EVENING WORSHIP 8 September 2013

Text: 2 Corinthians 3:4-6

Title: THE GLORIOUS MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

(I) THE SAME SPIRIT OF FAITH IN MINISTRY

- 1. Moses as a minister of God
 - a) Deliverer
 - b) Law-giver
- 2. Jeremiah as a minister of God
 - a) Faith needed
 - b) Calling people to return to God in repentance

(II) THE MINISTRY IN THE OLD COVENANT CONTEXT

1. Paul's description of the ministry of Moses (2 Corinthians 3:7)

"Written and engraved in stone"

- 2. It was a ministry of "the letter of the law" (2 Corinthians 3:6)
- 3. It was a ministry that may be described as glorious (2 Corinthians 3:7)
 - a) The glory was of the Lord
 - b) The law came from the Lord
- 4. It was also a ministry that may be described as "ministry of death" (2 Corinthians 3:7)
- 5. It was a ministry of condemnation

Because it included many curses (**Deuteronomy 27**)

(III) THE MINISTRY OF THE NEW COVENANT CONTEXT

- 1. The ministry of the Spirit (2 Corinthians 3:8)
- 2. It is a more glorious ministry (2 Corinthians 3:8)
- 3. It is a ministry of righteousness (2 Corinthians 3:9)
- 4. It is a ministry that far excels the Old Covenant (2 Corinthians 3:10-11)

(IV) REASONS FOR THIS CONTRAST

- 1. Not to put down the Old Covenant ministry
 - a) It had its place
 - b) It had its function
 - c) It had its glory
- 2. To help people understand and appreciate the greatness of the New Covenant ministry
 - a) Some did not understand the New Covenant
 - b) Others did not appreciate the significance of the New Covenant ministry
 - c) To help people have a deeper sense of appreciation of the significance of the New Covenant ministry