Articles of Association

of

THE OVERCOMERS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP.

Incorporated on: 27 March 2012

Company Registration No. 08008590

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COMPANIES HOUSE

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The Companies Acts 1985 and 1989 Company Limited by Guarantee and not having a Share Capital

Articles of Association of

THE OVERCOMERS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP.

INTERPRETATION

1. In these Articles:

"the Charity" means the company intended to be regulated by these articles;

"the Act" means the Companies Act 1985 including any statutory modification or reenactment thereof for the time being in force;

"address" means a postal address or, for the purposes of electronic communication, a fax number or an e-mail address in each case registered with the Charity;

"the articles" means these Articles of Association of the Charity;

"clear days" in relation to the period of a notice means the period excluding the day when the notice is given or deemed to be given and the day for which it is given or on which it is to take effect;

"executed" includes any mode of execution;

"the memorandum" means the memorandum of association of the Charity;

"office" means the registered office of the Charity;

"the seal" means the common seal of the Charity if it has one;

"secretary" means the secretary of the Charity or any other person appointed to perform the duties of the secretary of the Charity, including a joint, assistant or deputy secretary;

"the trustees" means the directors of the Charity (and "trustee" has a corresponding meaning);

"the United Kingdom" means Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and

words importing the masculine gender only shall include the feminine gender and words importing the singular number shall include the plural and vice versa where the context so permits and words importing persons shall include companies.

Subject as aforesaid, words or expressions contained in these Articles shall, unless the context requires otherwise, bear the same meaning as in the Act.

MEMBERS

- 2. (i) The subscribers to the memorandum and such other persons, being over the age of 18 years, as are admitted to membership in accordance with the rules made under Article 61 shall be members of the Charity.
 - (ii) A person shall only be admitted as a member of the Charity if he or she is interested in furthering the objects, and his or her application for membership has been approved by the trustees, or the Spiritual Oversight, and he or she subscribes to the Statement of Beliefs set out in the schedule to the Articles.
 - (iii) Pursuant to clause (ii) above which states that members are those 'interested in furthering the objects' of the Charity, either the trustees by majority vote or the Spiritual Oversight may terminate the membership of anyone for good reason, such as one whose attitude, actions or moral conduct can be deemed to be in anyway detrimental to the culture, vision, harmony and progress of the Charity: Provided that the individual concerned shall have the right to be heard by the trustees, accompanied by a friend, before a final decision is made.
 - (iv) Any member of the Charity may retire on giving written notice to the secretary, provided that such retirement shall not reduce the number of members to less than two.
 - (v) Any person or other body who ceases to be a trustee in accordance with Article 6 shall forthwith cease to be a member of the company. Membership shall not be transferable and shall cease on death.
 - (vi) A retiring trustee may be reappointed as a member further to the provisions of Article 5(iii);
 - (vii) If not less than two-thirds of the trustees present at a meeting so resolve, the trustees shall have the right for a good and sufficient reason to terminate the membership of any member provided that he shall have received 21 clear days notice in writing to his last known address notifying him of the intention to terminate his membership and the reasons therefore and that he shall have the right to be heard by the trustees before any vote is taken.
 - (viii) The Directors must maintain a register of names and addresses of the members.

SPIRITUAL OVERSIGHT

- 3. (i) The Spiritual Government and Visionary Leadership of the Church Fellowship for the purposes of which the Charity has been established shall remain with the recognised Spiritual Oversight of the Church Fellowship, which is the Founder and General Overseer, Reverend Michael Ileladewa and his wife Pastor (Mrs.) Christianah Ileladewa, as further explained in the next section.
 - (ii) To the extent to which the trustees are not synonymous with the church Spiritual Oversight or Visionary Leadership, their powers shall be confined to the proper management and administration of the Charity in accordance with the provisions of this Memorandum and Articles of Association and in

furtherance of the said objects; and in so doing they shall have full and proper regard to such Spiritual Leadership, provided always they shall not act outside their powers as conferred by this Memorandum and Articles of Association or by the general law.

TRUSTEES

- 4. (i) At the Annual General Meeting of the Charity, the members shall elect from amongst members recommended by the Spiritual Oversight, the following: a secretary and a treasurer. They shall hold office from the conclusion of that meeting [or a few days after see Article 5(iv)] for a period of 12 months.
 - (ii) The Founder and General Overseer of the church Reverend Michael Ileladewa and his wife Pastor (Mrs.) Christianah Ileladewa shall serve as Spiritual Oversight, and they are responsible for the vision, spiritual direction and moral leadership of the church. They shall remain in this role unless and until they voluntarily choose to relinquish their role and appoint someone else as their replacement, or otherwise under the provisions of Article 4(iv) below.
 - (iii) For the avoidance of doubt, the Spiritual Oversight is the body of persons recognised by the Charity as having responsibility and authority within the organisation for its spiritual and visionary leadership. The role of trustees who are not part of the Spiritual Oversight is confined to the management and the administration of the Charity in accordance with the provisions of this Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Charity Law.
 - (iv) (iv) Any issues with the tenability of any of the roles of Reverend Michael Ileladewa [or his successor] will be dealt with by the Board of Trustees who can provide objective input and exercise sound judgement. In the most extreme circumstances, this might lead to a suspension or termination of any or all of his roles in the Charity. Issues of particular concern will include but not be limited to proven allegations of financial misconduct or serious moral failure including sexual misdemeanour.
 - (v) The Spiritual Oversight may at their discretion appoint an Advisory Board to assist in the work of the Charity, and set out separate guidelines for their operation within the Charity. The Advisory Board may be discontinued if and when the Spiritual Oversight deems their role has either become untenable or has begun to have a detrimental effect on the effective and harmonious operation of the Charity.

<u>Church Structure:</u> The Church Structure showing levels of authority is as follows:

Spiritual Oversight

\$\mathbb{I}\$

Executive Committee (Board of Trustees)

\$\mathbb{Q}\$

Advisory Board

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Head of Departments / Units / Branches.

APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

5. (i) The Executive Committee shall consist of not less than 3 members nor more than 7 members being:

- (a) the honorary officers specified in the preceding clause;
- (b) not less than 1 and not more than 3 members elected at the Annual General Meeting who shall hold office from the conclusion of that meeting.
- (ii) The procedure for selection and voting in of new trustees at the end of the annual term of outgoing trustees shall be as follows:
 - (a) About one week before the AGM/election date, the Spiritual Oversight will put forward a broad list of around ten committed and active church members including outsiders with expertise in running similar charity as potential candidates for the available positions;
 - (b) The members will then each prayerfully decide before the election meeting date on committed church members and outsiders from the candidates whom they would like to nominate as trustees;
 - (c) On the election date, these nominations will be submitted on slips of paper to the Election Committee, an ad hoc committee of between three and four members formed and led by the Secretary;
 - (d) Trustees should be considered on the basis of Biblical principles of spiritual people within and outside the ministry who can best contribute fresh initiative to the life of the charity. Due to the spiritual nature of the church/charity, acts of political nomination-seeking, vote-seeking or favour-courting prior to elections are strongly discouraged, and will be considered inappropriate conduct that could have serious consequences.

i.

- (iii) The Executive Committee may in addition appoint not more than 2 co-opted members but so that no-one may be appointed as a co-opted member if, as a result, more than one third of the members of the Executive Committee would be co-opted members. Each appointment of a co-opted member shall be made at a special meeting of the Executive Committee and shall take effect from the end of that meeting unless the appointment is to fill a place which has not then been vacated in which case the appointment shall run from the date when the post becomes vacant.
- (iv) Apart from the Founder of the Church who shall remain a Permanent Trustee, the term of office of all the members of the Executive Committee (Trustees) shall be for one year and shall come to an end together at the end of the Annual General Meeting next after the date on which they came into office. However, they may be re-elected or re-appointed, subject to the provisions of Articles 4 and 5. Annual terms of office should be scheduled as best as possible to run from 1 February until 31 January in the subsequent year. This would allow for January elections or nominations to take place.
- (v) The proceedings of the Executive Committee shall not be invalidated by any vacancy among their number or by any failure to appoint or any defect in the appointment or qualification of a member.
- (vi) Nobody shall be appointed as a member of the Executive Committee who is aged less than 18 years or who would if appointed be disqualified under the provisions of the following clause.

- (vii) No person shall be entitled to act as a member of the Executive Committee whether on a first or on any subsequent entry into office until after signing in the minute book of the Executive Committee a declaration of acceptance and of willingness to act in the trusts of the Charity.
- (viii) The General Overseer to be able to appoint a successor in consultation with the Trustees in order to ensure smooth continuity and running of the Church.

TERMINATION OF TRUSTEES APPOINTMENT

- 6. A member of the Executive Committee/Trustee shall cease to hold office if he or she:
 - (i) is disqualified from acting as a member of the Executive Committee by virtue of section 45 of the Charities Act 1992 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that provision); or
 - (ii) becomes incapable by reason of mental disorder, illness or injury of managing and administering his or her own affairs; or
 - (iii) is absent without the permission of the Executive Committee from all their meetings held within a period of three months and the Executive Committee resolve that his or her office be vacated; or
 - (iv) notifies to the Executive Committee a wish to resign (but only if at least three members of the Executive Committee will remain in the office when the notice of resignation is to take effect, so this action may therefore be made to coincide with an emergency and temporary appointment of a replacement trustee by the Spiritual Oversight); or
 - (v) has been the subject of a vote of no confidence by the majority of the rest of the trustees, and the General Overseer chooses to ratify that vote of no confidence; or
 - (vi) is removed from office by a majority vote of the rest of the Executive Committee or by a decision of the Spiritual Oversight especially where the member has failed to contribute effectively and pro-actively to the management of the church, has been a hindrance to the ethos of the church, has been a detriment to the spirit of the church, or where there have been some moral or spiritual concerns: Provided that the individual concerned shall have the right to be heard by the rest of Executive Committee and the Spiritual Oversight before a final decision is made; or
 - (vii) comes to the end of their annual term of office.

MATTERS OF CONFLICT

7. Any matters of tension or real conflict between or amongst the Spiritual Oversight and any or all of Executive Members can accelerate a need for external intervention from the Trustees, a group of senior church ministers independent of this Charity who exercise spiritual guidance, oversight and support to the Church, the Pastor and the trustees. Any member of the church leadership may call in the Trustees to intervene for the purposes of conflict resolution amongst their numbers. The Trustees may act jointly or independently, and any decisions of the Trustees must be complied with. See Article 4(iv) & (v) above.

POWERS OF TRUSTEES

- 8. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Memorandum and the Articles and to any directions given by special resolution at a general meeting of the members, the business of the Charity shall be managed by the trustees who may exercise all the powers of the Charity. No alteration of the memorandum or the articles and no such direction shall invalidate any prior act of the trustees which would have been valid if that alteration had not been made or that direction had not been given. The powers given by this article shall not be limited by any special power given to the trustees by the articles and a meeting of trustees at which a quorum is present may exercise all the powers exercisable by the trustees.
- 9. In addition to all powers hereby expressly conferred upon them and without detracting from the generality of their powers under the articles the trustees shall have the following powers, namely:
 - (i) to expend the funds of the Charity in such manner as they shall consider most beneficial for the achievement of the objects and to invest in the name of the Charity such part of the funds as they may see fit and to direct the sale or transposition of any such investments and to expend the proceeds of any such sale in furtherance of the Objects of the Charity.
 - (ii) to enter into contracts on behalf of the Charity.

MEETINGS AND PROCEEDINGS OF TRUSTEES

- 10. Subject to the provisions of the articles, the trustees may regulate their proceedings as they think fit. A trustee may, and the secretary at the request of a trustee or the Spiritual Oversight shall, call a meeting of the trustees. It shall not be necessary to give notice of a meeting to a trustee who is absent from the United Kingdom.
- 11. The Founder/General Overseer shall act as chairman of the meetings of the Executive Committee. Unless he is unwilling to do so, the chairman shall preside at every meeting of trustees at which he is present. But if there is no trustee holding that office, or if the trustee holding it is unwilling to preside or is not present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for the meeting, the trustees present may appoint one of their number to be chairman for that meeting alone.
- 12. Questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In the case of an equality of votes the chairman shall not be entitled to a casting vote. If a resolution fails to secure a majority vote in favour it shall be lost.
- 13. The quorum for the transaction of the business of the trustees, may be fixed by the trustees but shall not be less than one third of their number or three trustees, whichever is the greater.
- 14. The trustees may act notwithstanding any vacancies in their number, but, if the number of trustees is less than three, the continuing trustees or trustee may act only for the purpose of:
 - (i) Calling a general meeting for the appointment of new trustees;
 - (ii) Protecting the assets of the Charity;

- (iii) Executing decisions made by the trustees before their number fell below that of the quorum.
- 15. The trustees shall fulfil their legal duties and make decisions having regard to the spiritual direction of the Church as set from time to time by the Spiritual Oversight acting always in accordance with the requirements of this Constitution and Charity Law. Every matter shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members of the Executive Committee present and voting in the question but in the case of equality of votes the General Overseer/Chairman (Founder) of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote. Votes and decisions taken in the absence of the General Overseer/Chairman (Founder) will need to be ratified by him afterwards in order to have legal effect.
- 16. A meeting of the trustees may be held either in person or by suitable electronic means agreed by the trustees in which all participants can see (whether through some form of video link or otherwise) and may communicate with all the other participants.
- 17. The trustees may appoint one or more committees which may consist of trustees and such other persons as the trustees or the Spiritual Oversight may think fit for the purpose of making any inquiry or supervising or performing any function or duty which in the opinion of the trustees would be more conveniently undertaken or carried out by a committee provided that: -
 - (i) All acts and proceedings of any such committees shall be fully and promptly reported to the trustees;
 - (ii) Any such committee shall conform to any regulations that may be imposed upon it by the trustees;
 - (iii) Any such committee shall not incur expenditure other than in accordance with a budget approved by the trustees or with specific prior approval of the trustees.
- 18. All acts done by a meeting of trustees, or a committee of trustees, shall, notwithstanding that it be afterwards discovered that there was a defect in the appointment of any trustee or that any of them were disqualified from holding office, or had vacated office, or were not entitled to vote, be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed and was qualified and had continued to be a trustee and had been entitled to vote.
- 19. A resolution in writing, signed by all the trustees entitled to receive notice of a meeting of trustees or of a committee of trustees, shall be as valid and effective as if it had been passed at a meeting of trustees or (as the case may be) a committee of trustees duly convened and held. Such a resolution may consist of several documents in the same form, each signed by one or more of the trustees.
- 20. Any bank account in which any part of the assets of the Charity is deposited shall indicate the name of the Charity. All cheques and orders for the payment of money from such account and all promissory notes, drafts, bills of exchange and other negotiable instruments shall be signed by at least two signatories who shall be trustees or persons duly authorised by the trustees.

MINUTES

- 21. The trustees shall keep minutes in books or in other written or electronic media kept on the charity's computer systems or in the charity's operational office for the purpose of:
 - (i) All appointments of officers made by the trustees; and
 - (ii) All proceedings at meetings of the Charity and of the trustees and of committees of trustees including the names of the trustees present at each such meeting.

EXECUTING OR SEALING DOCUMENTS

- 22. (i) The Charity need not have a company seal. If it does, the seal shall only be used by the authority of the trustees. The trustees may determine who shall sign any instrument to which the seal is affixed and unless otherwise so determined it shall be signed by the General Overseer/Founder and by the secretary or by a second trustee.
 - (ii) If the Charity does not have a seal, instruments may be executed on the authority of the trustees on the signature of the General Overseer/Founder and of the secretary or by a second trustee. Appropriate wording which may be used is: "Executed as a deed and delivered by []"

GENERAL MEETINGS

- 23. The Charity shall hold an Annual General Meeting each year in addition to any other meetings in that year, and shall specify the meeting as such in the notices calling it; and not more than fifteen months shall elapse between the date of one Annual General Meeting of the Charity and that of the next provided that so long as the Charity holds its first Annual General Meeting within eighteen months of its incorporation, it need not hold it in the year of its incorporation, or in the following year. The Annual General Meeting shall be held at such times and places as the trustees shall appoint.
- 24. The trustees may call General Meetings to be held at such times and such places as they shall appoint.
- 25. On the requisition of members pursuant to the provisions of the Act, the trustees shall forthwith proceed to convene a General Meeting for a date not later than eight weeks after receipt of requisition.

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS

- 26. Notice of General Meetings shall normally be called by at least 14 clear days' notice, specifying the time and place of the meeting whether it is an Annual or Ordinary General Meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted. The notice shall be given to all the members and the trustees and, in the case of the Annual General Meeting, the auditors or independent examiners to the charity.
- 27. An Annual General Meeting and any General Meeting called for the passing of a special resolution shall be called by at least twenty-one clear days' notice.
- 28. A General Meeting may be called with notice of less than fourteen clear days if it is so agreed.

29. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting by, any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

- 30. No business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. Two persons entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted, each being a member, or one tenth of the total number of such persons for the time being, whichever is the greater, shall constitute a quorum.
- 31. If a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, or if during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place or to such time and place as the trustees may determine.
- 32. The chairman, if any, of the trustees or in his absence some other trustee nominated by the trustees shall preside as chairman of the meeting, but if neither the chairman nor such other trustee (if any) be present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting and willing to act, the trustees present shall elect one of their number to be chairman and, if there is only one trustee present and willing to act, he shall be chairman.
- 33. If no trustee is willing to act as chairman, or if no trustee is present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the members present and entitled to vote shall choose one of their number to be chairman.
- 34. The chairman may, with the consent of a meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting), adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting had adjournment not taken place. When a meeting is adjourned for fourteen days or more, at least seven clear days' notice shall be given specifying the time and place of the adjourned meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted. Otherwise it shall not be necessary to give any such notice.
- 35. A resolution put to the vote of a meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless before, or on the declaration of the result of, the show of hands a poll is duly demanded. Subject to the provisions of the Act, a poll may be demanded:
 - (a) by the chairman; or
 - (b) by at least two members having the right to vote at the meeting; or
 - (c) by a member or members representing not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all the members having the right to vote at the meeting.
- 36. Unless a poll is duly demanded, a declaration by the chairman that a resolution has been carried or carried unanimously, or by a particular majority, or lost, or not carried by a particular majority and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the meeting shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against the resolution.

- 37. The demand for a poll may be withdrawn, before the poll is taken, but only with the consent of the chairman. The withdrawal of a demand for a poll shall not invalidate the result of a show of hands declared before the demand for the poll was made.
- 38. A poll shall be taken as the chairman directs and he may appoint scrutineers (who need not be members) and fix a time and place for declaring the results of the poll. The result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll is demanded.
- 39. In the case of an equality of votes, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the chairman shall be entitled to a casting vote in addition to any other vote he may have.
- 40. A poll demanded on the election of a chairman, or on a question of adjournment, shall be taken immediately. A poll demanded on any other question shall be taken either immediately or at such time and place as the chairman of the meeting directs, not being more than thirty days after the poll is demanded. The demand for a poll shall not prevent continuance of the meeting for the transaction of any business other than the question on which the poll is demanded. If a poll is demanded before the declaration of the result of a show of hands and the demand is duly withdrawn, the meeting shall continue as if the demand had not been made.
- 41. No notice need be given of a poll not taken immediately if the time and place at which it is to be taken are announced at the meeting at which it is demanded. In other cases, at least seven clear days' notice shall be given specifying the time and place at which the poll is to be taken.
- 42. Subject to the provisions of the Act, a resolution in writing signed by all members of the Charity entitled to receive notice of and to attend and vote at general meetings shall be as valid and effective as if it had been passed at a general meeting of the Charity duly convened and held. Such a resolution may consist of several documents in like form each signed by one or more members of the Charity.

VOTES OF MEMBERS

- 43. Subject to Article 44, every member shall have one vote.
- 44. Votes may be cast in a poll either personally or by proxy. A proxy must be a member and shall not have the right to appoint a further proxy. In matters decided on a show of hands a member represented by a proxy shall have no vote.
- 45. The instrument appointing a proxy shall be in writing under the hand of the appointor or his attorney duly authorised in writing.
- 46. No member shall be entitled to vote at any general meeting unless all moneys then payable by him to the Charity have been paid.
- 47. No objection shall be raised to the qualification of any voter except at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is tendered, and every vote not disallowed at the meeting shall be valid. Any objection made in due time shall be referred to the chairman whose decision shall be final and conclusive.

ACCOUNTS

48. Accounts shall be prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part VII of the Act and in accordance with the provisions of the 1993 Charities Act and any statutory reenactment or modification of the Acts.

ANNUAL REPORT

49. The trustees shall comply with their obligations under the Charities Act 1993 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that Act) with regard to the preparation of an annual report and its transmission to the Charity Commission.

ANNUAL RETURN

50. The trustees shall comply with their obligations under the Charities Act 1993 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that Act) with regard to the preparation of an annual return and its transmission to the Charity Commission.

NOTICES

- Any notice to be given to or by any person pursuant to the articles shall be in writing except that a notice calling a meeting of the trustees need not be in writing.
- 52. The Charity may give any notice to a member either personally or by sending it by post in a prepaid envelope addressed to the member at his registered address or by leaving it at that address or by fax or e-mail as registered with the Charity. A member whose registered address is not within the United Kingdom and who gives to the charity an address within the United Kingdom at which notices may be given to him shall be entitled to have notices given to him at that address, but otherwise no such member shall be entitled to receive any notice from the Charity.
- 53. A member present in person at any meeting of the Charity shall be deemed to have received notice of the meeting and, where necessary, of the purposes for which it was called.
- 54. Proof that an envelope containing a notice was properly addressed, prepaid and posted shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given or sent by fax or e-mail as registered with the Charity. A notice shall be deemed to have been given at the expiration of 48 hours after the envelope containing it was posted, faxed or sent by e-mail.

INDEMNITY

- 55. (i) Subject to the provisions of the Act every trustee or other officer or auditor of the Charity shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Charity against any liability incurred by him in that capacity in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgement is given in his favour or in which he is acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to him by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the Charity.
 - (ii) A retiring trustee is entitled to an indemnity from the continuing trustees at the expense of the Charity in respect of any liabilities properly incurred during his trusteeship

SCHEDULE

STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe in the following standard statements of the Christian faith:

The Sovereignty and grace of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit in creation, providence, revelation, redemption and final judgment;

The divine inspiration of Holy Scripture and its consequent entire trustworthiness and supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct;

The universal sinfulness and guilt of fallen man making him subject to God's wrath and condemnation;

The substitutionary sacrifice of the incarnate Son of God as the sole and all-sufficient ground of redemption from the guilt and power of sin and from its eternal consequences;

The justification of the sinner solely by the grace of God through faith in Christ crucified and risen from the dead;

The illuminating, regenerating, indwelling and sanctifying work of God the Holy Spirit;

The priesthood of all believers who form the universal Church the Body of which Christ is the Head and which is committed by His command to the proclamation of the Gospel throughout the world;

The expectation of the personal visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ in power and glory.