

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 Three

The Contents of the Slave-Savior's Gospel Service

Scripture Reading: Mark 1:14-45

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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

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

The beginning of the gospel is actually the ushering in of this living Person (1:1). In simple terms, the contents of the Slave-Savior's gospel service are **preaching, teaching, casting out demons, healing, and cleansing**.

Preaching the Gospel

The first item in the Slave-Savior's gospel service was to **preach the gospel**... This indicates something important related to our gospel preaching today. Many saints are burdened for the preaching of the gospel... However, many have had the experience of not knowing what to say when they try to preach the gospel. The reason for this is that they have not developed the skill to teach the gospel, although they have the burden to preach the gospel...

I urge all the saints who are **faithful** to the Lord in His recovery to **learn** not just to **preach** the gospel, but also learn how to **teach** the gospel. For example, in speaking of God, some may say, "Friends, in the universe there is only one true God. Apart from Him, there are no other gods. Anything that claims to be God is false. The true God is the God we worship." This way of speaking concerning God is very limited. In this kind of preaching, there is no teaching of others concerning God. I use this as an example of the need to develop the skill both to teach and preach the gospel. Therefore, I would encourage the elders in the churches to spend much time and energy to get into the Word and to help the saints learn the various truths of the gospel and also learn how to present them to others. First, **all the saints need to learn the truths themselves**. Then they need to **gain** the skill of presenting these truths to others.

Teaching the Truth

According to Mark 1:22, those in the synagogue were astounded at the Lord's teaching and said that He taught as One having authority and not as the scribes. The self-appointed scribes, teaching vain knowledge by themselves, had no authority and no power. But this God-authorized Slave, teaching realities by God Himself, had not only spiritual **power** to **subdue** people but also divine **authority** to **subject** them to the divine ruling.

Casting out Demons

Today, in a highly cultured and civilized country like the United States, apparently there no longer are cases of demon possession. However, Satan is subtle, and he seeks to possess people in different ways. In his subtlety, he has a way to possess people in highly civilized countries just as he has a way to possess the people in undeveloped countries. Therefore, even today, in the most highly cultured nation, Satan is able to use different means to possess people... For example, in the leading colleges and universities, Satan will **possess** people in an intellectual way. We cannot defeat the enemy's possession of mankind simply by ordinary preaching and teaching. In order to cast out today's demons, in our teaching and preaching **we must have divine authority and power**. This power and authority can be **exercised only in the name of Jesus**. Therefore, **we need to call on the Lord's name and exercise divine authority in and through His name**. If we do this, then in our preaching and teaching there will be power and authority to cast out the evil possessing element of the enemy. The casting out of demons, therefore, is the third item of the content of the gospel.

Healing

According to verse 31, the Lord came to Simon's mother-in-law and raised her up, and the fever left her. According to verse 34, "*He healed many who were ill with various diseases.*" Sickness is an issue of sin and a sign of man's abnormal condition before God because of sin. The fourth thing the Slave-Savior did to **rescue** sinners, as another part of His gospel service, was to **heal** their sick condition both physically and spiritually and **restore** them to normal so that they might serve Him (1:34; 3:10; 6:5, 13, 56). Nine cases are recorded in this Gospel to illustrate such healing (1:30-31, 40-45; 2:3-12; 3:1-5; 5:22-43; 7:32-37; 8:22-26; 10:46-52).

Cleansing the Leper

In 1:40-45 we have the case of the **cleansing of a leper**... A leper portrays a typical sinner. **Leprosy** is the most contaminating and damaging disease, much more serious than fever (v. 30), isolating its victim both from God and from men. According to the law, a leper should be excluded from the people because of his uncleanness. No one could touch him (Lev. 13:45-46). According to the scriptural examples, **leprosy** comes from **rebellion and disobedience**. Miriam **became leprous because of her rebellion** against God's deputy authority (Num. 12:1-10). Naaman's leprosy **was cleansed because of his obedience** (2 Kings 5:1, 9-14). All fallen human beings have become leprous in the sight of God because of their rebellion. Because leprosy isolated its victim from both God and man, to cleanse the leper signifies **to recover the sinner to fellowship with God and with men**. This was the consummating part of the Slave-Savior's gospel service according to the record of this chapter.

Prayer Burden

1. **Thank** You, Lord You are our **Slave Savior** who did not come to be served, but **to serve us** in the **past**, in the **present**, and in the **future**. We **praise** You as the life-giving Spirit **dispensing** Yourself as life into us.

2. **Thank** You, Lord for the wonderful **gospel** - You Yourself and all that You've accomplished in redemption. You are truly the **living message** still proclaiming the gospel **to free us** from bondage.

3. We **praise** You, Lord for **teaching** the **truth**, the **shining** of the divine light. **Televise** these truths in our being that we may **be brought out** of the satanic **darkness** into the **divine light**, and from **death** into **life**.

4. Lord, **cast out** any form of Satan's **usurpation** of us. We are for Your purpose. Thank You for coming to **bring us out** of Satan's authority to Your **kingdom**. **Heal** us also from any sicknesses and **restore** us to **normality**.

5. Thank You, Lord for **cleansing us** of our leprosy. May we be those who **learn** to continually **submit** to Your **authority, regulation and economy**. Thank you for Your abundant grace.

6. Thank You, Lord for Your **blood** that has **eternal efficacy**. **Purify** our conscience from dead works to serve You as the living God. May our **living** in the church life be **pure**, without blemish and void of leprosy.

7. Please pray for:

Canada

- **Sister Gloria** of the church in Saskatoon, was diagnosed with cancer; may the Lord's will be done
- Prairie Conference in **Edmonton** on May 3-5, 2019

Germany

- A total of 5,060 German NTRV were distributed at the **Leipzig** Book Fair on 21-24 March. Please pray for the ongoing contact and shepherding of the seeking ones.

Europe - Bibles for Europe

- Offerings for future printings and distribution of NTRV Bibles for Europe
- Radio **broadcasts** in the UK and Spain, continuing distribution of the Recovery Version and ministry publications in the European languages, and shepherding of seeking ones.

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
- YP Conference on April 14, 2019
- Brother Dindo and family to get settled permanently here in Canada.

LIFE-STUDY OF 2 CORINTHIANS

"One Life-Study a Day Makes One Holy"

Message 51 - Paul's Vindication of His Apostolic Authority (2)

March 25, 2019, 2018, Monday

I encourage the young people especially to study this portion of the Word and learn from it how to **conduct themselves** in the church service and how to move in the Lord's recovery. Young people, **you must know your rule, your limit**. This means that **you must know how much God has measured to you, how much He has apportioned to you**. This **restriction**, this **limitation**, is a very practical dealing with our flesh. Our natural man wants to be without limitation. However, God knows our problem. Therefore, He sets up boundaries and restrictions so that we may stay within the measure He has apportioned to us. (Excerpt from the Life-Study of 2 Corinthians, chapter 51, section 3)

Message 52 - Paul's Vindication of His Apostolic Authority (3)

March 26, 2019, Tuesday

The Lord's recovery is not a matter of theology, tradition, religion, or practices. Rather, it is a matter of a **living Person**, the Lord Jesus Christ as our Bridegroom. He has attracted us, and we have been presented as a pure virgin to Him. **Now we should care only for Him, love Him, and allow no one to replace Him in our hearts**. Furthermore, our love for Him should be **pure**, our mind should be single, and our entire being should be **focused** on Him. **This will preserve, sanctify, saturate, and transform us**. Praise the Lord, this is His recovery! (Excerpt from the Life-Study of 2 Corinthians, chapter 52, section 4)

Message 53 - Paul's Vindication of His Apostolic Authority (4)

March 27, 2019, Wednesday

The proper understanding of **death** is that it denotes **separation from the enjoyment of God**. This means that if we do not have the enjoyment of God, we are in death. Likewise, if we are separated from the enjoyment of God, we shall die. This is revealed in a full way in Romans 8. Romans 8:6 says, "For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace." In this verse death is separation from the enjoyment of God. **Life is the opposite, for it is the enjoyment of God**. **When we have the enjoyment of God, there is no separation between us and God, we are in life, and life operates in us**. (Excerpt from the Life-Study of 2 Corinthians, chapter 53, section 2)

Message 54 - Paul's Vindication of His Apostolic Authority (5)

March 28, 2019, Thursday

At the beginning of chapter eleven Paul speaks of the **Lord as our dear Husband**. Toward the end of this chapter he refers to the **churches**. The first secret of discernment is related to the enjoyment of Christ as our Husband; the second is related to the proper concern and care for all the churches, a concern that involves filling up the lack of the sufferings of Christ for the Body. These matters are somewhat hidden in this lengthy chapter. Therefore, we need to read this chapter carefully. Otherwise, these crucial points may be concealed from our understanding. Thank the Lord for showing us that **we need to enjoy Him as our Husband, loving Him with a pure and single heart and having a mind that is not corrupted by the deceiver**. We also thank Him for showing us that **we need to follow in His footsteps and be willing to suffer what He suffered for the building up of the church, His Body**. (Excerpt from the Life-Study of 2 Corinthians, chapter 54, section 3)

Message 55 - Paul's Vindication of His Apostolic Authority (6)

March 29, 2019, Friday

Do not be disappointed if a thorn comes to you after you receive a revelation from the Lord. **Visions and revelations** are always followed by sufferings. It is not necessary for you to pray much concerning the thorn. The thorn will not be removed. Instead, the Lord will allow it to remain for the purpose of bringing in **grace for your enjoyment**. This grace will then become your daily strength and even your dwelling place, a tabernacle overshadowing you. This will enrich your spiritual experience. **When we enjoy the Lord's grace and dwell under the overshadowing of His power, we shall always have something to say regarding Christ and the church**. (Excerpt from the Life-Study of 2 Corinthians, chapter 55, section 4)

ANNOUNCEMENTS and SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

1. Brothers meeting tonight, March 31, 2019 is at Brother Nan's place at 6pm.
2. Combined prayer meeting, April 2, 2019, is at Sister Venus' place at 7pm
3. Sister's meeting on April 7, 2019 is at Sister Malou's place at 2pm.
4. Churching in Saskatoon will be on April 21, 2019
5. Local YP conference is on April 14, 2018