

CHURCH IN REGINA

“Ezek 36:26 I will also give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you.”

HWMR Week 6—The Universal History according to God’s Economy—the Divine History within the Human History to Fulfill the Lord’s Heart’s Desire to Have the One New Man in Reality

The Bible Being the History of God in Two Portions

The Bible may be considered the history of God. If we human beings have a history, not only as a race but even as individuals, then surely the unique, universal, and wonderful person of God must also have a history. Where do we find the history of God? God’s history, the divine history, is recorded in the Bible.

God’s history is of two portions—the **history of God with man**, found in the Old Testament, and **the history of God in man**, found in the New Testament. In the Old Testament God’s history was a history **with** man. In the New Testament God’s history is a history **in** man, for this history involves God’s being one with man. Therefore, the history of God in the New Testament is a divine history in humanity.

Man Not Taking God’s Way

The history of God with man and of God in man is not a simple matter. **God was with man with the intention of coming into man and being one with man.** Man was created by God for this purpose. But although God had such a purpose in creating man, man has another, subtle, purpose, and these two purposes do not agree. God has His way, and man has his way. Because of this, **even when man cooperates with God, he does this not by God’s way but by his own way.** Thus, there are two lines—God’s line and man’s line. God wants to come into man and to be one with man. Man, however, does not take God’s way but insists on his own way. **This insistence has caused, and continues to cause, great failure.** As a result, in the sight of God man has become sinful, corrupt, and abominable.

God Coming In to Chastise His Chosen People and to Punish the Nations

Because man, including Israel, has taken his own way and has become sinful and corrupt, God comes in to chastise Israel, His chosen people, and to punish the nations. When God chastises His people Israel, He has no intention of utterly destroying them. On the one hand, God chastises Israel; on the other hand, He has promised not to destroy them completely.

In order to chastise Israel God needs a “rod,” a means of discipline, and this rod is the nations. In Joel 1:4 the nations are likened to locusts in four stages: the cutting locust (the Babylonian Empire), the swarming locust (the Medo-Persian Empire), the licking locust (the Macedonian- Grecian Empire), and the consuming locust (the Roman Empire). Of these four kinds of locusts—Babylonian, Persian, Greek, and Roman—the Roman locusts are still with us today.

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:

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

Now we Thy
new creation
are—
New spirit and
new heart.

Although God allows the locusts to cut, swarm, lick, and consume, **He does not permit them to destroy His people utterly.** Whenever the locusts have gone too far, acting without regard for justice, God has come in to punish them. Whereas God uses the nations to chastise Israel, He also punishes the nations for going too far.

God's Chastisement of Israel and His Punishment of the Nations

Affording a Way for Christ to be Manifested for the Restoration of the Fallen Universe

God's chastisement of Israel and His punishment of the nations affords a way for Christ to be manifested. Thus, the Minor Prophets speak not only of the chastisement of Israel and the punishment of the nations but also of **the issue of this chastisement and punishment—the manifestation of Christ.**

The manifestation of Christ has a goal, and this goal is to restore the fallen universe. The fall of the universe was caused by two rebellions. The first rebellion was the rebellion of Satan and the angels who followed him; the second was the rebellion of man. These two rebellions—the angelic and the human—defiled and polluted the universe, so **the God-created universe needs a restoration.**

This restoration can be brought in only through the manifestation of Christ. Christ's manifestation implies His incarnation, redemption, and many other matters. The manifestation of Christ has been going on for a long time, and it will continue until the fallen universe has been fully restored. Eventually, in the consummation of the restoration, there will be the new heaven and new earth with the New Jerusalem as the center. In the New Jerusalem we all will enjoy Christ and express Christ for eternity. This is the history of God with man and in man revealed in the Bible.

THE LESSON FOR US TODAY

Our Failure

The history of God in the Bible provides a lesson for us today. **God created us with the intention to gain us so that He could come into us and be one with us.** However, **either we do not care for God or we care for God according to our own way.** The result is always total failure. Paul confessed his failure when he said, "Wretched man that I am!" (Rom. 7:24a).

Our Need for God's Chastisement

Because we are a failure and because our situation is wretched, terrible, and miserable, we need God's chastisement. For this reason, **our human life as Christians is a life of chastisement through the sufferings caused by different kinds of "locusts."** Our husband or wife, our children, our job, our desire for higher education, our attempts to make more money—all these are locusts that cut us, swarm over us, lick us, and consume us. These "locusts" make our life a life of suffering and our days, days of God's chastisement. **The goal, the purpose, of this chastisement is that Christ would be manifested in us for the restoration of the universe.** Eventually, the manifestation of Christ that is the issue of suffering and chastisement will consummate in the restoration of the entire universe. (LS of the Minor Prophets—Joel, Chapter 16).

Announcements:

1. Tagalog-speaking saints' Prayer Meeting on March 24 at 6pm (CST).
2. Brothers' Meeting on March 28 at 6pm.
3. YP Spring Conference on April 2 to 4.
 - April 2—Message 1 at 7pm
 - April 3—Message 2 at 10am, Special Message at 1pm, Message 3 at 7pm
 - April 4—Message 4 at 11am
4. Sisters' Meeting on April 4 at 2pm.
5. New morning revival book: CS Study of Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes. Morning revival payments will be through Interac eTransfer to morningrevivalpayments@gmail.com.

Prayer Burdens:

1. Thank You for including us in Your economy and for revealing Your purpose to us. Lord, we want to participate in Your history until the consummation of the age.
2. Lord, we praise You for all the preparations You have done for Your good pleasure and for Your economy. Because of Your will, we are blessed to participate in Your divine nature and divine life. Fulfill Your economy through and in us.
3. Lord, cause us to live by the divine life in resurrection. You are not only with us, but You are now in us, making it possible for us to live as You did. Draw us with cords of a man and with bands of love more today.
4. Thank You Lord for Your judicial redemption. You abolished in Your flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances that we may be part of the one new man. Keep us in the divine history, expressing You until Your return.
5. Renew us in the spirit of our mind. Open our eyes to see Your work in the New Testament Ministry. May we practice to put off the old man and put on the new man daily by drinking of the one Spirit.
6. Saturate us and perfect us for the growth of the one new man. We are not merely living in the human history, but are also writing God's divine history. We do not want to be ignorant of our position but be constituted more and more for the Body of Christ.

Europe/Other Burdens:

1. Spring University Conference online on March 26 to 28. May the Lord impart a heavenly vision that will capture and preserve the university students in Europe and direct them to live in God's economy.
2. London International Blending Conference on April 2 to 4.
3. YP Spring Conference on April 2 to 4.

Church in Regina:

1. Goal of 50 meeting ones by end of 2021. Synchronized prayer for our contacts every day.
2. Strengthen and preserve our families to love the Lord, His appearing, and continue to meet virtually. May we all redeem the time by getting into the Word and the Life-study messages.
3. 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.
4. Pray for Sister Mika Miranda's acceptance to the University of Regina Nursing Program. May Your will be done in our sister and may she be a shining testimony in the University. Use her for Your purpose.