



Church in Regina Newsletter

Meeting Place: 3860 Buckingham Drive E, Regina, SK, Canada S4V 3A1

Isa 12:4 "... Give thanks to Jehovah; call upon His name! Make His deeds known among the peoples; Remind them that His name is exalted."

Church Address:

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Contact Numbers:

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Meeting Schedule:

Lord's Table Meeting

Lord's Day

10:00AM to 12:00PM

Prayer Meeting

Tuesdays & Wednesdays

Saints Homes

8:00PM to 9:00PM

YP Meeting

Fridays

7:00PM to 9:00PM

Brother Joseph's Place

Small/Home Meeting

Friday Evening

Saint's Home

Seven Annual

Feasts

1. International Chinese-speaking Conference, Anaheim, CA: February 17-19, 2017
2. International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones (Spring) Anaheim, CA, USA: Mar 31 to Apr. 2, 2017
3. Memorial Day Conference New York, NY: May 26-29, 2017
4. Summer Training Anaheim, CA: July 3-8, 2017
5. International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones (Fall) Leipzig, Germany: October 5-7, 2017
6. Thanksgiving Conference Phoenix AZ: November 23-26, 2017

CHRIST versus RELIGION

Christianity today is almost a religion. Do not think that since Christianity has the Bible, everything is well. Do not think that since Christianity today preaches Christ, everything is fine. In the ancient times the elders of Judaism had the Bible, and they also taught something about Christ. But **Christ Himself was there, and they did not care for Him.** It is exactly the same in principle today.

Dr. A. W. Tozer of recent years wrote an article shortly before his death in which the main point was this: Christianity today has its conferences in which they discuss Christian service, missionary endeavor, and so forth. But suppose Christ Himself should enter their conference room. They would ask Him, "Who are You?" So wrote the famous minister of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, A. W. Tozer. This is today's Christianity, and this is not my word, but his.

We must be **aware**; we must be on the **alert**. Never think that just because someone has the Bible and preaches Christ, he is all right. We must all be so living with the living Christ, not with anything religious, not with anything of Christianity, not with anything of tradition, organization, regulation, forms, mere teachings, and dead doctrines. **Christ is only Christ Himself, and Christ cares only for Himself; He does not care for a Christ in doctrine, a Christ in history, or the Christ in your mind. He only cares for Himself, the living Christ in your spirit.** This is the day of the Lord's recovery, and this recovery is of the living **Christ in our spirit.** It has nothing to do with any forms, regulations, teachings, or doctrines in dead letters. Oh, let us give ourselves to be one with this living Christ! (Christ vs Religion, ch.10)

... Christianity has the Bible, but many people in Christianity do not see the eternal plan of God. In order that man may see God's desire, God gave him the Bible. However, the enemy of God never sleeps. He came in and utilized all the points in this Holy Book to instigate man to exercise his mentality to form religion. **Religion is something formed by the human mentality under Satan's instigation and inspiration in order to oppose God's economy.** Apparently, religion is for God, but in actuality, it is fully against Him.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. University of Regina **Bible Distribution** will be on **September 6, 2017.** We will set up the table very early in the morning during this Welcome week. We plan to set-up our table as early as 8:00am. We need the saints participation in this date.
2. There will be a young people's **conference in Calgary** this coming **September 22-24.** This conference is primarily for junior high and high school students but college age saints are also encouraged to attend. The topic will be "The Life of Life with Jacob". The deadline for the registration will be on **September 10, 2017.**

The first religion formed in this way was Judaism, which came entirely from the Old Testament. In the Old Testament, God gave His people the commandments... **The kernel of the Old Testament is Christ and God's dwelling place, that is, Christ and the church.** In the Old Testament there are many prophecies, types, shadows, and figures showing, declaring, and describing who Christ would be, what He would do, and where He would go. In addition, in the Old Testament there is also God's dwelling place. First, God's people Israel built a tabernacle for God's dwelling. Then this tabernacle was replaced by a solid temple, and after the temple was destroyed, a recovered temple was built. Thus, Christ and God's dwelling place are the kernel of the Old Testament. Circumcision, the Sabbath, and the holy diet are far off from the kernel, but Satan utilized what God commanded to cause the Jews to exercise their mentality to form a religion rather than to focus on Christ and God's dwelling place. **Anything that we do to serve God, worship God, or please God apart from Christ is religion.** However, anything we do with Christ, in Christ, and in union with Christ can never be a religion. (The Lord's Recovery and the Present Situation of Religion)

The Vision of God's New Testament Economy

The crucial focus of God's New Testament economy is the all-inclusive Christ as our life, our person, and our everything. The divine economy is not focused on any law, regulation, teaching, philosophy, or practice. God's economy is focused on one all-inclusive, wonderful Person. This Person is the embodiment of the processed Triune God, and He is realized as the all-inclusive life-giving Spirit, who is within us and upon us. This Spirit is working in us so that we may be brought back directly to Christ to enjoy Him as everything. I hope that we shall all have a clear view concerning this.

Upcoming Activities:

- ▶ August 27, 2017 - Brother's Meeting
- ▶ September 04, 2017 - Church Pursuit - Experience of Life (Message 11)
- ▶ September 10, 2017 - Love Feast

PRAYER BURDEN

“In order that He might make known the riches of His glory upon vessels of mercy, which He had before prepared unto glory”

1. Lord, we **acknowledge** that You are the **sovereign One**, who is above everything, behind everything, and in everything; we also **recognize** that You are the **eternal One** that will carry out Your desire under Your **unchanging administration**.
2. Lord, we realize that we are Your creatures to be Your **vessels** according to Your **predestination**, and whom You have **selected** and **called** to contain You in order that Your glory might be manifested.
3. Lord, Your **throne** is from generation to generation, today we enjoy the **throne of grace** from which we receive **mercy** and find **grace** and in the future to be the **throne of supply of eternal life** in eternity.
4. Lord, we thank You that from among the billions of Your creatures You have chosen us to be **reborn** with life and nature for Your enlargement, Your manifestation thus making us part of the **divine history**.
5. Lord, we praise You that we are part of the divine history, **experiencing** and **enjoying** the mysterious and divine things - Your **new creation**, the new man with a new heart, a new spirit, a new life, a new nature, a new history, and a new consummation.
6. Lord, make us more **concerned** about the **crucial time** in which we live and more **burdened** for Your ultimate move now that the **gospel** is being **preached**, the **Bible** is being **taught**, the scriptural **way of meeting** is being **practiced** and the reality of the **church** is **realized**, **experienced**, **enjoyed**, **lived out**, and **expressed**.
7. Please pray for:
 - the conference in **Buzias, Romania** on September 1-3, 2017
 - the Chinese Speaking Conference in **Paris** on September 22-24, 2017
8. Lord, Your history is our history here in **Regina**:
 - ▶ to supply Sister Berly's needs in the FTTA
 - ▶ the up coming Bible distribution
 - ▶ prayer for sisters Olivia and Sherilyn
 - ▶ the forming of small group meeting in Moose Jaw and in Alida (sister Karen and family)
 - ▶ the approval of sister Susan's application for permanent residency here in Canada
 - ▶ pray for sister Malou Ballao in her pregnancy, to have a healthy baby

This Week's Pursuit:

Special Fellowship Concerning the World Situation and the Lord's Move - (Msg. 2)

God's Sovereignty, the Divine History within the Human History, and the World Situation and God's Move to Spread His Recovery

Scripture Reading: Rev. 4:11; 5:13; Lam. 5:19; Joel 1:4; 3:11; Acts 17:26; Matt. 24:14

I. It is crucial that we see a vision of God's sovereignty and have a clear view and proper understanding of God's sovereignty—Rev. 4:2; 5:1; Dan. 4:1-3, 34-35; Rom. 9:19-23:

Sovereignty refers to God's absolute and unlimited right, authority, power, and position. As the sovereign One, **God is above everything, behind everything, and in everything**. God has the full capacity to carry out what He wants according to the desire of His heart and according to His eternal economy.

Like Jeremiah, we need to **change our position and angle from ourselves to God** and recognize God's eternal being and His eternal and unchanging government. We need to realize that we are God's creatures, and He is our Creator; as His creatures, we should not resist His purpose or answer back to Him, the Creator.

Romans 9:22-23 reveals that God sovereignly created us to be His vessels, His containers, according to His predestination. In His sovereignty God has the authority to make the ones whom He has selected and called **vessels of mercy** to contain Him in order that His glory might be manifested.

II. The Bible reveals the universal history according to God's economy—the divine history within the human history—Joel 1:4; 3:11; Dan. 2:31-45; Eph. 1:3-6; Micah 5:2; Rev. 19:7-9; 22:17a:

In this universe there are two histories: the history of man, the human history, and the history of God, the divine history; the former is like an outward shell, and the latter, like the kernel within the shell. God's move among men is wrapped up with the course of human history. In the Minor Prophets **the human history** is defined and signified by the **four kinds of locusts** in Joel 1:4, and **the divine history** is with Christ and His mighty ones, the overcomers, in 3:11.

The divine history within the human history is revealed in the Bible in considerable detail. **The divine history, the history of God in man, was from Christ's incarnation through His ascension to become the life-giving Spirit and then continues with His indwelling us through God's organic salvation to make us the bride of Christ.**

We were born in the human history, but we have been **reborn**, regenerated, in the divine history; now we need to consider whether we are living in the divine history or living merely in the human history. If our living is in the world, we are living merely in the human history, but if we are living in the church, we are living in the divine history, for **in the church life** God's history is our history, and thus we and God have one history, the divine history.

III. The events of world history have been sovereignly arranged by God for Him to carry out His purpose—Acts 17:26; Rom. 8:28; 2 Tim. 1:9:

We all need a clear **view** from which to consider the world situation. The world situation is under God's sovereign arrangement; God determined the appointed seasons and boundaries. For God to carry out His purpose, He has arranged the world situation; history is meaningful when we realize this. All the major events in human history match God's move on earth.

Since the church comes out of mankind, we as God's chosen ones need to have this view of history; in order to have the proper church life, we must therefore **know** the world situation. Whether we speak of God's becoming flesh through incarnation, or of the spreading of the gospel, or of the raising up of the church life, or of the preparation of the bride, all these aspects of God's move require the proper environment as far as the world situation is concerned.

We need to be more **aware** of God's sovereign arrangement of the world situation, more **concerned** about the crucial time in which we live, and more **burdened** for God's move in the present world situation.

WEEK	LORD'S TABLE MEETING	PRAYER MEETING	YP MEETING	HOME MEETING	OFFERING
Aug. 13 - Aug. 19, 2017	18	10	6	6	\$300.00
Aug. 20 - Aug. 26, 2017	21	10	9	8	\$660.00

“One Life-Study a Day Makes One Holy”

LIFE-STUDY OF JOHN

August 21, 2017, Monday

Message Three: **AN INTRODUCTION TO LIFE AND BUILDING (2)**

John 1:14-18 shows us that the very Christ who was the Word and who came as life and light to produce many children for God's enlargement and expression was incarnated for our enjoyment. **By becoming flesh, He became solid, real, visible, and touchable.** In becoming flesh to tabernacle among man, He became tangible. Christ did not come in the flesh to declare God in the way of teachings, but **in a way that was full of grace and reality.** God is not a God of teaching, doctrine, regulations, laws, or gifts. God is our full enjoyment, and Jesus as the Son of God is the very embodiment of all the enjoyment of God The Word was incarnated to declare God, becoming flesh for our enjoyment. The Son of God declares God to man in the way of enjoyment. This is wonderful.

When He was in the flesh, He was the tabernacle of God among men. Jesus in the flesh was the real tabernacle. When He was in the flesh as the tabernacle of God among men, God was embodied in Him (Col. 2:9). **All that God is and has was embodied in Jesus.** For what purpose was God embodied in the flesh in Jesus? For the purpose that sinful man might partake of God in Christ. John tells us that when Christ as the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us, it was full of grace. We may say that grace is God in Christ with all that He is as the fullness for our enjoyment. Grace is nothing less than God in the Son as our enjoyment. **We need to enjoy God as our grace, for this is the way in which Christ declares God to us.**

Whenever we enjoy God, we not only have grace, but also reality. When God is enjoyed by us, we have enjoyment, that is, grace, and when we have this enjoyment, we realize the reality of God. Grace is God enjoyed by us in the Son; reality is God realized by us in the Son. **Grace is the enjoyment, and reality is the realization.** Both grace and reality came with Jesus. When we enjoy God in Christ as grace and apprehend Him in Christ as reality, we find how unsearchable are the riches of Christ. **God is expressed in Christ, and with Christ we have grace and reality.**

August 22, 2017, Tuesday

Message Four: **AN INTRODUCTION TO LIFE AND BUILDING (3)**

The main subject of this passage is Jesus as the **Lamb of God**, with the Holy Spirit as the **dove**, making the believers **stones** for the building of the house of God with the Son of Man. This subject is composed of five main points: the Lamb of God, the dove, the stones, the building of God's house, and the Son of Man. The Lamb is for redemption; the dove is for life-imparting, transforming, and building; the stone is for material; the house is the building; and the very substance of God's building is man. Firstly, man is redeemed by the Lamb, and then he is regenerated and transformed by the dove. Thus, man becomes a stone, and this stone is then builded by the dove. The dove is not only for regenerating, but also for **transforming and uniting**, which eventually result in the building of God's house. The essence, the substantial element, of the house of God is not divinity, but **humanity**. Divinity is the dweller and humanity is the dwelling. Since the house is the dwelling place and not the dweller, the dwelling is humanity and the dweller is divinity. This humanity, however, is not a natural or a created humanity; it is **a regenerated, transformed, and uplifted** humanity, a humanity that has been processed through creation, incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension. The humanity which has passed through such a wonderful process becomes the very substance of God's building. Such a humanity is God's dwelling place.

We must abandon all religious concepts and take the divine concept which is Christ as the Lamb with the dove, the Redeemer with the Spirit. Christ is the Redeemer with the **Spirit as the regenerating, transforming, and uniting power.** The Spirit of Christ will regenerate, transform, and unite us to God and to one another. We must forget the religious concepts of trying to do good to please God and of attempting to do things for God. We must see that God's intention is to regenerate us and to transform us into stones. All who have been attracted to the Lamb of God with the dove will be transformed into stones for the house of God. **We must have the vision that all we need is to be transformed and built together as the very house that God desires.** God is seeking this and will accomplish it by His Son, who became the Son of Man as the heavenly ladder joining earth to heaven. The ultimate issue will be that God is mingled with man so that God and man become a mutual habitation. Man will become His dwelling, and He will become man's dwelling—this is the eternal dwelling of God according to His eternal plan.

August 23, 2017, Wednesday

Message Five: **AN INTRODUCTION TO LIFE AND BUILDING (4)**

John 1 reveals the two sections of eternity. In eternity past, Christ, as the Word, was with God and was God. In eternity past He was only God and only had divinity. Since the Word had not yet been incarnated, He was not a man and had no humanity. In eternity future, Christ will not only be God, but also man. **He will not only be the Son of God, but also the Son of Man. He will have two natures, two essences, and two substances—divinity and humanity. The Son of God is for life, and the Son of Man is for building.** Praise the Lord that He is the Son of God for us to have life, and He is the Son of Man for God to have a dwelling place. **Did God have a dwelling place of humanity in eternity past? Surely the answer is no.** Today God dwells in the heavens, but the heavens will not be His habitation for eternity in the new heaven and the new earth. God will not dwell with a natural humanity, but with a regenerated, transformed, uplifted, and built up humanity.

John 1 reveals the two sections of eternity. How can God, who had no humanity in eternity past, have humanity in eternity future as His dwelling place? Between these two sections of eternity is the bridge of time. On this bridge of time God accomplishes five things. The first item was creation; to call things not being as being (Rom. 4:17). What is the most important item in creation? Nothing is more important than man. All the living things on the earth are for man. Man, for whom all these things are, is for God, receiving God and fulfilling His purpose. Have you ever thanked God for His creation? We need to say, **“O God, my Creator, I thank You that You have created the heavens, the earth, and everything in it. I thank You for**

creating me. I thank You, Lord, that You created me with a spirit and a mouth.” The second item was incarnation, by incarnation, God was brought into mankind and became one with man. Divinity and humanity became one unit. The third item on the bridge of time is redemption. By means of redemption, God not only removed sin, but also terminated the entire old creation. Anointing follows redemption. After creation, incarnation, redemption, and anointing, we have building. This building is for the house of God. After all of these five items have transpired, we shall enter into eternity future with the Lord. This is the revelation found in John chapter one.

August 24, 2017, Thursday
Message Six: LIFE’S PRINCIPLE

What is the principle of life? **The principle of life is to change death into life.** In each of the nine cases recorded from chapters three through eleven, the principle is to **change death into life.** This is especially clear with the case of Lazarus. Lazarus was dead and had been buried for four days. He even smelled. He was full of death from top to bottom and from the inside to the outside. In every layer and corner of his being there was nothing but death. As the record of chapter eleven tells us, when the Lord Jesus learned that Lazarus was sick, He did not go to see him. He waited until he was full of death, until he was dead and buried. Then He came to raise Lazarus from the dead. If we apply the principle of life to that case, we see that **Jesus changed death into life.**

We all have had this kind of experience. Before we were saved, we were **waterpots filled with death water.** One day we said, “**Lord Jesus,**” and **He came and changed our death water into life.** Regardless of the kind of death situation we might be in, if we turn our case over to the Lord Jesus, He will change that death into life. For example, even Christian husbands and wives may reach a point in their married life that the life runs out of their marriage. It seems that they are unable to go on in their married life. However, if they open to the Lord Jesus, He will change that death into life. In many marriages the Lord has changed death water into life wine.

August 25, 2017, Friday
Message Seven: LIFE’S PURPOSE

It is quite interesting to see that in John chapter two we firstly have the case of changing water into wine (2:1-11) and then, following that, the case of dealing with the temple (2:12-22). We must believe that both of these cases were recorded for the purpose of signifying something beyond the mere account of historical events. Why does the dealing with the temple follow the changing of death into life? It shows that life is for God’s temple. In other words, **life is for God’s building.** In the incident of the Lord’s changing water into wine, we saw the **principle of life**, that is, to change death into life. Now, in the case of the dealing with the temple, we see the goal, **the purpose of life**, that is, to **build the house of God.**

The principle of life is to change death into life. The purpose of life is to build the house of God. The principle of life is for the purpose of life. The changing of death into life is for life’s building, the building of God’s house. These two points govern the whole Gospel of John. If we are not built together, we can never be one. For example, a heap of materials is not one, because the materials are not built together. A house is composed of many materials, and these materials are one because they are built together. Only when the materials are built up together as one building is there oneness. **Oneness means to be built up together.** Therefore, **the purpose of life is to build up God’s house, God’s temple, for God’s habitation.** The purpose of the Lord being life to us is to build the church as God’s dwelling place. Life is for the building. Life is for the church. It is for the building of the church, His Body and God’s house, that the Lord has come to be our life.

August 26, 2017, Friday
Message Eight: THE NEED OF THE MORAL PEOPLE— LIFE’S REGENERATING (1)

After the principle of life and the purpose of life have been set forth in John chapter two, from chapter three through chapter eleven the writer then relates nine cases to prove the principle of life set forth in the first sign in chapter two. The first case in chapter three is about a high-class, moral person who came to the Lord. The second case in chapter four shows forth exactly the opposite condition. The third case in chapter four is about a young man who was sick and about to die. The fourth case in chapter five is about a man who had been sick for thirty-eight years. The fifth case in chapter six is about the hungry multitude who was seeking something to feed on. The sixth case in chapter seven is about the thirsty people whose thirst could not be quenched by the best religion or by anything of this life. The seventh case in chapter eight sets forth a sinful woman who committed a terrible sin and who was under the condemnation and bondage of her sin. The eighth case in chapters nine and ten concerns a blind man who was born blind. Finally, the ninth case in chapter eleven is about Lazarus who died and was buried for four days.

The conditions of the people mentioned in these nine cases represent the conditions of all men which only the Lord as life can fully meet. Every person, to a certain degree at least, is in each of these conditions. Every condition is an indication of everyone’s real need. In every case, **the Lord presents Himself as the One who could fulfill the deficiencies of man.** These nine cases fully prove the Lord’s sufficiency to meet man’s every need. There is not a need that He cannot meet. **He is able! He is sufficient!** He can deal with all our problems and supply all our needs! Praise His name!

The first case, that of Nicodemus, is the case of regeneration. When Nicodemus came to the Lord Jesus, the Lord took the opportunity to reveal the true need of mankind. **Regeneration is the first need of man.** Even if Adam had not fallen, he still would have needed regeneration. **Since we are human beings, we all have a human life.** The problem is not a matter of whether or not our human life is good or bad. Regardless of the kind of human life we have, as long as we do not have the divine life, we need to be regenerated. **Regeneration is a rebirth which brings in a new life. Regeneration is simply to have life other than the life we already have.** To be born anew is to be regenerated with the divine life, a life other than the human life received by natural birth. Hence, **our real need was not better teachings, but the divine life.** The Lord made Nicodemus’s situation very clear to him. Everyone, whether he is good or bad, needs to be terminated through water and then germinated with the divine life. This is the second birth, a birth not of the mother’s womb, but of water and of the Spirit.