December 11, 2022 Volume X Issue No. 50

CHURCH IN REGINA

PHIL 3:7 WHAT THINGS WERE GAINS TO ME...I HAVE COUNTED AS LOSS ON ACCOUNT OF CHRIST.

Crystallization-Study of 1 and 2 Kings—Week 2

NEW LANGUAGE
Christ, in the
Kingdom, is the
Son of Man & the
King.

Church Meetings:

Lord's Table Lord's Day, 10:00 - 12:00 PM

Prayer Meeting Tuesday, 7:00 - 8:00 PM

YP & College Meeting Friday, 6:45 - 8:30 PM

Children's Meeting Saturday, 10:00 - 11:00 AM

Small Group Meeting Friday, 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Conferences & Trainings:

Chinese-Speaking Conference February 18-20, 2022

April ITERO April 1-3, 2022

Memorial Day Conference May 27-30, 2022

July Semiannual Training July 4-9 2022

October ITERO October 6-8, 2022

Thanksgiving Conference November 24-27, 2022

Dec. Semiannual Training December 26-31, 2022

Contact Information:

Hendrick Tan 306.216.0685 Joseph Miranda 306.737.3315 Nathan Zhang 306.529.5386

An Introductory Word

In [2 Kings 2:1-14] there are four journeys. These include setting out from Gilgal, the journey to Bethel, the journey to Jericho, and the crossing of the Jordan River.

The Meaning of Crossing the Jordan River

The Israelites' crossing of the Jordan River was different from their crossing of the Red Sea. When they crossed the Red Sea, the Egyptians were chasing after them. They went into the Red Sea and came out from the Red Sea, but the Egyptians and the army of Pharaoh were drowned in the Red Sea. The ones buried in the Red Sea were not Israelites but Egyptians, who signify the world. When the Israelites crossed the Jordan River, no one followed them into the river. When they crossed the Jordan River, God commanded Joshua to choose a representative from each of the twelve tribes to take twelve stones (representing the twelve tribes of Israel) from the middle of the Jordan River and bring them to the land of Canaan on the west side of the Jordan River. These stones were a memorial to the Israelites for eternity. Joshua also erected another twelve stones in the middle of the Jordan River (Josh. 4:1-9). This indicates that those who entered into the land of Canaan entered into the water and came up out of the water. The water of the Jordan River signifies death. Their going into the water and coming out from the water indicates that they passed through death and were in resurrection. Their old man was buried in the Jordan River. They were new Israelites—the new man in resurrection.

The Red Sea typifies the death of Christ, and the Jordan River also typifies the death of Christ. The Red Sea typifies the death of Christ dealing with the world in us, and the Jordan River typifies the death of Christ dealing with the self in us. The power of Egypt was buried in the Red Sea, and the old man of the Israelites was buried in the Jordan River. Moreover, after they crossed the Jordan River, the Israelites were circumcised at Gilgal (5:2-9). Circumcision is the putting away of the flesh. Burying the stones, which represented their old life and old nature, is equivalent in meaning to circumcision, which typifies the cutting off of the flesh.

When Abraham was eighty-six years old, he bore Ishmael by relying on his flesh (Gen. 16). This signifies that he relied on his own strength to fulfill God's promise. Therefore, God dealt with him severely and did not appear to him for thirteen years. When he was ninety-nine years old, God came and asked him to cut off the flesh (17:24). The same principle applies to Jacob. Originally, he was full of natural strength and crafty, but at the ford of the Jabbok God wrestled with Jacob and touched his thigh. As a result, he became lame, and God changed his name from Jacob to Israel (32:22-32). Similarly, the Israelites wandered in the wilderness for forty years until they crossed the Jordan River (Deut. 1:3), and God cut off their flesh (Josh. 5:2-9). Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob represent one corporate person. Their experiences are the experiences of the Israelites and are also the experiences of Christians. After a period of time God will bring us through a crisis—to cut off our flesh and to terminate our old man (cf. 2 Cor. 1:8-9; 4:7-18).

Abraham's experience before circumcision was Jacob's experience before coming to the ford of the Jabbok and also the experience of the Israelites while wandering in the wilderness. As Christians, we have a similar period of wandering while we pursue and serve the Lord. During this period of time our flesh and old creation are exposed and dealt with. One day we will come to our own "Jordan River" and "ford of the Jabbok" where we will be terminated and broken. Then we will cross the Jordan River. (Excerpts from CWWN, vol. 9, pp. 307-309) and Revelations in Leviticus Through Nehemiah: Seeing the Line of Life, CWWL, 1954, vol. 4)

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Prayer Burdens:

1. Lord, cause us to be like Elijah, a minister of the age with a vision of the age. Lord, cause us to be like Paul, that we would not count gains as anything but count all as refuse to gain You.

- 2. Lord, may we be those who stand up as an anti-testimony and be the overcomers who have the spirit, the courage, and the testimony of Elijah. Grant us a life looking forward to the rapture and be saved from any kind of death.
- 3. Lord, teach us how to earnestly pray, not according to our feeling, thought, intention, or mood to fulfill our own purpose. Teach us to pray in the prayer that You will give for the accomplishing of Your will. May we all learn to listen to that little voice within, Your hidden work in each one of us.
- 4. Take us Lord through all of the four journeys. We pray to be freed from Gilgal to Bethel. Then take us further to defeat the enemy in Jericho until we fully cross the Jordan River. We are not content to stay in one journey. Take us forward to know the spiritual life and be in the proper spiritual path.
- 5. Lord, turn our hearts completely to overcome the world. May we all pay the price to take Your way, a journey where You can give us the Spirit without measure. Cause us to learn to fellowship with You on the altar of total consecration.
- 6. Praise You, Lord for the power of Your resurrection which can overcome death. Thank You that we have already obtained this resurrection life at regeneration. Make us those who choose to cross the Jordan River and rise up to overcome this present world with its atmosphere of death. May we manifest the power of resurrection in all things.

North America/Other Burdens

1. Please pray for the Churches in Canada: The Raising Up of the Next Generation. Gain proper and useful vessels in the college campuses. All ages of saints in the churches function according to their capacity, especially in the raising up of the next generation—the children, young people, and college-age saints—for the Lord's testimony according to His economy.

Church in Regina:

- 1. Lord, we pray for a habit of reading the Life-studies for our spiritual nourishment and growth in Christ. May all of us endeavor to ready the 500 life-study messages consistently (www.500lifestudies.org).
- 2. Raise up new ones and strengthen us through our in-person small group meetings.
- 3. Pray for the new students/contacts (Judith, Ola, Naomi, Jack, Robin, Lysa, Joseph, Patricia and Cherubim) at the University of Regina. Pray that they will continue to attend the weekly college meetings on campus.

A Timely Speaking

The Glorification of Christ by God with His Glory

GOD BEING GLORIFIED IN CHRIST AND IN THE CHURCH

God is glorified in Christ and in the church in the church age (Eph. 3:21). If we are not a part of the church, we will miss this glorification.

EXPRESSING GOD IN OUR BEHAVIOR

When the believers express God in their behavior, God is glorified (Matt. 5:16).

BEARING MUCH FRUIT

When the believers as the branches bear much fruit, the Father is glorified (John 15:8). The more fruit we bear, the more God is glorified in our Christian work.

~Excerpts from The Crystallization of the Gospel of John, ch. 10

Announcements:

- 1. Service Meeting, December 11
- 2. Love Feast, December 11
- 3. Semi-Annual Training, December 28-January 7.