

FOREWORD

Stones

“Joshua set up at Gilgal of Jordan the 12 stones they had taken out of the [river] Jordan. He said to the Israelites, ‘In future when your descendants ask their fathers, ‘What do these stones mean?’ tell them, ‘Israel cross the Jordan on dry ground.’ For the Lord your God dried up the Jordan before you until you had crossed over. The Lord your God did to the Jordan just what he had done to the Red Sea when he dried it up before us until we cross over. He did this so that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of the Lord is powerful and so that you might always fear the Lord your God.” Joshua 4:20-24

Ancient Israelites often set up altars of stones (usually arranged in stacks) in different places to remind themselves and their descendants of God’s grace and power manifested at a certain moment of time. The 12 stones at Gilgal is a permanent reminder that Jehovah parted the great Jordan for the Israelites to cross – on dry riverbed.

Today, with much reverence, with our 2006 review magazine, we set up a stone memorial of God’s hand upon us throughout 2006. This stone is to remind us as well as our future generations of our journey of grace. And we want to share this with our friends and guests.

This altar of stones would nearly not have been if not for Eric Tan who is the first to stop short and thought we needed it. Then, many other brothers and sisters quickly sense the need too, and helped to pick up and arrange the stones in the pile. And they include members of the Church Board, Pastor HS Leon and Pastor Stephen Ong for photos and articles from Mandarin and Cantonese services.

Let us continue to look for reasons so that this time next year, we would come together again with another pile of stones as testament of Jehovah’s greatness. Thank you and God bless.

Elder Ee Chong Kang