



INTERNATIONAL SAINT JOHN CHURCH THABA TSHWANE, CENTURION GOD AND ANCESTORS NEWSLETTER 2024

ISSUE #01
AUGUST 17, 2024
Contacts:
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TOPICS/CONTENTS

- 01:** God and Ancestral Spirits
- 02:** Overview of RSA Prophets-contextualise Apostolic.
- 03:** Christian Religion.
- 04:** Difference between communicating, praying and acknowledging the Ancestors
- 05:** History of South African Apostolic and God and Ancestors



SEMINAR PANELISTS

Opening Prayer by: Bishop S.T. Maphotho

Opening remarks and welcoming by: Bishop M. Gcebe

Facilitator: Lady-Bishop(Dr) N. Gcebe

Discussion: 1 Bishop M. Moeletsi=God and Ancestral spirits (Kings 17:34-40 & Matthew 6:2(Overview of RSA Prophets-contextualize Apostolic).

Discussion: 2: Bishop S.T. Maphotho=Christian Religio (Ephesian 2:8-10)

Discussion: 3 Bishop M. Gcebe=Difference between communicating, Praying and acknowledging the Ancestors((Lv 19:26-31; Dt 18:10-11; Job 7:7-10; Is 8:18-20; Lk 16:19-31)).

Discussion: 4 Ambassador J.M. Phokela=History of South African Apostolic, God and Ancestor (1 Chronicles 29:18).



CHOOSING A CHRISTIAN LIFE IS UP TO YOU.

A Christian is no longer of his own choosing; he belongs to Christ. He is now a member of God, which includes people from all nations, languages, and tribes. Thus, the most important thing we should do is follow our Heavenly Father (1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Exodus 20:2).

According to 2 Corinthians 11:14, the Bible alerts us to the fact that Satan occasionally poses as a light angel. That's why he could occasionally pose as our ancestor's ghost. He wants us to stop putting all of our faith on God.

There are countless distinct cultures and customs on the continent and in the nation where we currently reside. While it is true that, as Christians, we only have the Christian culture, we still live in a world where there are many distinct cultures until we define what that means for us in the modern world!

According to the Bible, we should embrace God's new life wholeheartedly. According to 1 John 5:11-12, only Jesus can grant this new life. Stay away from looking back. Compared to what the spirits can provide, this new life is far more amazing (Luke 9:23-26, 62). (Philippians 4:6) God want to take care of you. Confide in him.



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Attendees at church seminar have the opportunity to network and collaborate with individuals from other congregations or regions. This fosters a broader sense of unity within the larger religious community.



The Bible warns us that Devil sometimes pretends to be an angel of the light (2 Corinthians 11:14). He may, therefore, sometimes pretend to be our ancestral spirit.

THE DOCTRINE OF GOD:

Traditional religions and Christianity both hold that there is a transcendent and immanent God. The supreme, all-knowing, all-powerful, and all-present God is acknowledged in both religions. God is a Spirit, according to John 4:24. Christians hold that there is a God who is Spirit and who ought to be worshipped in both truth and spirit. On the other hand, traditional religion holds that God is a spirit as well.





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WHO ARE THE ANCESTORS?

The identity of ancestors:

The ancestral spirits cannot intercede for us with God. We have only one Mediator, Jesus Christ. Only he has the power to intercede for us (1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 7:25).



ROMANS 14:8-10

If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living. You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister ?

If you don't worship the dead and interact with them, there won't be any problem. Leviticus 19:31, Matthew 6:24; Kings 17:34-40; 7:13-14), (Luke 16:19-31) (Leviticus 19:31; 20:6: 20:25; Deuteronomy 18:1011; Isaiah 8:19-20); (Leviticus 26:45), (Genesis 23).



VISITING AND CLEANING GRAVES:

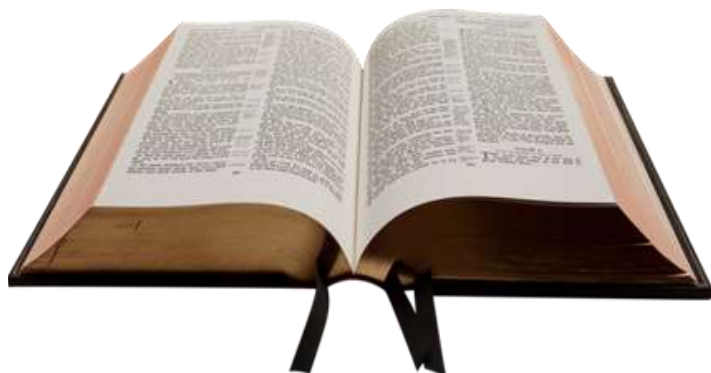
Visiting graves is mentioned in the Bible in several passages. In the Old Testament, Abraham is said to have visited the graves of his wife Sarah and his father Terah (Genesis 23:1-20). In the New Testament, Jesus visits the tomb of Lazarus, who had been dead for four days (John 11:1-44). Jesus' disciples also visited the empty tomb of Jesus after His resurrection (Matthew 28:1-10). It is important to remember that our bodies are temples of God (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). This means that we should treat them with respect and dignity even after death.



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CLOSING PRAYER BY REV. S.D. SEDIBE



STATEMENT OF FAITH

The International St John Apostolic Faith Mission Church receives the Word which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as its Supreme rule of Faith and life, and avows the fundamental precepts and teachings of International St John Apostolic Faith Mission church founded thereupon. The Church's faith is the unchanging Gospel of God's Holy love made manifest in Jesus Christ: As it is declared in the Holy Scriptures by the Creeds of the International St John's Christians Acts Apostolic Faith Mission Church and in the confessions of the Church. From age to age it has been handed down within the church and confirmed in the experience of believers. As God's revelation of his nature and purpose, it is its own evidence and authority, and its birth is known to believers through the testimony of the Holy Spirit. The Church believes in the divine healing of sickness. "They shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover" St Mark 16:18. The Church believes that all believers in Jesus Christ should be baptized (St Luke 7:28-30). The vocation of the Church is joyfully to bear witness to its Lord, to worship God in his name, to build up its membership in the Faith and righteousness and the Spirit of unity, to proclaim his Gospel, to give loving service to mankind for his sake, and to watch and pray for the coming of his Kingdom. We affirm that the Holy Scripture is inspired by God, completely true and error free in its original form, fully sufficient and effective as a guide in all matters of conscience, and the authoritative standard for all beliefs, values, and practices. (Deuteronomy 4:2; Joshua 1:6-8; Matthew 5:18; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; Hebrews 4:11).



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