



The Church in Regina Weekly Newsletter

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"The opening of Your words gives light, imparting understanding to the simple."

Meeting Schedule

Lord's Table Meeting:

- Lord's Day
 3860 Buckingham Drive
 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

Prayer Meeting:

- Tuesday & Wednesday
 Saints Homes 8:30 - 9:30 PM

Small Group Meeting:

- Friday evening
 Saints' Homes

Young People's Meeting:

- Fridays
 Bro. Hendrick's House 7:00-9:00PM

Upcoming Activities

Dec. 2015 - YP Event, Dec 26

Jan. 2016 - Love Feast, January 4

Feb. 2016 - Love Feast, February 14
 - Church Pursuit, Feb. 15, 2016
 Experience of Life, Msg 1

Seven Annual Feasts

1. International Chinese-speaking Conference
 Anaheim, CA - February 12-14, 2016
2. International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones (Spring)
 Anaheim, CA - April 8-10, 2016
3. Memorial Day Conference
 Washington, D.C. - May 27-30, 2016
4. Summer Training
 Anaheim, CA - July 4-9, 2016
5. International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones (Fall)
 Gold Coast, Australia - October 6-8, 2016
6. Thanksgiving Conference
 San Jose, CA - November 24-27, 2016
7. Winter Training
 Anaheim, CA - December 26-31, 2016

ENJOYING GOD AS LIGHT

In 1:5 John says, *"And this is the message which we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all."* In addition to the three main things in the preceding verses—life, fellowship, and joy—a further message, which the apostles have heard from the Lord, is to announce to the believers that God is light. First we have the divine life, and then out of this we have the fellowship of the divine life. Fellowship issues in joy. When we are in this joyful element of the fellowship, we are in the light of God. Therefore, the sequence is **life, fellowship, joy, and light**.

The message that John and the other early disciples heard was, undoubtedly, the word **spoken by the Lord Jesus** in John 8:12 and 9:5 that **He is the light**. However, John says here that the message was that **God is light**. This indicates that the Lord Jesus is God and implies the essence of the Divine Trinity.

The expression, *"God is light,"* like *"God is love"* in 4:8 and 16, and *"God is Spirit"* in John 4:24, is used not in a metaphoric sense but in a predicative sense. These expressions denote and describe the nature of God. In His nature God is Spirit, love, and light. **Spirit** denotes the nature of **God's Person**; **love**, the nature of **God's essence**; and **light**, the nature of **God's expression**. Both love and light are related to God as life, which life is of the Spirit. God, Spirit, and life are actually one. God is Spirit, and Spirit is life. Within such a life are love and light. **When this divine love appears to us, it becomes grace, and when this divine light shines upon us, it becomes truth**. John's Gospel reveals that the Lord Jesus has brought grace and truth to us that we may have the divine life, whereas his Epistle unveils that the fellowship of the divine life brings us to the very sources of grace and truth, which are the divine love and the divine light. His Epistle is the continuation of his Gospel. In his Gospel it was God in the Son coming to us as grace and truth that we may become His children. In his Epistle it is we, the children, in the fellowship of the Father's life, coming to the Father to participate in His love and light. The former was God coming out to the outer court to meet our need at the altar; the latter is we entering into the Holy of Holies to contact Him at the ark. This is further and deeper in the experience of the divine life. After **receiving** the divine life in John's Gospel by believing in the Son, we should go on to **enjoy** this life in his Epistle through the fellowship of this life. His entire Epistle discloses to us this one thing, that is, the enjoyment of the divine life by **abiding** in its fellowship.

God is Spirit. This refers to His Person. God is also love and light. Love refers to His essence, and light, to His expression. Both God's love and light are related to His life. This life is actually God Himself. Life is also the Spirit.

When this life was manifested, it came with grace and truth. When we received the Lord Jesus, we received life, and we now enjoy grace and truth. This life brings us back to God. **First**, God came to us so that we may receive grace and truth. **Now** we go back to the Father and contact Him as the source of grace and truth, and this source is love and light. Going back to the Father, we may enjoy love as the source of grace and light as the source of truth. Therefore, in the fellowship of the divine life, we are being brought back to God to enjoy love as the source of grace and light as the source of truth.

We have God, the Spirit as the nature of God's person, love as the nature of God's essence, light as the nature of God's expression, the divine life, grace, and truth. **When we have all these divine things, we are brought back to God the Father. When we are brought back to the Father, we meet Him and enjoy Him as love, which is the source of grace, and light, which is the source of truth. How marvelous that in the fellowship of the divine life we enjoy the divine light!** (Life-Study of 1, 2, & 3 John, Jude, Chapter 5, Section 3)

This Weeks’s Pursuit: Crystallization-Study of Exodus (2)

Prayer burden

1. Lord, “... **in Your light we see light.**” We want to live in your light, enlighten us as we come to Your word that we may see the **true nature of things** around us. We trust in Your name and rely upon You.
2. Lord, “*Your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path*”. Make us simple and give us a proper heart when we come to your Word, so we can enter into the **realm of light** and receive light.
3. Lord, we want to walk as **children of light** that we may bear fruit of **goodness** as the nature of the Father, **righteousness** as the procedure of the Son in accomplishing God’s purpose and **truth** as the Spirit’s expression so that You maybe expressed as the reality of our daily walk.
4. Lord we humble ourselves and ask for Your mercy to give us a sincere heart so that whenever we **come to the Word** in a proper way, we have the conviction that we have **come into the light** and are in a sphere of light.
5. Lord, we want to receive **blessing from the Word**, deal our heart with anything that is negative and that causes separation between us and You, we turn to You absolutely with our whole heart, and focus our eyes ONLY unto You.
6. Pray for the **sowing** of the gospel and **raising up** of golden **lampstands** in **2016**. Remember the **GTCA cities**: Mississauga, ON, Laval, QC, and Abbotsford, BC. Pray for the FTTA trainees and for a fruitful labor and harvest in the coming year.
7. Pray for our **small group / home meetings**. Trust in the name of the Lord, rely upon God, and wait for the light of God to shine.

“If we are pure in heart in seeking God, we will see God. Seeing God is a reward to the pure in heart.”

The Word of God Being a Realm of Light in the Experience of God's Loving Seekers

Scripture Reading: 1 John 1:5-7; Isa.50:10-11; Psa. 36:9; 119:130, 105; 19:8b

I. The function of the Word is the function, or operation, of God Himself—1 Thes. 2:13; Phil. 2:13.

II. The divine light is the nature of God's expression; it is the source of the divine truth—1 John 1:5-6.

Light is God's shining, God's expression; when God is expressed, the nature of that expression is light. To walk in the divine light is to live, move, act, and have our being in the divine light, which is God Himself. The shining of the divine light makes old things new. If we are under God's dispensing, we participate in God's nature as light and are constituted with this element of His nature. The divine light is the source of the divine truth. When the divine light shines upon us, it becomes the truth, which is the divine reality. When the divine light shines, the divine things become real to us.

III. Whenever we have no light, we should trust in the name of Jehovah and not kindle and walk into the light of this fire—Isa.50:10-11.

Light comes from God alone, not from man. A Christian cannot advance in the spiritual pathway by his own fire; he should trust in the name of Jehovah and rely on his God. Spiritual light does not come from our own feelings or thoughts. We should not replace God's light with our own light; rather, we should always receive light from God.

IV. In God's light we see light—Psa. 36:9:

Through God's light we see light and the true condition of things: The first light in Psalm 36:9 is the enlightening light, and the second light denotes the true nature of things. We see the true nature of anything only when we are in God's light. We must live in God's light before we can be one who sees; this is seeing light in God's light.

V. God is light (1 John 1:5), and this light is consolidated in the Word; therefore, the Word of God is the embodiment of God as the divine light:

The Word is the consolidation of the divine light, so whenever we come to the Word, we should sense that we are in an atmosphere of light. If we come to the Word with a proper attitude, we will be in the light and under the light and not merely receive light.

VI. In the experience of God's loving seekers, the Word of God is a realm of light—Psa. 36:9:

Because the Word is a realm of light, the opening of God's words gives light. **In the Word as a realm of light**, God's word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; the Word enlightens our eyes; the prophetic word is a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in our hearts; we are constituted with the truth as the shining of light; we walk in the light as God is in the light, and we have fellowship with one another; we become light in the Lord; we walk as children of light and have the fruit of the light in goodness, righteousness, and truth; we experience the kingdom as the shining of the reality of the Lord Jesus.

The fruit of the light is related to the Triune God. **Goodness** denotes God the Father, for the only One who is good is God. **Righteousness** denotes God the Son, for Christ came to accomplish God's purpose according to God's righteous procedure. **Truth** denotes God the Spirit, for He is the Spirit of reality.

VII. Whether or not the Word is a realm of light to us in our experience depends on our attitude and condition in coming to the Word:

We need to humble ourselves, having no confidence in ourselves but looking to the Lord for mercy. All the chambers of our being should be open to receive the Lord's shining. We need to deal with our heart and have a proper heart toward the Lord. Whenever we come to the Word, we should exercise our heart, seek the Lord with all our heart. If we would receive light through the Word, we need to deal with the hindrances and frustrations in our heart.

We should not manufacture light; instead, we should rely on the Lord to enlighten us. Only God is light, only God is the source of light, and only in the light of God can we see light. If we are pure in heart in seeking God, we will see God, who is light.

WEEK	LORD'S TABLE ATTENDANCE	PRAYER MEETING	YP MEETING	GROUP / HOME MEETING	OFFERING
Dec. 13 - Dec. 19, 2015	26	11	14	6	\$230.00
Dec. 20 - Dec. 26, 2015	24	11	11		\$160.00