

# *Trinity Bible Church*

The Carpenter's House

May 18, 2008

**FIRST SERVICE MESSAGE:**

**Genesis 1:14-19**

**Day 4 of Restoration**

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Please join us for refreshments between services

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Monday	19 May	Deacons' Meeting.
Monday	19 May	Teen Youth Group Meeting.
Wednesday	21 May	Questions and Answers.
Thursday	22 May	Ladies' Prayer Meeting.
Sunday	25 May	Picnic at the Owsley's!!
Monday	26 May	Memorial Day.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING**

### **Hymns**

**Mark Griffin**  
**Nicaragua Report**

**Charlie Stillion**  
**Africa Report**

**Genesis 1:14-19**

**GENE AND DAWN WHITEHURST**  
**East West Ministries**  
**May 3008**

**UPDATE ON BURMA CRISIS 10 MAY 2008:** News has continued to trickle in from our friends and co-workers in Burma by e-mail. All of the orphanages have sustained great damage but thankfully no injuries or loss of life. They have lost most of the outbuildings such as kitchen buildings, chicken coops (along with the chickens), rice barns (and the rice stored), etc. One orphanage lost many of their large beautiful fruit trees that provided fruit for all of the orphanages and were a means of making some extra income because they could sell the fruit that they couldn't eat. The primary need for the orphanages right now is food. The price of all commodities has risen by four times in the past week. Eggs went from about 10 cents each to about 70 cents each. One of the orphanages also has to buy bottled water since they don't have a well. The other five orphanages have wells but with no electricity have to bring the water up by hand.

One of the Bible schools that we work with, IMCP, lost the roof off their building and all of the windows were broken. They had several computers and these were destroyed along with many other things due to flooding. The home of the leaders of the school also sustained severe damage with the ceiling falling in due to big portions of the roof coming off and the flood of water coming in. Mimi and James' house also sustained a good amount of damage. Thomas (the head of IMCP) is also in charge of our IMCP outreach ministry. Our ministry supports 20 young men and women who have graduated from this school over the past 6 years who are out on the mission field. One of these areas was the Irrawaddy Division which sustained the brunt of the Cyclone and subsequent flooding. The news sources say that a portion of land the size of Delaware is under water and whole villages totally wiped off the map. They haven't been able to hear anything from three of our missionaries in that area. Here is an excerpt from Thomas' e-mail:

*"I am so glad I am able to reach you finally. To get access to e-mail takes two to three hours with very low connection. I am very concern now that I have not heard from Hannah and Abigail and Ezra. Their area was one of the worst areas where the storm hit. Please continue to pray for them. The road is still blocked so we can't send anyone by bus to see what happened there. (in "good" times it is about and 8 hour bus ride) The rest of the outreach people are OK but need to fix their houses. Andrew and Esther's house - the roof is wide open and water is up to their knees now inside their house. Thomas and Dim Dim's place is also under water and Rachael's house also has no roof on it. Please continue to pray for that God will take care of us as He did in the past many years."*

One of our prison workers, Anna, lost her home. And in several areas where our people are missionaries to the "squatters" (those who put up bamboo shacks) have lost everything. In one of these areas Julie (the one in charge of our prison ministry), Matthew (Julie's nephew) and Anna have started a house church and children's ministry. They have around 50 children from Buddhist backgrounds who come twice a week for Bible studies. After two years of ministering to the children, their parents have recently begun to come also on Sundays. This area was completely destroyed and these already destitute people now have nothing at all. Here is an excerpt from Julie's e-mail:

*"Matthew's friends have lost all their homes. Anna also lost her home so we are busy caring for them. But there was no bus or taxi so we walked on foot (about 10 miles) and also by tricycle (three wheel conveyances where a man cycles and two people can sit on small seats) to help our friends who are in need of help. No power, so there is no water. I heard it will take two months. We are glad that we can have candle light but we need to buy water every day and it is so high. As you know things are so high - four times higher than before and we are not sure how long we can take it. Our friends at Mathew's place were so terrified by the cyclone and begged us to talk to our Living Father. I believe that in everything our Father has a purpose for us and that He is always faithful to us."*

The government has been very slow to respond to the needs and as you have probably heard on the news is refusing aid from most places and blocking aid workers from getting visas. We have a way to send in money to the country directly to our people and have already sent \$4,000 so they can distribute to our workers and orphanages to help them at least buy food and water at these inflated prices. As money becomes available for this disaster relief, we'll send in more to help them to rebuild the worst parts - such as getting roofs - so they can have shelter and a dry place, at least. The roofs and kitchen buildings are the priority at the orphanages with the monsoon rainy season starting at the end of this month when they will get usually one to 5 inches of rain nearly every day. They have to use firewood to cook food since

there is no electricity whatsoever - and they need to do it outside the main building because of the danger of fire. That is why they have separate kitchen buildings - to reduce the risk of everything starting on fire.

We are still planning on going the third week in June. Please pray that we'll be able to get visas. We will be able to bring in money at that time also. If you care to help with disaster relief we will guarantee that not only will 100% of the money given get to those in the greatest need but it will be given by those who will show the love of Christ. It is our prayer that God will use this terrible situation to bring many to come to know Him who in the past may not have listened to the message of the gospel. The people's religion and government have failed them. They are not stupid about what the government is presently doing (and not doing). One of them wrote to us, "Our heart is broken for our people. Our Big Daddy (code for government) is so cruel and pigs!" According to the internet, the people are getting very angry as they hear the reports of food, water and supplies that have been held up at the Thai border and aren't being allowed in.

**P.S. FROM GENE:** I watched a news anchor interview a worker with a relief agency. He asked the relief worker if he actually had people on the ground in Burma. The worker said that agencies that are not already in Burma are being denied entry visas. Then the anchor asked a GREAT question, "Why should anyone give your agency money for Burma if you don't have people there who can properly manage its spending?" The worker had no reply.

There are many appeals by many organizations promising help to Burma. You may want to investigate that organization before donating to it. If their workers are not already in there, the corrupt Burmese government will direct the distribution and they have a track record of taking everything for themselves and their supporters. The UN has already sent in tons of goods and yet, **NO UN workers** are allowed to oversee the distribution of the goods. The corrupt Burmese government has claimed such goods as their own gift to the Burmese people.

**BURMA UPDATE 13 MAY 2008:** We received some VERY good news today. The three missionaries - Ezra, Hannah and Abigail that hadn't been heard from - contacted our people in Yangon and they are all alive! We really weren't optimistic since they were from that Irrawaddy Division - the area where there was such total devastation. Their homes and the church building we built down there are completely gone. So two of our leaders got on the bus and went down there with some food and other help for them. Today they reported on the news that the authorities in Burma are not letting any foreigners in that area - not even doctors or relief workers of any kind. There is also a report that the high nutrition biscuits and other food that have been sent from the UN were confiscated by the military and they are instead giving the people spoiled, black moldy, salt water soaked rice and some cheap cookies that have been made in the country that are of no real nutritional value. We are not shocked by any of this by what we have seen in the past.

At one of the Bible schools that we work with over there, three of their four buildings were completely destroyed. They were supposed to start the school year on June 1 but this will be impossible. Most of the school library has been destroyed because the books were either soaked or blown away. They said that carpenters (when you can actually find one available) are charging two times the normal rate for wages and building materials have also sky rocketed. They all tell us they are trusting God to provide but things are pretty desperate.

## Day 4 of Restoration

**1:14 C.T. = Then God said, "Let there be luminaries in the expanse of the heavens to cause to distinguish between the day and between the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years;**

**1:15 C.T. = and let them become for luminaries in the expanse of the heavens to cause light on the earth; and it became so.**

### Gen 1:16 = The Description of the Luminaries.

**1:16 C.T. = and Elohim made the two great luminaries, the greater luminary for dominion over the day, and the lesser luminary for dominion over the night; and He made the stars also.**

#### Summary:

1. The sun, moon and stars were made from existing material, evidently created when He made the heavens and the earth.
2. He is populating the heavens for man's benefit, to teach and to mark time.
3. This structuring of the universe is called the "work of God's fingers." Psa 8:3-9
4. They are designed to remind us of His eternally loyal love. Psa 136:5-9
5. Appreciation of our Creator can sustain our souls in any circumstance of life. Eccl 12:1-3

### Gen 1:17 = Their Primary Purpose.

**1:17 C.T. = And Elohim gave them in the expanse of the heavens to cause light on the earth,**

#### Summary:

1. The sun, moon and stars were gifts from God.
2. He placed them in the heavens, focused on the earth.
3. One produces light, the other reflects it. Dan 12:3

### Gen 1:18 = Their Secondary Purposes.

**1:18 C.T. = and to rule the day and the night, and to cause to distinguish between the light and between the darkness; and Elohim saw that it was good.**

#### Summary:

1. The sun and moon will have rulership over the earth in a secondary sense.
2. The Lord has the ultimate rulership. Psa 103:19
3. Here the distinction between the "light" and the "darkness" concerns man's visible spectrum.

### Gen 1:19 = The Close Of The Fourth Day.

**1:19 C.T. = and it became evening and it became morning, a fourth day.**

#### Summary:

1. This fourth day established the sun, moon and stars.
2. God has the power to do this and one day, near the beginning of the “day of the Lord” He will affect the sun, moon, stars, constellations and earth itself. Isa 13:6-13
3. A “Word” put them into existence and a “Word” will turn them off. Joel 3:14-17
4. This is designed to teach mankind that eternal life is found in a person and not in any thing. Psa 102:25-27
5. At some point the Lord will “roll them up like a coat,” but neither He nor we will be affected by it. Heb 1:10-12
6. Even though heaven and earth will “wear out” like a garment, our salvation will not be affected by it. Isa 51:5-6
7. It is God's word that stands forever. Isa 40:7-8
8. God made earth for man, but regenerate man does not need the earth to live.