



The Information

And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.
Luke 4: vs 4.

February, 2017

THOSE WHO KNOW THEIR GOD



Rev. Dr. Cortroy Jarvis
Chairman of PEC

Recently, in my reflection on scripture, I was struck again and in a more forceful way by the words of Daniel 11:32 “The people that know their God shall be strong and do exploits”. Wow! What a powerful text in the midst of crisis and the struggle to keep sane and upright. Those who know their God shall be strong and do exploits – Daniel.11:32. The question is, be strong in what sense? As I examine the text, permit me to posit the following. They shall be strong physically, mentally, materially, emotionally and spiritually.

Being strong physically

Sickness in the life of a child of God is a challenge. We are the ones who are supposed to lay hands on the sick and see them recover. However, those who know their God shall be strong physically because they know there is someone called the Great Physician that heals and who promised that He would not allow any sickness to come upon us, subject to certain conditions – Exodus.15: 26 - “ *If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.*” Sickness can afflict even the child of God. How can I know the Physician of physicians and remain sick? We need to apply to the blood of Jesus to secure our healing. 3 John 2 says, “Beloved, I wish *above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.*”

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Vision Statement

A Church - Transformed,
United, Victorious in Christ

Mission Statement

By the grace of God, we seek to be faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ; without distinction, we use all that we possess to call all peoples to the truth of the Gospel through worship, evangelism, discipleship and service.

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"Advance the Kingdom" -Use the Keys

Those who know their God
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Our God is no respecter of persons but He is a respecter of principles. We should not think that we are clever when dealing with God. Secondly we should have a healthy fear of the Lord. If we do these two things, our bones would be producing good blood and health would be flowing to us. So, in spite of the struggles and the beating we experience from a world that is tough and difficult to navigate, we will be strong physically.

Being strong mentally

Those who know their God would be strong mentally because they know the source of wisdom (Daniel 2: 20-21) - *“Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God forever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:”*

“ If you know Him, you will know how to ask Him for wisdom – James1: 5-6-. *“If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.”*

To get wisdom one needs to fear or reverence God which is the beginning of wisdom – Psalm.111: 10. - *“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.”* Secondly, if someone wants to be wise, he/she needs to look around for those who are wise and keep their company. I learnt long time ago that we Stay away from fools because the companion of fools shall be destroyed. Proverbs 13: 20- *“He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.”*

Being strong materially

Those who know their God would be strong materially because they know it is God who gives power to get wealth – Deuteronomy 8:18 – *“But thou shalt*

remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day”. Therefore, one should want to find out God’s principles for getting wealth. What are these principles?

- i. *Give, - “Give and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.”* – Luke.6:38.
- ii. *Sow bountifully- “But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.* – 2 Corinthians.9:6.
- iii. *Scattering – “There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty. The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.”*Proverbs.11: 24-25.
- iv. *Tithing – “Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.”* Malachi 3: 8-11.
- v. *Honour God with your first fruit – “Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.”* Proverbs 3: 9-10.

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Those who know their God
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vi. Be honest! Work hard and do not gather riches by wrong means – *“As the partridge sitteth on eggs, and hatcheth them not; so he that getteth riches, and not by right, shall leave them in the midst of his days, and at his end shall be a fool.”* Jeremiah 17: 11

Being strong emotionally

Those who know their God shall be strong emotionally because they know the source of true joy – Psalm 16: 11. – *“Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.”* They know that the joy of the Lord is their strength –Jeremiah 8:10. *“Therefore will I give their wives unto others, and their fields to them that shall inherit them: for everyone from the least even unto the greatest is given to covetousness, from the prophet even unto the priest every one dealeth falsely.”* Their joy is in the Lord and not in material things – Philippians 4:4. *“Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.”* When trial comes, they count it as joy because they know that it is going to lead to a testimony – James 1:2-4;- *“My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.”*

They are strong in the days of adversity because they know that God will take them through – Proverbs 24:10 –*“If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small.”* They know that their sorrow cannot last – Psalm 30: 5 – *“For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.”*

Being strong spiritually

Those who know their God shall be strong spiritually because they know power belongs to God – Ps.62:11- *“God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God.”* They know Him sufficiently well to know that He does not want to share His glory but He is willing to share His power – Isaiah.40:28-29 - *“Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the*

Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.”

They know that all they need to do is to wait on Him – Isaiah 40:31- *“But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.”* We need to commit our ways to the Lord. The writer of Proverbs 3:5-6 encourages, *“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths”.*

Peter implores us to “ grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! 2 Peter 3:18 – *“But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.”*

If you do not want to be weak and live a useless life, let your heart cry, *“That I may know Christ and Him crucified.”* Remember that those who know their God shall be strong and do exploits. Walk good.

Unity Sunday

Sunday March 05, 2017 is Unity Sunday. It was on March 01, 1457 that the Moravian Church was born. We ask for your continued prayers for the work and witness of our Church.

A special offering will be taken in all Moravian Churches worldwide on that Sunday March 05. The offering will go towards supporting the Unity Mission Conference which will be held in Cape Town, South Africa from November 15-20, 2017.

Furlough

The Rev. Andrew Roberts of the Barbados Conference requested and was granted Furlough from February 1 to May 30, 2017.

"Advance the Kingdom" -Use the Keys

Hymn of the Month for February, 2017



Our hymn for the month of February is # 583 – *I thirst for Christ so deep within*. It was written by the Rev. Dr. Mikie Roberts in 2003. The name of the assigned tune, *MIDNIGHT*, is an original composition that was written and arranged by the Rev. Dr. Ulston P. Smith.

Everybody knows what it is to be physically hungry and thirsty. They are among our basic human needs and we do all in our power to make sure that they are met. But we do not only hunger and thirst physically, we are also spiritual beings. Jesus himself when tempted by the devil responded in Matthew 4: 4, ***“Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.”*** Conscious of our need for spiritual nourishment, this hymn expresses this deep desire and assures us of the truth that Christ is able to meet us at our point of need. The opening verse mirrors scriptural invitations uttered first by God through the lips of the Old Testament prophet Isaiah in chapter 55: 1, ***“Is anyone thirsty? Come and drink--even if you have no money! Come, take your choice of wine or milk--it's all free!”*** While in the Gospel Jesus makes this promise in John 6: 35, ***“I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”***

The second verse reflects the joy of one who having heard the divine invitation and accepted it can now testify of having had their spiritual longings met. Once we have experienced being fed and nourished by Christ, then we become conscious that there are others like us who are also searching to have their unmet spiritual needs satisfied. The focus of the hymn then shifts in the last verse to those who are still hungering and thirsting for more. The one who has been filled can now give direction to others and bring them to the banqueting hall where they too can ***“taste and see that the Lord is good.”*** Psalm 34: 8. This hymn will be appropriate for use in a communion service.

Below are the words and music for the hymn of the month for February:

I thirst for Christ so deep within,
He calls to me and says, ‘Come, drink,’
I hunger for the bread divine,
He welcomes me to come and dine.

2 I came and tasted of the Lord,
My soul was filled to overflow;
My heart now bursts with endless joy,
For Christ has set my heart aglow.

3 To all who long and thirst for more,
The Saviour stands outside your door;
A joyous feast awaits each soul
And grace abounds to make us whole.

2003. Mikie A. Roberts

Mikie Roberts (Rev. Dr.)

583

I Thirst For Christ

MIDNIGHT

Rev. Mikie Roberts, 2003

L.M.

Rev. Ulston P. Smith,
2016

1. I thirst for Christ so deep — with - in, He calls to me and says, ‘Come, drink,’
2. I came and tas - ted of — the Lord, My soul was filled to o - ver - flow;
3. To all who long and thirst — for more, The Sa-viour stands out - side your door;

I hun - ger for the bread div - ine, He well - comes me to come and dine.
My heart now bursts with end - less joy, for Christ has set my heart a - glow.
A joy - ous feast a - waits each soul and grace a - bounds to make us whole.

"Advance the Kingdom" -Use the Keys

Mission Trip to Tanzania for their 10th Anniversary Celebration of TEKU.

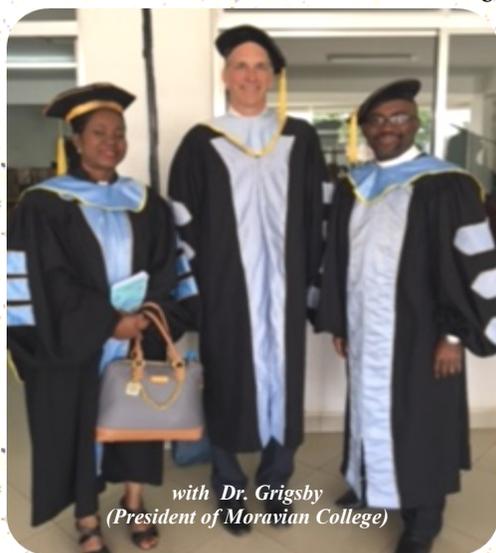
Sis. Winelle and Bro. Mikie recently embarked on a mission trip to Tanzania. The following is a brief report of their experience:

We arrived in Dar es Salaam on Saturday October 22, 2016, after a very long but relaxing flight from Miami first to Qatar. Rev. Samuel Mwaiseje warmly greeted us at the airport. It seemed as if we had come home in that a few persons including one customs officer approached us speaking in Swahili. We stayed in Dar es Salaam that weekend and had the opportunity to worship with one of the local Moravian congregations. It was truly a wonderful worship experience and the fellowship with the members was inspiring. Rev. Samuel and his wife hosted us after worship for lunch.

On Monday October 24, 2016, we took an early morning flight to Mbeya where we were excitedly greeted

by Sis. Mary Katigeli. For the next week, Sis. Mary ensured that our visit to the TEKU was most memorable. We participated fully in all of the anniversary celebrations which included an exhibition,

campus tours and the 10th anniversary & graduation exercises. Sis. Winelle and Bro Mikie, along with other specially invited guests, were embraced as honored guests. The hospitality extended personally by Sis. Mary as well as Vice Chancellor, Prof. Kassimoto and the entire staff and student body has left us with life long memories. We were able to have meaningful conversations which allowed us to better understand the general structure of the University and its vision for the future.



with Dr. Grigsby
(President of Moravian College)



with Bishop Cheyo

There are so many other experiences we had during our visit which we will long cherish. Our final Sunday in Mbeya afforded Sis. Winelle the opportunity to preach at one of the local congregations. That worship too was so inspiring especially with the music of the choirs. Sis. Mary served as the interpreter for Winelle's sermon. While in Mbeya we also had the chance to meet other members of the Provincial Board and several Bishops.



On Sunday October 30 we left Mbeya back to Dar es Salaam for our return trip to Miami the following day. Overall, this mission trip, though relatively short, has made a lasting impact on us. We left with a clearer sense of vision of the scope of the TEKU institution. We returned very proud of the work in higher education that we as Moravians are undertaking, not only in Tanzania but also elsewhere. Dr. Byron Grigsby and his family were also present for the anniversary celebrations. The collaboration between Moravian College and TEKU is to be applauded. We were so excited when we met Sis. Cicely who was on furlough in Tanzania. We give thanks to God for taking us safely and for allowing us the opportunity to fellowship with our Moravian brothers and sisters in Tanzania.



L to R Sis. Winelle, Bro. Mikie & Sis. Cicely



with Professor Kassimoto former Vice Chancellor

"Advance the Kingdom" -Use the Keys

Ordination to the Diaconate of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province



Rev. Elva Richards, presently serving as Associate Pastor of the Spring Gardens Moravian Church in Antigua, was ordained a Deacon on Sunday January 15, 2017. The service was held at the Memorial Moravian Church in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands at 4.00 pm.

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Conrad Spencer was the Presiding Bishop.



Bishop of the EWIP, Chairman of PEC, Staff Members of The Virgin Islands, Antigua, and Kitts Conferences

"Advance the Kingdom" -Use the Keys

Ordination to the Diaconate of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province

Rev. Delroy Burley, Presently serving as Pastor of the Bethlehem Moravian Church in Barbados, was ordained a Deacon on Sunday January 22, 2017. The service was held at the Sharon Moravian Church in Barbados at 6.00 pm. The Rt. Rev. Dr. Kingsley Lewis was the presiding Bishop.



Bishop of the EWIP, Chairman of PEC and Staff Members of the Barbados Conference

"Advance the Kingdom" -Use the Keys

In the 1970's I enjoyed a television program called "ABC Wide World of Sports."

A Church Victorious

There is a statement that made an impression and sunk deep within my soul every

time the program was aired. The statement made at the start of the program invited the viewer to witness, and I quote, "the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat." Through this program I learned to appreciate that the human person has a capacity for greatness that often has to be nurtured. Such greatness may be drawn out or dragged out depending on the person, or borne of faithfulness or force depending on the circumstances. Consequently, it is observed that when sufficiently pressed, persons have been known to "snatch victory from the jaws of defeat." Therefore, I invite us to hear these words from John 5:2-9 (NRSV).

2 Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew* Beth-zatha,* which has five porticoes.³ In these lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralysed.*⁵ One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years.⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?"⁷ The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me."⁸ Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk."⁹ At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

This story reveals an individual with a conditioned response that gives place to the same pitiful result, and for far too long. It becomes clear from this healing story that one can always be on the cusp of greatness or new beginnings yet never in the flow, on the move. (Always near the kitchen, never at the table). In other words, one can be in the right place, at the right time but never achieve the right result or the desired result. I say desired result because the result is often deserved or consistent with effort. Thus, the following may be asserted:

When you do not know what you should, when you do not know what you have, when you do not know what you can, when there is no commitment to uncommon results, what obtains is a common excuse that is expressed in word or deed – "I can't!" The assertion, "I can't" means that one is either unable or unwilling. It is either a matter of ability or the will. As I consider this story, therefore, two things arise:

1. Learn Apathy
2. Lack of Courage

I know a Seventh Grader whose mantra is "I can't." Now at the Moravian School student repeat this affirmation every day: *At Moravian, we believe that you can, and we expect that you will (Connor) because it is not your aptitude but your attitude that determines your altitude (Zig Ziglar).*

Therefore, whatever your hands find to do, do it with all your might; because a living dog is better than a dead lion (Ecclesiastes 9). Yet, this young man is convinced of his own inability even to learn the words of the daily prayers or to remember my name. However, I know that his argument is not one of ability but one of will, conditioned by socialization.

As a child, we would catch one of the yard fowls and put it under a bucket or bath-pan. We would keep the fowl covered there for a while. We would beat on that bucket or bath-pan for a while. We would remove the bucket or bath-pan and the fowl would remain motionless, completely immobile. We would prod and push that fowl several times before it can emerge from that state of learnt or conditioned powerlessness. From the field of psychology, I would later discover that this conditioned response is called learnt apathy. The man in the healing story was suffering for thirty-eight (38) years. He was always in the right place at the right time but he confessed that he was unable to change his circumstance. He had essentially given up.

The miracle never happened for the man in the story because he was paralysed not simply by the condition of his body but also by the condition of his mind. We are all affected by conditioned of body and the condition of our mind. Since this is true, learnt apathy may simply be the twin face of a lack of courage. Sometimes we must be pushed to discover or recover power of our imagination and the courage of our faith. Consider this story I received from a friend:

A wealthy man had one very beautiful daughter. When the daughter was ready for marriage, the father sent news around town that all the eligible young men should come to compete in a test which would determine who was fit to marry his daughter. The rich man took them to his swimming pool and addressed the men: "Any of you who can swim from one end of this swimming pool to the other would marry my daughter. In addition, I'll give him 15 million dollars, a car and a house so they can start life well. I shall be waiting to meet my son-in-law at the other end. Good luck!"

The young men were excited at the prospects. Then a helicopter came over and dropped alligators and crocodiles into the pool. The men stepped back from the pool. Disappointed, some of them said, "That's crazy, let's see who would marry that girl!" All of a sudden, they heard a splash in the pool. Everybody watched in amazement as one gentleman waddled across, expertly avoiding the alligators and crocodiles. Finally, he made it to the other side. The rich man could not believe it. He asked the young man to name anything he wanted but the man was still panting uncontrollably. When he was able to speak he said, "All I want to know is WHO PUSHED ME ...WHO PUSHED ME INTO THIS POOL!"

The moral of the story is simple: You don't know what you are capable of doing until you are PUSHED!. Those WHO push you into the jaws of alligators and crocodiles may help you to reach your promised land!

Jesus comes in might, mercy and majesty to encourage our faith and to push us. and: What we know is this - Christ can heal every condition of the soul. What we have is this - God will supply all our needs in Christ Jesus. What we can is this – We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. The depth of the ocean of possibility is ours to explore and enjoy in Christ Jesus. Let us take courage and go forward, whatever the challenge.

Errol L. Connor (Rev. Dr.)

"Advance the Kingdom" -Use the Keys

**Birthday Greetings for the month of
February is extended to:**

Sis. Adelyn Binta Mgonela	03
Bro. Cortroy Jarvis	07
Sis. Shirley Joseph	08
Bro. Willard Prout	10
Bro. Jr. Sean Roberts	10
Sis. June McMillan	17
Bro. Adrian Smith	21
Bro. Errol Connor	21
Sis. Billie Sterling-Lewis	22
Sis. Esther Moore-Roberts	24



The PEC expresses sympathy on the passing of Mrs. Henrietta Elmes, the grandmother of Rev. Anique Elmes-Matthew. Sis. Elmes passed into the nearer presence of God on Monday December 19, 2016. A Thanksgiving Service to mark her life and witness was held on Thursday January 12, 2017, at the Ebenezer Methodist Church in Antigua at 2.00p.m.

Let us remember the family in our prayers.

**Anniversary Greetings for the month of February is
extended to:**

Sis. Georgette John-Cotton & Bro Vondell Cotton	15
Bro. Kingsley Lewis & Sis. Maureen Lewis	19

Congratulations

- ◆ Rev. Nevin Lewis and Sis. Billie Sterling-Lewis are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Amarah Elise Georgette-Ann Lewis. She entered this world at about 4.44p.m on December 24th, 2016 and weighed in at approximately 6lbs 8 ounces. Both Mother and Baby are doing fine.

We thank God for a safe journey and wish the family well. Congratulations, Brother and Sis. Lewis on behalf of the Provincial family.

- The Rev. Adrian Smith who has completed his PhD in Leadership, with Piedmont International University, Winston Salem, North Carolina. His thesis was entitled "Examining the transformational and servant leadership characteristics of Elders of the Barbados Conference of the Moravian Church. The Graduation is due to take place in May 2017.

The Eastern West Indies Province offers Congratulations to Dr. Adrian Smith on the successful completion of his doctoral studies.

Keep Driving

One day a young lady was driving along with her father. They came upon a storm, and the young lady asked her father, "What should I do?" He said "keep driving". Cars began to pull over to the side, the storm was getting worse. "What should I do." The young lady asked? "Keep driving," her father replied.

On up a few feet, she noticed that eighteen wheelers were also pulling over. She told her dad, "I must pull over, I can barely see ahead. It is Terrible, and everyone is pulling over!" Her father told her, "Don't give up, just keep driving!"

Now the storm was terrible, but she never stopped driving, and soon she could see a little more clearly. After a couple of miles she was again on dry land, and the sun came out. Her father said, "Now you can pull over and get out." She said "But why now?" He said "When you get out, look back at all the people that gave up and are still in the storm, because you never gave up your storm is now over."

Spiritual Story

Quote of the Day

We can't expect to solve problems if all we do is tear each other down. You can disagree with a certain policy without demonizing the person who espouses it.

Barack Obama

"Advance the Kingdom" -Use the Keys

Moravian Multipurpose Complex



- ◆ Conferences
- ◆ Meetings
- ◆ Seminars
- ◆ Weddings
- ◆ Banquet
- ◆ Dinner

Only ten minutes away from the stores, shops and banks in St. John's.

Conference Center & Apartments

Our International airport is also just ten minutes away.

Our balcony provides a refreshing view of undulating hills and valleys.

The conference center has a seating capacity for 200 persons.

We are situated on a hill overlooking the picturesque outskirts of the city of St. John's, Antigua.

There are **EIGHT LARGE APARTMENTS** which are available for rental. Each room is self contained with kitchenette. The rooms are air-conditioned with Available internet and cable TV. All utilities are included with the exception of telephone.



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"Advance the Kingdom" -Use the Keys