

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 Numbers (1)

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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

Message Nine

Lighting the Lamps

Scripture Reading: Num. 8:1-4; Exo. 27:20-21; Rev. 1:4; 4:5; Psa. 73:16-17

The first four verses of Numbers 8 speak of **lighting the lamps**. While there may seem to be little connection between these verses and the previous chapters, we need to understand this matter in the context of the burden of the whole book of Numbers. The burden of the book of Numbers is the **formation of God's people into an army to journey with God and fight with God for His interest on earth**. We must consider even this matter of lighting the lamps in the context of the **burden** for the **formation of the army**. To see how the lighting of the lamps is related to the formation of the army, we need to realize that in their New Testament reality the tabernacle, the priesthood, and the army are one entity.

In the book of Exodus, the **revelation of the tabernacle** and the **revelation of the service of the priesthood** are inseparably bound together, but the tabernacle and the priesthood are still **two distinct entities**. In the **Old Testament picture** the tabernacle is a physical building, and the priesthood is a group of people who serve in this physical building. **In the New Testament reality**, however, **the tabernacle and the priesthood are one and the same entity** (1 Pet. 2:5). When we consider the type of the army in the book of Numbers, we need to realize that...the service of the priests is a military service, showing that the priests not only **serve** but also **fight**. Today the army of God is a priestly army. Once we see that the army is the priesthood and that the priesthood is the tabernacle, we can understand why Numbers 8:1-4 speaks of the lighting of the lamps.

[W]e covered God's speaking in the Holy of Holies (Numbers 7:89, Message 8). The **lighting of the lamps** in Numbers 8:1-4 **occurs in the Holy Place**, not in the Holy of Holies, but we should not think that we are regressing. The lighting of the lamps is very important and is altogether related to the tabernacle, the priesthood, and the army. Without the lighting of the lamps, the Holy Place in the tabernacle would be dark. In God's house there is no place for natural light or for artificial, man-made light. **The Holy Place is illuminated only by the light from the lampstand...** [T]his message is concerning the lighting of the lamps and the need **for a priestly body** that is qualified **to maintain the light of the lamps**. The Lord charged Aaron through Moses not only to set up the lamps but also to maintain its light.

SIX POINTS CONCERNING THE FUNCTION OF LIGHT

We need to consider six points concerning **the function of light**. **First**, light **illuminates**. **Light shines forth to scatter darkness**. This is the first function of light. **Second**, light **elucidates**. Light discerns and delineates things, making everything definite and clear. **Third**, light **penetrates**. On the **negative side**, this means that light **exposes**, and this exposure brings in judgment. When the light shines, all the creatures of darkness scatter. Sometimes we think that we are in a clean situation, but when the light comes, we see how unclean it is. On the **positive side**, this light **penetrates** to carry out a work of **transfusing**, of **permeating**, and of **irradiating**, much like the medical use of radiation. **Fourth**, light **regulates**. This means that light directs, guides, and adjusts both us and our course. Without light there is no regulation. Without light we walk about aimlessly and even in circles.

Fifth, light **administrates**. Concerning the New Jerusalem, Revelation 21:23 says, "*The city has no need of the sun or of the moon that they should shine in it, for the glory of God illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb.*" This light, which shines from the throne of God, **brings with it God's administration**. This light **governs, rules, manages, and brings things into operation**. In the church life today, **God rules us by light**. The more shining there is, the more God is ruling among us. Whenever there is darkness, this is an indication that someone other than God is ruling. Today God is delivering us out of the authority of darkness and transferring us into the kingdom of the Son of His love for us to **enjoy Christ as our allotted portion of the saints in the light**. **Sixth**, light **motivates**. When we are in a dark situation, we are in a stupor, having little motivation. **When we get into the light, we are stimulated, awakened, energized, and even excited**. **Light calls us to action**. As God's army, we surely need this motivating and energizing light.

"Lord Jesus, cause us to realise that the meetings of the church are the sanctuary of God, the place of God's speaking and His testimony. Make us those who do everything in the meeting for the lighting of the lamps, that is, to cause the divine light to shine and swallow up the darkness. Oh Lord, may we be the priests of today who exercise their spirit and pray, read, sing, prophesy, listen, and do everything in the meeting for God's light to shine and for His testimony to be expressed!"

Prayer Burden

1. Lord, we give You our **fresh consecration**. **Shine** among us and **give us** Your light. We want to be Your **army**, ready to **fight, walk, and serve**. **Deal** with us thoroughly. **Sanctify** and **bless** us with Yourself. Shine on us brightly and in the proper direction.

2. Lord, show each one of us our **share** in the **priesthood** as **kings** and **priests**. May we all learn to **fulfill** our duty of **burning the incense** and **lighting the lamps**. **Strengthen** our prayer life that You may **shine** brightly among us.

3. We praise You, Lord for Your **uplifted humanity** that **shines out** the divine **light**. We praise You for the processes that You went through so that now we can **experience** the entire Triune God - the "gold", the "wick" and the "oil". Praise You, Lord as the **processed One** that **shines** forth the **light**.

4. Lord, **teach** us the **proper way to meet** and to remember that our **meeting** is Your **sanctuary**. May our meetings **light** the **lamps** brightly, **swallow** all the darkness that we may see You. **Take the veil away** that we may fully **enter** the **Holy of Holies**.

5. Lord, we want to be those who **wear** the **priestly garments** to **express** You. As those who **light** the lamps, make each one of us a **holy person**, a **priest**, a person **possessed** by God, **saturated** with God, and **living** absolutely for God.

6. Lord, may there be such an **intense shining** of the **seven lamps** among us. **Grant** us the real **inward light** that we may **receive** a thorough **understanding** of human life, become completely **clear** about Your will, Your economy and **know** the age we are in today.

7. Please pray for:

UK & IRELAND BLENDING CONFERENCE

- Pray for the **blending** conference on the weekend of 24-25 August 2019 in Nottingham, UK.

NETHERLAND

- Pray for the conference on the weekend of 18-20 October 2019 in **Baarlo**, The Netherlands. That the saints will experience a rich feast and the Lord's blessing in the fellowship and blending among all the saints.

ISRAEL

- Continue to pray for the gathering of the saints in **Galilee**.

FULL-TIME TRAINING IN LONDON & USA

- That the Lord will **gain** the **young generation** to turn this age.

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

- Pray for the **increase** of meeting ones and to gain local saints.
- Pray for the contacts
- The university students and for the **Campus Work** at the University of Regina
- The **Bible distribution** at the U of R on September 4, 2019
- The children, YP and College work
- All the saints will enjoy the readings of the **Life-Study** messages, and have a daily personal pursuing of the truth.
- For the purchase of a lot **property** for the church

LIFE-STUDY OF 1 JOHN

"One Life-Study a Day Makes One Holy"

July 29, 2019, Monday: (Message 06) **Conditions of the Divine Fellowship (1)**

The first **condition** of the **divine fellowship** involves both sin and sins. **Sin** and **sins** are a serious problem concerning our enjoyment of the divine fellowship, for they cause our fellowship with the Triune God to be frustrated and broken. When we believed in the Lord Jesus, we received Him as our **Redeemer**. This implies that we received Him **as our sin offering and trespass offering**. Receiving the Lord Jesus as our Redeemer includes **receiving Him** as both the **sin offering** and the **trespass offering**. Often we say that **the blood of Jesus cleanses us**. **This blood is the blood of the sin offering and of the trespass offering**. In 1:7 John speaks of the blood of Jesus that cleanses us from all sin. This is the blood of the Lord Jesus as both the sin offering and the trespass offering. Now that we have believed in Christ, we have Him as the **Redeemer**, the One who is our sin offering and trespass offering. Therefore, both sin and sins have been dealt with. **We have been forgiven by God, and we have been washed, cleansed, by the Lord's blood**. As we have pointed out, the blood of Jesus is the blood of the sin offering and the trespass offering. We all have believed in Christ and accepted Him as our sin offering and trespass offering. (Life-Study of First John, chapter 6)

July 30, 2019, Tuesday: (Message 02) **Conditions of the Divine Fellowship (2)**

If we would **maintain** the **divine fellowship**, we must not only **walk** in the **divine light**, but also **practice** the **divine truth**, which is versus the satanic lie. **To practice the truth is to live the truth habitually, not merely to do it occasionally**. **To practice the truth is to do it constantly, continuously, unceasingly**. This can be compared to breathing, which is constant, continuous, habitual. While we are speaking, we are breathing. There is no need for us to make up our minds to breathe or to try to energize ourselves to breathe, for breathing is natural and habitual. Hence, breathing is a practice. In a similar way, when we abide in God as light and when we walk in the divine light, we spontaneously practice the truth habitually. (Life-Study of First John, chapter 7)

July 31, 2019, Wednesday: (Message 03) **Conditions of the Divine Fellowship (3)**

Eternal life issues in the fellowship of the divine life, the **fellowship of eternal life** brings in the divine light, and the **divine light** increases the need of the **blood of Jesus** the Son of God so that we may have more eternal life. First **we have** eternal life, and in this life **we have** fellowship. Fellowship **brings in** light, and under the shining of the light we experience the **cleansing** of the blood. When we are in the light, we shall be exposed, and we shall see our sins. Then we need to confess our sins. As we **confess** our sins, spontaneously and continuously the blood of Jesus the Son of God will **cleanse us** from all sin. Then the blood **brings us** more life, and with more life we have more fellowship. Then with more fellowship we have more light and more cleansing of the blood. This **cycle of life, fellowship, light, and blood** repeats itself again and again as we grow in life unto maturity. (Life-Study of First John, chapter 8)

August 01, 2019, Thursday: (Message 04) **The Divine Light and the Divine Truth (1)**

The **divine light** is the **essence** of God's expression. When God is expressed, the essence of that expression is light. The **divine truth** is the **issue** of the divine light. When the divine light **shines** in us, it becomes the divine truth, which is the divine **reality**. According to the New Testament, **truth is first God**, who is light and love, incarnated to be the reality of the divine things—including the divine life, the divine nature, the divine power, the divine glory—for **our possession**, so that we may enjoy Him as grace. **Second**, truth in the New Testament denotes **Christ**, who is God incarnated and in whom all the fullness of the Godhead dwells bodily. **Third**, truth is the **Spirit**, who is Christ transfigured, the reality of Christ and of the divine revelation. The need in the Lord's recovery today is that we all **learn the truth, experience the truth, and develop the skill to present the truth** to others. (Life-Study of First John, chapter 9)

August 02, 2019, Friday: (Message 05) **The Divine Light and the Divine Truth (2)**

When we come to the **church meetings** to worship God, we need to worship Him in our spirit. We should also worship God with the very Christ whom we **experience** day by day, with the Christ who has become our **personal reality**. In the sight of God, the Christ who is our personal reality is also our personal virtue. In the New Testament **Truth** is also the **genuineness, truthfulness, sincerity, honesty, trustworthiness, and faithfulness** of God as a divine virtue and of man as a human virtue and as an issue of the divine reality. We have the highest human virtue, yet this virtue is not of ourselves. Rather, this virtue is the sweetness of the Christ whom we experience. This means that **the Christ whom we experience daily becomes our personal virtue, with which we can offer God a pleasant, acceptable worship**. When we come to worship God with such a Christ, God is happy with us. (Life-Study of First John, chapter 10)

ANNOUNCEMENTS and SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

1. The Love Feast and Sisters Meeting next week, August 11, 2019, is cancelled.
2. The **Church Pursuit**, August 5, 2019, is at Brother Nathan's house at 6:00 PM.
3. Combined **Prayer Meeting**, August 6, 2019, is at Sister Evangeline's house at 7 PM.
4. We will have our annual **Bible Distribution** at the University of Regina tentatively on September 4, 2019. Please prepare for this important date and be available for the Lord's move in Regina. More details such as the sign-up sheets for the time-slots (Morning/Afternoon) will be given in the following weeks care of brother Eric.