

“Something Good To Talk About”

*Ecclesiastes 3:3 - “A time to kill and a time to heal.
A time to tear down and a time to build up.”*

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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“A Time To Build.”

The Scriptures declare to us in the book of Ecclesiastes that there is a time and place for all things, Eccles. 3:1. The clear truth of this scripture unequivocally admonishes us to closely consider the seasons of life. Seasons are God’s gifts to us to facilitate the successful management of time on a short, mid and long-term basis. When we consider these first eight verses of this chapter, it is clear to us that life is cyclical. Therefore, we are to conscientiously observe these cycles and appropriately conduct ourselves therein. If we are oblivious and subsequently, negligent to the observation of life’s seasons, it can be costly in so many ways. As a matter of fact, some of the losses associated with those costs are very often beyond being recouped. The seasons of building and rebuilding were regular occurrences in the lives of Old Testament and New Testament Believers. These seasons transpired for a number of different reasons. They often occurred for reasons that were the direct consequences of the actions of God’s people. They

also occurred for reasons that had nothing to do with the actions of His people. And often, they began as a result of God’s dealings in the lives of His people. The word **build** is defined as, ‘to establish, found, erect, institute, set up, initiate, and inaugurate’.¹



The season of building in the life of biblical believers signaled several realities from God’s perspective. First, God was ready to initiate a new era (or the more theologically correct term, ‘dispensation’) in His interactions with humanity. The building process announced the official arrival of that era. There are many biblical examples that illustrate this point. An historical survey of the seasons of construction of Israel’s different temples comes to mind. Secondly, God wanted that era solidified not only in that generation’s time period, but also for the principles associated with that time

period to transcend generational boundaries and become a constant in the lives of that given group of people. Hence, a ‘permanent’ structure would serve as an on-going reminder of what God instituted with the generation that started the building process and then carry on to the generations that finished and maintained the completed structure. The season of rebuilding was God’s announcement of the reestablishment, reenactment, recapture and renovation of what was lost, stolen and/or damaged from the last building project. The biblical books of Ezra and Nehemiah are classical writings that cover rebuilding efforts from God’s perspective.

For our purposes, as a fellowship, we have entered a season of building. God has declared that 2007 is “**A Time To Build!**” There are several things that God wants us to individually and corporately concentrate on preparing and beginning to build and rebuild. (Continued on page 2, column 1.)

¹ Oxford American Dictionaries, Oxford University Press, 2005-Online Ed.

“A Time To Build.” (cont’d)

First, as a corporate body of believers, we are to prayerfully, earnestly and faithfully continue the pursuit of the manifestation of our own place of worship. Although, we did not see the reality of the manifestation according to the timeframe we desired, that does not negate the fact that there is a place divinely ordained for us to occupy. It is vitally important that we obtain, occupy and maintain the space God has determined for us so that we can move to the next level of being, *“A Community Committed to Creating Encounters with God’s Message of Love, Hope & Direction.”* This will involve key significant adjustments to our Worship Encounter format and the continued development and sharpening of our current Prayer & Study Encounter format as the Holy Spirit is sovereignly directing it to be. The Lord desires that we would build a healthier corporate prayer component in our ministry and as the year progresses, I will be sharing with you the strategy (that I believe is ‘non-threatening’) that will cause this to happen. It is the Lord’s desire to position us to build more evangelical bridges to the city of Hicksville and its surrounding communities so that we can see those encounters happen. The Gospel Cafe is an excellent example of this initiative. The Lord is also directing us to build more ‘fellowship’ relationships as one local body to other local bodies. As the Lord directs, we will partner with other ministries in other shared corporate worship encounters. For instance, we will more than likely this year convene a joint corporate worship experience with our host church, Hicksville Christian Church. When Pastor Dave and I work out the details, I will present them to our fellowship. Individually, the Lord is calling us to prepare to build and in some instances rebuild every aspect of our personal lives. Greater commitment to prayer, personal devotion to the word and increased immersion in the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, improved church attendance, improved stewardship, stronger families, revisited health and wellness, discovery of spiritual gifts, ministries and destinies and a clear understanding of and commitment to purpose are the critical areas as well as others that we are to focus on building and rebuilding. We will complete this divine charge from the Lord as now being *“A Time To Build”* if we constantly recall this verse: *“We kept at it, repairing and rebuilding the wall. The whole wall was soon joined together and halfway to its intended height because the people had a heart for the work.”* {Neh. 4:6, The MsgB}

Pastor Darren E. Butler, Sr.

Quarterly Highlights

Monday, January 1 - New Year’s Day

Monday, January 15 - MLK, Jr. Day

February - 7th Church Anniversary Celeb.:

Sunday, February 4 - Pastor D. E. Butler, Sr.

Sunday, February 11 - Dr. John Ng

Saturday, February 17 - Gospel Cafe

Sunday, February 18 - Pastor Joshua Kelly

Monday, February 19 - President’s Day

Thursday, March 1 - The Bible In 90 Days

Friday, March 2 - World Day of Prayer

Sunday, April 1 - Palm Sunday & Daylight Savings Time Begins (Spring Forward)

Monday, April 2 Thru Saturday, April 7 - Holy Week

Sunday, April 8 - Resurrection Celebration

Here’s To Your Health



After having tried so many different techniques in order to manage my weight, In 1998, I found myself 40 to 50 pounds overweight. I would lose the weight and then put it back on or embrace an unreasonable method/technique that promised the world but only delivered long-term frustration. Then something marvelous happened. The church that I was attending at the time, introduced a biblically-based weight control system called the “Weigh--Down” workshop. It was a 14-week seminar based on a method of weight loss and weight control developed by a Christian nutritionist. The nutritionist basically attributed America’s spiraling health problems as directly coinciding with ignorance of the natural weight control system that God has given us as human beings. She contended that most Americans could lose significant amounts of weight *and* keep it off by learning and adhering to the body’s God-given natural weight control system. Through prayer, the scriptures and knowing your body’s natural hunger signals, she contends that unnecessary weight can be lost and ideal weight maintained, *without dieting!* I can personally attest to the fact that she is absolutely right! Here’s how it works: eat when you are hungry and stop when you are full. It sounds simple enough. However, many of us really don’t know our body’s natural hunger signal. Instead, we really eat according to ‘habit’ hunger. There are some basic things you can do to develop this discipline. Start by not eating

anything until your body tells you it’s hungry. (Believe me it knows how to get the point across!) Second, at whatever point it is during the day when you are truly hungry, eat what you would normally eat, but cut your portions in half. Pray before each meal asking the Lord to strengthen you to take authority over the cravings of the flesh which are out of alignment with God’s divine order. Thirdly, take it one meal at a time. Of course, if you are under a physician’s care, be sure to consult them first. In 1998, I took off 50 pounds and have been able to keep it off using this system of discipline! Here’s to your health!

A Spiritual Exercise

This is called an ‘A to Z’ Praise endeavor

Take a piece of paper and write the letters of the alphabet on one side. Then, beginning with the letter ‘A’, think of as many attributes as you can that describe God that begin with the letter ‘A’. Continue on to the letter ‘Z’. Read the list every day as a devotional and update it as you are so led and stimulated by the Lord!!! *(From Pastor Patricia K. Butler thru her attendance at a Fireproof Conference)*

Help Wanted

Assistance is needed in the following areas of our ministry:

1. CRMs - Congregational Relations Minister
2. Youth Church Ministers
3. Events Coordination Minister
4. Youth Music Ministry Ministers
5. Praise & Worship Ministers
6. Facilities Maintenance Ministers
7. Corporate Communications Ministers
8. Corporate Safety Ministers
9. Good News Media Ministers
10. Intercessory Prayer Ministers

