

Believers Participating in the Death and Resurrection of Christ

Col 1:18a reads "he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have supremacy" and 2:12-13; "having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through you faith in the working of God, who raise him from the dead. When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins."

Last Friday, CLTC woke up to the news of the home calling of one of its senior managers. As word came around, in his last moment in the hospital bed, he prayed to Jesus and breathed his last. His passing led to me to reflect on the issue of death and resurrection. Let me begin with a couple of questions. How should Christians view death? Though everyone is destine to die but does death has a final say over believers' lives?

Apostle Paul had a different perspective altogether of death. This comes from his understanding of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Christ died for the sins of the world and was raised to life on the third day (1 Cor 15:3-4). Jesus Christ was first to rise bodily from the dead. He is as Apostle Paul stated in Colossians, "the firstborn among the dead, so that in everything he might have supremacy." Elsewhere, Paul also states that he is the first fruits of those who have died (1 Cor 15:20). The terms first born and first fruit depict the notion of first in order or pattern which the rest will follow. Christ as the first to rise from the death has defeated dead along with sin that empowered it. Death no longer rules. Christ has defeat death and thus He is supreme in everything. He is the first-of-a-kind for those who identify with him in his death and resurrection through faith will follow. His resurrection from the dead depicts that there is life beyond the grave. How does one have life beyond the grave?

The Scriptures teach that those who hear the gospel of Christ and put their trust in it, at that moment receive eternal life; they crossed from death to life (John 5:24). Eternal life is not received when one dies. It is received when one confesses Jesus Christ as Lord. The waters of baptism symbolically identify one with Jesus' death, burial and resurrection to new life. In this life as Colossians says, the believers are already participating or sharing in the resurrected-glorified life of Christ but it is hidden (3:1-4). What this means is that the spiritual resurrection precedes the physical resurrection. The believers are already raised spiritually and are reigning with Christ in the heavenly realm (Eph 2:6). But the physical resurrection awaits the Second Coming of Christ. Then and there, the body sown in weakness and subject to decay will be raised glorified and made immortal. So, the believers' participation in the resurrectedglorified life of Christ means life beyond death. Death has no say over our lives.

In the meantime, there is life to live here and now on earth. Life here and now is not to be lived under the shadow of the fear of death, sin and the powers of darkness but in the resurrection power of God which He exerted in bringing us to life with Christ Jesus our Lord. Thus, the bodily life of believers on earth is not abandoned to hostile forces and death to tear it down. Instead, their mortal bodies have become the dwelling place for the resurrected-glorified Christ, reflecting the immanent presence of Christ through the Holy Spirit. The heaven and earth are brought together in the person of Jesus Christ and made manifest through the believers who are his image.

As Colossians teach that those who are in Christ are already participating in the resurrected-glorified life of Christ, and the bodily resurrection awaits the Second Coming of Christ, it should be a cause of perseverance and steadfastness in faith in our experiences of pain, suffering and loss.

Have a blessed weekend!

Dr. George Mombi Dean of Graduate Studies



SUNDAY SERVICE Date: 17th October 2021 TIME: 9.30am

Speaking: Rev. Dr. William Longgar Venue: Open Air

Leading: Golden Oldies

Ushers: Rorington and Susan B, Volunteers

Flowers: Single Ladies

LATE BILL MONDO'S BODY LAID TO REST.

Late Bill Mondo was laid to rest in his village in Gembogl, Chimbu on Monday, 11th Oct. A selected group from CLTC Banz Campus (led by the Principal) joined the family and friends in witnessing the funeral service and the burial.

Picture: *Principal Dr. Maxon Mani speaking at funeral service of late Bill Mondo.*



PRAISE AND PRAYER

- 1. MET and 'Haus Krai' thanks everyone that contributed in cash and kind towards cash and kind, as well as your time towards late Bill Mondo's Funeral.
- 2. CLTC community is asked to pray for God's wisdom upon council members as they make important decisions during council meeting which stated yesterday

BUSINESS TRADING HOURS 7:30AM - 5:00PM MONDAY - FRIDAY

Finance Support & Services Division

Morning:9:30am – 10:30 am Afternoon: 2:30pm – 03:30 pm

Only on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

General Office

Morning: 8:30am – 12:00 Noon Afternoon: 1:30pm – 4:00 pm

College Store - Daily Except Sundays

DAYS	MORNING HOURS	AFTERNOON HOURS
MONDAY- FRIDAY	8:30 AM - 1:00 PM	2:30 PM - 5:30 PM
SATURDAY	8:00 AM - 11:00 AM	CLOSE

CLINIC OFFICAL HOURS

Monday – Friday 8:00am – 12:00Noon 1:30 – 4:00pm Saturdays – 8:00 - 9:00am Sundays 12:00 Noon – 1:00pm **Special Clinic Hours**

- Tuesdays Healthy Baby Clinic (Immunization)
- Wednesdays Family Planning
- Thursdays Antenatal Clinic (Skelim Bel Mama)

After Hours & Emergency calls only: 5:17 PM Clinic Notice. Ruthy Kuruku will be on call starting this Friday through to next week Thursday night.

PRAISE AND PRAYER NOTES OCTOBER 2021

15 Fri PRAISE for good health for the clinic staff & their families. **PRAY** for strength to manage the clinic work each day & for wisdom in treating patients. **PRAY** that a dentist will be able to join the team to utilise the dental facilities that are already there.

16 Sat PRAY for refreshment & strength for the Council members on the final day of meetings, & for those responsible for implementing the decisions that have been made.

17. Sun PRAY for the College family at Banz as they worship God today, that they will be blessed, encouraged & challenged as they hear God's word. **PRAY** for staff & students in Lae & Port Moresby as they worship & minister in their churches. COVID restrictions may affect numbers of people who can meet.

18 Mon PRAISE for a safe term break for the teachers & children in the Elementary School & for the blessing of the women's Bethany Retreat that some of the teachers were able to attend. Continue to **PRAY** for strength to complete the final term, for protection against the Delta variant & for the need of repairs for some of the rundown facilities at the school. The teachers are doing fundraising for this.

19 Tues PRAY that students will be able to cope well in this final term & be able to complete their courses. **PRAY** for BTh 2 students as they finalise project papers & **PRAY** for those who will be graduating, that they will finish well & that God will guide them about their future ministry.

20 Wed The poultry staff **PRAISE** God for his many blessings & for good health, protection & guidance for them & the workers & their families. **PRAY** for God's protection on the poultry work, for wisdom for staff & workers so they can serve the College with a good heart & for a needed upgrade of the poultry facilities.

21 Thurs PRAY for the HR Manager, Titus Namunu, and for good working relationships with division and department managers. **PRAY** for the IT staff working on his computer which has crashed.

22 Fri LAE: PRAY for good health, strength & wisdom for teachers & students at the Lae campus in this final term.

23 Sat PRAY for the librarians – Steven & Rachelle at Banz, Roslyn in Port Moresby & Jubal in Lae. **PRAY** for refreshment, good health & strength for their work in this final term.

24 Sun PRAY for IT Manager Kuo as he works on a data base for students & staff. The data base provides the basis for proper management of staff & their training & development. **PRAY** too for good computer back-up systems to preserve data.

25 Mon PRAISE for the service and profitability of the college store. **PRAY** for full recovery for Handabe's eye & for strength & wisdom for his family & for Tarmari's family. **PRAY** for God's help in handling difficult issues.

26 Tues PRAISE for good health & protection for the SICO security guards who work at night & that the new officer has settled in well. **PRAY** for protection for their families in their absence, for strength & wisdom for the SICO management & that the guards will be vigilant in their work.

27 Wed PRAISE for good health & good working relationships for the Administration staff. **PRAY** for good understanding & good public relations with workers & people from outside the College.

28 Thurs PRAISE God for strength, good relationships & communication among the Guest House staff. **PRAY** for the TVET* girls who are doing their practical work in the Guest House, that they will be able to find employment in the future.

The Missions Prayer Items

Prayer reminder from the Missions Coordinator: Joseph Mangofia to everyone (Staff, Workers, Students and the College Community) to continue to pray for the weekly missions prayer items"...in your private prayer times every week.

Bethany Evening Prayer
Prayer Chapel
Every Friday evenings: 7:00 pm
Leading: Bethany Close Up