

Breaking Bread

Newsletter –

The Brisbane Society of The New Church,
Brisbane and South-East Queensland

Feb, Mar, Apr 2020



Art Work by Lenore Sandow

No Instant Regeneration

*So that a person may be led from the state of the old self into that of the new heavenly self, worldly passions have to be cast aside and heavenly affections allow in. This is **effected by countless means known to the Lord alone, many of which the Lord has made known to angels** but few if any to mankind. Even so, **every single one of those means is revealed in the internal sense of the Word**. When therefore a person is converted from an old self into a new one, that is, when one is regenerated, it does not take place in an instant as some people believe, but over many years. Indeed the process is taking place throughout the person's whole life right to its end.*

Secrets of Heaven 4063:3 – Emanuel Swedenborg

In this issue

1. Address from Rev. Darren Brunne
‘The Sacred Seven – A Soul Warrior Handbook’ – Excerpt...
3. The Months Ahead Unpacked.
5. Hot Food and Birthday Cake Roster.
6. Calendar.

Several years ago, I finished the novel ‘Soul Warrior’ which takes the reader through the seven pieces of soul armour in story form. Since that time, I have wanted to write a ‘how-to’ manual on practising ‘being’ a Soul Warrior. Now, after a lot of procrastination, that project is well underway...

The Sacred Seven **A Soul Warrior Handbook**

Discovering The Seven Secret Drives of the Soul.

(Excerpt from Chapter Two - Intimacy and the Chestguard of Goodness ...)

Moving Between the Higher and Lower ego

The Soul Warrior has a practice of living in and from the higher ego. This is another way of saying that one is ‘other-focused’ rather than ‘self’ focused. And this is no small feat. We can’t always be focused on others, can we? Wouldn’t that mean neglecting ourselves? Yes and No. As one advances along the spiritual path a healthy and holy distance occurs between one’s bodily thoughts, feelings and external life, and one’s inner life. The archetype for the early stages of this experience is to be found in the Creation story when the waters below are separated from the waters above (Genesis 1:6). This is a very real and tangible experience. The higher ego has heaven’s love flowing into it. This love seeks the welfare of all (including one’s own body and life). In a sense, our heavenly concern for others includes the care for our own body, mind and life. But at no point does self-care take over and become self-absorption or self-consuming thoughts if or when we are living from the power of the transformed ego. When we are ‘gazing’ into the

waters below we are fixated with our 'own' image but when we look up towards higher waters, we begin to see the face of God (even if only clouded).

In order for the advancing soul to fully enter into this transformation, the lower ego, like water evaporating, needs to 'pass through' its death (cross) experiences and enter the cycle of spiritual rebirth - *Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. (Matthew 16:24)*

This is not as drastic or as terrible a process as the symbolic literal language might lead you to believe. It is definitely a challenge but, in fact, what we are endeavouring to do in this process is to discover the inner child -

*And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, **Who-soever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child**, he shall not enter therein. And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them. (Mark 10:13-16)*

How do we become the 'child' again? The answer is achieved through internal cycles of death and rebirth. This is the fight of the Soul Warrior - the fight to be reborn - to pass from lower waters into higher waters through 'metanoia'/transformation.

Now, intuitively you may have said to yourself - '*becoming a child again is the spiritual path and that makes sense.*'. But I would ask you 'Why?' Why do we have to become the inner child to advance along the spiritual path? The answer can only be discovered through the virtue 'Innocence'. Children are the archetype of innocence. And this virtue - innocence - is a unique spiritual quality full of hidden wisdom that allows Heaven to continually flow into the heart of the advancing soul. We can read about this in the book Heaven and Hell paragraph 341 -

...about the innocence of angels... Innocence is the vessel of everything heavenly and the innocence of little children is a matrix for all the affections of what is good and true. We explained previously (in paragraphs 276-283) that innocence is wanting to be led by the Lord and not by oneself, so that the extent to which we are in innocence determines the extent to which we are freed from preoccupations with our self-image. To the extent that we are freed from this self-image, we gain an identity given by the Lord. The Lord's identity is what is called the Lord's righteousness and worth. (See Romans 3)

Our heaven-born identity is our transformed ego and it communicates to us our higher calling (see Chapter Five – Communion and The Helmet of Guidance). Please note, I use the term *transformed* because that is how it feels to us, but in truth, the lower ego cannot or will not be healed or transformed. Instead, we receive an upgrade from the Lord. The higher ego is 'inserted' into our consciousness through a process of spiritual battles. Thus, the lower ego is always there looking for an opportunity to reassert itself. Maybe that helps explain why humans are so 'up and down'?

The Seven Soul Drives

1. Survival
2. Intimacy
3. Growth
4. Service
5. Communion
6. Enlightenment
7. Transformation

Our higher ego loves to be in the 'Zone' as the life flow of heaven moves us forward. This is what being led by the Lord means. In a similar way, when Sacred Text refers to exchanging our shame, pain and failures for His righteousness, it is referring to a real spiritual transaction wherein the lower ego submits and gives way to the higher ego making us into the image and likeness of the Lord. It is only from the higher ego that our true High Calling can be known and lived.

CTA - Throughout the day, pause and reflect - 'Am I fighting to be in control, or am I fighting to let go so that Heaven may flow in and lead me forward?'

Keep your armour on and listening to heaven as you battle the darkness within,
Rev Darren Brunne.

(Note: CTA – Call to Action)



The Months Ahead Unpacked

An explanation of the upcoming events from February to April and a little beyond

April Sunday 5th Service and Second Sunday 12th Easter Service

For the month of April, I suggest we forgo our usual lunch after the family service and instead have a light refreshment. This will allow us to have a special lunch following our Easter Service on the second Sunday 12th. Last year the question was asked by one of our church members if weather permitted, could we have lunch at the park on the river next to the cemetery at Dutton Park following our Easter Service? I would love to hear people's feedback about this idea. Let's start a discussion on the Google group email list when we get a little bit closer to Easter.

North-side Swedenborg Reading Group

February - Thursday 16th

March - Thursday 15th

April - Thursday 19th

On the third Thursday evening of the month from 6 pm to 7 pm at Bracken Ridge Library, the North-side Swedenborg Reading Group meets together to discuss 'Regeneration'. To all our north-side community (or our south-siders if you don't mind the travel), if you would like an additional spiritual boost to the month come join the stimulating discussion.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES – Ben Arnold has compiled a potential list of youth activities for the fourth Sunday of each month. Please visit our Brisbane New Church facebook site for the list and to offer your comments and support where possible –

<https://www.facebook.com/Brisbane-New-Church-121679269235386/>

South-side Swedenborg Spiritual Support Group

February - Thursday 9th

March - Thursday 8th

April - Thursday 12th

OUR BRISBANE NEW CHURCH OVERSEAS STUDENT

Jordan Brunne is now partway through her second year at Bryn Athyn College.

I am currently in the winter term of my second year at Bryn Athyn College and my studies are going well! Not only have I decided to tackle a religion minor alongside my interdisciplinary degree, but I have decided to be an honours student as well! Might as well make the most out of my education while I'm over here! This term I'm taking some fun classes like ceramics and theatre, and some interesting classes like statistics and Latin! I find my classes challenging and inspiring and I hope they can contribute to my future experiences in life. I'm going to head up to Canada with a friend for the Christmas break and I'm looking forward to seeing some snow! I hope you've all had a wonderful warm Christmas! Enjoy the heat for me, I wish it was summer right now!

- Jordan Brunne.



Jordan can be contacted using an app called Whatsapp or via Facebook messenger. For financial support, her bank account details are - BSB 064-446 Acc 1033 5075.

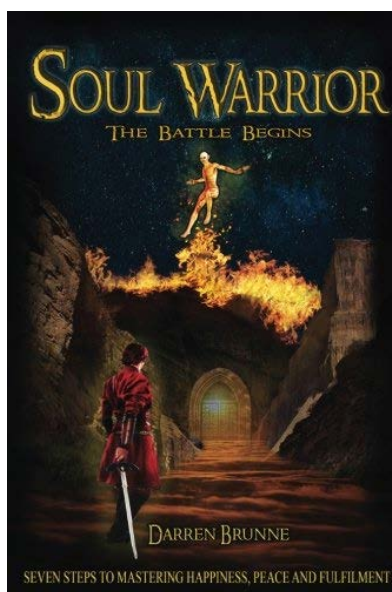
SOUL WARRIOR

I encourage you, if you already haven't, to grab a copy of the novel 'Soul Warrior' in which you, the reader, will take on a journey of discovery into the practice of spiritual warfare. Follow along with apprentice Mathetis through his own awakening as he learns to use the whole armour of God. You will be introduced into all seven stages of the armour through a part story, part parable approach.

You can purchase the book through Amazon for \$15.99 US

https://www.amazon.com/Soul-Warrior-Mr-Darren-Brunne/dp/1981445838/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1514376979&sr=1-1&keywords=soul+warrior+darren+brunne

or pick up a copy from our Brisbane Centre for \$20.00 when attending one of our services. Alternatively, you can contact me via drbrunne@gmail.com and I can post you a copy of 'Soul Warrior' for \$20 AUS + postage.



THE MELBOURNE SOCIETY

The Melbourne New Church Society has purchased a building and looks forward to the years ahead with their new pastor President David Moffat. David and Pam will move from Canberra into rented accommodation in Melbourne at the end of January to begin this new chapter of ministry for them both.

UPGRADED EQUIPMENT AND FUTURE RECORDINGS

Guang bin Liu has been faithfully recording our three services every month (thanks Guang) and uploading them to youtube. A link is sent out via our Google group. Over the past year, the new equipment has slowly been purchased (kindly donated by a few individuals). Our goal is to be able to live stream the services to anyone unable to attend.

CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISING

I hope everyone had a good Christmas and enjoyed catching up with family and friends. I wanted to let everyone know that our efforts to raise money for the Christmas party held at Mates4Mates was a complete success. We were able to buy 24 Christmas cakes (valued at \$8 each). Well done everyone and may the blessings upon the Brisbane New Church Centre continue to grow and grow causing God's favour upon us all.

Hot Food & Birthday Cake Roster for First Sunday Lunches

Feb	Fran
March	Bev
April	Renee
May	Tba
June	Gaye
July	Rae
Aug	Ruth
Sept	Anna
Oct	Vivian
Nov	Bev
Dec	We all pitch in for Christmas luncheon

Birthdays

To all our friends celebrating birthdays throughout these months, we wish you birthday greetings and blessings.

February

6th Ken Barns, 8th Bev Sheppard, 22nd Livvy Fitzgerald, 23rd Paul Evans.

March

5th Mark Pitts, 21st Sarah MacFarlane, 23rd Matthew Arnold, 30th Ruth Evans, 31st Russell Eyles.

April

8th Lachlan Duff, 15th Gaye Heldon, 16th Alex Duff, 20th Peter Larsen, 27th Lachlan Glenn, 28th Kyan Heldon, Jordan Brunne.

CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS

Our services are held 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays, at 10.30 a.m. at our Centre – 1/24 Railway Terrace, Dutton Park.
Always check the last page of the Calendar for services.

Pastor: Rev. Darren Brunne, contactable on 0421 319 252

Treasurer: Mr Brian Heldon, contactable on 07-5577 8772

Secretary: Mr Darren Lawler, contactable on 0402 086331 or darren@inneractivelearning.com.au
Address: 53 Leslie Parade, Slacks Creek, Qld, 4127

For activities on the Gold Coast and Mt, Tamborine meetings contact Mrs Gaye Heldon on 0419 778717

Sunday School Coordinator:

Bev Sheppard, contactable on 07-3844 7187 or revshep@tpg.com.au

CALENDAR

Feb 2019

Sun 2nd

1st SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICE including **HOLY SUPPER** led by
Rev. Brunne at 10:30 am '*Adventures in the Apocalypse*'

Fri 7th

Mt Tamborine Discussion Group at
Brian and Gaye Heldon's at 11 a.m.

Sun 9th

Sacred Circle, 10.30 a.m.

Sun 16th

Abiding in the Vine led by Rev. Brunne at 10:30 a.m.

Sun 23rd

Free for Home Church Visitation

March

Sun 1st

1st SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICE including **HOLY SUPPER** led by
Rev. Brunne at 10:30 am '*Adventures in the Apocalypse*'

Sun 8th

Sacred Circle, 10.30 a.m.

Fri 13th

Mt Tamborine Discussion Group at
Brian and Gaye Heldon's at 11 a.m.

Sun 15th

Abiding in the Vine led by Rev. Brunne at 10:30 a.m.

Sun 22nd

Free for Home Church Visitation

April

Sun 5th

1st SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICE including **HOLY SUPPER** led by
Rev. Brunne at 10:30 am '*Adventures in the Apocalypse*'

Sun 12th

Easter Service led by Rev. Brunne at 10:30 a.m.

Sun 19th

Abiding in the Vine led by Rev. Brunne at 10:30 a.m.

Fri 17th

Mt Tamborine Discussion Group at
Brian and Gaye Heldon's at 11 a.m.

Sun 26th

Free for Home Church Visitation