

FAITH

and Not by Sight

2 Corinthians 5:7



April 2024 - Volume 7 – Issue 4

In This Issue...

- Calendar of Events
- Words of Encouragement
- Thoughts for the Month
- Good Friday Service
- Sunrise Service

Calendar of Events

April 27, 2024

“My Sister’s Keeper”
Women’s Conference
10am to 2pm

Bible Way Church of Atlas Road
2440 Atlas Road Columbia, SC 29209

Keynote Speaker:
First Lady Inza Downing

May 3-4, 2024

Newburgh, NY
Apostle Ronnie Fynn and
Pastor April Kenan

June 8, 2024

Living Faith School of Theology
Graduation
10am at Living Faith Christian Center
1540 Frye Road
Columbia, SC 29203

July 8-30, 2024

Dates TBD
Various locations in the Philippines

July 10-12, 2024

Vacation Bible School
6pm to 8pm
@ Living Faith Christian Center

August 9, 2024

White Oak Baptist Church #2
Columbia, SC
Pastor Perry A. Williams

Living Faith Christian Center Mission Statement

The mission of Living Faith Christian Center is to empower people to live successful lives through the teaching of the Word and Faith principles that will transform their thinking and impact future generations, teaching them to live independent of this world system and to have dominion over it.

Service Times & Contact Information

Sunday Morning Worship Service @ 8:30am

Tuesday Night Bible Study @ 7:00pm

Web Address: aldowningministries.org and livingfaithsc.com

Phone: (803) 609-5714

Social Media

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Bishop A. L. Downing and Lady Inza Downing

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor; He hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and the recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised. To preach the acceptable year of the Lord” Luke 4:18-19

Speaking Engagement Request

If you would like to invite Bishop Downing for a speaking engagement, the contact info is:

A.L. Downing Ministries
P.O. Box 291808
Columbia, SC 29229
Ph: (803) 609-5714

Words of Encouragement

The God of Israel said, The Rock of Israel spoke to me:

“He who rules over men must be just, Ruling in the fear of God,”

2 Samuel 23:3 (NKJV)

Minister Liliane Delva

These were the last words of King David, the son of Jesse, the man God elevated to be King, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet psalmist of Israel (2 Sam 23:1). But what does it mean to **rule justly** over men and **rule in the fear of God**?

The Bible mentions ruling or to rule in many different segments. One of the most popular is in Genesis 1:28, on day six of creation, when the LORD God commands the male and female to “rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.” In addition, the word rule is used in Genesis 3, when the LORD God declares Eve’s punishment after the Fall of Man in the Garden of Eden. In Genesis 3:16, ... Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.” But even these two rules are very different Hebrew words. Genesis 1:28 states that mankind will rule (radah) or **have dominion and that dominion is tied to the submission of the animals mentioned**, the fish of the sea and birds of the sky, and over every living creature that moves on the ground. In this sense, man is to rule as a king or governor with subjects, but ones who he must care for, not be a dictator over. This is why the LORD GOD in Genesis 2 brings the animals to Adam, so that he can name them...but in naming the animals, Adam develops a relationship with each presented animal, because he knows them and understand that they are God’s creation as well, whom he must care for.

Similarly, Genesis 3, discusses the ruling of Adam over Eve, but the Hebrew word for this relationship is different than in Genesis 1:28. The Hebrew word used here is mashal, to declare what something is and should be, to give its character and designation. This characteristic of ruling ties back to Adam’s God given ability to name... or **to declare what something is and what is should be**. The act of conducting mashal was from the LORD God. In Genesis 1: 18, God stated this about the sun and the moon, “And to rule (mashal) over the day and over the night...and to divide the light from the darkness.” LORD God called forth the sun and the moon and He gave them the purpose that He desired...to specifically rule over the newly established day and night, with a second purpose to divide the light from the darkness. This the LORD God saw was good. According to this translation, Adam has the ability to name and call Eve what he desires her to be, to include purpose...and when we look at scripture, Eve was also brought by

The God of Israel said, The Rock of Israel spoke to me: “He who rules over men must be just, Ruling in the fear of God,” cont...

LORD God to receive a name from Adam, in the same way that Adam named all the animals brought to him previously. In this type of relationship, ruling is showcased as Adam or man’s ability to speak and command things into existence, to include purpose, and exercise authority. Simply put, *mashal* is the act of exercising dominion authority over a specific thing.

Therefore, from the two different definitions of rule, we understand that man’s role in God’s eyes was to govern the earth and in order to do so, God gave Adam the ability to exercise dominion by naming/decreeing or “calling things into existence.” However, how does that relate to King David’s last words? Firstly, we have to understand the history that transpired between Creation and King David’s rule. As men continued to sin, God called forth men to rule and govern over people-groups, their own families who developed into nations. This is seen with Noah and his family, then the calling of Abram (exalted father) to Abraham (father of a multitude), then later Jacob, who became known as Israel. Each of these men became a proto-type of Adam, a submitted man of God who ruled in trustful and reverent partnership with God. This partnership became the foundation for the blood covenant relationship between Abram*and God in Genesis 15:9-10.

However, over time, the people of God, no longer desired God to rule them. After the exodus of the Hebrew people, men were established as priests and judges to govern and rule the people, with God serving as the Supreme ruler. But the people lost faith in this system, and they wanted to be like other nations and have a physical and earthly king or ruler. Consequently the Israelites begin the system of having earthly kings to rule, beginning with King Saul, who David succeeded (1Samuel). After King David’s tumultuous reign, he stated that government or ruling requires these two fundamental things: Just rule and ruling in fear or reverence of God. To rule justly over men in Hebrew is to be just or righteous exercising of authority (man or God given). The Hebrew term for just is *saddiq*, which means to be blameless or innocent, or in the right. Secondly, King David states that rulers must rule in the fear (*yirah*-reverence) of God (Elohim). The fear or reverence of Elohim becomes man’s anchor and guiding post for truth, morality, and ethical behaviors and standards. But this reverential relationship also re-establishes a relationship dynamic between God and His people...that man must submit under God’s authority and this relationship ultimately helps man govern, guiding man’s dominion rule over creation and other people. This is exhibited in Genesis 17:1, when God appears to Abram and says, “I am the Almighty God; walk before me and be thou perfect.” Another interpretation is that God tells Abram to go before my Face and be blameless. God’s expectation is that Abram has an intimate relationship with Him and that there is the need for Abram to be upright before Him.

The God of Israel said, The Rock of Israel spoke to me: “He who rules over men must be just, Ruling in the fear of God,” cont...

Similar sentiments are stated in Micah 6:7-8, when the LORD is asked if He will be pleased with gifts as the people present themselves to Him. The response is “He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?” Therefore, according to the Prophet Micah, God desires obedience to this ethical notion of goodness: justice, mercy, and to walk humbly with God, further reinforcing an intimate relationship. To the Prophet Micah, God values godly characteristics and morals more than He desires man’s sacrifices to Him.

Likewise, King David’s last words echo the notion of a just ruler, in character and in deed, are necessary for godly men to rule well over creation or the responsibility given to them (i.e. family, community, etc.); however, these godly rulers must first be blameless or upright in God’s eyes, not only in their hearts but also how they treat His creation; in addition, godly rulers must partner with God as they rule, reverently acknowledging God’s position and deity.

As we meditate on these words, let us take into consideration how we are governing ourselves, our homes, our church, and our communities. As godly men and women, we need to consider if the ways that we govern our lives and responsibilities are pleasing to God or are they pleasing to man. Let us make God’s Word our compass and allow it to light our walk with the LORD. Be blessed!

<https://www.balashon.com/2021/03/mashal-and-moshel.html>

Abram’s name is changed after the blood covenant is established with God and after God promises Abram and Sarai their own child, Ishmael (Genesis 16/Genesis 17: 5)

See 1 Sam 8:5-22.

is mō-wō-šêl bā-’ā-dām, šad-dîq

According to Strong’s concordance



As you sow your seed this month Inza and I want to say thank you so much. Also we want you to know that we love you all and we are praying for you.

If you desire prayer please call: (803) 609-5714 and you will be put in touch with an intercessor who will pray with you.

How You Can Get Involved...

- Pray for our upcoming events.
- Become a faithful partner and contributor of the Ministry.

Make contributions payable to: A. L. Downing Ministries, P.O. Box 291808, Columbia, SC 29229 or go to the ministry’s website: aldowningministries.org. All contributions are tax deductible.



Lady Downing Thoughts for the Month

“He is Risen!”

“Peace on the outside comes from knowing GOD on the inside.”

“Rest in ME. I am already at work in your life.”

“We are precious to God. He sent His only Son to earth to die for us. That’s love.”

“Worrying is wasting energy on the things you can't control.”

“Sometimes we need to stay quiet. Everything doesn't need a response.”

“Miracles happen when you move.”

“Let us lay aside every weight and the sin which so easily ensnares us and let us run with endurance the race set before us.”

“Talk to your vision. Fellowship with your vision. Don't get complacent.”

Be Blessed,
‘First Lady Downing’

Good Friday Service

The Seven Sayings of Jesus From the Cross

"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Luke 23:34

"Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." Luke 23:43

"Woman, behold your son. Son, behold your mother." John 19:26-27

"My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34

"I thirst." John 19:28

"It is finished." John 19:29-30

"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." Luke 23:46



Sunrise SERVICE



Prophet Gregory Saxton



ENROLL NOW!

Call
803-609-5714

**Courses Available on Campus
and Online Through Zoom**

An open Bible with a red bookmark is shown. The word "OLD" is written in large, 3D, reddish-brown letters over the left page, and "TESTAMENT" is written in smaller, black, serif letters over the right page.

OLD TESTAMENT

Courses

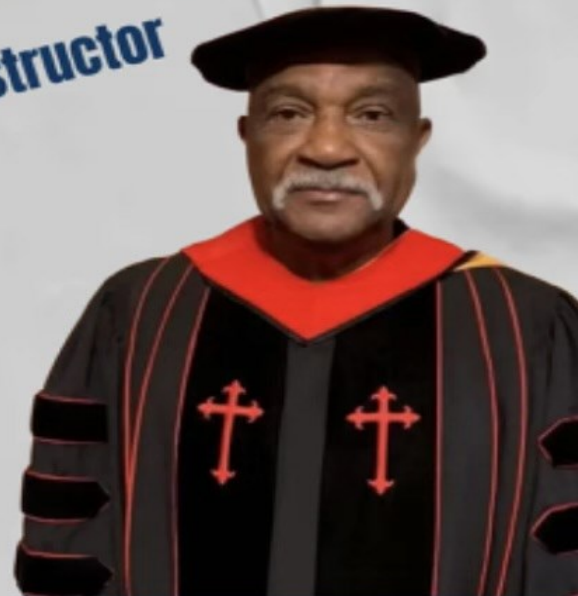
Old Testament Survey I

April 3rd -24th

Old Testament Survey II

May 8th - 29th

Instructor



Bishop William Woodard



Faith
“My Sister’s Keeper”
Women’s Conference

*Keynote Speaker:
First Lady Inza Downing*

Word Of Life Church Global NY
Invites you to

GLORY HIS 2024 CONFERENCE

T H E M E :

PREPARING FOR HIS *Return*



PASTOR
APRIL KENAN
HOST



PASTOR
GAIL T WILSON
HOST

3RD AND 4TH MAY 2024 FRIDAY MAY 3RD 7 PM START

LUNCH: 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

SATURDAY 4TH 10:AM - 12:30 PM

FINAL SESSION: 1:30 PM

GUEST SPEAKERS
BISHOP AL DOWNING
FROM COLUMBIA, SC, USA



GUEST SPEAKERS
PASTOR RONNIE FYNN
FROM SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA



7 D'ALFONSO ROAD NEWBURGH NY 12550

CONTACT 844 426 1217

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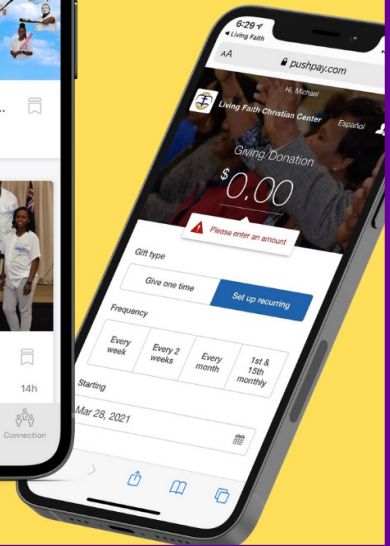
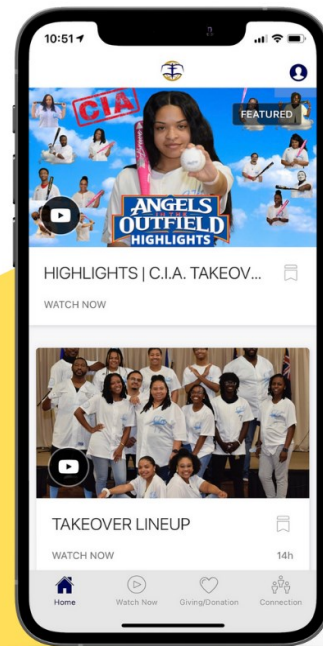
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Teaching...Equipping...Developing

OUR PROGRAM

Living Faith School of Theology (LFSOT) offers the following types of Certificates, Diplomas, and Degrees.

AUDIT CERTIFICATE

The Audit Program is for those individuals attending for their own personal spiritual growth. Audit students must attend all lectures and read all text books. Audit students will receive a Certificate of Attendance for each 30-credit hour program completed. Audit students may later convert their audit credit to an academic degree credit by completing additional work requirements (tests, papers, and labs) and paying the additional tuition for the degree program.

DIPLOMA PROGRAM

A Diploma in Biblical Studies is awarded to students who successfully completes their designated first-year program for academic credit (30 credit-hours total).

ASSOCIATES DEGREE PROGRAM

An Associates Degree in Biblical Studies is awarded to students who successfully completes their designated second year program for academic credit (60 credit-hours total).

ADVANCED ASSOCIATES DEGREE

An advanced Associates Degree in Biblical Studies is awarded to students who successfully complete their designated third-year program for academic credit (90 credit-hours total)

BACHELORS DEGREE

A Bachelors Degree in Biblical Studies is awarded to students who successfully completes their designated fourth-year program for academic credit (120 credit-hours total).

Classes are held at the main campus of

Living Faith Christian Center

1536 Frye Road

Columbia, SC 29203

For more information call 803-609-5714