

CHURCH IN REGINA

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

1 Timothy 2:4, "Who [God] desires all men to be saved and to come to the full knowledge of the truth."

This Week's Pursuit:

HWMR - Crystallization Study
of The Gospel of Mark

Message Two

The Slave of God

Scripture Reading: Mark 10:45;
Phil. 2:5-9; Isa. 42:1-4; 50:4-5, 7; Exo. 21:1-6

CONTACT NUMBERS:

306 216 0685 Hendrick
306 737 3315 Joseph
306 529 5386 Nan
306 999 0007 Eric
306 450 8159 Dario
306 216 8177 Paulo

CHURCH MEETINGS:

Lord's Day

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Prayer Meeting

Tuesdays - Saints' Home
7:30 Pm - 8:30 PM

Young People Meeting

Fridays
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Small Groupings

Fridays & Saturdays
Saints' Home

Seven ANNUAL FEAST

- International Chinese-speaking Conference**
Anaheim, California
February 15-17, 2019
- ITERO (Spring)**
Anaheim CA
April 5 - 7, 2019
- Memorial Day Conference**
Seattle, WA
May 24-27, 2019
- Summer Semiannual Training**
Anaheim, CA
July 1-6, 2019
- ITERO (Fall)**
Bangalore, India
October 3-5, 2019
- Thanksgiving Conference**
Houston, TX
Nov. 28 - Dec. 1, 2019
- Winter Semiannual Training**
Anaheim, CA
December 23-28, 2019

LOVE AS THE BASIS FOR SERVICE

According to 21:2, a Hebrew slave was to be set free after serving his master six years. If he obtained a wife and children during his years as a slave, he was to leave them as the property of his master and "go out by himself" (v. 4). However, the slave might "plainly say, I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free" (v. 5). Here we see that **continuing as a slave is not a legal requirement; it is a matter of love.** Because the slave loved his master, his wife, and his children, he did not want to go out free. Instead, he would serve his master forever. [Love is the basis of his continued service.](#)

It is often said that love blinds people. In a very real sense, if we would love others, we should be blind toward them. Concerning ourselves, however, we must be a sacrifice. **Love requires sacrifice.** Without sacrifice, there can be no love. The Lord Jesus loved us by being a sacrifice for us. Ephesians 5:2 says, "Walk in love, even as Christ also loved you, and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savor." Christ gave Himself for us, dying a malefactor's death on the cross. This proves that love demands sacrifice.

The Lord Jesus **loves God**, the **church**, and all His **people**. **God is His Master**, the **church is His wife**, and all **His people are His children**. The New Testament reveals this threefold love of the Lord Jesus for the Father, the church, and the saints. According to John 14:31, the Lord loves the Father; according to Ephesians 5:25, Christ loves the church; and according to Galatians 2:20 and Ephesians 5:2, Christ loves all the believers, all the saints. Motivated by such a love, He was willing to be a slave. Love is the motive and the prerequisite of being a slave.

A SLAVE'S POSITION

Exodus 21:6 speaks of the slave being **brought to the door or to the doorpost**. In ancient times slaves were to stand by the doorpost waiting for the master's orders. Instead of doing anything on their own, they were to **act only according to the word of the master**. Today our position as slaves of Christ should also be at the doorpost. Furthermore, in 21:6 we are told that the master bored his slave's ear through with an awl. This indicates that the **slave's ear was opened to listen to the master**.

SLAVES OF CHRIST IN THE CHURCH LIFE

As those who believe in Christ, we all must be His slaves. We should say, "O Lord, I love You. Even if I have the freedom to go out, I do not want to leave. I love You, I love Your church, and I love Your children." On the one hand, we may testify of **how enjoyable and glorious the church life is**. On the other hand, in the church life **we all must become slaves**. The New Testament as well as the Old indicates that God's people need the spirit of a slave.

LOVE AND OBEDIENCE

If we have the **spirit of a slave** and the **love of a slave**, it will be easy for us to obey. **Love is always followed by obedience**. This can be illustrated by the relationship between parents and their children. In a very real sense, good parents must sometimes obey their children. Often parents obey their children more quickly than the children obey the parents. The point here is that **love produces obedience. Only a slave can obey. A good parent is one who has the love and obedience of a slave. Deep within, a mother who loves her children is willing to be a slave to them and do anything for them.** Why do parents sometimes obey their children? They obey out of love. **Love is the prerequisite of obedience.**

My burden in this message has been to emphasize three matters: **the spirit of a slave**, the **love of a slave**, and the **obedience of a slave**. If we have a slave spirit, a slave love, and a slave obedience, we shall be able to keep the commandments. At first, this word may sound strange. But if you consider it honestly, you will see that it is true in our practical experience. **Only a person with the spirit, love, and obedience of a slave can keep God's ordinances.** In the New Testament economy, as well as in the Old Testament, there is the need of such a spirit, love, and obedience.

Now we can see why God puts the ordinance concerning slaves first and why the slave here is a type of Christ, the true slave. **As those who believe in Christ, belong to Him, and have His life of sacrifice, we also must be slaves loving God, the church, and God's people.** With such a **love as our motivation**, **we need to be slaves sacrificing and serving.** (Life-Study of Exodus, Chapter 68, Section 3)

LIFE-STUDY OF 2 CORINTHIANS*“One Life-Study a Day Makes One Holy”***Prayer Burden**

1. Lord, we praise you, that in Your human living You took the **form of a slave**, serving both God and men. You **served sinners** with Your life and your soul; by giving Your life as a **ransom** for sinners, accomplishing the eternal purpose of God.

2. Lord, You have **emptied** yourself in deity, and **humbled** yourself in humanity. Thank you for building up such a fashion of man. Cause us to **live a life to build up a work** that will be the solid ground and strong background for your coming service.

3. Lord, let this **mind be in us**. We take the **crucified life** as our pattern, a life that is **self-emptying** and **self-humbling**, so we can experience the power of resurrection.

4. Lord, we need a **tongue that is instructed**, speaking according to **God’s instructions**. **Awaken** us morning by morning and **open our ears**. We don’t want to turn back or be rebellious, we just want to **take your word and obey**.

5. Lord, thank you for sacrificing yourself for us out of love. We **don’t want to go out free** but position ourselves at the “doorpost” and just **wait for your orders**. **Bore** our ears through with an awl, so we can **listen to your word** and act according to your word.

6. Lord, may we **remain** in the church life. May we willingly **empty** ourselves, **humble** ourselves, **lower** ourselves, **sacrifice** ourselves, and **serve** others. Cause us to **keep** your commandments, by having the **spirit of a slave**, the **love of a slave**, and the **obedience of a slave**.

7. Please pray for:

Canada

- The YP Spring Conference in **Calgary** on March 29 - 31, 2019;
- Prairie Conference in **Edmonton** on May 3-5, 2019

Israel

- Pray for the **baptism** of brother “E” from Golan Height
- Pray for the young soldier “I” who received the Lord to experience Christ.
- The up coming blending in **Haifa**

USA - Bibles for America

- For the Lord to open the way for **recipients** to be promptly connected to local saints in their area.
- For these connections to be warm and positive with a view toward **shepherding** recipients into the riches of the ministry.

8. Please pray for the church in **Regina**

- Pray for the **increase** of meeting ones and to gain local saints.
- For the purchase of a lot **property** for the church
- The children, YP and College work
- Home meeting with the Velonta-Aquino family
- Brother Dindo and family to get settled permanently here in Canada.

Message 46 - The Apostle's Fellowship Concerning the Ministry to the Needy Saints (1)

March 18, 2019, 2018, Monday

Our material gifts should be spiritual, full of life, and able to edify the saints and build up the Body of Christ. This requires that when we give some material things to the Lord, we should have the assurance that we are doing it **in spirit, with life, and for the building up of the church**. This kind of giving is the issue, the result, of being **fully reconciled to God**. Only those who have been reconciled to God in full can have a ministry of material things that brings to the needy saints a supply of life for spiritual edification and for the building up of the Body of Christ. (Excerpt from the Life-Study of 2 Corinthians, chapter 46, section 4)

Message 47 - The Apostle's Fellowship Concerning the Ministry to the Needy Saints (2)

March 19, 2019, Tuesday

In the church life we have contact with many people and are involved with many things. **The principle regarding all this contact and involvement is to take forethought about what others may think of us.** It is wise always to take forethought, for this will guard and protect us. In particular, **we should take forethought to make things honorable in the sight of God and man.** ... **What we do should be honorable both before the Lord and before man.** Because the Lord knows everything, it is more important to **take forethought** for what is honorable before man than for what is honorable before the Lord. Others, of course, do not know all that the Lord knows. It is not sufficient that others think that we have no problem. We need to do what is honorable before them. If we behave ourselves in a way that is not honorable, others will not honor us. ... In handling money, in our relationships with those of the opposite sex, and in all other things the principle is the same: take forethought for what is honorable in the sight of God and man. (Excerpt from the Life-Study of 2 Corinthians, chapter 47, section 2)

Message 48 - The Apostle's Fellowship Concerning the Ministry to the Needy Saints (3)

March 20, 2019, Wednesday

As children of God, **we all must learn to give. To give is to gather. How much manna we can gather depends on how much we give.** In Luke 6:38 the Lord Jesus says, *“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.”* This verse indicates that if we want to receive, to gather, we first need to give. **Our giving is our gathering, our receiving.** We all need to gather manna every day. Because **our gathering is our giving**, we all need to give in order to gather. **We gather little because we give little.** May we all be impressed that our giving is our gathering. (Excerpt from the Life-Study of 2 Corinthians, chapter 48, section 3)

Message 49 - The Apostle's Fellowship Concerning the Ministry to the Needy Saints (4)

March 21, 2019, Thursday

Concerning the supply both by miracles and by natural law, **God is the source.** On the one hand, He **sends** the manna. On the other hand, He **supplies** the seed for sowing and the bread for food. If we have a deep realization of this, we shall not worry about our future. The Lord Jesus said, *“Do not be anxious for tomorrow”* (Matt. 6:34). Knowing that the believers need not worry about the future because we have God as our source of supply, Paul had the boldness to encourage the poor saints to give to the needy ones. **We should take care of God’s need and His purpose. He then will take care of our future. Our future is not under our own care; it is under the care of our Father.** It is **not** according to our gathering, **but according to God’s raining of manna.** Furthermore, it is **not** according to our sowing, **but according to His supplying.** If God does not supply seed, what shall we sow? Our future also does **not** depend on our reaping; it depends on **God’s causing the seed to grow** until there is a harvest. Having a deep realization concerning this and possessing a thorough knowledge of God’s economy, Paul had the assurance and the peace to encourage the poor saints to give what they had to meet the needs of others. (Excerpt from the Life-Study of 2 Corinthians, chapter 49, section 3)

Message 50 - Paul's Vindication of His Apostolic Authority (1)

March 22, 2019, Friday

In 10:1 Paul says that he entreats through the **meekness and forbearance of Christ.** This indicates that the apostle, **being firmly attached to Christ and one with Him, lives by Him, behaving in His virtues.** All the virtues of Christ were becoming Paul’s virtues. Meekness was a virtue in the humanity of Christ by the divine life. Christ’s meekness is not a simple matter, for it is in His humanity and by the divine life. When He was on earth, He lived a human life by the divine life. **Through this mingling of divinity and humanity the virtue of meekness was manifested.** (Excerpt from the Life-Study of 2 Corinthians, chapter 50, section 2)

ANNOUNCEMENTS and SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

1. Churching in Lloydminster will be on April 28, 2019 (tentative schedule)
2. The YP Conference on April 14, 2019
3. Prairie Conference on May 3-5, 2019