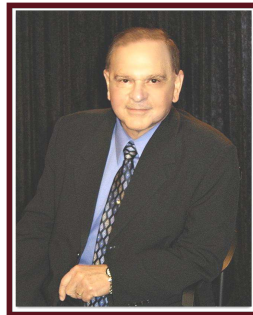


# the Informer newsletter

HE IS RISEN  
alleluia

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | PARAGON CHRISTIAN  
ALLIANCE INT'L (PCAI CLERGY ASSOCIATION)  
APRIL 2021 – VOLUME 4

## A SACRED AND IMPERISHABLE PROCLAMATION —“HE AROSE”



*Br. Dr. Henry A. Harbuck / PCAI International General Overseer*

The site of the “empty tomb” was known among both believers and Jews. It is impossible for our faith to be based upon a fallacy. It was a faith that caused followers of Christ to span the known world of their time to carry His message. Would such a large number of witnesses do this if Christ were still inside the tomb? It stands to reason that Jesus was known in the city of Jerusalem where this event occurred. Religious leaders and the townspeople knew that He was condemned, placed on a cross, and then buried in a tomb. Many knowledgeable scholars today believe that Mark’s Gospel account may have been written before Matthew’s. He may have had access to some early sources and recorded it before A. D. 37. [John] Mark was probably a [secret]

disciple during the time of Christ and this may account for why Paul chose him to accompany him on his first missionary journey (Acts 12:25) Also, many commentators believe that Mark was the [young] man who followed closely behind the palace guards who arrested Jesus in Gethsemane as they made their way to Caiaphas’ palace. They believe the “mystery man” who suddenly appeared in the dark and had his linen coat stripped from him was none other than the evangelist Mark (Mark 14:51-52). This means if Mark’s Gospel account was recorded at such an early date, there was not sufficient time for legend to develop around the “empty tomb” story. Mark records his Gospel account in simple, but direct [literal]

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OFFICE HOURS:  
9:00AM to 4:00PM

# Taylor: It's harvest time, a glorious time and we must "come forth as gold"



By Rev. Mike Taylor/ Raphah Ministries Director and Religion Columnist



Psalm 99 verses 1-4 say, "The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble! He dwells between the cherubim; let the earth be moved! The Lord is great in Zion, and He is high above all the peoples. Let them praise Your great and awesome name He is holy. The King's strength also loves justice."

As we come into this Passover and Easter season it's a good reminder to us that Jesus is Lord. Not only is He a King but He is the

King of kings, and Lord of lords.

Today many want to make everyone and everything else king. God's Kingdom is forever. When Jesus comes again in the second coming, He will rule and reign from the Earth. The Bible says He will rule and reign over the nations. It will be a glorious time on the Earth. The Bible says that the lion will lay down with the lamb. There will be peace on Earth.

When man tries to be king or lord over others he fails. Psalm 127 verse 1 says

"unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it; unless the Lord guards the city, the watchman stays awake in vain." It's not that we can do nothing. It's that apart from God we can do little. God is a spirit, and He moves and speaks and operates by His Spirit.

In 1 Corinthians chapter one the Apostle Paul writes to us about God's wisdom not being earthly. He tells us that God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise. The Bible says that natural man thinks the things of the spirit are

foolish. Natural man being someone who does not know God, they have no relationship with Jesus as Savior and King.

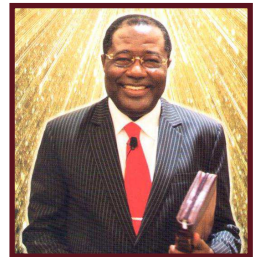
God will use weak things and people to shame the

*Continued on page 4*

**Romans 12:12 (ESV)**  
*"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."*

## Rejoice in Hope; Be Patient in Suffering

By. Rev. Dr. Daniel Agomoh / DLCC Senior Pastor



Beloved precious Saints of the Most High God,

Calvary greetings to you all in the mighty name of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ, Amen. May you have a blessed and glorious week ahead in Jesus' mighty name Amen.

*"Rejoice in hope; Be patient in suffering."* (Rom. 12:12)

We often think that the absence of trouble is what happiness in life is. It's erroneous. The Bible calls us to *"Rejoice in hope, being patient in trouble"* (Rom 12:12). The shame and suffering Jesus experienced could not disturb His joy because of His patience and hope (Heb. 12:2).

We don't find happiness by jumping out of difficult situations. The secret of happiness is to learn to accept the impossible.

To do without the indispensable, and to bear the intolerable. Happiness comes when we stop wailing about the troubles we have, and offer thanks for all the troubles we don't have!

*"Weeping may go on all night, but joy comes with the morning"* (Psalm 30:5b). We miss happiness if we are not patient until sunrise. Life is a series of tunnels. No tunnel is without an exit. Impatience makes the time between entry and exit miserable. When Christ says, *Let's go over to the other side,* we will not sink in the middle (Lk 8:22-25).

Folks who are impatient with others not only kill their own joy by irritation but also that of others. We are to remember that we are made different from one another. If we possess anything extra or special over others, it is not of our own but a gift of God.

Apostle Paul challenged the boastful Corinthians, *What makes you better than anyone else? What do you have that God has not given you? And if all you have is from God, why boast as though you have accomplished something on your own?* (1 Cor. 4:7). The Pharisee with the better-than-thou attitude returned from the Temple without joy! (Lk 18:10-14).

To be able to find joy in another's joy is the secret of happiness. The first reference to sadness is made in the Bible about the fellow-prisoners of Joseph (Gen 40:6-8). Interestingly it was Joseph, known for patience who cheered them up!

Paul's patience in his imprisonment has given us an Epistle of Joy—Philippians.

- He talks about "Confidence" (Phil. 1:6,25)
- "Expectation" (Phil 1:20),
- "Trust" (Phil. 2:19,24)
- "Hope" (Philippians 2:23)
- "Pressing on" (Phil. 3:12,14),
- "Waiting" (Phil. 3:20),

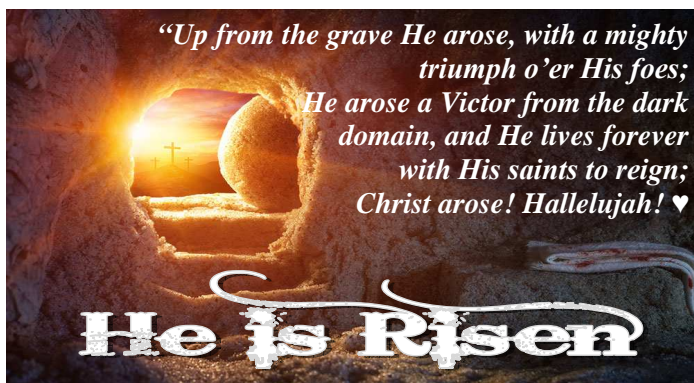
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## A Sacred... continued from page 1

words, a very Jewish [literal] style with little detail given, unlike the style of Matthew or Luke. He records that Jesus was raised up from the tomb in “glory and power” (Mark 15:42—16:8) and was seen by the religious priests, religious teachers, Roman guards, and the disciples, along with many others.

Not much has changed in more than 2000 years. Believers continue to await the return of the One who was raised up [alive] from the “empty tomb” while others have grown weary, and turned away as skeptics. But we who believe are reminded of what happened when the disciples were assembled together early in the morning on the second week after the resurrection. Jesus suddenly appeared to them and said to Thomas: “Thomas, come and put your fingers on my hands [and feel My wounds] and put *your hand* in My side.” After this occurrence, Thomas exclaimed, “My Lord and my God!” The One raised up from the dead was not a mere man, but the God-Man—the Savior of the world!

Easter is a day of celebration of a SACRED AND IMPERISHABLE PROCLAMATION because “Christ arose!” And He left behind the “empty tomb” as evidence of his resurrection. Thus we must never forget the precious truth chorused by that old hymn of long ago:



## Rejoice... continued from page 2

- "Contentment" (Phil 4:11), and
- "Fullness" (Phil. 4:18).

What a Precious patience! Happy homes are built with blocks of patience. A husband impatient with his wife's cooking kills her enthusiasm. A wife impatient with her husband's imperfections hinders his growth and development.

A parent impatient with the casualness of the children spoils their jubilation. Children impatient with the parents' strictness worries them. For every minute you are angry, you lose sixty seconds of happiness! If there's tug-of-war at home, let the rope be the love of God!

Remember, beloved saint, if you are not patient , you'll become a patient.

God Bless You,  
Dr. Daniel O.C.

## Q&A: Is Posting Prayers Lists an Invasion of Privacy



*Adapted from Using Social Media Safely*

**Some churches post “prayer lists” on their website that describe the prayer needs of identified members. These needs may include medical diagnoses, relational problems, or financial needs. Does the posting of this information on a church website constitute an invasion of privacy?**

Possibly. A church can reduce if not eliminate this risk by obtaining consent from people before putting their names on the list. This can be done either by contacting persons directly and obtaining their written consent to having their name (and need) posted on the website prayer list or by instructing members to include this written consent at the time of prayer request submission if they desire for it to be shared publically online.

Some churches seek to avoid the inconvenience of obtaining the consent of every person on a prayer list by creating a “no prayer list” and notifying the congregation periodically (i.e., in church bulletins or newsletters) that persons who do not want the congregation to pray for them should contact the church office and have their names placed on the “no prayer list.” This “implied” consent is not as effective as the express consent obtained by contacting each person directly, and it is far from clear whether it would be deemed effective by a court.

It's possible that many have a similar question about emailing prayer lists. While that might not be as problematic as posting prayers online, I still think it would be wise to obtain consent before including someone on such a list.□

## Using Copyrighted Images

*Excerpt from Church Tax and Law Article*

**We recently posted our church's soccer camp video on YouTube—showing kids and parents—and linked to it from our monthly electronic newsletter. Are we in violation of COPPA laws? Do the same COPPA rules apply to internet streaming of church services and events? Do the same rules apply if the streaming only occurs on the various campuses of the same church?**

Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 (“COPPA”) protects certain personal information that a website collects from children under the age of 13. Personal information is defined as:

1. a first and last name;
2. a home or other physical address including street name and name of a city or town;
3. an e-mail address;
4. a telephone number;
5. a Social Security number;
6. any other identifier that the [Federal Trade] Commission deter-

*Continued on page 4*

## Using Copyrighted... continued from page 3

mines permits the physical or online contacting of a specific individual; or

7. information concerning the child or the parents of that child that the website collects online from the child and combines with an identifier described in this paragraph. (For more information, go to [coppa.org](http://coppa.org).)

Unless the church's online postings contain or collect personal information, COPPA does not apply.

COPPA is not the only issue arising when a church uses videos or photographs of individuals. The church may be breaching an individual's right of privacy. Privacy laws vary widely from state to state, and the law often is unclear within a given state. When in doubt, the church should consult with a media lawyer. Often, the church may receive a referral to a qualified attorney from a local media outlet. Unfortunately, this attorney's guidance is often far too general to be helpful.

Each individual owns his or her likeness or other identifiable characteristic. Stated another way, each person owns his or her face. No one may use a face (or other individual identifiable characteristic) in any commercial manner.

If the church streams its services or events, stores or uses the videos or images to promote the church, or makes videos or images available on the web, then the courts will likely find that the church used the images or videos in a commercial manner. This use may create an invasion of the privacy lawsuit for the individuals whose image appears in the video or photo. The church is responsible for all media recordings of activities occurring at church events. As a result, the church is responsible if a church representative (employee or volunteer) takes photos or videos for the church at church events. The church's internet streaming of services and events, Sunday school teachers, and nursery workers create risk for the church. Several exemptions may apply, which I will deal with by answering three questions.

### 1. Did the church shoot the video or photograph in a public place at a public event?

If the answer is yes, then the church does not need permission to take the photographs or videos. However, churches are private venues. Church events are private though the public is invited. As a result, the videos and photos shot at Sunday school or other church activities do

not qualify for this exemption. An example of a public event at a public place would be the church hosting a food drive at a local park.

### 2. Is a well-known "public" individual featured in the activities and is the public invited?

If the person speaking or performing is famous, and the video includes the famous person's frame, then the courts may find that the church has not invaded the famous individual's privacy.

### 3. Have individuals given written consent for the church to photograph or video them

If the answer is yes, then they cannot later successfully sue for invasion of privacy. Since children cannot give consent, the parent or guardian must give written consent. In some circumstances, the courts have found that proper notice of filming may constitute notice and consent. For example, a church posts the following on signs at all entrances:

*All church activities may be Internet streamed, video recorded, and photographed for church uses. Entry into any church building constitutes consent to be streamed, videotaped, or photographed for church purposes. If the signs are conspicuous and located outside every entrance, a court may find that the church provided adequate notice to the subjects and that no invasion of privacy occurs when the church streams, videotapes, or photographs.*

If the church chooses to post the signs, I suggest posting additional signs outside and inside the children's area so that parents will receive notice of the church's streaming, photographing, and videoing.

The best advice is to secure written consent from the parent before doing any of the above three activities involving anyone under 18. While signs may be helpful, the signs do not completely replace the need for written consent.

To protect the church from liability, the church should consider placing photos and videos in a secure area on its website. By requiring a secure login to that area of the website, the church is not making the materials available to the public. The church could issue login and passwords to members who request them.

Via software, the church should also prevent the images and videos from being downloaded, printed, or copied. Finally, the church should monitor website activity to identify potential abuse of the images and videos, such as software that circumvents the restrictions on downloading, printing, or copying. □

## Taylor... continued from page 2

mighty. He does this because the foolishness of God is wiser than men. He does all of this that no flesh shall glory in His presence. In other words when you do a good deed let him who glories glory in the Lord. If God is truly God in our life, then He alone gets the glory for any noble thing we say or do. It all comes from God and the Spirit of God even when we do not recognize or acknowledge it. God is declaring that the coming Kingdom will not be the result of human ability, but by His Spirit. The truly spiritual will lead the way with Jesus as King of kings and Lord of lords.

I believe it's harvest time. Harvest time speaks of the end of the age when Christ will return. The Bible says no man knows the day or the hour. It could be tomorrow or 100 years from

now, but we are in the time of His return. We are on the verge of another great spiritual awakening. At the time of the harvest men will reap what they have sown. Some will reap a good harvest, but many will reap a bad harvest. Many have been sowing bad seed and we are just now seeing justice prevail.

We must not judge, only God truly knows what is in a person's heart. At the time of the harvest God will give us much mercy and grace and time to fully repent. When we repent, He is quick to forgive us and welcome us back into His kingdom.

Many are being tested in this hour. Let us say like Job when he was tested "He knows the way that I take; when He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold." (Job 23:10 NKJV) ♥