

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

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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

Message Seven

The Kingdom of God (1)

The Sowing, Growth, and Development of the Seed of the Kingdom

Scripture Reading: Mark 4:3, 11, 14, 26-29

Mark 4:26 - And He said, So is the kingdom of God: as if a man **cast seed** on the earth, (**Sowing**)

Mark 4:27 - And sleeps and rises night and day, and the **seed sprouts and lengthens**—how, he does not know. (**Spontaneous Growth**)

Mark 4:28 - The earth **bears fruit** by itself: first a blade, then an ear, then full grain in the ear. (**Development**)

Mark 4:29 - But when the fruit is ripe, immediately he sends forth the sickle, because the **harvest has come**. (**Manifestation**)

The Seed of Life Sown

The crucial matter revealed in chapter four of the gospel of Mark is the **kingdom seed** or kingdom gene. The kingdom of God is not produced by activity or organization. **The kingdom of God is actually God Himself sown into human beings and developing in them into a kingdom.** (LS Mark, Message 15)

The Seed of Life with Growth and Transformation in the Church Life

Where does the church stand in this picture of the kingdom gene and its development and consummation? The churches are in the **period of the development** of the gene. This development takes place by **growth and transformation**. In the church life we are growing and being transformed.

We have pointed out that **the church is the continuation** of the issue of the kingdom gene. This continuation eventually will **reach the full development** of the gene. Then the kingdom will be **manifested** during the millennium. All those who throughout the centuries have received the gene **will become kings** through the development of the gene within them. **The totality of all these kings** will be God's eternal kingdom. Therefore, the eternal kingdom of God is the **full development** of the gene sown by the God-man, Jesus the Nazarene.

The Seed of Life Developing

The development of the seed of life is the kingdom of the divine life **spreading** as Christ as life to His believers to form a realm in which God rules in His life.

In the church life today we are experiencing the development of the gene of the kingdom through the growth in life and transformation of life. Eventually, this growth and transformation will reach its ultimate consummation. Then we shall all be **co-kings with Christ**, those who have experienced the **full development** of the kingdom gene.

The earth [in Mark 4:28] is the **good earth** and signifies the good heart created by God **for His divine life to grow in man**. Such a good heart works together with **the seed of the divine life** sown into us to **grow and bear fruit** spontaneously for the expression of God. The word here enables us to have faith in this spontaneity...The words "by itself" mean that the growth is spontaneous.

At present, we are undergoing the process of development. But it is certain that one day we shall all be co-kings. When that day comes, we may look at one another and say, *"Brother, do you remember those meetings in which we heard about the gene of the kingdom? When we were in the church life, we were undergoing the development of the gene. Now we are all here as co-kings of Christ. Now we can see the full development of the kingdom gene."* That **full development** of the kingdom gene will be an **exhibition** to the nations, to the angels, and to the Devil, Satan.

We need to read chapter four of the Gospel of Mark in the light of what we have seen concerning the gene of the kingdom. If we read this chapter in this light, we shall realize that in Mark 4 we have the intrinsic element of the gospel.

Harvest of the Kingdom

The **millennium**, the thousand years will be the **full development** of the gene of the kingdom. During the millennium many of those who have received the kingdom gene **will be co-kings with Christ**.

In the new heaven and new earth God will have an **eternal** kingdom with the New Jerusalem as the capital. The New Jerusalem will be a **composition of kings**, and these **kings will rule over the fully restored nations**. Then God will have an eternal kingdom as the full [manifestation] of the gene sown in the Gospels by Jesus the Nazarene, who was the Triune God in humanity. How wonderful is the kingdom gene that was sown in the Gospels! Eventually this gene will **develop into the millennial kingdom** spoken of in Revelation 20 and into God's eternal kingdom in Revelation 21 and 22. Praise the Lord for this picture of the kingdom gene and its development!

Prayer Burden

1. Lord, grant us the **divine revelation** that we may **understand** the **kingdom of God**, especially in its reality as the genuine church in this age. Thank You, for **sowing** Yourself into us as the kingdom of God. **Impress** us that the kingdom is not a teaching nor doctrine but God Himself.

2. Lord, **move, work, rule, and govern** us that You may accomplish Your purpose. We aspire to be those who **live in** the **kingdom of God** that You may also **live in** us, **through** us, and **out of** us until we **express** You fully.

3. Lord, **grow** in us as the **seed of life**. **Spread** into us and **mature** in us until there is a full **harvest** and **manifestation** of the kingdom in our **living**, not out of our works but the **real growth in life**.

4. Praise You, Lord as the God-man, Lord Jesus. You are the kingdom of God, a wonderful Person, the embodiment of the Triune God, and the **Sower** who **sowed** Himself into us as Your chosen people. You are also the **seed of life growing** in us in the **realm of the divine life**.

5. Lord, **grow** in us until You are **transfigured** in us and **blossom** from within us. Make us the **rich and good soil** in a practical way. **Rule** everything in our lives by **transfiguring** Yourself in us and **growing** in us as the seed.

6. Lord, may the kingdom of God **develop** and **grow** in us **inwardly daily**. We **humble** ourselves and **empty** ourselves so that our entire inner being is available for You **to grow in us**. Make us diligent to **pursue** the **growth** and **development** of the **divine life** within us until we are **richly** and **bountifully supplied** the **entrance** into the eternal kingdom.

7. Please pray for:

Israel

- We pray and stand with the saints' preparing for the upcoming **Spring International Conference** May 16-18. May the spiritual priesthood be exercised in the midst of all the practical arrangements, including sound equipment, children's care, young people's involvement, transportation, registration

Europe

- **Brexit** - (*The exit of the UK from the EU has been delayed until October 31.*) Lord we pray that You will rule sovereignly over this crucial matter for the advancement of Your interests in Europe.
- **Paris** - Conference in Warsaw (May 3-5) and Millan (May 4-5)

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

- Pray for the **increase** of meeting ones and to gain local saints. Pray for the contacts.
- Churching and conferences
- For the purchase of a lot **property** for the church
- The children, YP and College work
- Brother **Radam's** applying to become a permanent resident in Canada

The Function of the Church

April 22, 2019, Monday

We in the Lord's recovery can testify of the great difference between the recovery and today's organized Christianity. Reconciliation between the two is impossible. **All the saints should be encouraged that the situation in the Lord's recovery is heading toward God's standard.** This standard is that the church should function as the **house of the living God**, the **pillar and base of the truth**, and as the **great mystery of godliness**, God manifest in the flesh. The church life today must be the manifestation of God in the flesh.... (Life-Study of 1 Timothy, chapter 6)

The Prediction of the Decline of the Church

April 23, 2019, Tuesday

As he was writing this Epistle, Paul realized that **in time to come some would depart from the faith**. In this verse the faith is objective and refers to the contents of our belief. On the one hand, Paul was **bold and encouraged**, not in the least disappointed. He believed that the church was the house of the living God, the pillar and base of the truth, and even the mystery of godliness. On the other hand, deep within his spirit, he knew that certain so-called believers would depart from the faith, from God's New Testament economy. Paul could know this because the **Spirit who was mingled with his spirit** revealed it to him. **This departure from God's New Testament economy would be the beginning of the decline of the church life.** (Excerpt from the Life-Study of 1 Timothy, chapter 7, section 2)

A Good Minister of Christ

April 24, 2019, Wednesday

In 4:6 Paul uses the expression "a good minister of Christ Jesus." A **minister of Christ** is one who serves others with Christ, **ministering Christ as Savior, life, life supply, and every positive thing**. He differs from a teacher of the law and of other things. A **minister of Christ** does not mainly denote a minister who belongs to Christ, but **a person who ministers Christ to others**. He is one who serves people with Christ. For example, if we say that a man is a serving one of a particular meal, we do not mean, of course, that he belongs to the meal. We mean that he serves others with that meal. In like manner, although it is true that a minister of Christ belongs to Christ, **the main thought here is that he serves others with Christ, ministering Christ to them. Not only does he belong to Christ, but he serves Christ to others.** (Life-Study of 1 Timothy, chapter 8)

Dealing with the Saints of Different Ages

April 25, 2019, Thursday

In 5:1-16 Paul tells Timothy how to deal with the saints of different ages. My burden in this message is to cover four points from 5:1-16. First, we see that Paul instructed his young co-worker Timothy to **contact the saints in a human way**. Verse 1 says, "Do not upbraid an elderly man, but entreat him as a father." **To entreat an elderly man as a father is surely to behave in a very human manner.** Second, If we exercise wisdom, we shall speak differently to saints of different ages. If we **exercise wisdom**, we shall speak differently to saints of different ages. The brothers will talk to brothers in a way appropriate to brothers, but they will speak to sisters in a way appropriate to sisters. Third, all our dealings with the saints must be **"in all purity"**. **Every contact with the brothers and sisters in the church life must be pure in every way.** We need to be pure in our motive and intention. Fourth in the church life everyone must have certain duties to perform. No one should be idle or a busybody. (Life-Study of 1 Timothy, chapter 9)

Dealing with the Elders

April 26, 2019, Friday

The church is very different from any worldly organization and also different from organized Christianity. **The church is according to the Lord's mercy and grace and under His authority.** In dealing with the administration of the church, we must observe the four points of **having witnesses** and of **acting without prejudice, partiality, or haste**. Do not show prejudice in receiving an accusation, and do not show partiality in defending anyone against accusation. Instead, **take time, pray, have fellowship with those who possess spiritual insight, and wait for the Lord's leading.** (Excerpt from the Life-Study of 1 Timothy, chapter 10, section 3)

ANNOUNCEMENTS and SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

1. The **Victoria Day** weekend conference is on May 24 - 27, 2019. The deadline for registration is May 5, 2019
2. We would like the brothers and sisters to know **Camp Evergreen**. The topic is about Salvation and Baptism. It is for grade 6 students and they can be baptized afterwards. The registration fee is \$160 per person and the deadline for registration is May 1, 2019.
3. The **Red Berry Camp** on Saskatoon is June 7-9, 2019.
4. The **Brothers Meeting** tonight, April 27, 2019 is at Brother Joseph's place at 6pm.
5. Combined **prayer meeting**, May 7, 2019 is at Brother Joseph's place at 7pm.