

SUNDAY LINE AND WORLD MINISTRIES



PO Box 71588 Hillcrest RPO
White Rock, BC V4B 3Z0

778-294-4040

Email: info@sundayline.com

www.sundayline.com

Caring for children around the world

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CATHEDRAL OF PRAISE

God Brings Hope and New Life in Manila, Philippines



Aldrei Villacorta, his community and a healthy meal for his family

David & Beverley Sumrall

David and Beverley Sumrall have pastored Cathedral of Praise in Manila for over 30 years. They are recognized for their pioneering achievements in organizational church leadership structure through home-based Bible studies, regular pastoral visitation, strong evangelism programs, world-standard Bible and Music Colleges and cutting-edge praise and worship and Christian arts ministries. Volunteers from the church are active in the community providing meals for needy children and telling them the good news of the gospel.

Following are some stories told by Beverley Sumrall, Sunday Line Mission Partner in the Philippines:

Aldrei is 8 years old. He has 6 other siblings. All of them stopped going to school due to financial challenges. Their home is surrounded by brackish water. One has to walk on logs that move as you step on them. Some of the community kids get tired of waiting their turn and just walk in the dirty water. When I met Aldrei's mother, she was very ashamed of their home and their environment. Even Aldrei wouldn't look at me when I got into their house. I told him that he no longer has to be ashamed. Jesus now dwells in Him and lifts his head up. He has a future with God. I prayed for their family and invited the mother to the connect group.

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JESUS IS COMING AGAIN!

Key Scripture: Psalm 118:25-26

*“Blessed is He
who comes in the
Name of the Lord;
Hosanna in the Highest!”*

These words, known as the earliest hymn of Christian devotion come from Psalm 118:25-26. The people’s songs and shouts would have drifted across the entire Kidron Valley the day when Jesus made His entrance into Jerusalem as they shouted “Hosanna” (Matt. 21:9). The distinctive Hebrew word Hosanna means Save - Now!

In one sense, this was Jesus’ finest hour as He truly received the praise that was due to Him.

Luke’s gospel tells us that great tension began rising among the Pharisees over the shouting and the singing and they demanded that Jesus rebuke His disciples to which Jesus replied: **“If they were to keep quiet even the very rocks would cry out.”** (Luke 19:14)

But, as great as this event was, it also included a great note of sadness ... in the shortest verse in the entire Bible, we read these recorded words of Jesus in John 11:35: **“Jesus wept!”** Why would Jesus weep at such a great welcome?

Jesus could see the not too distant future of the fate of the great city and the great temple. He could see that the future would hold brutal killings and massacres of the Jewish people in the city of peace because: **“They did not recognize the time of God’s coming.”** (Luke 19:44)

Upon His entry into Jerusalem, Jesus went directly to the temple to the Court of the Gentiles which was one level lower than the temple itself. Along the walls were dozens of shops where pilgrims could purchase a lamb or goat or dove for the required sacrifices. Located there were the moneychangers, eager to exchange Roman coins

for temple coins. The money changers had a very lucrative business and charged exorbitant fees which far exceeded a fair rate of exchange ... it indeed was a “den of robbers”. As the rightful king, Jesus cleared out the moneychangers and appealed to the scriptures quoting from the prophet Jeremiah 7:11: **“You have made my house a den of robbers.”**

For the next four days Jesus came to the temple each day to teach even as opposition from the scribes and chief priests continued to mount and they began plotting as to how they could kill Him.

From this passage recorded in all 4 gospels we note one major thing: **Prophecy was being fulfilled!** According to Zechariah 9:9 Israel’s Messiah was supposed to arrive in this fashion. This was a different coming than was prophesied in Zechariah 2:10, though many Jews did not recognize it.

In addition several other things were also taking place:

- 1. The people were filled with hope.** There was a reason for this. The raising of Lazarus from the dead convinced many Jews that Jesus was indeed Israel’s Messiah. They knew that if Jesus could raise the dead, then He must be the Messiah. They sang: “Hosanna in the highest, blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord!” Lazarus was alive, and the crowd knew what that meant. According to Matthew 21:8 their immediate reaction was to give Jesus the highest honour that they could give to any man and in verses 9-11 they literally proclaimed that “salvation has now come from above”. The crowds recognized and acknowledged that Jesus was the Messiah and yet the religious leaders, who were the appointed representatives of God, continued to reject Him. They were concerned about the rejoicing and who was causing it. It was God who was causing it!
- 2. God’s House was cleansed.** The temple was

supposed to be a House of Prayer. When Jesus reached the temple area, the first thing He did was to cleanse it from all commerce. He threw the moneychangers out.

3. **God's power was displayed.** As the blind and lame came to Him in the temple, He healed them. His credentials as the Messiah were confirmed.
4. **Praises filled the city.** Praise is the only true response in the presence of Messiah. Jesus admitted to the religious leaders, that the only appropriate response for a King is praise.
5. **Religious leaders rejected Jesus.** Though the crowds recognized and proclaimed Jesus as the Messiah, the religious leaders condemned Him as a fraud and equated His work with the work of Satan.
6. **Rejection of Jesus brings judgment.** Jesus foresaw that within a short time the people would also reject Him. The price of His rejection was fulfilled in 70 A.D. when the Romans totally leveled Jerusalem, destroyed the temple, killed many people, and many were taken captive and dispersed.

It must have grieved the heart of Jesus to know that judgment would fall upon the City of Peace:

Matthew 23:37-39 **"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. Look, your house is left to you desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.' "**

Everything that took place during those last 4 days was the fulfillment of prophecy; the religious leaders had only one thing left to do. The national leaders conducted a mockery of a trial in order that they could condemn Him to death. Yet this mock trial actually served a divine purpose because it provided an opportunity for public disclosure of *His absolute innocence as the Lamb of God!*

In a point of inspiration the high priest made this proclamation in John 11:50:

"You do not realize that it is better for you that one man die for the people than that the whole nation perish."

This utterance was to be the very last prophecy ever made by a High Priest in Israel.

The high priest and his official body, by their mock trial established that this lamb was absolutely without blemish and without spot. Little did these Jewish leaders know that the final rejection of Jesus as their Messiah would open the door for Jesus to become the Saviour of the World ... of all people ... of all nations.

The same Saviour who wept over Jerusalem is the same tender and compassionate Saviour who, through the Church empowered by the Holy Spirit, wants to reach out and save sinners from the judgment that is going to come upon the world.

So, what are the lessons that we can learn from this passage?

1. **Prophecy will be fulfilled. Jesus is coming again!**
2. **The world was not ready at His first coming and according to Jesus' own words the world will not be ready for his second coming!**

When Jesus comes again, He will come to fulfill the remainder of all prophecy, and He will once again be present at a trial ... but unlike the first time it will NOT be Jesus who is on trial ... instead it will be the world ... instead of being judged, Jesus will sit as JUDGE.

**Whether the world wants to believe it not ...
JESUS WILL COME AGAIN!!!**

Dearly beloved in Christ: Let us never stop praying for our loved ones. Our God is alive and He will come and reward all who welcome His coming!

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Roman



Melissa and her niece praying



Cyrill with her mom and siblings



Carla and her sister at home

Melissa, 21 years old, went to a feeding program at Santa Ana, Manila with her nieces and nephews. She received Jesus in her heart on the first day, and came back day after day, hearing more and more of the Word of God. She testifies that after she accepted Jesus in her life, so many things have changed. She started reading a Bible and learned how to pray. She also followed the Lord Jesus in His command to be water baptized. On the first follow up visit, her prayer request was for her husband to get a job. The answer from the Lord was quick because the following day, he received a job offer at a nearby Supermarket. Experiencing God's goodness in her life and seeing the reality of God, she has learned to trust Him for everything.

Cyrill is 4 years old and the eldest of 3 children. Her mother has no job and her father just has odd

jobs to earn income for the family. Most of the time the family eats only rice. Cyrill's mother attended several of the feeding days and gave her life to the Lord. Seeing the goodness of the Lord and that He has not forgotten them brought a grateful smile to her lips and thankfulness in her heart. God has given her hope for her children.

Carla is 7 years old. Her father is in prison. She and her grandmother live in a cramped room about 2 meters by 5 meters in size. All 7 of her family live in that room. There are times that they don't eat because there's no food. During the feeding program she received a hot meal together with the good news that Jesus loves her. She loves singing choruses with the workers.



Beverley Sumrall with the children of Manila

Book Corner . . .

The Sunday Line office has several copies of the CD *"Faithfully Yours"* by Bernice Gerard and Velma Chapman, capturing the highlights of various TV interviews. As well, Bernice's book *"The Holy Land...Guide to Faith"* and Dr. Labib Mikhail's book *"Israel God's Miracle Nation"* are available. If you would like any of these materials, please contact the office and we will forward them to you: 778-294-4040.