

The Information

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Matthew 4 vs. 4



Nathan a curse or a blessing?

September, 2018

Inside This Issue



Rev. Dr. Cortroy Jarvis
Chairman of PEC

One of the things I understood from my exposure to Christianity was the fact that we are all imperfect beings. The flaws in us are often classified as the very things that make us human. This failing in one's character does not represent the abandonment of decency. It is the refusal to admit or atone for these imperfections that leads to corruption and abuse. Examining these failings takes courage, strength, and wisdom. Self-reflection often reveals stark realities that we do not want to confront, but shining the light of truth is usually the only way forward.

One of the things I admire and love about the Holy Bible is its absolute honesty and transparency. It does not hide the good, bad, ugly and even the ugliest stories

about God's people. One truly horrible and ugly story is recorded in 2 Samuel Chapters 11 and 12.

There are 4 persons involved: a powerful warrior called King David, one of his military officers called Uriah, Uriah's wife called Bathsheba and last, but not least, a man of God called Nathan. Nathan was a trusted friend and confidant of the King David.

One evening, King David woke up from sleep and went to the rooftop of his palace. Lo and behold what does the king see; a very beautiful young woman bathing! He sent a messenger to investigate. The messenger returned with a message that her name was Bathsheba the wife of Uriah, one the king's loyal soldiers. David was mesmerized by the woman's beauty and femininity. He then extended an invitation to the woman to visit him at the palace. His lust overtook him and he had sexual intercourse with her and she became pregnant.

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Vision Statement

**A Church - Transformed,
United,
Victorious in Christ**

Mission Statement

By the grace of God, we seek to be faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ; without distinction, we use all that we possess to call all peoples to the truth of the Gospel through worship, evangelism, discipleship and service.

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Nathan a curse or a blessing?
Cont'd from Page 1

In order to cover his tracks, David sent for Uriah from the battlefield and invited him to go in to his wife, but he protested saying that it would be unconscionable for him to do that since it was war time and all the other soldiers were out fighting to defend their country. David then wrote a letter and gave Uriah to deliver to the commander of the army. It was literally Uriah's death sentence. *In 2 Samuel 11: 14-15, David did a wicked thing; "In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it by the hand of Uriah. In the letter he wrote, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, that he may be struck down, and die."*

God, who knows and sees everything, was not amused by his servant David's deeds and so He sent Prophet Nathan on a mission to rebuke the king. Nathan had no choice but to obey the Lord. He decided to break the bad news to David gently with a story.

The story involves a rich man and a poor man. The rich man had hundreds of sheep and cattle while the poor man had only one lamb, but when the rich man received a visitor he decided to kill the poor man's lamb to entertain his guest. The story got David so angry that he vowed to Nathan that, "As surely as the Lord lives, the rich man who did this deserves to die!" In addition he should compensate the poor man four times. At this stage Nathan looked the mighty king David directly in the eye and calmly told him: "You are that man!"

Shock and disgrace

You can imagine the shock, shame and disgrace the king must have felt, but as a man who feared and loved God he did not look for excuses and scapegoats to blame for his grave sin; instead he poured out his heart in Psalm 51. God needed somebody to stand up to King David and only Nathan could perform that risky job. It is said that he and David were long time friends, but with men of power, you can never be sure whether such a relationship will save your neck. However, somebody had to tell the king the bitter truth, not to embarrass him, but to set him free because in this

one incident, David violated three laws of God namely, thou shall not commit adultery; thou shall not kill and thou shall not covet thy neighbour's wife!

Some life lessons

- ♦ The first lesson we learn from the prophet's encounter with King David is that every generation desperately needs people of impeccable character and integrity like Nathan to stand up and tell truth. We desperately need such persons in our midst. Too many advisers have a tendency to read their master's mind and tell them what they want to hear rather than speaking the truth. When things fall apart, as they often do, all of us will pay the price. Prevention is better than cure or as an advertisement on radio and television in Antigua declares, "Prevention is the best cure."
- ♦ The second lesson is that a person who has the guts to play Nathan's role must have the spiritual strength and maturity to do so. Confrontation is not the goal, but repentance and restoration of leaders who have gone astray is the primary purpose.
- ♦ The third lesson is that in order to face a warrior like David who killed a giant called Goliath when he was only a teenager requires a lot of special skills like psychology and human relations skills. However, for the sake of the common good, the task must be performed.
- ♦ The fourth lesson is, Nathan met David on God's instructions. They met man to man, not as king and prophet. The message here is that before the throne of God, we are all equal; the rich, the poor, the famous, and especially the powerful must always bear this fact in mind. We shall one day account to the Lord.
- ♦ Finally, this story reveals to us that God is merciful and compassionate. After David admitted and confessed his sins; "Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight" (Psalm 51:4), the Lord punished him, but also forgave him to such an extent that Bathsheba's second son would later on succeed David as the wise King Solomon.

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Hymn of the Month for September, 2018

by Rev. Dr. Mikie Roberts, Provincial Director of Music



The hymn for the month of August is # 187 – ***Wand'ring souls, why will ye scatter.*** It was written by Frederick W. Faber. A new tune, ***Willard Prout***, was scored by Bro. Ulston Smith in 2018. This tune name seeks to honour the life and ministry of the late Moravian minister who died earlier this year.

It started with Adam and Eve running away from God's presence. According to the book of Genesis, after they had sinned, the 'first couple' made a move not toward God but away from God. All of us as their descendants have been doing the same thing. But the irony is that the same God we're running away from is also running after us. This hymn represents the predicament of humanity as wandering sheep running from the divine Shepherd who is offering much more than we could ever imagine. God, in Christ, is the "***good shepherd who gives his life for the sheep.***" (John 10:11) When we come to Shepherd of our souls we are always welcomed and will receive kindness, mercy, healing and love. What more could one ask for? So why wander away? This hymn calls us to stop running away and instead run towards the 'good Shepherd.'"

Below are the words and music for the hymn of the month for September:

Wand'ring souls, why will ye scatter
Like a crowd of frightened sheep?
Foolish hearts, why will ye wander
From a love so true and deep?

2 Was there ever kindest shepherd
Half so gentle, half so sweet
As the Saviour who would have us
Come and gather round his feet?

3 There's a wideness in God's mercy
Like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in his justice
Which is more than liberty.

4 There is welcome for the sinner
And more graces for the good;
There is mercy with the Saviour;
There is healing in his blood.

5 For the love of God is broader
Than the measures of one's mind,
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.

6 If our love were but more simple,
We should take him at his word,
And our lives would be all sunshine
In the sweetness of our Lord.

The Call Of God In The Gospel

187 Wand'ring Souls Why Will Ye Scatter

1854. F.W. Faber.

WILLARD PROUT

87.87.

Ulston P. Smith, 2018.

1. Wand' - ring souls, why will ye scat - ter Like a crowd of frigh - tened sheep?
2. Was there ev - er kind - est shep - herd Half so gen - tle, half so sweet
3. There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy Like the wide - ness of the sea;
4. There is wel - come for the sin - ner And more gra - ces for the good;
5. For the love of God is broa - der Than the mea - sures of one's mind,
6. If our love were but more sim - ple, We should take him at his word,

5 Fool - ish hearts, why will ye wan - der From a love so true and deep?
As the Sa - viour who would have us Come and ga - ther round his feet?
There' a kind - ness in his jus - tice Which is more than li - ber - ty.
There is mer - cy with the Sa - viour; There is heal - ing in his blood.
And the heart of the E - ter - nal Is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
And our lives would be all sun - shine In the sweet - ness of our Lord.

1854. F. W. Faber

Ordination to the Dicconate of The Moravian Church EWIP

Kevin Kemar St. Hill

Mount Tabor Moravian Church, St. John, Barbados
Thursday August 30, 2018
7.00p.m



"Advance the Kingdom" ~ Live as Kingdom Citizens

Nathan a curse or a blessing?
Cont'd from Page 2

With the integrity of his stance and bravery of his words, Nathan acknowledged and shed light on the grave mistakes made by the King and leader of Israel. It was then for David to begin to move forward with the truth and trust his faith deserved. Nathan recognized that true Christian leadership does not conspire and collude with the powerful. It does not cover and cloud the truth. It does not silence or shame those already weighted down with worry. True leaders lend voice to the voiceless and lend a hand to those who cannot stand alone. Now more than ever the world needs leaders who speak for those who have been silenced. We all fail and fall, but only through self-reflection, acceptance and atonement can we find the strength to rise. Nathan was a blessing rather than a curse for the King, even though when he was exposed it was like a dagger in his heart. David was emancipated. He experienced deliverance. Yes, he was set free. I believe David is a role model for all leaders, temporal and spiritual.

before he reached the building to fellowship with his Lord and Saviour and his fellow members

Until his last breath, he kept his composure: his character, which he wore as a royal robe throughout his life. A man of stature, justice, respect, order, calmness but most of all peace, warmth and love. He touched everyone around him with his good-natured approach. Reuben did not only coordinate projects, but actively worked on them with team players to successful completion, not only at church, home, work, but also on the tennis court and the soccer field. We have not only lost a beacon and role model in the society of St. Maarten, but a warm and hardworking man who was an example of excellence, order, good justice and fairness.

Even before the Moravian Church was established on St. Maarten the Essed Family occasionally hosted services at home in Dutch. After the Christmas service December 26, 1992, which was held in the Catholic Parish Hall on Back Street, regular services started in the Anglican and Methodist Churches.

When the need for services in Dutch was urgently felt, brother Reuben was one of the members to answer to the call of then Moravian Pastor Ronald Berggraaf from Curacao.

He was very instrumental in making sure that today Moravians have their own building on St. Maarten. Contacts with the pertinent authorities took place and land was allocated in 2009 to the Immanuel kerk van de Evangelische Broeder Gemeente (English Moravian Church Immanuel) Madame Estate Dominica Road10, became a reality.

Whether board member, treasurer, advisor and "wiseman", member of the verification committee, he was always approachable and ready to do the job, requested of him..

Remarks received from friends and Pastors about brother Essed: God fearing, co-founder, corner-stone (stonfutu) of the Immanuel congregation, St. Maarten. He has been rightfully compared to Moses and Joshua, who in obedience to their Lord and God, have been valuable channels of blessings in God's hand.

His passing has been expressed as a Big Loss.

It is always very difficult when a farewell comes so suddenly for those who are left behind, but the way our dear brother separated from the earthly life on the



On behalf
 of the
Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province
 Sincerest



Reuben George Essed: A man of faith a cornerstone of Moravian Church Immanuel, St. Maarten has passed away on Sunday August 26, 2018 in the Churchyard of Moravian Immanuel, St. Maarten, just

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"Advance the Kingdom" - Live as Kingdom Citizens



Ordination Anniversaries

Bro. Neilson Waithe	August 08, 1982
Bro. Alban St. Hill	September 11, 1996
Bro. Jeremy Francis	September 07, 2003
Bro. Junior Sean Roberts	September 14, 2003



The Moravian Church, Eastern West Indies Province offers congratulations:

To Pastor Daniel Mark and Mrs. Callisha Greenidge-Mark, who were united in marriage on Saturday August 18th, 2018 at the Evangel Moravian Church in Tobago and;



To Pastor Kevin St. Hill and Mrs. Shanele Chase-St. Hill, who were united in marriage on Saturday August 25th, 2018 at the Mount Tabor Moravian Church in Barbados.

We wish them every blessing and pray that they will have a happy married life together.

Birthday Celebrants for September
Happy Birthday!

Bro. Collin Matthew	2
Sis. Cynthia St. Hill	3
Bro. Walton Frederick	7
Sis. Myrtle Isaac	8
Bro. Keith Horsford	10
Bro. David Rossington	22
Bro. Devon Mannix	23
Bro. Dave George	23
Sis. Lynda Prout	29
Angela Frederick	August 30

Wedding Anniversary Celebrants for September

Bro. Ezra & Sis. Julie Parris	05
Bro. Conrad & Sis. Sonia Spencer	24
Bro. Frank & Sis. Gloria Barker	27
Bro. Keith & Si. Cicely Athill-Horsford	30



Quote of the Day

"When one door of happiness closes, another opens, but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one that has been opened for us."

– Helen Keller

Moravian Ministers Covenant Day

Moravian Ministers Covenant Day has been celebrated on September 16, since 1741. It is a time when Moravian Ministers gather together to pray for, encourage, support and fellowship with one another. At such times, they renew their Covenant with each other and the Lord. It was during a Synodal Conference in London on September 16, 1741, that Jesus Christ was recognized as Chief Elder of the Brethren's or Moravian Church, however, the announcement of Jesus Christ as Chief Elder was not made until November, 13, 1741. September 16 is therefore a very special day for Moravian Ministers worldwide. On such a day, the Joys of Ministry are celebrated and Woes of Ministry are reflected upon to see what can be done to make the Servant of God more effective.

The Minister operates in several roles. Of vital importance though, the Minister is Priest, Preacher/Teacher, Pastor and Spouse/Parent. How does the Minister bring balance to all the roles he/she is expected to perform?

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"Advance the Kingdom" - Live as Kingdom Citizens

Ministers Covenant Day Cont'd from Page

The Minister is human and must seek at all times to avoid **Burnout**.

The Minister as Priest is a very important role. The Jewish Religion gave birth to Christianity, and however hard we may try, we cannot successfully and completely separate the two. The religion of Israel was fundamentally a sacrificial one and the Priests, beginning with Aaron, played a significant role. They were the ones who were selected and consecrated to preside at the sacrificial altar, to represent the people before God and to intercede on their behalf. This was but a fore-shadowing of the coming of Christ who was himself the sacrificial Lamb as well as the Great High Priest. It is only through him that we have redemption from sin and reconciliation with God.

The Ordained Minister is a humble representative of Jesus Christ our Great High Priest, a person who is chosen and commissioned to maintain not the sacrificial life to the Old Israel, but the sacramental life of the Church, the New Israel. The emphasis that we place on the **Priesthood of all believers**, where each believer has free access to God, does not negate the Priesthood of the Ordained person. The Ordained Priest is expected to perform Baptisms, Holy Communion, Weddings and Confirmation.

Apart from maintaining the sacramental life of the Church, the Ordained Minister has another important Priestly function and that is to intercede and pray on behalf of the Flock and indeed, of all humankind. Jesus Christ the Great High Priest, whose humble representative he is, said in His High Priestly prayer; I have given them the words which thou gavest me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from thee...I am praying for them...I do not pray for them only, but also for those who believe in me through them (John 17: 8, 20). As Priests, Ministers of the Church are by the very nature of Ordination, required to pray for believers and non believers alike.

The Minister as Priests must be a praying person, who prays with and for people, by holding up before God the members of his/her congregation and all those who are in need. He/she ought to bear the members on his/her heart and to love them as God has loved.



MEETING

The PEC will meet in the St. Kitts Conference from October 3 - 5, 2018.

Kindly keep the members in prayer.

Condolences

The Eastern West Indies Province expresses condolences to the Rev. Bonnie EBW Smith on the passing of her 1st cousin Rudy M. Piggott who passed into the nearer presence of God on August 23, 2018 in Pennsylvania, USA.

The service of celebration for his life will take place on September 12, 2018 at the Beeston Hill Wesleyan Holiness Church, Plot 1A Beeston Hill, Christiansted, USVI at 11.00 am.

Kindly keep Rev. Smith and family in prayer.



Unity Board Meeting

The Unity Board (that is the heads of all Moravian Provinces Worldwide) will convene meet in Winston-Salem, North Carolina from September 10 to 15, 2018. The Unity Board will review the work of the Moravian Church worldwide, receive reports from every Province and Mission Area and seek to develop strategies to deal with challenges that might arise. In addition, the Unity Board will seek ways to grow and develop the Ministries of the Church.

Let us remember our Brothers and Sisters in prayer as they prepare to be of greater service to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



The Passing of Reuben George Essed Cont'd from Page 5

final steps to a church service is actually a beautiful symbol which fits the life of our dear brother.

He leaves behind a legacy which sets the tone of respect, punctuality, consistency and love—qualities we so desperately need to pass on to the next generation.

We extend our deepest Sympathy, not only to the family and friends, but to anyone who had the privilege of knowing our dear Reuben Essed, a man of honour.

Moravian Church Immanuel , St. Maarten

Moravian Multipurpose Complex



Conferences Seminars
Weddings Banquet
Meetings Dinner
Graduations



Only ten minutes away from the stores, shops and banks in St. John's.

Our International airport is also just ten minutes away.

Our balcony provides a refreshing view of undulating hills and valleys.

The conference center has a seating capacity for 200 persons.

We are situated on a hill over-looking the picturesque out-skirts of the city of St. John's, Antigua.

There are EIGHT LARGE APARTMENTS which are available for rental. Each room is self contained with kitchenette. The rooms are air-conditioned with Available internet and cable TV. All utilities are included with the exception of telephone.



Conference Center & Apartments



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