

# SALT & LIGHT

*a black and white voice in a grey world of politics*

Jesus said: "Ye are the salt of the earth ... Ye are the light of the world ..." (Matthew 5:13-14)

the Online journal for

**Christian**  
Democratic Party  
(Fred Nile Group)



Rev. Peter Rahme  
Deputy President  
General Editor



Rev. the Hon.  
Fred Nile MLC  
Founder President



Rev. Dr.  
Ross Clifford  
Deputy President

## BIBLE DEVOTION

Rev Peter Rahme – CDP Deputy President

# HAVE A HAPPY NEW YEAR

In the power of HIS praise & the wonder of HIS worship.

**Thou crownest the year with Thy goodness;** (Psalm 65:11a)

**Throughout the Bible**, commencing with the Old Testament, continuing and concluding with the New, we are confronted with and comforted by the power of God's praise and the wonder of His worship :

- From the triumphant song of Moses to the magnificent solo of Mary;
- From the prose of Jeremiah to the praise of Zacharias;
- From the psalms of David to the revelation of Jesus Christ, joy-filled souls sing heart-felt songs of powerful praise and wonderful worship to the God of Abraham, Jacob and Isaac for their redemption, deliverance and salvation.

We, the children of the same faithful Father living in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and beyond, who are redeemed by the same precious blood, delivered from the same power of darkness and saved by the same personal Saviour, can also enter into the power of His praise and enjoy the wonder of His worship.

Indeed we can experience what those great saints of old expressed, as we exercise our choice and lift our heart and voice, whenever and wherever we come to praise our Saviour and Lord and worship our Redeemer and King.

**However, please TAKE CARE.** The value of praise is sharply reduced and the application of worship is severely restricted, when the power of praise and the wonder of worship are wrongly evaluated on the basis of outward emotion and mistakenly associated with open exhibition.

Some claim that the louder the sound and the more daring and controversial the style, the better it is. Others consider the lesser the noise and the more dignified and conventional the service, the safer it is.

Both, sincere as they may be, run a real risk of inaccurately judging this intimate time with God by either their personal experience and/or strict denominational bias rather than by a proper exposition and sound doctrinal belief.

**On the other hand**, the simple truth according to God's inerrant word is that EVERY blood-washed believer is ENTITLED and EXPECTED to enter into the power of His praise and enjoy the wonder of His worship.

Indeed every born-again child of God is able to respond: "I will sing unto the LORD" (Psalm 13:6), to the open invitation: "O come, let us sing unto the LORD:" (Psalm 95:1a) without the fear of being caught up in any unscriptural practices.

This unconditional gift by our gracious Father is an integral part of our benefit package plan (without the hidden fee in the fine print). What He says is what you get, because it is based on HIS WORD.

Let's consider just three of the many promises that are found in HIS WORD.

**1. The Wonderful Salvation** - He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD. (Psalm 40:2-3)

**2. The Word of Scripture** - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. (Colossians 3:16)

**3. The Work of the Holy Spirit** - And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; (Ephesians 5:18-19)

### In CLOSING

Having the above truth firm in our minds and fixed in our hearts, let's learn from and leave last year behind us, then long for and look to the Lord before us.

Whether it is a psalm, a hymn or a spiritual song (Col 3:16; Eph 5:18-19) that you choose to sing, or a combination of all three, as I love to do, I pray that God will bless you as you sing them, just as He blessed those who wrote them.

May their inspiring messages, as they find their way into your soul, first woo your desire to receive the Saviour (if you haven't already done so), then whet your appetite to rest in the Lord, as you rely wholeheartedly on the following threefold truth:

1. His salvation plan for your soul is free and forever;
2. His stated purpose for your walk is to take it step by step and day by day; *and*
3. His strength and power for your journey is simply found and sufficiently fulfilled "In Christ".

I also trust that the composer's hand which caught that unique experience of pain of his or hers and converted it into an understood expression of praise, may cause your heart to rejoice always and your mouth to give thanks continually for the great love, amazing grace and wonderful mercy of our God and Saviour and soon returning King - THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

*Seek HIM with all of your heart; Serve HIM the rest of your days;  
Study HIS precious word, and daily Sing HIS praise;  
Speak of HIS love; Stand firm on HIS grace;  
till the day you See HIM face to face.*

Now go and have a "Happy New Year" as you enter into the power of His praise and enjoy the wonder of His worship.



**Christian Democratic Party - ABN 57 658 075 121**  
**NSW State Office - 9 Exeter Rd Homebush West NSW 2140**  
**(Next door to - Inner West Baptist Church)**

*Postal Address – GPO Box 141 Sydney NSW 2001*  
*Tel (02) 9746 5817 Fax (02) 9746 6782*  
[www.saltandlight.org.au](http://www.saltandlight.org.au); [editor@saltandlight.org.au](mailto:editor@saltandlight.org.au)