

Divine Love Newsletter

September 2021

Volume 7, No. 5

FROM THE EDITORS

Dearly beloveds, welcome to the September 2021 Divine Love Newsletter, which as always is dedicated to the global Divine Love community. We are pleased to bring you inspiring articles and member updates that help unite us as a community in our collective as well as individual efforts in serving God and coming to know Him with our soul perceptions.

A question was recently asked by a community member, "What are 'animal desires and appetites' that are not in harmony with God's Love?" This question resulted in a fruitful discussion which Eva Peck has beautifully compiled into an article. Elizabeth Mack shares a heart-warming experience of opening her home to a family visiting from Spain. She has learned that by her being open and angel-guided, God has provided everything she needed. Ron Shoemaker presents an inspiring article, "Receiving God's Love – A Divine Human Effort". He takes a deep-dive into the Prayer Perfect and shows how Jesus accepted the gift of the Father's Divine Love while the first parents were unable to recognize God's offer of divineness and thus rejected It.

In community news, we are pleased to announce that Charles Lwanga Musisi from Uganda passed the requirements of the FCDT ministerial course and is now a minister – congratulations to Charles and blessings and prayers for his successful ministry. Tim Foley is presenting summer gospel music weekly through September at the "square" in Sonoma, CA. He has also published his book, *Making It Personal – Your Guide to a More Rewarding and Profound Prayer Life*. Jimbeau Walsh was <u>interviewed</u> by LightBringers Lorraine Borchers, Beth Bleaden and Yvonne Riley. Al and Jeanne Fike gave a presentation on <u>Angelic Manifestations: Explorations in Transfiguration or "Direct Voice."</u> William Montano has started a weekly <u>YouTube</u> Divine Love and Healing Prayer Service in Spanish.

On September 26th, 1915, John, the Apostle of Jesus, <u>wrote through James Padgett</u> asking him to pray for more faith: *the faith that the preacher spoke of tonight as being possessed by Elijah is the faith that you must try to obtain, and then you will realize that you will be superior to all the worries and troubles that may come to you*.

As we stand on the precipice of global climatic change, a pandemic and political unrest, we certainly have our share of things that we can choose to worry about. Is it possible to be happy during such difficult times? The answer is an unequivocal "yes", when we have faith in God. The "faith" that Elijah had, as described in the Old Testament, was based on the conviction of his mind. We too can be in this state faith: having a conviction of the mind that God Loves us and is actively taking care of our needs and that no matter what happens, there is nothing to fear because we have a personal relationship with Him.

However, we have an advantage over Elijah during his time on earth. This is the possibility of obtaining <u>true faith</u> which comes from the opening of the soul perceptions as we continue to pray for and receive more of God's Divine Love. <u>Jesus</u> <u>delivered a message</u> on October 10, 1915, two weeks after the message from John: *This faith is not the belief that arises* from the mere operation of the mind, but that which comes from the opening of the perceptions of the soul, and which enables its possessor to see God in all His Beauty and Love. No man can be said to have faith who has not this Divine Love.

Knowing of the availability of God's Love, we have a great advantage in praying for and receiving It and thereby progressively increasing our faith. With that increase in faith will come an increase in soul perceptions which in turn will allow us to see God, and see ourselves, each other, and the world through God's eyes. It only takes a moment looking through the kaleidoscope of God's view upon His children to make a lasting impression upon us and our perception of our lives on earth. Instead of feeling like a victim, we may feel empowered to help humanity. Instead of feeling hurt or sick, we may begin to feel healthy and want to help others achieve that same state of being in their lives. Instead of entertaining thoughts that invoke fear, we may entertain thoughts of love, happiness, and peace. The more Divine Love we receive, the closer we come to God, and the happier we become.

Past issues of the newsletter can be downloaded from the Divine Love Community portal or from the Divine Love Sanctuary Foundation website. Contributions can be emailed to the editors at editors@fcdt.org (Michael Nedbal and Eva Peck)

INHARMONIOUS ANIMAL DESIRES AND APPETITES (EVA PECK – EDITOR)

In a recent email conversation, the following series of questions was posed: What are 'animal desires and appetites' that are not in harmony with God's Love? What constitutes natural (God-given) desires and appetites versus the perversion of the same? We know that selfishness (considering one's own needs *above* – rather than equal to – needs of others), greed, sexual lust (versus the physical expression of love), intoxication, and gluttony are among the desires and appetites that are out of harmony. What are the others?

The following thoughts and insights were contributed by Al Fike, Jane Gartshore, Catherine Kent, Susan Kubicek, Michael Nedbal and Eva Peck.



Collage and photo by Holly Bianco (from her children's book, "<u>We Are One</u>")

Let's first briefly review human spiritual history. God's original intention for humanity was never realized since the first parents decided to be independent and free of obligations towards God. Over the millennia, we have become entrenched in our physical bodies, governed by our minds, and neglectful of our souls. Our appetites of the flesh are expressed as an imbalance between our physical/mindful selves and our souls. We are creatures of our will and desires and these have been channelled into a material existence which is out of harmony with God's laws and creation. Consequently, anything that is experienced and an expression of the material plane is part of our material appetites. Thoughts, feelings, physical expressions and desires all have a physical

component which manifests in our earthly existence. If we are out of sync with God and His laws, then these appetites are a reflection of our overall disharmony. It takes a depth of soul perception to truly understand how much we are out of sync with God. The power of Divine Love gives us that understanding if we can get beyond our mind's dominance and sink into soul awareness.

Animal desires and appetites that are not in harmony with God's Love are sinful thoughts and actions that man has created going back to the fall of our first parents. These were not created by God. Since humanity as a whole has been out of harmony with God's laws for a long time, there is a cumulative process -- "The Sins of the Parents Are Visited Upon the Children unto the Third and Fourth Generations" as <u>Luke</u> tells us: "When a child is conceived and gestates and is born, he not only partakes of the physical nature of his parents but also of the qualities and condition of the spirit and soul of the parents. The spirit and soul of the child is susceptible to, and in a way absorbs, the influence of the spirit and soul of the parents -- not only at the time of conception but also during the period of gestation." So as we progress, we are not only working to get rid of our own creation of sin, but the tendencies that were "given" to us from our parents, grandparents, great grandparents.

In addition, there are negative spirit influences that we can become subject to. When a mortal has a disposition to think or do evil things, this attracts spirits who have an affinity for those thoughts and actions. In other words, when a mortal activates his lower desires, there is a "calling" to lower spirits who wish to vicariously participate in those thoughts or actions. They try to intensify this desire and thus along with the mortal fulfill their perverted appetites. When the lustful feelings are being magnified by lower spirits, getting rid of these evil thoughts and desires can be very difficult. They persist until the person humbly and sincerely seeks God's help.

What then are some of the sinful desires and practices to be on guard against – besides the obvious such as sexual depravity, gluttony, drunkenness, lust, greed, and overall selfishness and disregard for the needs of others? In a nutshell, it is anything that would not be or lead to expressing love. This could include emotions, or the expression of unloving emotions, desires for things that don't help or edify and could do harm, anything that can result in addiction, anything that draws us away from light and truth. It could include the company we keep if we are attracted to them for the wrong reason and they pull us down rather than edify us. It could be entertainment that is not edifying. Even on the Divine Love path, we still have to constantly chose what is right and good – it will not just happen, even if we are praying for God's Love, but with our transforming souls, the choices will become easier and easier.

There may be activities that are in harmony and approved of in one situation and not in another. God wants us to enjoy ourselves (in moderation) but also desires that we put Him first, to not be tempted to go against His will for us, or to have the desire for a substance or activity to be stronger than our desire to be with Him. Of course, there are certain substances that are really damaging to the body, mind and spirit, and we should avoid those.

The Bible provides some specifics of what are acts of the "sinful nature" and also contrasts them with "the fruits of the Spirit" – those motivated from a soul transformed by Divine Love.

Galatians 5:19-21 – "The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God."

Matthew 15:19 – "For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander."



Aaron Burden – Unsplash.com

And from the Old Testament, Proverbs 6:16-19 – "There are six things the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who pours out lies and a man who stirs up dissension among brothers."

By contrast, "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus [are on the Divine Love path] have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other." (Galatians 5:22-26)

As mentioned earlier, the whole world is out of harmony with God's laws and we are more often than not unaware of the disharmony in our environment or in ourselves. We might think that what we are doing or practicing is in harmony with God, but we cannot see the big picture of disharmony. However, as we grow closer to God, attaining more of His essence in our souls, our understanding of harmony will grow. The laws of rapport and communication (e.g., the company we keep) play a role in maintaining a state of harmony with God's Love. If we are constantly striving to be at-one with God and have a desire to communicate with our spirit band, then their presence will help to elevate us above this earth plane and have harmonious thoughts. In this state we won't necessarily have questions such as, "should I do this or do that", because everything that we think and do will be in harmony – our state of being will be in harmony with the Love.

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As our soul perceptions increase and we become more keenly aware of disharmony both within us and around us, it is important to realize that we are only responsible for our own choices and not those of others. Entertaining unloving and judgmental thoughts towards others for their choices is not pleasing to God and not helpful. Realize that every soul is doing their best in any given moment, considering the stressors, pressures, strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of which we cannot on this plane be *fully aware*, even within ourselves. Therefore, an appropriate response to sin and error is compassion and love. As we grow in and practice God's Love, we will add more light to the world and directly or indirectly help those in our sphere of influence.

As we follow the Divine Love path and perceive more of our own shortcomings, we also need to look at ourselves with compassion. None of us are perfect and we all have to keep praying for the transformation so that we can choose to be more in harmony with God's laws, more at one with God and thus bringing Love into all our thoughts and deeds. This is a constant battle since all around us is the reinforcement of dark conditions.



Stuart Miles from FreeDigitalPhotos.net

they cause us to feel God's Love and spiritual upliftment or not.

As we grow in truth and Love, we'll also grow in harmony. God gave us appetites and desires of the flesh that *are* harmonious with our natural love. For example, we must eat daily, and God gave us not only an 'appetite' for food, but also delicious flavors to savor. Also physical/sexual desire and fulfillment are pleasurable and without negative consequences, if pursued under conditions of harmony (such as committed and considerate love). Our challenge seems to be in finding that balance or those right conditions, which comes through our intentional focus on the spiritual, dedication to prayer, discernment, and obedience to God (as much as our soul development allows). As we become more sensitive in our souls, we'll be able to discern whether or not our choices are in harmony or not – whether

As we follow God's guidance and grow in our soul perceptions as a result of the Love transforming our souls, it will be easier and easier to make loving choices. We'll keep growing in wisdom, faith and compassion. More and more, as true children of God, we'll be spreading light and helping this world come out of darkness to become a better and more harmonious place.

Yet, though we try our best living in the world, it is nearly impossible for us to come into complete harmony. For example, to be in complete harmony you would never shop at stores where employees are mistreated or buy products that were made in sweatshops or that harm the environment in their making.

In summary, we who are on this path of Divine Love have chosen to put God at the center of our lives. This is blessed sowing that will reap a great harvest. Seek God's Love and walk in faith. Pay attention to your own sowing and reaping and the guidance received in prayer, but always with compassion, understanding, patience, and Love. Avoid judgement, self-righteousness and fear. Follow your own soulful knowings and continue seeking more Divine Love. This is a credo to live by.

(To read the whole discussion, go to the **DLSF Forum**.)

FOLLOWING GUIDANCE - GOD PROVIDES EVERYTHING YOU NEED (ELIZABETH MACK)

I live a quiet, single life. So as we are told to share the Truth with others, I wondered how to do this, given my almost cloistered lifestyle. Recently, a friend in Chicago texted me asking if I knew of anyone who could rent a room to a family of four who were coming from Spain for four months while Mrs. was granted a fellowship, aka becoming a visiting scholar at the local University. In less than two minutes, I found myself writing a response that explained all the reasons why my house would be perfect. Quite frankly, the thoughts came so quickly, I knew they weren't originating solely from me. Also there was this sense of knowing that this was an appropriate action to take. It felt like the *only* step to take.



Patricia Prudente – Unsplash.com

With very little information exchanged between us, they came. Mrs. spoke very good English. Mr. spoke some and is currently learning more at a convenient location within walking distance of my home. The two children ages 8 and 11, spoke no English, and I spoke very, very little Spanish.

Since this action felt so God-guided and in the flow, I wondered what I was to do. I just offered everything I had. What a swim!

As time went by, there were conversations with these souls (parents): about the daughter who ate only healthy foods by choice, about the son who saw spirits, about the daughter who is strong, creative, physically healthy and active and in whose eyes I could see strength and a knowing or keen perception. She is, I believe, one of the new ones who will guide others to living more in harmony on this Earth.

More conversations: how Mrs. contacted many friends about housing and every door was shut until our mutual friend in Chicago offered them a place to quarantine in NYC and queried me for a place in Syracuse. Then, the doors swung open for them. They were unsure at first but within two days felt quite at home, safe and comfortable. Mrs. and I agreed that this process was angelic and I suggested Godguided, even though she says she doesn't pray. Her mother in Spain told her, after she arrived, that she wasn't worried about her daughter and family coming to America because she had been praying for her

deceased mother to watch over the family. Although Mrs. was somewhat surprised by her mother's comments, taken together with our conversations about the spirit world and God and angels, she seems more accepting of our explanations.

More conversations: Mrs. initiated conversations about angels. I spoke of the Law of Love, of the Natural Path and the Divine Love Path. I said that love is the ultimate goal and purpose of our lives whether natural love or Divine Love, and explained about the misconception about reincarnation, that we don't re-enter bodies but instead progress through the spheres in the spirit world. She, having been educated and trained in and conducts ongoing research, initiates our conversations about spirituality. With her husband, she listens most evenings after dinner as I gently introduce Divine Truth to them.

It has only been a month but we operate as a family and the young ones refer to me as "abuela" (grandmother). As a happily retired person, I don't go out much and I wondered how to proceed to be that soul who helps others find their way to God. I wondered and God did the rest, bringing this family to me to be of service to them and teach them the Truths that God has so graciously made available to me. Be open, angel guided, and God will provide everything that you need.

RECEIVING GOD'S LOVE - A DIVINE-HUMAN EFFORT (RON SHOEMAKER)

In the "Prayer Perfect" (TGRABJ, Vol. 1, pp. 40 - 42) Jesus refers to God as his Father who resides in heaven. As one who claims intimate knowledge, Jesus declares that his Father is all holy, loving and merciful and that humankind is the greatest of His creation and the most wonderful of all His handiworks. Mankind is the object of their Father's great soul's love and tenderest care. The Father's love for humanity is without cost and unconditional.

In the second paragraph, Jesus reveals that in addition to being the greatest and most wonderful of all his Father's handiworks, humanity has been offered a new heritage. We are given the opportunity to experience more than just the hope and promise embedded in God's creation. Jesus discloses that we have been given the privilege of stepping beyond God's finite creation and into the unknown ... to an undreamt-of promise and hope beyond our imagination.

While the human soul and its natural love are the greatest and most wonderful of God's creation, there is a limit beyond which they cannot venture. Regardless of the natural love's perfection, when we look at God's Divine Love through the prism of our natural love, it is not possible to visualize beyond its finiteness or to recognize the divineness in the Great Soul's Love. Water can rise no higher than its source.



Photo by Ron Shoemaker

When the first parents became aware that their God was offering them the boon of His Divine Love, they could see the goodness of their natural love in God's Love but not the divine nature of His Love. They were blind to their God's divineness. From their viewpoint, there was no advantage in accepting something they already possessed.

Like the first parents, when Jesus came to earth, because of the purity of his soul's aspirations and sensitivity to the spiritual, he became aware that God was bestowing something special on humankind. But his natural love had a barrier beyond which it could not penetrate. His limited view precluded recognizing the divineness of his Father's nature. But unlike the first parents, I think it was Jesus' humbleness and willingness to listen to his inner voice and accepting his Father's guidance that encouraged his stepping into the unknown.

The boon his Father was offering was not discernible at first. There was always the question: Why would the Great Soul offer humanity the same thing they already possessed? It would seem reasonable that if God was offering something, it would be new and different ... something humanity didn't already possess ... a surprise that was unique and special. But what?

Was his Father offering a new heritage, one that existed beyond the

hope and promise made possible within the finite creation? As a being within the creation, Jesus could not open his soul to the foreign land that lay beyond. The way to receive the boon was not clear. He was going to need help and guidance if he hoped to transcend the limits of his being ... to access the unknown that lie beyond his grasp. In due course, Jesus discovered there were two keys necessary to escape from his finite condition. His Father held one key and Jesus held the other.

In the third paragraph of the Prayer, Jesus writes: "We pray that Thou will open up our souls to the in-flowing of Thy love and that then may come Thy Holy Spirit to bring into our souls this, Thy love in great abundance, until our souls shall be transformed into the very essence of Thyself". The Father could perform the miracle of opening up Jesus' finite soul so that it would become receptive to the unknown, the divineness of his Father's nature. Was this the new heritage ... one founded on a totally new paradigm and completely separate from the creation?



Photo: Ron Shoemaker

With the power of free will Jesus had the final say over his soul's destiny. It was up to him whether he would allow his Father to perform the miracle of freeing him from his finite condition, thus enabling his soul to become receptive to the essence of divine nature ... now capable of receiving and harboring that first glowing ember of Divinity and beginning his finite soul's transformation from the mortal to the immortal.

The transformation of the mortal human soul to the immortal is a joint project. Both partners, the Great Soul and the human soul, must work together. The human soul's earnest prayer is like the passport that allows you to travel into foreign lands. With it we allow our Father to perform

the miracle of opening the finiteness of the human soul unto the blessings of our Father's Divineness. The more we do this, the greater will be the in-flowing of His love. It is like traveling from a world of images to a reality that is authentic and, in every respect, genuine. To reach this unknown heritage is to experience the original love of all reality, the template of all other loves, and the very essence of our Father's nature. This love of the Father is self-sustaining and independent of surrounding circumstances, and always seeking to include, never to exclude.

So Jesus discovered that there was a difference in the love His Father naturally possesses and the love the greatest and most wonderful of His creation are born with. Jesus further revealed that it was his Father's desire that His handiwork should have the opportunity and privilege to receive and experience the hope and promise embedded in His divineness. Later in the Prayer we are reminded "that only we, ourselves, can prevent Thy love changing us from the mortal to the immortal". It is through earnest prayer, our passport to the unknown, that the Great Soul can and will perform the miracle of opening the finiteness of our souls to the inflowing of His infinite nature.

The miracle from the standpoint of humanity is that God is willing to open our finite souls so that each may receive and possess the very essence of divineness. The other miracle is that Jesus, as an earthling, didn't become distracted, as many of us do, by the attractions and possibilities the earth plane provides. With the purity of his soul and his humbleness, Jesus was willing to listen to the quiet voice that spoke to him. In the solitude of his soul Jesus heard the voice of his Father. He stayed the course and his soul became one with his Father's. He then became the way shower so that we can all choose to follow in his footsteps into the great beyond of our Father's Celestial Kingdom.

MEMBER / COMMUNITY NEWS

- **Charles Lwanga Musisi** from Uganda has passed the requirements of the FCDT Ministerial Course and is now an ordained minister. Congratulations and blessings on your ministry!
- **Tim Foley** is presenting his summer gospel music series once or twice a week through September at the "square" in Sonoma, CA. The lyrics to these songs are in harmony or entirely based on the teaching of master Jesus. Most were previously recorded on the CD, "At the Entranceway" available by <u>emailing Tim</u>.

- **Tim Foley** has published a book entitled *Making It Personal Your Guide to a More Rewarding and Profound Prayer Life,* in paperback, which can be purchased from <u>Amazon</u>. See Tim's more detailed book announcement at the <u>DLSF forum</u>.
- In July, LightBringers Lorraine Borchers, Beth Bleaden and Yvonne Riley interviewed Jimbeau Walsh regarding his spiritual journey. The interview can be viewed <u>here</u>, along with stories of others on the Divine Love path. Contact <u>Lorraine</u> if you'd like to share the story of your journey.
- On Aug. 23, **Al and Jeanne Fike** gave a presentation entitled *Angelic Manifestations: Explorations in Transfiguration or "Direct Voice."* It can be viewed <u>here</u> on the <u>DLSF YouTube channel</u>.
- William Montano has started a weekly YouTube Divine Love and Healing Prayer Service which includes praying to our Heavenly Father for healing of our hearts, souls, spirit bodies and physical bodies through His Divine Love and healing power. The <u>introduction</u> and <u>first service</u> are in Spanish, with English videos to be created shortly.

POETRY CORNER - KAHLIL GIBRAN



Image from storyblocks.com

In the depth of my soul there is A wordless song – a song that lives In the seed of my heart. It refuses to melt with ink on Parchment; it engulfs my affection In a transparent cloak and flows, But not upon my lips.

How can I sing it? I fear it may Mingle with earthly ether; To whom shall I sing it? It dwells In the house of my soul, in fear of Harsh ears.

When I look into my inner eyes I see the shadow of its shadow; When I touch my fingertips I feel its vibrations. The deeds of my hands heed its Presence as a lake must reflect The glittering stars; My tears reveal it, as bright drops of dew Reveal the secret of a withering rose. It is a song composed by contemplation, And published by silence, And shunned by clamor, And folded by truth, And repeated by dreams, And understood by love, And hidden by awakening, And sung by the soul.

It is the song of love; What Cain or Esau could sing it? It is more fragrant than jasmine; What voice could enslave it? It is heartbound, as a virgin's secret; What string could quiver it? Who dares unite the roar of the sea And the singing of the nightingale? Who dares compare the shrieking tempest To the sigh of an infant? Who dares speak aloud the words Intended for the heart to speak? What human dares sing in voice The song of God?

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PRAYING AND SHARING ACROSS THE MILES

DLSF / FCDT Circles of Light and Other Opportunities for Prayer, Sharing and Learning

See the DLSF website for general Circles of Light information. If you would like to receive weekly information about new and upcoming programs as well as regular online prayer circles, please sign up for the weekly calendar which is sent out on Sunday morning via Mailchimp. For any questions, please contact Jeanne.

Information on additional activities, including Divine Love healing or learning, as well as gift or leadership development can be found on the LightBringers Calendar administered by Bill Frase.

Other Groups and Circles

For information about their respective outreaches, time and Zoom link, contact Jan Blackston (Thursday prayer/study group); Greg Boster - Greg@LoveLightPower.com (Sunday Awakening the Soul and Healing Body - Mind and Soul); and Tim Foley (daily offline prayer for Divine Love / silent contemplative prayer).

DIVINE LOVE RESOURCES

For details on how to receive a free box of FCDT books for distribution; where to find foreign language translations of the Padgett messages; and a listing and accessing messages of all our contemporary mediums, go to the FCDT website. If you'd like to request a flash drive of all scanned Padgett messages, please contact Elizabeth Morana.

PADGETT MESSAGE

TGRABJ VOL. 1, P. 237

Comment on Jesus' message on the cause of war (and why prayers of healing are sometimes not effective)

I am here, Elias.

I will write a short message tonight, as it is late and you're tired.

Well, I desire to say that the message that you received from the Master contains some of the most important truths affecting the relationship of God to man in his worldly or material living.

Every truth that man uttered has in it an element which shows that must, to a certain extent, expect and know that God will not interfere with the law of compensation as to its effects and results. Only will He help man to remove the causes that so certainly entail the results, and the sooner men do this and more thoroughly understand it, will they become able to avoid the consequences of sin and the violation of law, and also understand that no prayer will cause God to respond, where a suspension or setting aside of His laws or their workings are necessary.

He will respond to prayer, where that prayer asks the removal of the causes but never when it applies only to effects.

This truth men should learn and in their prayers ask those things which in compliance with the law of compensation bring about results that are harmful to them to be removed, or eliminated from their acts and deeds as well as from their desires.

I could write a long message on this subject but will not do so now, as you are not in condition to receive it. So with my love I will say goodnight.

Your brother in Christ, Elias.