

# CHURCH IN REGINA

“2 Cor. 9:11 You in everything are being enriched unto all liberality, which works out through us thanksgiving to God.”

## HWMR Week 1—The Urgent Need for Our Culture to Be Replaced by the All-inclusive, Extensive Christ

### The Extensive One Versus Culture

In the various books of the New Testament, Christ is revealed for definite purposes. In 1 Corinthians the revelation of Christ is to deal with the problems in the church, problems which included fornication and divisiveness. In the book of Galatians Christ is revealed in contrast to Judaism with the law. Because the Galatians had been distracted to the law and circumcision, Paul showed them that Christ replaces the law, that God’s Son is versus man’s religion. Now **in the book of Colossians Christ is revealed as the extensive, all-inclusive One** because the saints had been carried away with a cultural blend of Jewish religion and Greek philosophy. This **mixture** had become very prevailing in Asia Minor and had even invaded the church life and pervaded it. Thus, **the revelation of the all-inclusive, extensive Christ is given in order to deal with the problem of culture.**

Colossians 3:11, 1 Corinthians 12:13, and Galatians 3:28 are parallel verses. But Colossians 3:11 specifically mentions the circumcision, the uncircumcision, the barbarian, and the Scythian. The terms circumcision and uncircumcision are related to religion, whereas barbarian and Scythian are related to culture. In ancient times those who were uncultured were regarded as barbarians. The Scythians were the most savage of the barbarians. **Colossians 3:11 indicates that the purpose of the extensive revelation of Christ in this book is to deal not with sin or with the law, but with culture.**

### Culture Replacing the Extensive Christ

God’s **intention** is that we as **His chosen people become saturated, permeated, filled, and clothed with Christ so that we may live Christ.** God wants Christ to be our life and our living, to be everything to us in our daily walk. **This is God’s eternal plan and His present economy.** However, **culture replaces Christ.** In His creation of man, God intended to be everything to man: his life, joy, entertainment, provision, protection. But through the fall man lost God and thereby lost the factor which gave meaning and purpose to his life. Therefore, today people live on earth without any sense of meaning or purpose. They have lost God as the factor which gives life its meaning and purpose. **Having lost God, man turned to culture as a replacement for God in his living.** Every aspect of man’s culture is a replacement for God. Of course, culture, in actuality, is a substitute for Christ. According to **God’s ordination, man cannot truly live without Christ.** Without Christ, our existence on earth is meaningless and purposeless. Today millions of people are living not by Christ, but by their culture. If they were deprived of their culture, they would have no way to live.

In His salvation God saves us not only from sin, judgment, the lake of fire, the world, and the self; He also saves us from everything which replaces Christ, including our culture. Because **culture** replaces Christ in a practical way in our daily living, **it is hateful in the eyes of God.**

### The Extensive Christ Replacing Culture

Just as culture has become the replacement for God, so **Christ can become the replacement for culture.** We have seen that after man lost God through the fall, man’s culture replaced God in his life. Christ’s redemption not only redeems us from so many negative things, but also redeems us from culture. Instead of trying to be free from our culture, we should **simply be reconciled to Christ and take Him as the factor which gives our life meaning and purpose.** We should pray, “Lord Jesus, from now on I will take nothing other than You as my goal and purpose. Lord, You only are my standard and the factor which gives my existence meaning and purpose. I don’t want to live out anything other than Yourself. Lord, I want to live You and You alone.” When we live Christ, we are spontaneously delivered from culture, and automatically the Christ by whom we live replaces culture...

We must admit that **even we in the Lord’s recovery**, who love the Lord very much and seek Him, actually **live much more by our culture** than by Christ. For example, certain sisters may refrain from using makeup not because they are living Christ, but because they are conforming to the common practice in the church life. Some may claim that they do not use makeup because of their love for Christ and the church. This may be true. However, **to love the Lord Jesus is one thing, and to live Christ is another.** We may do many things because we love the Lord and yet, in those very things, we may not actually live Him.

In the church life it is possible to live by certain habits or customs, in other words, by a certain culture developed in the church, instead of by Christ. For example, a certain brother may feel that he should not attend movies. However, what keeps him from going to the movie theater is not that he is living Christ; it is that he is living according to a certain practice common in the church life. **We need to have the assurance that our reason for not doing certain things is that we live Christ.** We need not have a rule about staying away from movies. We should **simply have the experience of living Christ in the church.** If we truly live Christ in the church, then when we refrain from doing a certain thing, it will not be because we regard that thing as wrong; it will be because we are living Christ. **Our need today is not only to love Him, but also to live Him** (*LS of Colossians, ch. 45*).

### Church Meetings:

#### Lord’s Table Meeting

Lord’s Day  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

#### Prayer Meeting

Tuesdays  
7:00 - 8:00 PM

#### College Meeting

Fridays  
7:00 - 8:30 PM

#### Small Group Meeting

Fridays  
7:00 - 8:30 PM

#### Young Peoples’ Meeting

Saturdays  
7:00 - 8:30 PM

### Conferences & Trainings:

#### International Chinese-Speaking Conference

February 13-14, 2021

#### April International Training for Elders & Responsible Ones

April 16-18, 2021

#### International Memorial Day Conference

May 28-31, 2021

#### July Semiannual Training

July 5-10, 2021

### Contact Information:

<http://thechurchinregina.org/>

Hendrick Tan 306-216-0685  
Joseph Miranda 306-737-3315  
Nathan Zhang 306-529-5386

## NEW LANGUAGE

Nothing  
outwardly  
performing,  
But His Christ  
my all to be.

**Prayer Burdens:**

1. Lord, come in and have the first place in all things. May nothing replace You in our Christian life and church life. Expose the enemy of his subtle use of culture. We take the way of the cross. Through the cross we become nothing and You become everything.
2. Lord, make more home in our hearts. We love You and are willing to be restricted under Your loving rule. Disperse any darkness in our being. May nothing separate us from You. Occupy every part of our being and may the light shine.
3. Lord, fill us with Yourself day by day. We have no capacity for anything else. You are our real enjoyment. We drop our “knives” to enjoy You to the fullest extent.
4. Lord, save us from this godless age. Unlike Cain, we take Your way of redemption. You are our real food, our real enjoyment, and our real rest and protection. Clear up the world and put the entire human race in order to be ready for Your coming.
5. Lord, may we all be open, grab and take the opportunity to buy more oil and pay the price of losing our soul-life.
6. Lord, we allow You to fill our being and replace every aspect of our human life. You are the all-inclusive, extensive Christ that meets our every need. We do not need anything else but You. Grant us a clear revelation of Your extensiveness.

**Europe/Other Burdens:**

1. Radio broadcasts in the UK and Spain, distribution of the Recovery Version and ministry publications in the European languages, shepherding of seeking ones, and blending of the saints into the reality of the one Body.
2. Eyes (cataract) surgery of Sister Ellen Julba on March 22 and April 13.

**Church in Regina:**

1. Goal of 50 meeting ones by end of 2021. Synchronized prayer for our contacts every day.
2. Pray for Aitong Liu’s immigration application. Select them in Your time that they may also come here, be saved, see the church and be Your testimony.

**Life-Study of Genesis—Messages 66-91****The Experience of Jacob**

In Jacob, we see **God's selection** and **God's dealings**. Jacob was chosen before his birth, according to the foreknowledge of God, not out of his own strife or works, but of God who calls. God's selection of Jacob is out of God's mercy and grace, followed by God's predestination and calling, for His purpose. God's purpose in selecting, predestinating, and calling us is to make pitiful sinners into royal sons so that, after the process of transformation has been completed, we may **reign as kings**.

God has not chosen the good people. If we are good, then we must not be chosen by God. The **dealing of Jacob** began with his being born the second; defeated by Esau. He was then forced to leave his loving mother and the father's home. But, we must also see God's sovereignty in fulfilling the purpose of His selection. **God intends to give the birthright which includes expressing and representing God, and participating in His kingdom**. Then Jacob received the dream at Bethel and was met by and promised to by God the first time.

In chapter 29, Jacob was admitted to the room of **transformation**. We must see God's sovereignty in leading Jacob to meet Rachel and Laban. Laban's cheating in marrying his two daughters to Jacob, Laban's squeeze, and Jacob's trick were all used by God for **dealing and transformation**. Eventually, God arranged for Jacob to return to Bethel, and used everything in Jacob's environment for this. We all must learn from Jacob's experience. We do not need to do so much for **we are God's chosen ones assured with His promise and charged with His goal**.

After being broken by God, Jacob was still in need for **further dealing** as he only returned to Shechem. The unfortunate occurrence with Dinah, the eleven sons, and all the slaughtered were a sacrifice for the perfecting of Jacob. These events touched Jacob deeply and caused him to have a **radical turn** and a thorough clearance for his **return to Bethel**.

At Bethel, Jacob eventually set up a pillar of stone that was called the house of God. In the Old Testament, two pillars indicated the temple of God, and in the New Testament, three pillars declared God's building. But the pillars in the coming kingdom and in the New Jerusalem in eternity will be numberless. **If we would be pillars of stone, we must be in Bethel**.

**Announcements:**

1. Church Pursuit on Feb. 15 at 4pm.
2. Western Canada Brothers' Meeting on Feb. 18 at 9pm (CST).
3. Western College Gospel Meeting on Feb. 20 at 8:30pm (CST).
4. Morning revival payments will be through Interac eTransfer to morningrevivalpayments@gmail.com.

## 福音 GOSPEL

读经：

**Please read the Bible verse:**

加二 20 我已经与基督同钉十字架；现在活着的，不再是我，乃是基督在我里面活着；并且我如今在肉身里所活的生命，是我在神儿子的信里，与祂联结所活的，祂是爱我，为我舍了自己。

Gal. 2:20 I am crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

神给我们的福音是什么呢？就是神将他的儿子赐给我们，他复活了，我们也复活了，他就活在我们里面，作我们的生命，叫我们活出他的生活，遵行了他的要求，这就是福音。福音就是神出的命令，神也在我们里面来遵守！福音不是要你不可犯这个，不可犯那个，叫你好像一棵爬蔓的草，一直在地上爬，天天对自己说，不可犯罪，不可犯罪！这不是福音，这是祸音！是神到我们里面来活，来遵行，这是福音！

What is the glad tidings that God gave us? It is the bestowing of His Son to us. By His resurrection we are resurrected. Now He is living inside of us to be our life, so that we may live Him out and fulfill His demands. This is the glad tidings. The glad tidings is that God is fulfilling His own commandments inside of us! The gospel is not a set of do's and don'ts. You do not have to crawl around the earth day and night like crabgrass, telling yourself over and over again that you are not supposed to sin. This is not a glad tidings. This is a grievous tidings. The gospel is that God is coming into us to live and obey for us.

**只有神能**

**God Himself is the only able One**

基督的命令，只有基督自己才能遵守，你不能，我也不能。所以第二个问题的答案是说，只有神的儿子耶稣，才能遵守神的命令。我我们都不能，只有神能！

The commandments of Christ can only be fulfilled by Christ Himself. Neither you nor I can do anything. Hence, the answer to our second question is that only the Son of God can fulfill the requirements of God. All of us are unable. God alone is able.

所以每逢有主内的弟兄，对我说，没有办法，我这个人刚爬起来又倒下了，我越想好，就越容易失败的时候，我就欢喜起来。他越是为他的犯罪，为他的失败流泪的时候，我就越发欢喜得笑起来。我会说，你今天才知道你不行了，乃是一件可喜的事情！虽然该早一点知道，今天能知道也不错，我们无法遵行神的旨意，神的旨意只有神能遵守，基督的命令只有基督能遵行。

Therefore, whenever a brother in the Lord tells me that he is hopeless, that he falls as soon as he rises, and that the more he tries the more he fails, I rejoice greatly. The more he weeps for his transgressions and failures, the more I laugh inside. I will say, "Today you know that you are a failure. This is something to be congratulated. Although you should have known this earlier, it is not too late to know it now." We cannot obey God's will. God's will can only be done by God Himself, and the commandments of Christ can be fulfilled by none other than Christ.

**是神使我们能**

**God makes us able**

我们不光是要看见我不能，更是要看见神能！（路十八 27）。那个少年官只看了自己不能，他似乎以为神也不能，所以只有忧愁愁的走了。不，神能。不要以为自己不能就完了，人不能是神能的起头，是要显出神能的时候。不是我们能，乃是神替我们，所以我们就行了。

Not only do we have to see that we are unable; we have to realize that God is able! (Luke 18:27). The young ruler only saw that he was unable and concluded that God was the same and proceeded to leave sorrowfully. But God is able! Do not think that when you are unable everything is over with you. The inability of man is the beginning of the ability of God. It is the time for God to show forth His power. Not that we are able, but His doing a work for us makes us able.

## 新约是在里面

### The new covenant within

现在，律法是放在人的里面了。不是在石版上，也不是在圣经里，乃是写在人的心里了。律法写在我们里面有什么好处呢？若看旧约以西结三十六章二十七节：我必将我的灵，放在你们里面，使你们顺从我的律例，谨守遵行我的典章。请注意这里的“使”字，在希伯来原文中是一个很重的字。以前在旧约的时候，是人用力去遵行神的命令；现在是神的灵在我们里面，使我们能以遵行。从前出命令的是神，出力量来遵守命令的是我们。现在，出命令的还是神，出力量遵守这命令的也是神。基督复活以后，住在我们里面作我们的生命，就是为着叫我们能遵守神的命令，这就叫作福音。凡基督所能的，你也都能，因为是基督替你，所以一切的问题就都解决了。

Now the law is put within man. It is no longer inscribed on stones, nor is it recorded merely in the Bible; it is written upon our hearts. What is the good of having the law put inside of us? Ezekiel 36:27 says, "And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them." Please note the word "cause." It is a strong word in the Hebrew language. Under the old covenant, man had to struggle to obey God's commandments. Now the Spirit of God is in us. He causes us to obey. Hitherto God gave the commandments, and we supplied our own strength for their fulfillment. Now the commanding One is God, but the supplying One becomes God also. After resurrection, Christ came into us to become our life. The result is that we are enabled to fulfill God's commandments. This is the gospel. Christ's sufficiency has become our ability. Because Christ is living for us, all the problems are solved.

### 我已经与基督同钉十字架

#### I am crucified with Christ

我就要问你，你对于你自己绝望了没有？是不是还想把自己改良一点，修理得像样一点？我对自己完全绝望！我自己已经钉了十字架，好坏都已经完了，现在的一切都是基督，这是唯一的路。保罗说：“我已经与基督同钉十字架；现在活着的，不再是我，乃是基督在我里面活着；并且我如今在肉身活着，是因信神的儿子而活，他是爱我，为我舍己”（加二 20）。

I turn the question now to you. Have you given up hope in yourself? Are you still trying to improve yourself and reform to a better status? I have completely abandoned any hope in myself! I am crucified on the cross. My goodness and wickedness alike are terminated. Now everything is Christ. This is the only way. Paul said, "I am crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me" (Gal. 2:20).

对于我们的得救，以及得胜的问题，也是这样。并不是说盼望神能救我。有些人恐怕在地狱里还要盼望。也不是盼望两天之后才能得胜，乃是说：“主，我感谢你，我的罪已经赦免了。我感谢你，主，不是我活，乃是你在我里面活。”你相信已经了了，你相信是了了，你这个人得救了。

The same principle applies to our salvation and the living of a victorious life. We are not hoping that God will save us. I am afraid some will keep hoping even after they reach hell. Neither are we hoping that victory will come in another two days. What we should say is, "Lord, I thank You. My sins are forgiven. Thank You, Lord, that it is no longer I who live, but You live within me." We have to believe in what is and what has been. When we do this, we will be saved.

### 信已成的事实

#### Believing in the facts

在这里，我们再一次的看到这个信。凡是信心，都是对着已过的、已成的事实。凡是要等到明天的，都不是信心。所有在盼望中的，也都不是信心。有许多人听了这些道理后说我信。但是到底信了没有呢？这是很重要的事。

Once again it is a matter of faith. Faith always concerns accomplished facts. Anything for tomorrow is not faith. Nor is anything in hope. Many, after hearing such messages, say that they have faith. But whether or not they really possess it is an open question.

我举一个事实来作例子。我有两个同工，一个是弟兄姓倪，一个是姊妹姓李，两个人都是刚出来作工，两个也都是近视眼，而先后都去配了眼镜。这位李小姐在主面前祷告说：“主！你曾开了瞎子的眼睛，难道不能医好我的近视么？叫我一个女人，带了副眼镜到乡下去布道，非常不便当，主，求你医治。”她是在一条开往乡下的小汽船上祷告的。她祷告完了，知道神听了她的祷告，她有了信心，就把眼镜摘下来，扔到闽江里去了，她的眼也不近视了。

Let me illustrate my point by a real story. I have two co-workers. One is a brother by the name of Nee. The other is a sister called Lee. Both started in their Christian work recently and both are nearsighted. Eventually, both had a pair of glasses. Miss Lee went to the Lord and prayed, "Lord, You have healed the blind. Can't You do the same for me? It is very inconvenient for me to go around preaching in villages with this pair of glasses. Lord, heal me." She made this prayer on a little steamboat on her way to a village. After her prayer she knew that God had answered her request. She had the faith within her to throw her glasses into the river. Her eyes were consequently healed.

### 信心上的得着

#### Received through faith

圣经中另有一处，是说到有关信心的时候的问题，是马可十一章二十四节，我们必须小心的、仔细的来读它：“所以我告诉你们，凡你们告祈求的，无论是什么，只要信是得着的，就必得着。”这一节中最重要的字，就在只要信是得着的，就必得着的“是”字。我个人就把我的圣经上的“是”字，画上个大记号。信是得着的，是过去式；就必得着，是将来的。圣经里只有这一种的信心，就是信是得着的，并不是信盼望得着。信是得着的，是在信心里的得着；就必得着，才是在事实上的得着。没有信心里的得着，就没有事实上的得着。

There is another passage in the Bible concerning faith. Mark 11:24 should be read with care: "For this reason I say to you, All things that you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and you will have them." The crucial word in this verse is "received." I have underlined this word in my Bible. The first clause gives the past tense, while the second is in the future. The Bible gives only this kind of faith. It is faith that believes in having received, not one that hopes to receive. Only the receiving that is through faith is the true receiving. Without the receiving in faith, there is no receiving in reality.

有的时候，我，或者我们几位弟兄，为病人抹油、祷告。我常问病人说，神听了你的祷告没有？有信心的人就回答说，神听了我的祷告，我的病已经好了。这样的病人，即使是热度仍旧很高，光景看来也很不好，但是他终必好了。还有的人说，神要医治我，或者说我会得到医治，我们就还得为他祷告，因为看不见他有信心。他所有的不是信心，是盼望。盼望得医治和信是得了医治是不同的，信是得着的就必得着

Sometimes my co-workers or I would anoint sick people with oil and pray for them. Often, I ask a sick man, "Has God answered your prayers yet?" Those who have faith say, "Yes, God has answered prayers. My illness is gone." This kind of patient may still have a high fever and not look too positive, but he eventually gets well. There are others who say, "God will heal me," or "I will be healed." We have to pray again for these because we detect no faith in them. What they have is not faith, but mere hope. To hope to be healed and to believe that one is healed are very different. Those who believe that they have received will receive.

### 得胜也是这样

#### The same is victory

如果你信是得胜了，你就会得胜了又得胜。如果是将来要得胜，你就还得将来才得胜。“是”这个字在我们的祷告中，占有非常重要的地位。是“是”不是“要”，“要”是不信的表现，“要”字常叫你的祷告不得答应，因为主的话非常的清楚：信是得着的，就必得着。（倪柝声文集第二辑第七册，二一九至二二三、二二五至二二八页。）

If you believe that you are victorious already, then you will experience victory after victory. But if you put your hope in the future, you can only experience victory in the future. The past tense occupies a vital position in our prayers. It is what I have and not what I want. Wanting something is a sign of unbelief. The word want often blocks our prayers from being answered. The word of the Lord is clear: he who believes that he has received shall receive. (The Collected Works of Watchman Nee (Set 2) Vol. 7, Pages 219-223, 225-228.)

参读：倪柝声文集第二辑第七册，基督与基督徒，第二篇；罗马书的结晶，第十一篇；希伯来书生命读经，第四十七篇。

Reference: The Collected Works of Watchman Nee (Set 2) Vol. 7, CHRIST AND THE CHRISTIAN, Chapter 2; Crystallization-study of Romans, Chapter 11; Life-Study of Hebrews, Chapter 47.