

TODAY'S FACILITATORS

PRAYER: Akinola

OFFERING: Ben

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

Surely the Lord God will help me;
Who is he who will condemn me?
Indeed they will all grow old like a garment. The moth will eat them up.
Isaiah 50:9 (NKJV)

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.

You Are A Child Of God

1. Cats act like cats, dogs act like dogs, and Christians should act like Christ because they are sons of the Living God!
2. Plan, think and act like a **son or daughter of God** not like one whose life is entirely in this world

John 1:12
Galatians 3:26, 4:6,
Philippians 2:15

Image source(s): <https://t2womenintheword.blogspot.com/2017/04/neither-do-i-condemn-you-john-8.html?m=0>



Sunday 22 May 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

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WEB: www.rccgbethel.church

Our 'must-visit' website



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THIS IS RCCG BETHEL PARISH, DUE TO THE CURRENT EPIDEMIC. SERVICES WILL REMAIN ONLINE TILL FURTHER NOTICE

[PLEASE FOLLOW THIS LINK](#)

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

Living free of condemnation – Part II

Text: Colossians 2:16-23

We started this topic last week and our emphasis today is that we're not bound by rules. The scripture tells us we've been redeemed by the blood of Christ. So, if we choose not to celebrate certain things or events, even if holy days, new moon or Sabbaths, we shouldn't let anyone condemn us.

These rules are only shadows of the reality to come, which is Christ himself. Shadows can often be scary, but it doesn't hurt or change anything. Paul derides those who insist on "**pious self-denial or the worship of angels**" (NLT) which puffs up the "**fleshly mind**" (NKJV). Worse, they're not connected to the head and that means they're not nourished or growing within the body of Christ (Eph 4:15-16).

Spiritual powers of this world may be powerful, but we've been set free from them. Therefore, we need not follow rules binding us to them. Saul and Jonathan's story in the bible is an illustration of this. When his father, Saul made a vow that no one should eat until they have victory, Jonathan wasn't there. Meanwhile, believing God can fight on their behalf, Jonathan and his armor bearer decided to take the fight to the Philistines and they achieved some victory (1 Sam 14:1-45).

However, tired and hungry when he came back, Jonathan violated his father's oath, although he couldn't see the logic. While Saul was prepared to sacrifice his son in favour of a rule he himself made, the people saved Jonathan (1 Sam 14:41-45). We can also learn from how David prepares for battles. Although we can see he knows how to scheme and strategise from the way he got Uriah killed (2 Sam 11:14-16), he would always consult with God about any move he makes about a battle (1 Sam 30:7-8; 1 Sam 23:9-11).

Like David, we should seek to know the will of God before we take any step and it's not that difficult (Isa 30:18-21). One of the principles we should live by is that of Christ and one of them is prayer. Jesus told us to always pray and not give up (Lk 18:1). Elijah lived by this principle (1 Kn 18:41-45; Js 5:17-18; 1 Thess 5:17). A second principle is to live according to God's will. As a Christian, that's a must because we cannot afford not to (Jn 10:27-29; Rom 12:1-2).

Bottom line:

Rules and principles of men may seem good or even pious, but we should be careful and not allow ourselves to be seduced or condemned by them.

RCCG Bethel Parish

Pillar of truth ... defining the future today