

CHURCH IN REGINA

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The New Covenant Ministry Being the Ministry of Reconciliation

The terms the *ministry of the Spirit* and the *ministry of righteousness* in 2 Corinthians 3:8-9 refer to the **nature** of the new covenant ministry (v. 6). The *ministry of reconciliation* in 5:18 refers to the **function** of the new covenant ministry, which is to reconcile people to God, to bring them back to God to be one with Him.

The shallow understanding of reconciliation from past centuries is that because fallen man is separated from God, Christ came and died for our sins in order to bring us back to God. Christ's redemption satisfies all God's requirements so that we, being enemies, can be reconciled to God. This is not wrong, but **reconciliation in 2 Corinthians 5 is higher. It reaches the peak of our becoming God's righteousness.** Verses 20 through 21 say, "Be reconciled to God. Him who did not know sin He made sin on our behalf that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

God's righteousness is the ultimate expression of God's salvation. Second Peter 3:13 says, "According to His promise we are expecting new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells." The purpose of God's salvation is to bring forth a condition in the universe called righteousness. A broader understanding of righteousness is a state in which everything is brought into order and is satisfactory to God. This is what it means for righteousness to dwell in the new heavens and new earth. This is not the situation today (Excerpts from The Ministry of the New Covenant Being the Ministry of the Spirit, Righteousness, and Reconciliation, CWL, 1982, vol.1).

In the Old Testament, when a sinner came to God, he first had to **come to the altar** to have his sins forgiven through the blood of the sin offering. After experiencing the forgiveness of sins, he could **enter the Holy Place**. This is **the first step of reconciliation**, the step by which a sinner begins to be reconciled to God. **This is the situation of most genuine Christians today.** They have been reconciled to God in part through the cross upon which Christ died as their sin offering, where He shed His blood to wash away their sins. When they believed in Him, they were forgiven by God, reconciled to God, and brought back to Him. Formerly, they went astray from God. But through repentance they returned to Him and have been reconciled to Him. **However, they have been reconciled to God only partly.**

Although the believers have been saved and reconciled to God partly, they still live in the flesh; that is, they live in the soul, in the natural life. The veil of the flesh, of the natural man, still separates them from God. This means that their natural being is a separating veil. Therefore, they need **the second step of reconciliation**, the step in which **the separating veil of the flesh is crucified** so that they may enter into the Holy of Holies.

The blessings of God can be found in the Holy Place, but God Himself is in the Holy of Holies. Formerly, as sinners, we were outside the tabernacle. Yet when we believed in the Lord, we came into the Holy Place. Now in order to have God Himself, **we need to be reconciled further by the Lord and come into the Holy of Holies.** This is **full reconciliation**, which brings us **not only out of sin but also out of the flesh**, the natural man, the natural being. Then we are brought to God and become one with Him.

As those who have been reconciled to Him in the first step, we love the Lord and serve Him. However, we may love and serve Him in a natural way. Furthermore, we may be very active in the church life, but our living in the church is natural. This means that we live and have our being in a natural way. Therefore, God works through Christ to reconcile us to Himself in a fuller, deeper way. He exposes our natural life and unveils our real situation to us so that we may condemn our natural being and apply the cross subjectively. Then as our natural man is crossed out, we experience the second step of reconciliation. In this step the veil of our natural man is rent so that we may be in the Holy of Holies, living in God's presence (Excerpts from The Conclusion of the New Testament: Experiencing, Enjoying, and Expressing Christ, Volume 1, Msg 319).

*Go therefore and disciple
all the nations, baptizing them
into the name of the Father and
of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
~ Matt.28:19*

Church Announcements:

1. Prayer Mtg by Area – Oct 20
2. Winter Video Training
Registration due on Oct 25
(\$190 CAD). Please register
with Bro. Hendrick and pay to
Sis. Kim/Sis. Margarette.
3. Brothers' Meeting – Oct 25
4. Pledges Update – 1 week
remaining (Due by Nov. 1).
Local Received \$75,465 (91%)
Remaining Balance \$40,457
(including minor improvements)

Conferences & Trainings

1. Chinese-Speaking
Conference – Feb. 13-15
Anaheim CA USA
2. Spring ITERO – Mar. 20-22
Anaheim CA USA
3. Memorial Day Conference –
May 22-25, Dallas TX USA
4. Summer Training – Jun. 29-
Jul.4 Anaheim CA USA
5. Fall ITERO – Sept. 24-26
Amsterdam Netherlands
6. Thanksgiving Conference –
Nov. 26-29 Denver CO USA
7. Winter Training – Dec. 21-26
Anaheim CA USA

Contact Us:

Arcola Community Centre
Multipurpose Room
3860 Buckingham Regina SK
306.737.3315
306.216.0685
306.529.5386

churchofthesaintsinregina@gmail.com

Church Website

PRAYER BURDENS:

1. Thank You for reconciling us back to God objectively and for putting in us the word of reconciliation. We are Your ambassadors, representing You to do the work of reconciliation. Reconcile us more subjectively in a practical way.
2. Identify us with the crucified Christ and bring us out of our flesh. Strengthen us to take the second step of reconciliation to be brought into Your presence. Cause us to work together with You in bringing others into You.
3. Lord, we confess that there are things in our living that are still not right. We come to the cross and allow it to keep working in us so we can boldly declare that we are the righteousness of God in You.
4. Lord make us right with You not only outwardly but in our entire being. Continue to terminate our outer man, our natural being so that we may do Your will and be persons who express You and be the righteousness of God in full.
5. Lord, give us boldness to enter into the Holy of Holies that we may live with You in our Spirit and be persons in the Spirit. Cause us to be absolutely one with You and bring others into You.
6. Increase the degree of our reconciliation to God. Grant us an enlarged heart and preserve us that we would not become loose. May we experience peace toward God, boasting in God, and being saved in His life.

North America/Europe/Other Burdens

1. Please pray for Autumn University Students Conference in Cefn Lea, Newtown, Wales on November 6 to 8. Please pray that many university students will see the heavenly vision concerning the God-man living and be willing to be conformed to the mold of the living of Christ as the first God-man.

Local Burdens

1. Pray for the finalization of the purchase of the meeting hall - [1550 Park St.](#) Please pray:
 - That all legal, financial, and practical matters be completed in peace, without hindrance, and in a timely manner leading up to the possession date of December 1, 2026.
 - For all the saints to be blessed abundantly and be faithful to give their offerings and pledges (remaining need of approximately \$40,000) by November 1, 2026.
2. Pray for our campus work at the University of Regina. May the Lord gain new ones who are simple, pure, open and hungry for the Lord's word. May they see Christ and the church.
3. Pray for positive approval of the immigration papers of Liu/Qu, Aguador, Alforte and Gonzales families.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

- ✓ Lord's Table & Prophesying—Lord's Day 10:00-12:00PM
- ✓ Prayer Meeting—Tuesdays 7:00-8:00PM
- ✓ Chinese-Speaking Bible Reading—Mondays 7:15-8:15PM
- ✓ College Meetings—Fridays 6:30-8:30PM
- ✓ YP Meetings—Sundays 4:00-5:30 PM
- ✓ Children's Meeting—Saturdays 10:00-11:00AM
- ✓ Small Group Meetings—Fridays/Saturdays 7:00-8:30PM