

## TODAY'S FACILITATORS

**PRAYER:** Bola

**OFFERING:** Austin

**WORD:** Pastor

## WELCOME

We warmly welcome you, if you are worshipping with us for the first time. We believe you've become a member of our church family by God's grace.

Please ensure you speak to the Pastor or one of today's facilitators before you leave.

May God bless you richly (Amen).

## VERSE(S) OF THE DAY

I have told you these things, so that in me you may have [perfect] peace. In the world you have tribulation and distress and suffering, but be courageous [be confident, be undaunted, be filled with joy]; I have overcome the world. [My conquest is accomplished, my victory abiding.].

*John 16:32-33 (AMP)*

## THEME FOR THE YEAR

Our theme this year is to **enlarge and build better (Isaiah 54:2-3)**, and by God's grace, we're trusting that the boundary lines will fall for us in pleasant places (Amen).

## DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know you could join most of our services online when **you are unable to attend?** Talk to the technical team or the Pastor to find out how.

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

*The seen and the unseen ... continued*

**Text: Colossians 1:15-17**

a panic (Mark 4:35-41). The disciples were amazed and it shows they didn't really understand the nature of who was with them. If they really understood who was with them, would they have panicked?

That's why Satan was grumbling that he couldn't touch Job because God has created a hedge around him (Job 1:8-12; 2:4-6). He had to ask for permission from God to touch Job. That should give us confidence that nothing can touch us unless God gives permission and it will only be to glorify God and we must understand we're all created to give God glory. Jesus is the source and author of creation, the one by whom all things consist and the one that holds everything together. We will face challenges, but if we have Christ, we have everything (Jn 16:33).

**Bottom line:**

Next time we are in the middle of a turbulence that feels too strong for us to handle like the disciples, let us remember that he that is with us is bigger, stronger and greater than anything we may face (1 Jn 4:4; Mk 4:38).



Sunday 20 February 2022

# WELCOME

*Redeemed Christian Church of God*

# Bethel

## WEEKLY SERVICES & MEETINGS

### SUNDAY

Thanksgiving / Worship service  
From 10am

### FRIDAY

Prayer meeting / Bible study  
From 7pm

**RCCG Bethel Parish**

Unit 13, Skylines Village

Limeharbour, London E14 9TS

**PHONE:** 07889906677 || **EMAIL:**

[admin@rccgbethel.church](mailto:admin@rccgbethel.church)

**WEB:** [www.rccgbethel.church](http://www.rccgbethel.church)

# Our 'must-visit' website



Home Our Focus About us Contact Us Sermons Privacy Policy



Our website is a treasure trove of information, and not only about our focus and mission. You could subscribe to our podcast or listen to past sermons too (<http://rccgbethel.church/sermons/>). This is particularly useful for when you are unable to attend services or for refreshing your recollection as an essential part of your private Bible study.

There's more! Details of events and outreach will almost certainly be available from relevant pages on our website and updated regularly, along with downloadable copies of our Sunday bulletins (<http://rccgbethel.church/category/bulletins/>).

So, why don't you set our homepage as one of your **startup page(s)** in your browser now? The following instructions for most of the common browsers may help.

## Google Chrome

1. Open the browser and the **Settings** menu (or the **three vertical dots** to the right of the menu bar).
2. Scroll down and click on **Advanced Settings**.
3. Select **Open a specific page or set of pages** under **On Startup**.
4. Select **Set pages** and enter or add <http://rccgbethel.church/>.

## Mozilla Firefox

1. Open Firefox. Press **Alt-T** on the keyboard and select **Options** from the drop-down menu or go to **Tools >> Options** from the main menu.
2. In the **Home** section, select **Homepage and new windows** and **Custom URLs...** from the field's drop down.
3. Enter or paste the URL: <http://rccgbethel.church/> or click **Use Current Page** if you are already on our website.

## Microsoft Edge

1. Click the **three horizontal dots** to the right of the top menu bar.
2. Select **Settings** and select **A Specific Page or Pages** from the **Open Microsoft Edge With** section drop down options.
3. Enter <http://rccgbethel.church/>. (Click the Plus sign to add more pages if required).
4. Click the **three horizontal dots** to the right of the top menu bar again to close **Settings** menu.

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

### *The seen and the unseen*

#### **Text: Colossians 1:15-17**

In our study of Colossians, we've learnt that the word of God they're hearing is the same everywhere and changing lives. We also discovered what it means to be in the light. A quote we started with from an expository outlined that the mainstay of each of Paul's greater epistles has in it one salient thought. To the Romans, it is justification by faith, to the Ephesians, the mystical union of Christ and his church, to the Philippians, the joy of Christian progress, but to the Colossians, the emphasis is on the dignity and sole sufficiency of Jesus Christ as the mediator and the end of all creation.

This is brought into sharp focus when we get to our text today. Of all the senses God gave us, there's something about sight. It is one of the most valuable to us and we miss it when lost. That's why we go to the opticians for help when it doesn't seem to be working as well. What does it mean when it says "Christ is the visible image of the invisible God" (Col 1:15a NLT)?

God is not perceptible by human eyes and incapable of being seen. The only way we see him is through God. We often wonder if we're alone in the world and if other planets are inhabited by aliens. Whether we believe it to be true or not, the truth is there are several things God created that we can never see or understand. For some, it is because they're the smallest of creatures, invisible to the human eye. Others are just so beautiful it is impossible to comprehend them.

The writer of Colossians lists some of these as "thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world" (Col 1:16b NLT). This may sound similar to the book of Ephesians which says we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against powers and principalities (Eph 6:12). There's a divine being that is inconceivable and unapproachable, unless he wants to be (Exo 24:9-11). Prophet Isaiah talked about the angel from God's presence (Isa 63:8-9 AMP). Colossians takes this further for us.

Thus, when God wants to make himself relatable, he made the things we can't see visible through Jesus Christ and that includes God's eternal power and divine nature (Rom 1:18-20) and through the eyes of faith (Heb 11:1; 6). However, the book of Colossians says Jesus also created everything (Col 1:16 NLT). This is also confirmed in the book of Hebrews, that created all "the worlds" (Heb 1:1-3; 10-12).

All the works of God are in Jesus's hands and the same terminologies in Hebrews 1:10 is used in relation to God Psalm 102:18-27. If Jesus created everything according to the book of Colossians, he therefore has full authority on them (Isa 54:16-17). By the same token, if we carry the creator inside us, then we can begin to understand and appreciate when the bible said if God is for us, who can be against us and he that is with us is greater (Rom 8:31-39; 1 Jn 4:4). If we truly know that, how can we be afraid of anything?

It is odd therefore when the disciples were afraid in a storm, with Jesus in the boat. Meanwhile Jesus was fast asleep and he just spoke to the winds when they woke him up in

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