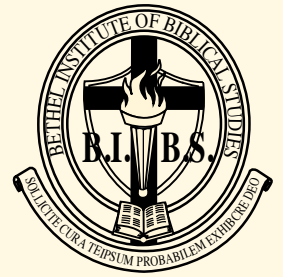


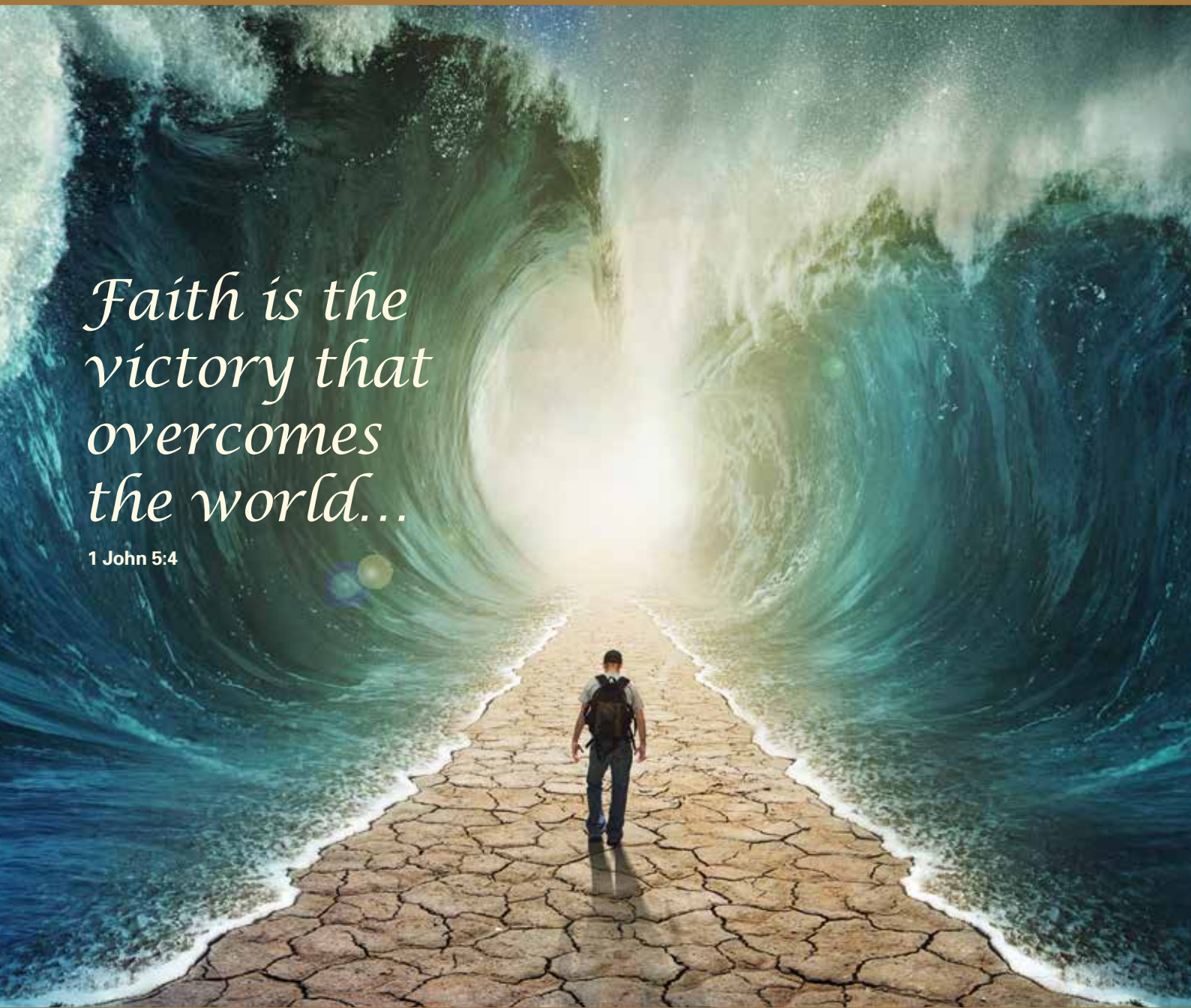
BIBS News 2015

Issue 22



*Faith is the
victory that
overcomes
the world...*

1 John 5:4



Inside this issue



Lying Signs and Wonders



Congratulations Bethel



Lukewarm Church

Welcome to BIBS News

BIBS News takes this opportunity to congratulate Bishop Sydney Alexander Dunn, the visionary who sixty years ago answered God's call to establish Bethel United Church; and who twenty-one years ago commissioned Bishop Martin Simmonds to establish BIBS (Bethel Institute of Biblical Studies). Man of God, we salute you for being steadfast, unmoveable and faithful.

I personally thank Bishop Dunn for exercising his faith in God and in me, by entrusting the precious ministry of BIBS into my care from October 2000 and for supporting me through thick and thin; our teaching and administrative staff: in particular Elder Laird, Elder McLean, myself and Sister Peters, for being instrumental in the planting and growth of the college from inception; and for making BIBS a resounding success and a valuable asset to Bethel; our precious students, past and present, without whom there would be no BIBS.

Congratulations also to Bishop Martin Simmonds, the Executive Board, ordained and licensed Officers of Bethel for your labour of love with Bishop Dunn.

Bishop Dunn's integrity, faithfulness and selflessness have no doubt emanated from his unshakeable

faith in Jesus Christ and these are the qualities needed in our stand against the wiles of the devil.

DID YOU KNOW that satan's main mission on this earth is to beguile and/or deceive you into worshipping him instead of God. Yes, satan's ultimate aim is to get you to worship him by any means.

He employs several strategies to achieve his objective e.g. permeating the Church with worldly values and intellectualism: which is appealing to un-renewed minds. Believers who refuse to deny Christ are terrorised and persecuted by satan's cohorts until they either die or abandon their faith.

The theme of this edition of BIBS News is 'Faith is the Victory that Overcomes the World'; our objective is to enlighten and encourage your faith in your stand against evil. So take the time to read and digest the articles inside. Forewarned is forearmed.

We beseech you also to arm yourself with the Word mixed with faith; the Word of God is the Sword of the Spirit.

BIBS is a wellspring of the Word of Truth. So whether you are a new convert, Sunday school teacher or Pastor, you will benefit from coming to BIBS. You may simply want a working knowledge



of the Bible or desire an in-depth understanding of subjects that are not often taught in local assemblies, such as: 'How to Interpret the Biblical Scriptures' and 'Understanding the End Times'. How much do you know about the rich heritage of believers 'in Christ'? The Bible has the answer to this and so much more.

We implore you to come and study the Word systematically and contextually in BIBS and get God's approval. Take the next step and come to the BIBS Open Day on Saturday 19 September 2015. You will have the opportunity to meet the team, discuss the courses and the one best suited to you.

Finally, a big thank you to the contributors to BIBS News; I also salute the dedicated production team who make BIBS News possible.

Above all, I thank God for upholding BIBS with the right hand of His righteousness. Enjoy!!!

Dr. Mavis Taylor



Study to Show Yourself Approved unto God

Faith in God and the Word of God are essential to the salvation of every believer. Faith in God is the only means by which believers may be Justified, Sanctified and Glorified. It is also the key to accessing the promises of God. In fact, without faith it is impossible to please God; therefore God in His mercy has given the measure of faith to every believer, that they may be complete.

This faith comes by hearing the Word of God; and the Word will only benefit the hearer when it is mixed with faith. Now the Bible is the Word of God; and the Word of God is the God that was made flesh and dwelt among us. We are therefore commanded to study the Word of God to show ourselves approved unto God and to ensure that we interpret, teach and preach it correctly: handling it as we would a sword. Indeed the Word is the sword of the Spirit.

Now when Christ was ascended up on high, He led captivity captive and gave gifts to the Church: one of which are anointed teachers to ground, edify and build up the Body: the aim being to bring them to maturity.

BIBS is a wellspring of these anointed teachers, tasked by God to rightly divide the Word of Truth under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the ultimate teacher. BIBS teachers are also academically qualified to PhD and degree level in Biblical Theology, Christian Education and Counseling.

BIBS continue to strive for excellence in every area. The college is a Certified Centre to deliver accredited courses in biblical studies and associated skills to a diverse student body. Above all, BIBS is a sanctuary

where you can be sure to have an encounter with God, if you submit to His Spirit.

Whether you are in ministry or not, saved or unsaved, male or female, young or mature, with some or no knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, you will benefit from undertaking one or more of the courses on offer at BIBS. Coming to BIBS is indeed a catalyst for a life changing experience.

Courses on Offer *2015/2016*

One-year Foundation Course:

Provides a working knowledge of the fundamental teachings of the Old and New Testaments and the plan and outworking of salvation.

Two-year Certificate Course:

Provides a more structured approach and a contextual understanding of the Old and New Testaments. The units include: *The Pentateuch Writings; Israel's Conquest & Life in Canaan; Jewish Studies; The Four Portraits of Christ; The Principles of Christ's Doctrine; The New Testament Epistles.*

The Short Courses: Provides in-depth knowledge of subjects not often taught in the local Churches, such as 'How to Interpret the Biblical Scriptures'; 'Understanding the End Times'; and 'The Dual Heritage of Believers'. The duration of each Short Course is two Saturdays, commencing 24 October 2015.

Come and experience BIBS for yourself. You will be richly blessed. However the measure of your commitment will determine the measure of your reward.



How to Apply?

Request a Leaflet and Application Form from the Secretary:

Email: applications@bibsuk.org

or

Telephone: 07515 407 808

or collect from

**BIBS Stand, 26 - 30 July,
Bethel Convention Centre**

Next, come to the BIBS Open Day, Saturday 19 September 2015, at BCC, Kelvin Way, B70 7JW.

BIBS Registration
19 Sept 2015
9:00am - 4:00pm

BIBS Weekend Dates **2015/16**

1	26 - 27	Sep 2015
2	24 - 25	Oct 2015
3	21 - 22	Nov 2015
4	19 - 20	Dec 2015
5	30 - 31	Jan 2016
6	27 - 28	Feb 2016
7	19 - 20	Mar 2016
8	23 - 24	Apr 2016
9	21 - 22	May 2016
10	18 - 19	Jun 2016

Our BIBS Family

Our Tribute to Elder Laird



BIBS, take this opportunity to thank and pay tribute to our beloved Elder Easton Laird. From the inception of BIBS until today, he has played an invaluable part in equipping hundreds of students for life and ministry. His faithfulness and commitment to the ministry of BIBS is evident to everyone.

We thank Elder Laird for taking the time to mentor some of our junior teaching staff and for delving deeply into the Word: in particular the Oneness of God, Church History and the End Times.

When Elder Laird took seriously ill in 2011, his absence was greatly felt by all; it just wasn't the same without him. Oh! how BIBS fasted and prayed! That Saturday morning when he walked back into BIBS during prayer, tears filled our hearts because we were so delighted to have him back. Something wonderful emerged also; from that day forward he became like a father to the School: our Patriarch.

It is with great sadness of heart that after twenty-one years in BIBS, he has come to the end of his journey; however we do understand his decision to step back due to his health. Our prayers and love will remain constant for him, his wife Evangelist Laird and the remainder of his family. Evangelist Laird, we thank you for loaning Elder Laird to BIBS.

However, be it known unto you that as our Patriarch, we expect a visit from time to time.

BIBS Team Away Weekend

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!” Psa. 133:1

The Lord impressed upon the heart of our Dean of Studies, Dr. Mavis Taylor, to organise a time for the BIBS teachers and administrators to come together in fellowship. The opportunity came this year and we gathered in the county of Berkshire to pray together, fellowship together, discuss the Word and learn from each another.

With so little time during the BIBS weekends to talk and share our life experiences, testimonies and anecdotes, the Lord afforded us this opportunity to do so. At dinner, we shared and fellowshiped together; the humour, laughter and joy between us were evident as we sat and enjoyed some wonderful food.



The days were spent learning from one another. Some teachers, who are specialists in certain subjects, were given the assignment to up-skill the other teachers: to help all of us to sharpen our knowledge and understanding of the Word and improve our administration; the primary aim being to do the Lord's work more effectively and efficiently.

The subjects included: lesson planning, developing effective teaching strategies, understanding the impact of secret societies, such as the Illuminati, on the world's systems and Christendom.

When the weekend drew to a close, we came away knowing that it was worth taking time out to equip ourselves with the knowledge needed to effectively edify the Body of Christ. We remain humble in the Master's service.

Student Testimonies

"Before doing the first year of BIBS, I always thought of the Old Testament as a collection of beautifully written Jewish history and could not fully grasp how it related to my Christian life. However having done this course, I find that the Old Testament has a whole new meaning for me and has transformed my spiritual walk with Christ. Now I understand the purpose and significance of what God did for Israel in the Old Testament, I more than appreciate what Jesus did for us in the New Testament.

If you want a far deeper understanding of the beauty of the scriptures, I would recommend that you undertake this course because it will completely transform your life for the better."

Sis Myrna Rollins: Certificate

"I keep returning for more. Why? The teaching at BIBS is alive and powerful. Through the revealed Word I beheld His Glory which brought me to my knees and as a result my love has deepened for Jesus and humanity. Invest in your precious soul, in a supportive and anointed environment, conducive to growth. Come to BIBS! A blessing is guaranteed."

Evg. J. Lewis: Short Course

"Studying at BIBS has been an

amazing experience. As a new person in Christ, I feel like my relationship with God has grown. As a dyslexic student, the team has supported me in every way which has really helped with my study. My growth in Christ has helped me love Him more and more; I am growing as a person in every area of my life.

I would encourage everyone who wants to know God more to study at BIBS but dedication and time is important to complete the lesson tests. You have to honour your own commitment to the course. You won't lose anything by attending but you will gain the world."

Sis Elisha Smith: Foundation

"As soon as I enter the doors of BIBS, the turmoils and cares of the week are wonderfully wiped away. BIBS brought me back to the days when I always had a pen and paper ready to write down the Word; as I knew the Word was the essence and source of me walking victoriously. I'm no longer looking at negative situations, things or people that come against me.

Approaching the end of my course, which has been an ultimate blessing, I now have peace, understanding and the ability to walk the path that God has set before me (with all its beauties and

its uglies). I can truly recommend BIBS to everyone. It has been a time of endowment to my soul. Thank God for BIBS, the Teachers and especially Dr. Taylor.

Sis Dahlia Green: Foundation

"The time spent at BIBS was valuable; firstly because I received first class teaching from teachers, who are very knowledgeable and operate by the leading of the Holy Spirit. This has led to a teaching environment where students feel safe and comfortable to engage with the teacher and classmates as they explore the depths of God's Word.

Secondly, the sessions enable me to spend time in Christian fellowship. Praying together and over time sharing the many insights that the Lord puts into our spirits. I must admit that this is a special part of the experience for me. There are no ranks or hierarchy just a beautiful oneness of purpose shared by students and teachers alike.

I have found the experience so personally fulfilling, that this year I arranged for an Elder from my district to attend the Short Course so that they could experience these benefits.

BIBS is definitely a life changing experience which I fully endorse."

O'seer David Miller: Short Course

Thank you for your labour of Love...

We take this opportunity to thank God for:

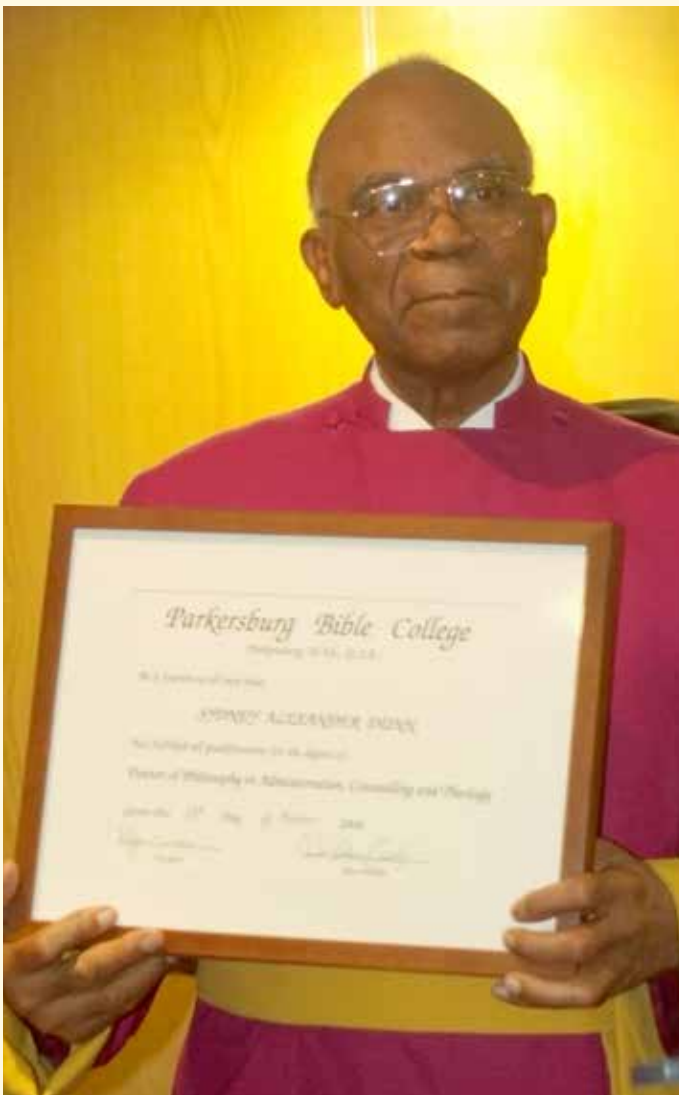
Evg. Laurel Bailey who played a key role in the administration team, which is the engine room of BIBS.

Sis Janet Campbell and acknowledge the contributions made by her, who after graduating from BIBS with a distinction in 1996, joined the team and produced our very first newsletter to promote BIBS.

Sis Michelle Lee from the Beulah Apostolic Church who, after completing the Certificate Course at BIBS, joined the team and was Head of Hospitality.

BIBS: A Minist

We give God thanks for the life and ministry of our Presiding Bishop, Sydney Alexander Dunn who, 60 years ago, obeyed the heavenly calling and established the Bethel United Church of Jesus Christ Apostolic, here in the UK. Not only did he plant over 40 churches and establish elders to feed the flock of Christ but as a founding father he saw the need not just to build edifices but to build a people of power, grounded in the Word of God, through the Bethel Institute of Biblical Studies (BIBS).



Bishop Sydney Alexander Dunn - Visionary of BIBS

We cannot say when the vision of a dedicated school of ministry was conceived in his heart but we do know, thank God, that the Bethel Institute of Biblical Studies was birthed. Our Presiding Bishop, appointed Bishop Martin Howard Simmonds as the first Principal of the Bible College based at the Bethel Convention Centre, Kelvin Way.

Setting up the school was no mean feat. Bishop Simmonds, along with his dedicated team set about their God given assignment; they worked tirelessly and relentlessly to turn the vision into a reality i.e. develop the curriculum, set up the all-important administrative systems, appoint the gifted and anointed teachers and seek out the very first students.

This Bethel ministry opened its doors for the first time on a Friday evening in September 1994, with teachers from across the country! This was a great achievement and delivered a severe blow to Satan's Kingdom. Twenty years on and BIBS is still edifying the Body of Christ and equipping souls for life and ministry.

During his six years as Principal, Bishop Simmonds served faithfully and fervently: journeying hundreds of miles, experiencing many late nights and long days to ensure the College continued to strive for excellence. Even when he passed the baton on to Dr. Taylor in 2000, he continued to teach at BIBS and travelled with us on several student tours to Bible lands. Thank you for giving your all, to further the kingdom of God.

Dr. Taylor, our current Dean of Studies served with Bishop Simmonds from the inception, she was

ry of Bethel

dedicated and worked tirelessly alongside him to establish this ministry. She was indeed God's choice to take BIBS forward. Every teacher in the room agreed with the Board's appointment that day, we all gave a unanimous 'YES' to working with her; it was indeed an honour and still is. With her prayer team firmly in place, obeying and trusting God to the letter, Dr. Taylor went about her father's business.

From the time the prophecy went forth at our 1999 Graduation ceremony; "lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes", BIBS has gone from strength to strength. Under the leadership of Dr. Taylor, our current Dean (2000-2015), we have seen phenomenal growth:



BIBS Happeners: Bishop M. Simmonds and Dr. M. Taylor

- We have grown the number of classes and places available in BIBS. In 1994 we started with one class, then came two (the certificate 2-year course), then as directed by the Lord, our Dean added the Foundation, Degree and now the Short Courses.
- We have grown our outreach. Students now attend BIBS from all walks of life, different cultures and denominations, seeking and obtaining life. Having received the Word of life, many were convicted and subsequently baptised in the name of 'Jesus'.
- We have grown as a college to truly reflect the Body of Christ. We have students and teachers from different Christian organisations: we are workers together with Christ. We first welcomed Overseer Keith Linton from Beulah Apostolic Church, to our teaching staff in 2004.
- We have grown in our knowledge and understanding of the Word. We have delved deeper into the Scriptures; our students can now study up to degree level.
- We have grown as an academic institute; working with Parkersburg Bible College (USA) and NOCN (UK); we received accreditation for our courses in 2008 and in 2011 became a 'Recognised Centre'. We have also hosted Bible conferences, study tours to bible lands and countryside retreats.
- We have grown as a team. Our students that graduated from BIBS with distinctions were invited to join our teaching staff, after undergoing our stringent two-year mentoring program. All our Administrators are also past students.

The highlight of our twenty-year ministry was the awarding of our first earned PhD in 2009. It was a day to remember, our presiding Bishop Sydney Alexander Dunn received his Doctorate during the graduation ceremony. Dr. Nelson (Parkersburg USA), had hardly finished speaking before the congregation rose to their feet in rapturous applause; tears of joy flowed; ah! Such joy resounded across

the room. The applause was an acknowledgment of the effective preaching, teaching, and counseling ministry of Bishop Dunn. In graduation (2012), our hearts were once again filled with joy when Bishop Martin Simmonds and our Dean of Studies, Dr. Mavis Taylor were also awarded an earned PhD's in Biblical Theology, Christian Education, Counselling, Administration and

Philosophy. Some of our teachers were also awarded a Bachelor's Degree in Biblical Theology; this strengthened the academic base of BIBS.

Bethel truly has much to celebrate in this 60th year of ministry, we thank God that as a ministry of Bethel, the Bible College has fulfilled its mandate and will continue to do so by the grace of God.

Congrat

Congratulations!!! Bishop Sydney Alexander Dunn for answering God's call to establish the Bethel United Churches sixty years ago and BIBS Bible College twenty-one years ago. Well done thou good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over the things that God have entrusted you with. Man of God, I salute you.

Dr. Mavis Taylor

Congratulations Bishop Dunn on your 60th year in ministry. You are a true Diamond who has stood the test of time in God's service, inspired numerous people to follow the Lord and established BIBS to edify and ground them. God bless you.

Elder Easton Laird

Thank God for you Bishop Dunn and your 60 years of ministry; your labour has not been in vain; for out of the abundance of blessings BIBS came forth and continues on from your example: steadfast in the ministry of the Word. What the Lord has done through you is marvelous.

Sis Sandra Robb

To Bishop Dunn and the Saints in Bethel congratulations! Part of the success of Bishop Dunn's ministry has been the establishment of the Bethel Institute of Biblical Studies (BIBS), which has served to bless and enhance the lives of many students. God bless you.

Overseer Lance Dinnall

Congratulations Bishop Dunn and Bethel for 60 years of ministry. I have had the honour of growing up in Bethel and helping in BIBS from a young age. I pray that I can continue to be part of this great legacy.

Sister Hannah Wright

Congratulations Bishop Dunn and Bethel United Church for bringing this vision to the United Kingdom. BIBS has sprung forth from your Labour of Love and I am truly blessed to be a part of this. To God be the Glory!

Sister Tracey Peters

Beloved Bishop Dunn! In 1955 you started teaching a handful of saints the Apostolic Doctrine, on a black-board with chalk. Sixty years later, under your oversight, Bethel is blessed with a fully-fledged, nationally accredited, Bible college. Today we congratulate you!

Elder Nicholas Myers



Our lives have been transformed by the teaching of the unadulterated Word of God at BIBS. We sal

Congratulations!

Thank you Bishop Dunn for your sacrificial labour in the ministry of the Church. BIBS is a fruit of this labour and as a result I have had the opportunity to teach the students there. May the God of all majesty, glory, power and peace continue to bless and minister to you.

Pastor Joy Henry



Thank God for you Bishop Dunn and the Executive Board of Bethel United Church; BIBS is one of the great accomplishments of 60-years of ministry. BIBS is continuing with your vision ie the edification of the body of Christ, the ministry of healing, restoration and reconciliation.

Elder Denson Lewin

Congratulations Bishop Dunn! Your service of 60 years in this country has created many ministries that continue to enrich the lives of God's people; in particular the ministry of BIBS, which has been instrumental in my life as a student and now as a teacher. I give God thanks for the impact BIBS has had.

Sister Deborah Myers

I congratulate Bishop S.A. Dunn and the Executive Board for 60 years of ministry in Bethel and for the vision and foresight that gave birth to BIBS and transformed numerous lives. It is a unique honour and privilege for me to have served as a member of the teaching staff at BIBS, for over 10 years.

Overseer Keith Linton

Congratulations on 60 years of ministry. Thank you for your obedience to the call and the part that you have played in establishing and supporting BIBS. May God continue to bless you and make you prosperous in all that you have planted.

Evg. Audrey Beckford

Congratulations Bishop Dunn for your foresight and vision for BIBS and for giving me the opportunity to serve God's people as a secretary. Happy 60th Bishop Dunn

Sister Elizabeth Thomas

Congratulations to you Bishop Dunn and the Bethel Churches! 60 years of ministry is a wonderful achievement. Thank you for obeying God's voice and making this God given vision of BIBS Bible College, a reality. May God ever strengthen and keep you in His Will.

Sister Louisa Sinclair

ute you Bishop Dunn for obeying the vision and establishing a Bible college for all. *BIBS Students*

The Lukewarm Church

Many are concerned today about the spiritual condition of the Church, wondering when and how we got into this lukewarm state. Well, to understand our Church age, we need look no further than the seven Churches of Asia in the book of Revelation. The apostle John wrote several letters to them in AD90; each letter revealed the Church's true condition, a rebuke or commendation from Christ for their works and His promise to reward all those who overcame (Rev. 3). Although the Churches in Asia Minor no longer exist, theologians believe that they represent the seven Church ages.

Laodicea, the seventh Church of Asia, is said to be prophetic of the last and final state of the universal Church, which concludes with the rapture. It grieves my heart to say it but we are living in the last Church age; the lukewarm condition i.e. the spirit of indifference and complacency that led to Laodicea's demise, is the same spirit that pervades the Church today (Rev. 3:14-22).

So what do we mean by indifference and complacency?

To be indifferent, is to lack concern and interest. It's a state of apathy, where nothing matters. Indifference is dangerous because it breeds selfishness, self-centredness and leads to inactivity. To be complacent is to be self-satisfied, to be in need of nothing. This is disastrous as contentment with one's accomplishments leads to stagnation.

In what way are we lukewarm?

Although God has given great power and authority to the Church on earth, we are not exercising it: the voice of the Church (although universal) is seldom heard; we keep silent on the religious issues

that affect our world. We sit by and watch governments push through policies and laws that are an affront to God e.g. the Abortion bill, widening adoption rights, the legalisation of same-sex marriages. We are reluctant to get involved, to challenge these laws, even to pray as directed in Scripture for those in authority (1 Tim. 2:2).

We appear to be unconcerned about the hundreds of thousands being persecuted and suffering daily in foreign lands for the name of Jesus. They need our prayers and financial support. Afraid of reprisals from religious organisations and political regimes, we distance ourselves from their plight.

We are oblivious to the needs of the precious souls around us. We remain unstirred, despite the homelessness and severe poverty; yes, right here in the UK, over one million families rely on food banks to feed their children. So many in our society are depressed, oppressed and suicidal but we "pass by on the other side." (Luk.10:32); we go about our daily business without a care. We've become ineffective in our local communities.

The Church is no longer purpose driven. The zeal that burned within us has fizzled out; that immediacy to take the world by storm and the love that compelled us to bring the gospel message to all has waned. Because the Early Church believed that the coming of the Lord was imminent, they moved with urgency to rescue the perishing but with the passing of time this dynamism has been replaced by apathy. Although we know the terror and fate that awaits the sinner, we remain unmoved.

So what caused our Lukewarm Condition?

Could it be that our blessings have overtaken us, and we have become self-satisfied? The 21st century Church has accomplished much: great edifices, congregations, ministries, and titles. We too, like Laodicea, believe we are in need of nothing but we are so wrong.

Could it be that we have compromised with sin? We have adjusted to this world; put down roots and are no longer pilgrims and sojourners. The Church doesn't have a problem with sin anymore; for

many Christians “it’s not a heaven or hell issue”; we not only accept homosexuality as a ‘norm’ but we are reluctant to speak out as this can offend our friends.

Could it be that we are finding our purpose and fulfilment in everything else except the Church, the Body of Christ? Members sit in the congregation unfulfilled and disengaged. Their gifts which God gave to them to edify His Body lie dormant.

Could it be that we have replaced the knowledge of God and His Word with the paraphernalia of a well-organised Church? Order, professionalism and songs that move our emotions but do not minister to our spirits, wow many; even the preaching and teaching of the pure unadulterated Word of God is now minimised.

So how do we deal with Indifference and Complacency?

The answer may be found in the words of Christ to the Church in Laodicea:

Be zealous: The word zealous is derived from the Greek word

‘zeo’, which means to be hot (as in boiling liquid). It points to being fervent, passionate, serving the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength.

To Repent: The Church, must acknowledge its true condition, agree with God’s right assessment of it; turn again to God and amend its ways.

The early Church started with only a handful of men and women; within a few years they turned the world “upside down”. They took the Gospel into the world, crossing geographical, cultural and religious lines: they were passionate, zealous, and relentless.

They fearlessly faced kings, world powers, challenged philosophers, and rebuked the licentious behaviour of the day. Laodicea had fallen from this first state, which is not surprising as Jesus was put out of His Church.

Today, Jesus is still patiently knocking, but the question is, will we let him back into His Church?



Did you Know?

Did you know that satan is using the world systems to lure you into worshipping him?

Tell me more...

Satan, who was referred to as lucifer in creation, was the anointed cherub of God. His beauty and brightness outshone the entire angelic host; he was covered with every jewel possible: rubies, diamonds, onyx, etc. He walked amongst the glories (fire) of God, UNTIL the day iniquity was found in him; satan's heart was lifted up in pride (self-worship).

Yes, he fell in love with his own beauty, turned from worshipping his creator and God to worshipping himself; he even influenced a third of the angelic host to worship him (Jude 1:6). That was still not enough; he wanted more (does that sound familiar? it's greed). His position wasn't sufficient, he said, "I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God...I will be like the Most High" (Isa. 14:12-14; Eze. 28:12-14).

The question is my dear reader, why did he so desperately want to be God? The answer is that satan wanted ALL of creation i.e. the heavens, the earth and everything in it to bow down and worship him. He did not



Lying Signs and Wonders

want riches or power; he had that already; he wanted the WORSHIP that belonged to God (covetousness). God cast satan and his angels out of Heaven and he immediately set about his mission to get all of creation to worship him; If he could enlist Adam then all of humankind and the creation would be plunged into darkness. All would bow down to him.

Did you know that satan recruits worshippers through deception?

Tell me more...

Satan doesn't approach you or I directly; if he did we would instantly recognise him. He enlists the greatest influences in life i.e. the person or thing that he knows you would follow. Watch this! satan targeted Eve, as she could influence Adam.

He deceived her by promising that her "...eyes would be open...you will be as gods" Adam, the progenitor of humankind, listened to Eve and as a result the world was plunged into servitude to satan and sin.

When God sent forth His son to redeem fallen man, satan saw it as his ultimate opportunity to get humankind to worship him. This time he would directly challenge the Son of God. He went in for the KILL,

hoping that by getting Jesus to bow down to him, he would stop man's redemption and the entire world would therefore continue to serve and worship him.

When Jesus was at his lowest physical ebb, satan took Jesus up into an exceedingly high mountain and showed him the glory of all the kingdoms of the world. He offered Jesus the 'deal of a lifetime' (does this sound familiar). He said, "...All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me." (Mat. 4:8-10)

However, this time satan's plot was foiled: Jesus replied: "it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve."

Dear reader, nothing satan offers or gives to us is for free, if it sounds too good to be true, it definitely is.

Read satan's small print.

Did you know that many celebrities are recruiting worshippers for satan?

Tell me more...

In an interview with a world-renowned musician and songwriter, the artist confessed that in order to be successful, he made a bargain with "the commander in chief", satan. He is just one of the many rich and famous people, who have struck a deal with the devil in exchange for fame and fortune. These entertainers propagate satanic symbols in their dance routines and on their clothing: setting fashion trends for millions of young people.

Their hand gestures, such as the occult eye and Roc-hand sign are adopted by fans throughout the world. Unbeknown to many, music tracks are dubbed with satanic chants and subliminal satanic messages are applied through 'back masking'.



Back Masking

So many famous actors and music artists remain popular despite giving interviews about channeling spirits to help them. Dear reader, it's clear to see that satan is not just targeting the odd soul here and there but he is after the influencers, including Church leaders: why? because if he gets them, he gets their followers to worship him. He's after the millions...

Did you know that by joining certain world systems you are worshipping satan?

Tell me more...

Not only are pop and movie stars making deals with the devil and selling their souls for riches, leaders of mega churches are too. Many are joining secret societies, which openly advocate the worship of satan. These secret societies have a global network of influencers e.g. world leaders, sovereigns, top ranking world officials, members of Mensa and Free Masons.

They recruit and fund the most highly skilled and educate the best and brightest minds, which means they have control over the education, economic, political and religious institutions throughout the world.

These secret societies are working to bring in a new world order where satan is worshipped.

Why are Churches, joining them? Well, the societies offer unlimited wealth, resources and worldwide connections; they even finance their vast building programs BUT all of this comes at a price: the price of WORSHIP.

It's no wonder that the universal Church is lukewarm: suffering from indifference and apathy; they cannot speak out against the evils of this world when they are beneficiaries and therefore on satan's payroll.

Did you know that these delusions are the fulfillment of Bible prophecies?

Tell me more...

The Bible warns of a time when the earth will be ruled by satan for a season. Under his new order, of a one-world religion, which I might add is already underway, satan will raise up a political leader (the antichrist) and will deceive many by offering peace whilst luring them into worshipping satan.

He will work with a religious leader and together use lying signs and wonders (the spectacular) to get people to receive the mark of the beast, which signifies that satan owns them: and who satan owns MUST give lifelong worship to him (Rev. 13:1-18). Dear reader, take a few minutes to consider if you are being lured into worshipping satan? You may not physically bow down to the stars, the moon or an idol made of wood or gold, but the Bible warns us that

covetousness and stubbornness is idolatry; rebellion is nothing less than witchcraft and pride is self-worship.

Ask yourself the question; to what or whom are you giving your loyalty, time and commitment? Have you become indifferent to sin; tolerating sins you know the Bible speaks against? Have you joined societies/groups at the expense of your faith? Remember, you can only worship God or the devil. Choose ye this day, whom ye will serve.



The Persecuted Church

“Christians: the world’s most persecuted people.”

The Independent, 27 July 2014.

Since its birth, over 2,000 years ago, the Church has endured and overcome great persecution.

“The Way”, as the Early Church was known then, was not accepted as a ‘religio licita’ by the Romans and was held as a real threat to Judaism by its leaders. As a result they were beaten, mocked, threatened, imprisoned, crucified, and devoured by lions: yes killed for Christ’s name sake. Just as Jesus had told them, they were martyred for their belief, “Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name’s sake. (Mat. 24:9). “Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.” (Mat. 5:11)

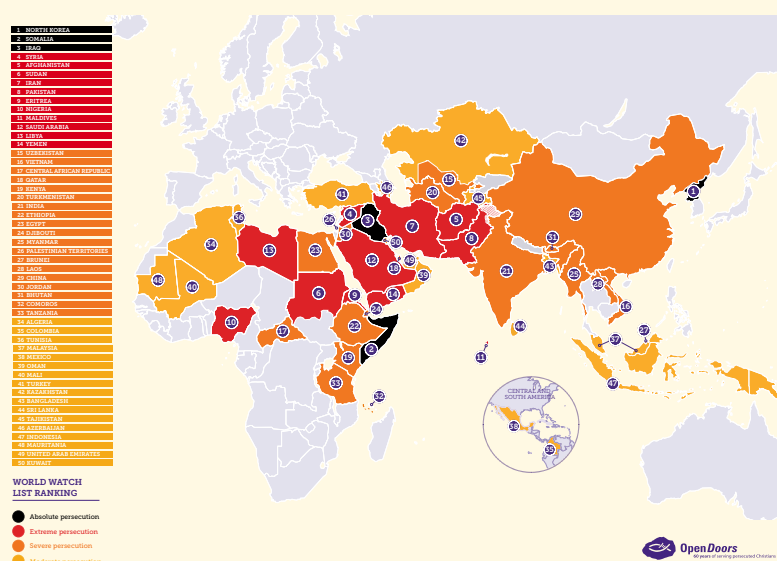
Stephen, one of the seven deacons in the book of Acts, was the first to suffer martyrdom. His death was the catalyst for the spreading of the gospel, not only in Jerusalem but to the regions beyond (Acts. 8:1). As the Church expanded, so too did Saul’s campaign; he zealously pursued and killed any Christian who refused to deny Christ. However, they continued to declare the gospel, to preach and baptise in the name of Jesus. (Act. 4:1-3). It was during this time of severe persecution that the Church flourished: the Word grew, multiplied and prevailed, and great grace was upon them all.

It was not just the unbelieving Jews but the Romans also that persecuted the Church. Under Emperors Nero and Domitian, Christians were thrown to wild animals, burned to death, sawn asunder and suffered the loss of all things. However nothing was able to separate them from the Love of God, in Christ Jesus. (Rom. 8:38-39)

Christians have been persecuted throughout the centuries; from Polycarp the Bishop of Smyrna to William Tyndale (1536) who brought us the English translation of the Bible. Many have been betrayed by friends and even burned at the stake for their faith.

2000 years later, and the persecution has not stopped; even now in the twenty-first century Christians are being killed for their faith. Today, Christians are the most persecuted group in the world. In fact

there are over 50 countries in the world, where persecution for Christianity is either extreme or severe. (See map below)



In 2015, several newspapers reported an increase in persecution across the globe. The Centre for the Study of Global Christianity in the United States estimates that 100,000 Christians are being killed every year and 11 every hour. Those that have died for their faith, young and old, were beheaded, hacked or burnt to death. News reports tell of the 500 Christians hacked to death in India, and more recently in April 2015, 147 Christian students were singled out and killed in Kenya, and 30 men beheaded/shot in the head on a beach in Libya.

According to the ‘Church in Need Report’, 15 May 2015, Christians in Nigeria are facing great atrocities. 5,000 Catholics have been killed, 100,000 displaced, and 350 Churches left in ruins. Despite all of this, one displaced priest said, “The believer’s faith is not shaken by the terror or snares of persecution, instead it purifies it, making it stronger and impenetrable.”

Christians in the Middle East and other places such as Pakistan and Sudan are experiencing a growing surge of persecution against them. The Independent newspaper reported that a pregnant woman was put into prison in Sudan for marrying a Christian; thankfully she was eventually released with her eight month old baby. According to recent figures, there are 2.01 billion Christians worldwide and approximately 2 million suffer some form of persecution.



Persecution of Christians reached a record high in 2014. Will 2015 be worse?

On Faith & Culture

Right across the globe Christians are facing anti-Christian attacks, social harassment, discrimination, rape (in front of family members), and imprisonment. In some places, their houses and Churches were burnt to the ground; they were told to "...convert to Islam, pay a tax or be executed" and had to flee for their lives. North Korea is where persecution is the most severe in the world, "An estimated 50,000 to 70,000 Christians suffer daily in North Korea's prison camps... If believers are discovered they have to serve a sentence in a re-education camp; Christians are sent to political labour camps, from which there is no release." – The World Watch list– www.OpenDoorsUSA.org

Let's bring it closer to home. Right here in the UK, Christians are being persecuted, it may not be on the same scale as in the Middle East but policies gradually are being put in place that marginalises our faith and restricts our religious freedom. We are also experiencing discrimination in the workplace. It's subtle but today's Christian is being forced to deny Christ by being politically correct and are unable to speak out

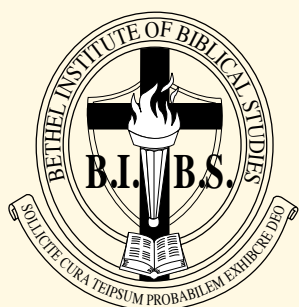
against behaviours, which the Bible clearly describes as an abomination. We are expected to lie, falsify information, and be economical with the truth.

In 2011, a Christian couple from Derby were not allowed to continue being foster parents because of their Christian views on homosexuality. The High Court judge agreed that homosexuality rights, "should take precedence" over that of Christianity. Although this is a different type of suffering, it is still discrimination against the Christian faith. Although Churches can opt out of marrying same sex couples it may not be long before it becomes an offence for Churches to refuse. The biblical principles on which the Christian faith is built are being challenged daily and every believer should be awakened to the strategies of the enemy.

Persecution is here and it will slowly but surely intensify. The question is, Are you prepared to go through? Will you remain faithful to God in the face of persecution? Jesus said to the Church in Smyrna, "Be thou faithful unto death... He that overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death" (Rev. 2:10-11).

These may be the last Christians of the Middle East unless we help.

Jane Corbin, Comment is free, The Guardian



A life Changing Experience...

Do you know what the Bible is all about?

Do you know the fundamental teachings of the Bible?

Do you know God's plans for humankind and all of his promises to you?

If no, then the **Foundation Course** is for you.

You may know various Bible passages but do you understand them
in their scriptural context?

Do you understand the chronological order and timeline of the Bible?

If no, then the structured approach of the **Certificate Course** is vital for you

Do you know the History, Purpose and Destiny of the Church?

Do you know about your rich Spiritual Heritage of the past, present and future?

Do you know the End Time program for the Church?

If no, then the **Short Courses** are perfect for you.

For further details and/or an Application form, call **07515 407808**,
Email **information@bibsuk.org**, visit our website **www.bibsuk.org**
or come along to our college:

Open Day on Saturday 19th September 2015; 9.00am – 4.00pm,

Bethel Institute of Biblical Studies (BIBS), Bethel Convention Centre (front building),
Kelvin Way, West Bromwich B70 7JW

A warm welcome awaits you...