

# BCA

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

A BRISBANE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY PUBLICATION

# “PAROUSIA”

**VOLUME 2**  
**ISSUE 3**



# Editorial Desk

Dear church family,

As we reflect on this past quarter, our hearts are full of gratitude for the countless ways God has been faithful to us. Time and again, He has blessed us, answered our prayers, and fulfilled His promises in our midst. We have witnessed His hand at work—through healings, deliverance, provision, and growth. Truly, these testimonies remind us that the God who has kept His word yesterday and

today will also keep His greatest promise: the return of our Lord Jesus Christ. In the light of Parousia, the second coming, may we live with readiness, hope, and joy.

Editorial team

**"The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy." (Psalm 126:3)**





# Pastor's Desk

Dear Beloved in Christ,

Greetings of Grace and Peace to you in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ's name.

As we journey through the cycle of seasons of life and the uncertainty of the times, I am prompted to remember a living truth that still anchors the Church generation after generation—the Parousia hope, the Return of our Lord. Not some distant theological abstractions but a living, animating hope that dictates how we live, love, and serve in the here and now.

The early Church waited in anticipation that Christ would soon return. They would greet one another with the salutation "Maranatha"—Come, Lord Jesus! This was not a sentimental expression; it was an act of faith. They believed, as we believe, that Jesus who had come in the first instance in lowliness would come again in glory.

The Apostle Paul called it "the blessed hope" (Titus 2:13). It is the promise that one day justice will flow like streams, and righteousness like a mighty torrent. It is hope that all tears will be dried, all things

made right, and all promises fulfilled. It is a reminder to us that this broken world, with all its weakness, is not the last page.

But this hope is not complacent. The Parousia calls us to live on purpose, with holiness, and with compassion. In anticipation of His coming, we are not passive observers but active participants in His mission. We spread the gospel, serve the poor, care for the hurting, and pursue peace—all because we anticipate the coming of the King.

So let us spur one another on with these words (1 Thessalonians 4:18). Let us not grow faint in good works, for when the time is right the trumpet will sound, the heavens will resound, and we will be face to face with Him.

Let us be found faithful until that day.

With love in Christ,

In His service,

**Pr. Jimson P T**



*while we wait for*

**THE BLESSED HOPE—**  
*the appearing of the  
glory of our great God and  
Savior.*

**JESUS CHRIST. TITUS 2:13**

# Youth Meeting

The Youth Convention, held from July 4th to 6th, featured a powerful youth-focused session on the morning of July 5th led by Pr. Merlin John. This session was marked by vibrant worship and praise, creating a spiritually charged atmosphere that prepared the hearts of all attendees for the message.

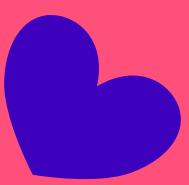
Pr. Merlin John encouraged the youth to be filled with the Holy Spirit and to take a firm stand for Christ. He emphasized the importance of living for Christ while in the world, rather than conforming to worldly

ways, inspiring the youth to pursue a life of purpose and faith. Through interactive discussions and thought-provoking questions, the attendees were actively engaged, reflecting on their personal walk with God and how they can make a positive impact in their communities.

The youth were deeply inspired, and all present felt the powerful presence of God. Several attendees were moved to make the transformative decision to take baptism, marking a significant step in their spiritual journey.



**PASTOR  
MERLIN  
JOHN**



# Blessings of New Life

We rejoice that God has added to our family with the arrival of little **Josiah Joby** in July. We also look forward with great anticipation to the imminent arrival of more precious babies in our fellowship, a reminder that God continues to perform miracles in our midst. As a church, we carry the responsibility to nurture this next generation, equipping them to stand firm for the Lord in a world that seeks to pull them away. May we sow seeds of faith, love, and truth in their lives.

We also thank God for the beautiful baby dedication ceremonies of **Josiah Joby**, **Aziel Jaco Jaison** and **Miracle Serah Jimson**. As we placed them into the Lord's hands, we were reminded of our shared calling to pray for and guide these little ones as they grow in Christ.



# Ordination for Service

Another great blessing was witnessing the ordination of Br. Aaron Babu as an Evangelist. This milestone is a reminder of God's calling and equipping. We pray that Aaron will be a shining beacon of Christ among the youth, inspiring them to walk boldly in faith. "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." (1 Timothy 4:12)



# *God's Provision of Homes*

We celebrate with **Br. Libin Titus** and family and **Br. Jaison Chacko** and family, who were blessed with new houses. Their testimonies remind us of God's provision and faithfulness. Yet as we rejoice in these earthly homes, our hearts are lifted to the greater promise—our eternal dwelling in heaven, prepared for us by Christ Himself. In the hope of Parousia, let us remain watchful and eager for that day when we will dwell with Him forever.

## *Visiting Pastors*

In addition, God blessed us with the ministry of many visiting pastors who guided us in the Word, encouraged us to live in Christ, and strengthened our faith and hope. We are grateful for the ministry of **Pr. Faith Blesson, Evg. Jaison Joseph, Pr. Kniipey, Pr. Merlin John, Pr. Johnkutty, Pr. Matt Prater, Pr. Faithson Varghese and Pr. Jenson Joy**. Their spirit-filled messages uplifted our hearts and reminded us to stay rooted in Christ. "Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful." (Hebrews 10:23)



# Farewell with Love

BRISBANE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY

We bless Br. Daniel, Sr. Sheba, and their little one, Grace, as they have moved to Cairns. May the Lord guide and strengthen them in this new season. We pray for joy, peace, and fruitfulness in their journey, and look forward to welcoming them back in God's perfect time.





# Married

BRISBANE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY

We also thank God for the marriage of **Joe and Achsa**. As they begin this new journey together, may the Lord be the foundation of their home, guiding them in love, unity, and purpose. May their marriage be a shining testimony of Christ's love to all who see them.



# Another milestone

We are excited to share that **Brisbane Christian Assembly** is now in a full Co-Operative Fellowship with the **Australian Christian Churches (ACC)**. This is a joyful milestone in our journey as a church.

What does this mean for us? It simply means we are now walking alongside a wider family of Spirit-filled churches across Australia. Learning together, growing together, and serving our nation with greater unity. We will continue to remain true to the identity and values God has

given us, while benefiting from stronger support, mentorship, and opportunities to make a greater impact for Christ.

We believe God is preparing us for a greater season ahead, and we want to walk into it with open hearts, humility, and purpose.

Thank you for praying, standing, and believing together as one family.



BRISBANE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY



# Church Convention

Our church convention, held on May 30, 31, and June 1, was truly a season of refreshing in the Lord's presence. God used Pr. Faith Blesson mightily to minister from the Word, and Evg. Jaison Joseph powerfully encouraged us in the English session to remain steadfast in our walk with Christ. These days were marked by heartfelt worship, unity, and renewal, reminding us of God's desire to draw His people closer to Him.



## Serving with Compassion

Our church was blessed to take part in the Homeless Connect outreach, donating goodie bags to those in need. It was a joy to extend Christ's love in a practical way. We sincerely thank everyone who gave their time, resources, and prayers to make this ministry possible. "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35)



# CHURCH 2025

## CAMP

The Brisbane Christian Assembly camp at QCCC Mapleton was an inspiring and joy-filled weekend where we experienced the true meaning of our theme: "Serve in Unity." Surrounded by the beauty of the Sunshine Coast hinterland, we grew together in faith, fellowship, and fun.

Spiritually, God spoke to us powerfully through His servants. Pastor Reji Philip ministered in Malayalam with heartfelt messages that stirred us to walk closer with the Lord and reminded us of His promises. For the youth, Pastor Joseph Funnell shared dynamic and practical teaching in English that encouraged young people to live boldly for Christ. Adding to this, Sis. Nadine Miller shared her remarkable experiences volunteering with Mercy Ships, providing free healthcare for disadvantaged communities in Africa.

Her testimony challenged us to serve beyond ourselves and opened our eyes to new ways of living out Christ's love.

In the spirit of unity, the camp also came alive with activities that brought everyone together. From the fierce tug-of-war battles and energetic games of volleyball, cricket, football, and kabadi, to the joy of canoeing and swimming, every activity was filled with laughter, encouragement, and teamwork. These moments of fellowship reminded us that unity is not just in words but also in action.

As we returned home, our hearts were refreshed. The camp was more than just a weekend away—it was a call to embrace God's Word, to strengthen our fellowship, and to joyfully serve in unity as one family in Christ.



## How hidden mystery of Parousia revealed through creation?

Parousia is the Greek term for the “second coming of Jesus”. Jesus will soon return to bring his bride home for eternity. The heavenly mystery of “church(bride) and Christ(bridegroom)” and “everlasting life with Christ” was revealed through the creation of Adam and Eve as husband and wife. God created human as men and women. Woman is in oneness with man forever, as she was created from his own body. Paul revealed this in Ephesians 5:31-33, as Christ and His bride -the Church or the body of Christ. As Jesus paid His own blood as her ransom, He will come back to be with her forever.

## Parousia-The Heavenly Marriage

If worldly marriages require many commitments, how much greater are the demands of a heavenly marriage?2 Corinthians 11:2-4 teaches us that we are betrothed to Jesus as His bride. As We are expected to keep ourselves holy

and pure for our spouse, we should not be deceived by the prince of this world like he did to Eve by his cunning. The Gospels encourage individuals to always remain prepared. This is exemplified by the parable of the five vigilant virgins who ensured they had sufficient oil in reserve.

## Post-Parousia -Time of Tribulation

If we are left behind, life on this earth will be miserable for every believer, as they are forced to disobey the word. They will be ruled by the anti-Christ and won't be able to buy or sell anything without the mark of the beast. That is going to be like the real furnace. Hence make use of this grace period by grooming ourselves pure and holy by killing our fleshly desires. I urge everyone to be prepared for our so long waiting journey to be with our dearest Christ forever.

Sr. Sunitha

# PAROUSIA



When I stand at the Judgment Seat of Christ And He shows me His plan for me,  
The plan of my life as it might have been, Had He had His way; and I see

How I blocked Him here, and I checked Him there And I would not yield my will,  
Will there be grief in my Saviour's eyes, Grief though He loves me still?

He would have me rich, and I stand here poor, Stripped of all but His grace,  
While memory runs like a hunted thing

Down the paths I cannot retrace.

Then my desolate heart will well nigh break With tears that I cannot shed:  
I shall cover my face with my empty hands; I shall bow my uncrowned head.

Lord of the years that are left to me, I give them to Thy hand; Take me and break  
me, mold me to The pattern Thou hast planned.

Martha Snell Nicholson

**2 Corinthians 5:10** For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ;  
that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath  
done, whether it be good or bad.

Submitted by,

Lincy Joby

*His plan*  
**FOR ME**

# EMPTY YOURSELF

The best part of my business is having my assets used by random people and getting paid for it. Business has its ups and downs, but I've learned to navigate through it all. Over time, I've understood one truth: every person I deal with teaches me something, whether they mean to or not.

Bad customers frustrate me the most. They use my services, break their word, and leave without paying. But even they've taught me something. People like that often share traits which are being prideful, entitled, ungrateful. Over time, I've learned to spot them early and take precautions before any transaction begins.

But then there are the others, the rare few who restore your faith in people. The ones who never risk their reputation. Sometimes I feel like they're the ones serving me. The way they handle loss, how they carry themselves, being calm when things go wrong... I watch them closely. They have something I admire.

I'd offer such customers credit without hesitation, because I know, one day or another, they'll settle every account.

I always keep things ready for my regulars. That day, I was expecting one of my favorite customers to stop by. He visits once a month. But before he arrived, a group of strangers stormed into my office. They looked uneasy, like they were hiding something, and their energy was off. I hadn't seen them before, but right away, I sensed they

weren't the kind of guests I'd want.

They didn't greet me. They just barged in and said, rudely, "We want food. We'll be staying here a while. We have money, so get on with it." Their tone was sharp and condescending.

Something was off. My staff looked uneasy. I told them to stay alert. As we prepared the food, I overheard one of them mutter to another, laughing, "Easy target... wish we got fools like this every day."

My heart pounded. I just wanted them out. Whatever they were planning, may God Himself send them away.

Then something strange happened.

Just as quickly as they had arrived, they left. No argument. No meal finished. They looked unsettled, whispering sharply, throwing glances behind them as they walked out. It was like they'd seen something or someone that made them change their minds.

I breathed a sigh of relief. But just as I was catching my breath, someone knocked at the door. Urgently. I opened it to find my favorite customer, panting and out of breath with a man slung over his shoulder unconscious, bloodied, half-breathing.

We rushed to help him. Following the customer's instructions, we laid the injured man in one of our finest rooms. I asked, "what happened? And who is this man?"

He looked at me and said with pain in his voice. "I found him on the roadside. Left for dead. Beaten badly. I.. I..(His voice was breaking) I couldn't leave him like that."

But what struck me most was what left me speechless, which is that the unconscious man was a Jew. And the one who carried him in... was a Samaritan who is despised by Jews!

They're enemies. Always have been. And yet, here he was tending to him like a brother.

I hesitated. But I had to ask. "Why?"

He paused, as if the question didn't need an answer. Then he looked at me and said, almost smiling

"Because sometimes the right thing," he said,

"is emptying yourself."

That was all. I didn't understand his words.

He didn't even stay the night, as he usually did. When I asked why, he said he didn't have money to trade this month. Because he'd spent what he had to cover for Jew's care and if anything went beyond what he'd already paid, he'd settle the rest when he returned next month.

I shook my head in confusion. "Are you out of your mind!?" I asked.

**Story By**  
**Binoy Ittyavira**  
**Art by**  
**Elora and Clara Kiran**

He just laughed gently. "Sometimes when you're doing the right thing, you look a little insane."

Then he left.

His joy despite losing money. His peace despite helping an enemy. His quiet willingness to lower himself, to serve someone who wouldn't even speak to him on a normal day...

He gave, expecting nothing in return.

He served someone who never asked for help.

He paid for someone who may never say thank you or even worse despise him.

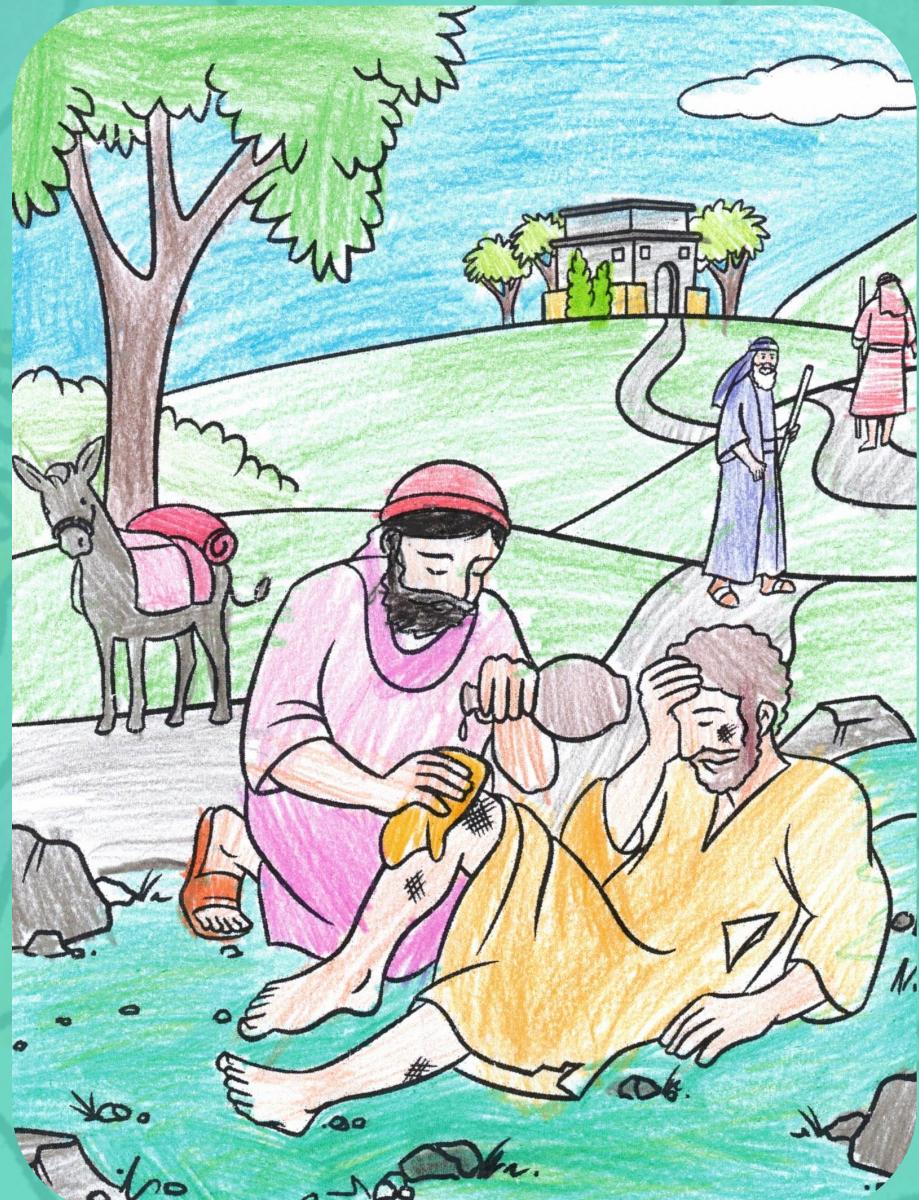
And somehow, he did it all with Grace!

It stayed with me.

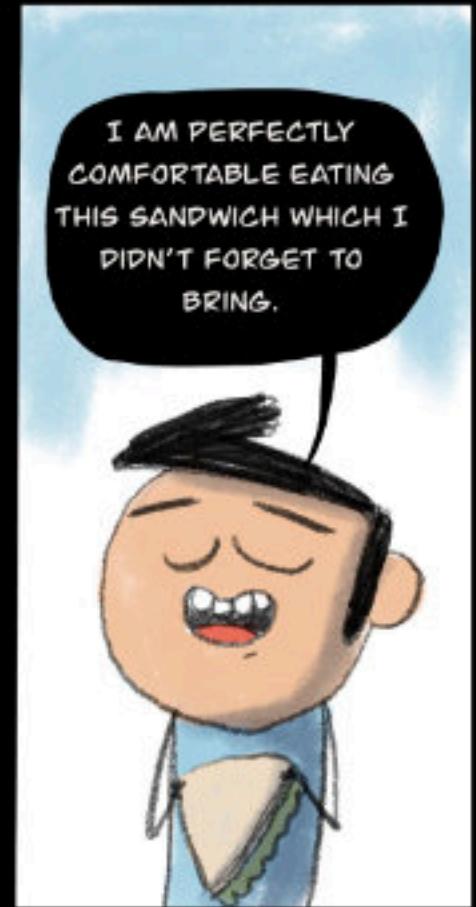
That day changed something in me.

I renamed my hotel: from Fair Deal Inn to The Good Samaritan Inn!

**-The hotel owner**



# THE RIGHT THING TO DO



THE END



## ENDING NOTE

As we bring this issue called 'Parousia' to a close, we are reminded that every blessing, every testimony, and every act of service we share points us toward one glorious hope – the soon return of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Until that day, may we live with hearts awake, lamps burning, and hands ready to serve. Let our unity, compassion, and faith be a reflection of the bride preparing for her Bridegroom.

May the grace of our Lord keep us steadfast, joyful, and watchful as we await His coming.

"Amen. Come, Lord Jesus." – Revelation 22:20

We hope you have enjoyed reading through the pages.

**God bless you.**