

# 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)

## Message Eighteen

### Christ as Typified by the Bronze Serpent

EM Hymns: 1089, 493

Scripture Reading: Num. 21:4-9; John 3:14, 29-30; Rom. 8:3; 2 Cor. 5:21

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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

Numbers 21:1-3 seems to begin in a positive way. The people fought a battle and won a victory on behalf of the Lord as His army. However, the situation takes a turn in verse 4 based on the people's **impatience**, **exposing** that they were **serpentine in nature** and **spiritually dead**... This was different from their thirst in the prior chapter. This situation exposed their serpentine nature and resulted in **death**. Their **testing the Lord** in this way brought in God's judgment.

Moses **prayed** for the people, and the Lord **instructed** him to **make a fiery serpent** and **set it on a pole**. When the people **looked** at the bronze serpent, **they lived**. The Lord's remedy reveals that the problem with the children of Israel was death. When they looked at the bronze serpent and forgot their outward situation and environment, which had become dissatisfying to them, they lived. Therefore, when we find ourselves contending with the Lord, we need to forget our situation, our future considerations, and our past to **look away to Christ as our bronze serpent**. In the Amplified Bible the word for "looked" in Numbers 21:9 is rendered "looked attentively, expectantly, with a steady and absorbing gaze." We need to look away to Jesus with a steady and absorbing grace.

The case of the Lord's shepherding of Nicodemus in John 3 is another example of how our nature and other things, such as religion and the law, veil us from realizing our need to look at the crucified Christ so that He can take away our death and give us eternal life... At that time, Nicodemus did not understand the Lord's speaking. He was an educated, ethical, and dignified person, but the Lord revealed to him that he needed another life and that his nature was serpentine. Here the Lord **alluded** the **bronze serpent** in Numbers 21, which Nicodemus as a ruler of the Jews must have been familiar with. In saying this, the Lord Jesus revealed in a deep way that Nicodemus's nature was serpentine and that He as the Son of Man would be **lifted up** as the **fulfillment** of the **bronze serpent** in His crucifixion so that Nicodemus could **receive another life** by looking at Him. (Ministry Magazine, Crystallization-study of Numbers)

It is important for us to realize that as believers in Christ not only do we have **two natures**—the old [serpentine] nature and the new nature—but we also have two beings, **two persons**. Although we have been **regenerated** and thereby have a new person, most of us continue to live by the old person, even in doing so-called spiritual things. **We may even endeavor to live the church life by the old man**. This is a serious problem.

On other occasions I have told you that in recent years my confession to the Lord has mainly been related to my failure to live Him. Often I have said, "Lord, forgive me for not living You adequately today. In my family life and in my fellowship with the brothers, I am short of what You require." I have seen that I may be religious, ethical, moral, and scriptural—all without Christ. Because the Bible commands us not to steal, **we would obey this commandment**. However, **this may not be the living of Christ**. Rather, we may be the one obeying the commandment not to steal. But we all need to be able to say with Paul that **we have been crucified and that Christ now lives in us**. We should be able to declare this with assurance, not as a doctrine but **as our experience day by day**. When we have this kind of living, then in reality we are serpentine beings in the **process of transformation** into the **bride of Christ**. This is the transformation revealed in the New Testament. As we are transformed from serpentine beings into Christ's being, we **become His increase, His bride**. The consummation of this bride will be the New Jerusalem as the tabernacle of God and the wife of the Lamb.

I urge you to bring this matter to the Lord in a serious way and pray, "*Lord, show me by what person I am living. Am I living by my old [serpentine] person or by my new person? Am I living by the old [serpentine] nature or by the new nature? Lord, am I living You? Am I practicing being one spirit with You?*" We all need to pray to the Lord like this. May the Lord have mercy on us that we may **learn to live by our regenerated being**. (The Fulfillment of the Tabernacle and the Offerings in the Writings of John, Chapter 10)

## Prayer Burden

1. Lord You are our **Substitute**. We thank You and praise You for becoming the **bronze serpent**. We are **serpentine** in nature, but you took that form and **died on the cross** for us. We simply **look** at You as One who died in our stead.

2. Lord, we **confess** that we are **serpentine** in nature. But You, who did not know sin, were **made sin** and **died on the cross** to condemn sin. Lord, You are our **sin offering**. We **repent** for our condition. **Identify** us with You and **qualify** us to **experience** eternal life and **enjoy** You.

3. Thank You for **loving** us and **redeeming** us. By **believing** into You, we now have the eternal life of God. **Increase** in us. You are the **unlimited Christ** who gave the **immeasurable Spirit** to produce Your **universal increase**.

4. Lord, you are **greater**, **higher**, and **wiser** than the serpent. You became a man in flesh, was made sin and was judged by God. You **opened the way** for us to **believe** into You and **receive** You. Now we are Your **increase**, Your **bride**.

5. Lord, **forgive** us for not living You adequately. Save us from being **contending** serpents. We want to be **life-giving Spirit drinkers**. We have been **crucified** with You and You are **now** the One **living** in us. Have **mercy** on us. **Transform** us day by day to be Your **bride**.

6. Praise You for being **unlimited**. You are the unique **recipient** of the Father's love and gifts. We want to **participate** in these things by being **in You** and **in Your words**. Through Your words, we **receive** the **life-giving Spirit**. **Fill us** everyday that we would **become** Your **universal increase**.

7. Please pray for:

### - The church in Berlin

- To settle the remaining need of approximately 2.6M USD which is due on November 15, 2019. May the saints be faithful in **offering** their "half shekel".

### - The church in Islamabad

- Lord we pray for the raising up of the **3rd District Meeting** that they may continue steadfastly and be strengthened into their inner man.

### - Europe

- Brother's Training on October 15-17; and the International Blending Conference on October 18-20, 2019 in Baarlo
- Frankfurt International Bookfair on October 16-20, 2019, the distribution of the NTRV

### - Canada

- Conference in **Winnipeg** on October 18-20, 2019
- The Canada **Brother's Meeting** in Toronto on November 8-10, 2019

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

- Pray for the **increase** of meeting ones and to gain local saints.
- The university students and for the **Campus Work** at the University of Regina
- The children, YP and College work
- The **readings** of the **Life-Study** messages, & the daily personal **pursuing** of the truth of the saints
- For the purchase of a lot **property** for the church

## LIFE-STUDY OF JUDE

"One Life-Study a Day Makes One Holy"

September 30, 2019, Monday: (Message 1) **Contending of the Faith**

With the faith given by God there is both a subjective side and an objective side. The **subjective** side concerns **our believing**, and the **objective** side concerns **the things we believe**. In verse 3, faith refers to **what we believe**. Hence, the faith refers to the contents of the New Testament. The faith in the objective sense is equal to the **contents of God's will given to us in the New Testament**. The law includes the contents of the Ten Commandments and all the subordinate ordinances. The law was given in the Old Testament, but **what God gives in the New Testament** is the **faith** that includes all the items of God's new will. This will even includes the **Triune God**. This faith has been delivered to the saints once for all, and what we need to do now is to **contend for it**. To contend for the faith is to contend for the basic and crucial matters of God's new will. (Life-Study of Jude, chapter 1)

October 01, Tuesday: (Message 2)

### Evils of the Apostates and Their Punishment Under the Lord's Judgement

Jude calls the apostates "**shepherds that feed themselves**." The pleasure-seeking heretics **pretend** to be **shepherds**, but at the love feasts they only fed themselves, having no concern for others. To others, they were waterless clouds, having no life supply to render. These **heretics** are also called "**autumn trees without fruit, having died twice, rooted up**." **Autumn** is a season for reaping fruit. The self-seeking apostates seem to be fruit trees in season, but they have **no fruit to satisfy others**. Furthermore, these **apostates** are false shepherds, empty clouds, dead trees, and wandering stars. They are hidden reefs and wild, raging waves of the sea, **foaming out, without restraint, their own shame**. The apostates are **devoid of spirit**. They do not care for their spirit or use it. They do not contact God by their spirit in communion with the Spirit of God; neither do they live and walk in their spirit. They have been drawn downward by their flesh and have become fleshy, so that they have lost the consciousness of their conscience and become animals without reason. (Life-Study of Jude, chapter 2)

October 02, 2019, Wednesday: (Message 3) **Charges to the Believers**

To **build ourselves up in the faith** does not mean to build ourselves up with theological doctrines or biblical knowledge. Mere doctrine or knowledge is too objective and also empty. But **truth** as the **reality of the Holy Word** is not empty. This **truth** is the **content of the most holy faith**. Therefore, with this content we have something real and solid with which and on which to build. The **building up in the most holy faith** is not individualistic; rather, this **building is a corporate matter**. Jude is speaking to the believers corporately when he charges them to build up themselves in their most holy faith. If we would build up ourselves in the faith, we must do it in a corporate way; that is, we must do it in the Body, in the church life. Apart from the church life, we cannot build ourselves up in the faith. Outside the church life, there is not such a building. Actually, **to build up ourselves in the most holy faith is to build up the Body of Christ**. (Life-Study of Jude, chapter 3)

October 3, 2019, Thursday: (Message 4) **The Basic Structure of the Epistles of Peter and Jude (1)**

In quantity, Peter wrote much less than Paul wrote, but in certain points, he may be richer than Paul. Peter indicates that **the God in whom we believe** is the **Triune God**, and unveils to us the fact that He is also our **portion**. We **partake** of Him through our spirit, the God's Spirit, and the Spirit of Christ! Both Peter and Jude also wrote that the Triune God was processed to become our enjoyment and grace. 1 Peter 5:8 shows us that the Triune God became our **grace** that we may **enjoy Him, grow in life**, and through the growth in life, be **perfected, established, strengthened and grounded** in the Triune God. God entered into us to regenerate us so **we may taste that the Lord is good**; as a result of this, we have the desire to put away our natural being. (Life-Study of Jude, chapter 4)

October 04, 2019, Friday: (Message 5) **The Basic Structure of the Epistles of Peter and Jude (2)**

In the Epistles of Peter and Jude we can see **God's economy**. In these Epistles we also see God's purpose and goal. God's purpose was formed in eternity past, and God's goal will be attained in full in eternity future. God's goal is to have His building as His expression, and He is reaching this goal through our growth in the divine life. If we were to consider 1 Peter as a whole, we will see the operation of the Triune God. The structure of these three Epistles is this operation; the basic structure of these Epistles, and of our entire Christian life is the Triune God! In Jude 20 and 21, Jude charges us **to pray in the Holy Spirit, and to keep ourselves in the love of God as we await the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life**. This means unto the enjoyment and increase of eternal life now and in eternity. However, it is important to not be distracted by the many matters in these three Epistles, we must always remember what this central structure is. This **basic structure** is the **Triune God operating to accomplish a threefold salvation so that we may be regenerated, that we may feed on His word, and that we may grow, be transformed, and be built up in order that He may have a dwelling place and that we may express Him**. (Life-Study of Jude, chapter 5)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS and SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

1. We will have **love feast** next week, October 13, 2019
2. We will also have our **Young People's Conference** on October 13, 2019
3. Our **Church Pursuit** on October 14, 2019 is at brother Hendrick's place at 6 PM
4. The deadline for registration for the **Conference** in Winnipeg on Oct. 18-20, is today, Oct. 6, 2019.