh Etteh - Choir-master, Elijah Ogutum - Auditor General; Sis. Abiye David West - Auditor 1, Bro. Emmanuel Akpan - Auditor 2, Sister Stella Tom Inyang - Mother 1, Sister Rhoda Onyeanauna - Mother 2, Sister Chinwe A. Wali - Mother 3.

Brothers - Idoreyin Udoekpo, Michael Frank, Eyibio Antia and Prophet Udofot Idiok were appointed ex-officio members while a child of God Sunday Mkpanam and Christ Witness Ime Akpakpan were appointed as Executive members. The returning officer was Bro. Obong G. Obong.

Thank You Father

1ST LESSON: JOHN 14:6

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

2ND LESSON: MATTHEW 23:8

But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren.

GOLDEN TEXT: JOHN 7:16-17

Jesus answered them and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.

If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

THE ONLY TEACHER:

Brethren, the above texts form my testimony about Our Lord Jesus Christ. I am a witness to the truth, just as it is. Christ is quoted in the 1st Lesson thus: "I am the way and the Truth and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me," In the whole world, who is the person that believes in Him or in His Words? This is the source of all the problems in the whole world.

In the 2nd Lesson He gave another injunction saying that you should not call anybody a teacher for there is only One who is our teacher for we all are brethren. This is another point that man has refused to listen to. He had His reason for giving that injunction yet nobody cares to know. Rather, the people queried why they should listen to a man who was not educated in the conventional way and whose mother was a common woman and His father a carpenter. The Lord ascribed nothing to Himself. He made it clear in the golden text that: "My teaching is not mine but His who sent Me." He continued in the next

source of the power and truth in this Kingdom. People should not sit at akimbo watching the trend of events in this Kingdom. From this year, 1995, let the entire world endeavour to practise this truth and then watch the results. It pays no one to continue investigating and researching into Brotherhood, because as it is said, the taste of the pudding, is in the eating.

What the whole world is doing today is a repetition of what Adam and Eve did. They did not know God who created them because they did not listen to Him and did not believe in Him. God had warned them not to listen to any other creature, not even to the angels or spirits. He promised to lead them to the truth. In the end Adam and Eve listened to a strange teaching which misled them. God had instructed them to eat of every fruit in the garden except the one which was of good and evil; that if they ate of it they would die. When the deceiver queried them why they did not eat of the fruit, Eve told him that God said they should not taste it lest they died. The tempter told her that God did not want them to become wise, hence that embargo. On that note, Eve first tasted of it and lured Adam into it too. The question now is, since Adam and Eve ate of this fruit have they been like God in any way or manner? All the same, have the words of God not fulfilled? Adam and Eve did not know their left from right, and; not even God their creator did they know. Most unfortunately, they handed this same ignorance and unbelief to their descendants from Cain to Abel and their subsequent offsprings. It is only Our Lord Jesus Christ who knew the way and God. This explains why He affirmed that He is the way, the truth and the life ... unfortunately, none accepts Him nor believes in Him.

MAN'S FAILURE TO PRACTISE GOD'S INJUNCTION:

Initially God was passing through prophets and other intermediaries to

Man is the temple of God and His abode. If a man is killed, it means that God has lost His dwelling place. If you slap a man or cause problem to that "temple" it means it is the owner of that house who is put in pains. If a man drinks, smokes, fornicates or defile the temple in anyway, it is God who is denied a dwelling place.

verse that anyone who wishes to understand whether the words He spoke came from Him or from God should practise His teachings. Therefore, brethren, I am equally advising you to practise my teachings to verify whether the teachings are of God so that you will stop questioning the

reach the people. As time went on the people asked why God did not think it appropriate to come and talk to them personally. He promised them that He would and did come as Our Lord Jesus Christ. But because he came through Mary and Joseph as His biological parents, the people

THE PANACEA FOR**EVERLASTING GOSPEL DELIVERED****LEADER OLUMBE**

rejected Him. They said His mother, Mary, was the least regarded of all women in the land and His father, a carpenter, was a man of mean repute. And so, they dismissed Christ by the wave of the hand and derided Him. This explains why none of them attempted to practise His teachings. All the while, the people were busy questioning the source of His wisdom. In addition to not receiving any formal education and not being from a priesthood family, they looked at Him as a person who was possessed by demon. They did not stop at that, they accused Him of blasphemy and finally killed Him; thereby making nonsense of his divine teachings.

Today People rather prefer to receive teachings from the whites, from Greece, India, German and other countries recognised as centres of learning in contravention of His injunction that no one should call another one teacher or be taught of any man. Apart from God none can teach. And I want to inform you that any teaching which is not from the Father leads one to damnation.

JERUSALEM EXISTS IN NAME

Go to Jerusalem now and observe if you will find one person who knows God or believes in Him. It is only faithfulness and unbelief that you will find in the whole of Israel. The people are wandering about the globe as lost sheep. This is exactly what the whole world is suffering from. This is because men do not know their Father. No man who refuses to know and accord his father recognition prospers.

THE VANITY OF HUMAN KNOWLEDGE

All the teachings you receive from men are counterfeit. God is the only Creator and Teacher. He alone has eyes, ears and can think. Any man who continues to be taught by men is doomed.

Whatever name a person answers is not what introduces him to God or indicates that he knows God. The fact that a person is a pope, Arch Bishop, Rev. Pastor, etc is not a proof of his level of righteousness. People are simply ignorant about the ways of God else, who can boldly say as did Our Lord Jesus Christ, that He is the way, the truth and life and that no one gets to the Father except through Him? Except we follow His teachings, there is no other source of salvation for mankind.

It is written in the prophets that God shall teach them all things. If

God does not teach you, you cannot know. Man is so afflicted on earth today because he has refused to be taught by God and has not endeavoured to know Him as his Father. It is for this reason that when God finally obliged to man's request to come and dwell physically on earth, men rather made a jest of Him and called Him names. When God used Pilate to test the temperament of the people or feel their pulses about Christ (whether He should be released) they all shouted in one voice, crucify Him! Barnabas that they wanted released was a murderer, a politician and a heinous criminal, yet the people insisted that he



Leader O. O. Obu : The Lord in His Holy Temple

should be freed. They rather preferred that Christ the Saviour of mankind should be crucified. If the Jews were to know that the man they were persecuting was God would they have behaved so?

Are you aware that of all things created by God, man is the most valued? But does man know this? Men rather desire to be like angels without asking whether there has ever been an angel which God referred to as His begotten Son. There are big and powerful animals, fishes, birds, angels and other creatures yet none has He ever called 'My Son, this day have I begotten thee.' Of all His creations it is only man He created in His own image and given the superintendency over all other creatures. In spite of all the glory which God has given to man,

OUR WORLD PEACE

BY THE SOLE SPIRITUAL HEAD

A OLUMBA OBU

yet man has not accorded himself appropriate recognition and right of place.

MAN. RETRACE YOUR STEPS

You can now see how man has be-littled himself. It was for this reason that the Lord while on the Cross said, "Father forgive them for they know not what they do." When He turned His eyes upon men and seeing their foolishness and empty pride He wept as recorded in Luke 19. Such is the pathetic state of man till today. Each time God sent His prophets the people refused to listen to them and still have not changed their position towards God. This atti-



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tude has led man into perpetual problems and even death.

The solutions to these problems lies in man seeking for God and embracing His teachings. God is very close to man; in fact closer to him than the tongue is to the teeth, yet man roams about the whole earth in ignorance searching for Him. Men should in earnest be ashamed of themselves. Is it not pathetic enough that man still prefers to listen to his fellow man, trees, stones, water, and other creatures which God Himself has placed under man's superintendency. Man has demeaned himself that instead of honouring his fellow man, he rather worships trees, stones and other lesser creatures. God did not create any man for punishment or problems. Man claims to know much

when in actual sense, he knows nothing. Now of all the various church denominations that claim to have been established what achievements have they recorded in terms of spiritual awareness? Right from the time of Adam and Eve no man had achieved self-realization except God. Our Lord Jesus Christ whom the world refuses to recognize as the Creator of heaven and earth; is all-knowing and most powerful. He is the one that is, had been and shall ever be.

HE IS A MERCIFUL FATHER:

I thank God immensely for coming into the world and for achieving all the feats and glorifying Himself. Despite His goodness and love to mankind none appreciates it let alone reciprocate His love. Not minding man's ungratefulness and unbelief, He has come down by Himself in human form to teach and lead man to the whole truth. He sacrifices Himself and goes through all kinds of abuse in order that we may live. He also washed His disciples' feet to show His high regard for men. If God could wash men's feet, is it not proper to refer to men as gods? The problem of man is that he is already drunk with the old wine that there is no space left for the new one.

A FAITHFUL GENERATION:

Our Lord Jesus Christ performed great wonders that amazed the whole world but instead of appreciating His gestures, people rather went to Him and asked of the source of His power. He in turn asked them from where came the baptism of John; whether it came from man or heaven. That was the condition He gave them before He would answer their question. The Jews who had confronted Him with the question reassured amongst themselves that if they should say it came from man they would be stoned because John the Baptist was regarded as a prophet of God and if they should say it came from God then they would also be asked why they could not believe in Him. The Jews were confused and they simply said that they had no answer. The Lord knowing their minds equally said that He would not answer their question. This is exactly what is happening in this age. Nevertheless, this is the last time such nonsense will happen. Any man who fails to follow the way of God would have himself to blame. He has come to straighten every crooked path and stamp His supremacy as God. Let us all follow Him for He is God.

OLD PROPHECIES FULFILLED

The angel of the Lord revealed that a virgin girl would conceive and gave birth to a male child to be called Emmanuel which means God with men. But because they desired not the wisdom of God they called Him Jesus; the Saviour. No one knew them, or is aware even now, that He is the creator of heaven and earth. His wisdom is unparallel to man's and is not obtainable from any institution of learning. Let reference be made to our 1st Lesson:

1st Lesson: John 14:6

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

THE ONLY GUIDE TO MAN

The whole world owes it a duty to emulate Our Lord Jesus Christ and follow His steps. Whether you are a pope, Archbishop, or whatever, we all have to worship Him and follow Him sheepishly. He is the Holy Spirit, the Son of God, Son of man and God Himself. We have no other duty than to obey and worship Him if we desire to have life. If you are a member of any cult this is not the time for such unprofitable exercise. Such associations were formed when Adam derailed from the path of rectitude into that of destruction, societies are carnal inventions which are not of God.

TAKE A DECISION NOW:

There is no more time for procrastinations. This is the moment of decision so take a decision now and free yourself from sin once and for all. He has instructed us to stop eating meat and fish; stop drinking, and fornication. God did not create the animals, fishes and birds for human consumption rather man was given the authority to superintend over them. If we begin to practise this injunction then shall we have eternal life, peace, and prosperity.

Every other teaching and exercise is mundane and destructive. But the teachings of Our Lord Jesus Christ leads to eternal life. When it is said that the Lord took a cane and flogged the people who were carrying on commercial activities in His Father's temple, it does not mean that He used the ordinary cane to whip them. It was through the words of God preached to them and by listening to His words their conscience were pricked. We are the temple of God which have been used for commercial and filthy purposes.

Do not contest His activities or doubt Him. He is an embodiment of power, wisdom, love and peace. Do not allow the orthodox churches you attended to influence you, nor be controlled by the learning you have received from universities or any other institution of learning. Develop

unshakeable faith in God because He alone can give you life.

I TEACH YOU IN BITS

If I should narrate the evolution of the world, it will take us some time. The evolution of life is nothing new. But we are now in the end of times and the terminal point of our journey. This is the time God has come to assume His rulership. It is expedient, therefore, that man should know his creator, worship Him and be aware of the secrets and intricacies in the Kingdom of God. Let our 2nd lessor be read once again.

2nd Lesson: Matthew 23:8

"But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren."

HE IS THE ONLY TEACHER

Brethren, call no one teacher because God is the only Teacher and instructor. In the same vein do not allow any man to call you teacher for we all are brethren. If you were to know that we come from the same stock would you tell lies or try to cheat or harm your fellow brother? Would you cause division, create class or race distinction if you were to know that we are one? No man would despise the other if he were to realise that no difference exists between him and his neighbour.

HIS TEACHING PROVIDES LIFE

Every other teaching and exercise is mundane and destructive. But the teachings of Our Lord Jesus Christ lead to eternal life. When it is said that the Lord took a cane and flogged the people who were carrying on commercial activities in His Father's temple, it does not mean that He used the ordinary cane to whip them. It was through the word of God preached to them and by listening to His words, their conscience were pricked. We are the

temple of God which have been used for commercial and filthy purposes. When He had flogged them thoroughly and drove out the lust for wealth from them, the people regrouped and asked Him what sign He could offer as a proof of His power. Then He told them that he