December 25, 2022 Volume X Issue No. 52

CHURCH IN REGINA

REV.20:6 BLESSED AND HOLY IS HE WO HAS PART IN THE FIRST RESURRECTION; OVER THESE THE SECOND DEATH HAS NO AUTHORITY...

Crystallization-Study of 1 and 2 Kings—Week 4

NEW LANGUAGE Christ, in eternity is the Temple.

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 ITEROApril 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

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Concerning those who participate in the first resurrection, verse 6 says, "Over these the second death has no authority..."The lake of fire is called the second death (20:14). Some may say, "The believers will be resurrected before the millennium and will never be put into the lake of fire, the second death." The Bible is not that simple. We have seen that Satan is useful in the hand of God. Likewise, death is also somewhat useful to Him. All negative situations are related to death... All weakness—physical, mental, and spiritual—belongs to death. Weakness is a visiting card of death. When death is about to visit a person, it does not come directly. Instead, it firstly comes in the form of weakness. Weakness is followed by sickness, and sickness is followed by death. Thus, both weakness and sickness belong to death. Moreover, all the troubles and hardships we face in life also belong to death. When the overcomers enter into the upper section of the millennium to be the co-kings of Christ, they will have no weakness, no sickness, no trouble, and no hardship. In other words, they will no longer be bothered by death.

The death before resurrection is the first death, and the death after resurrection is the second death. The second death, the lake of fire, refers to death after resurrection. In the first death the spirit and soul leave the body, the body is buried, and the spirit and soul go to Hades—the spirit and soul of the believer to the section of comfort in Hades, and the spirit and soul of the unbeliever to the section of torment. The Lord Jesus will determine who among the dead will be resurrected before the millennium and who will be left in the tomb for another thousand years to be resurrected after the millennium. After the unbelievers are resurrected, they will be judged at the great white throne (20:11-15). The dead unbelievers will be cast into the lake of fire, the second death. This means that even after their resurrection, they will still suffer the second death.

Do not think,...that after your resurrection everything will necessarily be all right. After our resurrection, we shall stand before the judgment seat of Christ (2 Cor. 5:10)...When we are standing before the judgment seat of Christ, we shall be fearful and trembling, wondering what the Lord Jesus will say concerning us...As we stand before this judgment seat, "each one of us shall give account of himself to God" (Rom. 14:12)...The judgment at the judgment seat of Christ will determine whether we shall receive the reward to enter into His kingdom or receive some punishment. That punishment will be something related to the second death, just as weakness, sickness, trouble, and hardship are related to the first death.

We need to **grow and mature quickly**. Do not delay the process of growth and maturity. You must fear the prospect of dying in immaturity. If you die in your immaturity, after your resurrection you will stand in immaturity before the Lord's judgment seat. There will be no need for the Lord to say anything. Rather, you will say, "Lord, I'm sorry. I died in immaturity, and I am still immature. Lord, have mercy on me and grant me more time to mature." But the Lord may say, "The dispensation has changed. You must be put into a situation that will help you grow." Be assured that this situation will not be very pleasant. Everyone in this situation will be dealt with by something related to the second death. This means that even after a believer's resurrection, he may still be touched by something of the second death; that is, the second death may still have some authority over him. Only the overcomers, those who participate in the best resurrection, will not be subject to anything of the second death. They will have graduated from all weakness, sickness, trouble, hardship, and suffering...

Do not believe the inaccurate teachings which say that if you have been washed in the blood and regenerated by the Spirit, everything will be all right. Although you are saved for eternity, you still need to grow, to mature, and to be perfected so that you may be among the co-kings of Christ. If you do not mature, you will suffer loss. If you suffer loss before the resurrection, your loss will belong to the first death. But if you suffer loss after the resurrection, your loss will be related to the second death. Although you may be a resurrected believer, you will still be under the authority of the second death, and something of the second death will trouble you. This is the pure, enlightening, and sobering truth. Oh, we all need to be enlightened, sobered, and made serious!

(Excerpts from The Life-Study of Revelation, ch. 56)

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Prayer Burdens:

1. Lord, continue to work Yourself into our constitution to make us God in life and in nature. Thank You, Lord, that we have the reality—the very God in Christ wrought into our being.

2. Lord, we are waiting for Your second coming. Take possession of the earth so that You can establish Your kingdom. Lord, cause us to be strong, to lift up our heads so that we may be ready to welcome You in Your coming.

- 3. Lord, cause us to be Solomons—building the temple of God, the church, in the kingdom of God, and speaking the words of wisdom. Lord, continue to reign in righteousness and justice to usher in peace.
- 4. Lord, reign forever and ever in us. Even today, cause us to be today's overcomers so that we may fully participate in the millennium to reign with You.
- 5. Lord, perfect us during this age so that we may be qualified to enter into the New Jerusalem for Your eternal kingdom. We do not want to be those just regenerated and living in the church life. We aspire to be the overcoming ones today and in the millennium.
- 6. Lord, thank You for making us part of Your kingdom and under Your shining. May we be the overcoming ones who will be with You in the bright glory of the kingdom, shining forth like the sun in the kingdom of our Father.

North America/Other Burdens

- 1. Please pray for a new revival: The aspiration, realization and continuation of the new revival among all the saints in His recovery through the pursuit of the high peak truths, the practice of the God-man living and the universal shepherding of all the believers (the bringing in of the new revival).
- 2. The vitalization of all the churches in the Lord's recovery through the exercise and practice of all aspects of the God-ordained way to become a living testimony of Jesus in all the localities for an anti-testimony to the degradation around us

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 upcoming semester. May the new students, particularly those who got recently baptized (Lysa and Ola), continue to be cherished and be nourished in Your life. Bring more students to our weekly campus meetings and gain our current students to pursue more, love You more, and come to the full knowledge of the truth.

A Timely Speaking

The Kingdom of God

The kingdom of God is the reign of God. This divine reign is a realm, not only of the divine dominion but also of the divine species, in which are all the divine things. God became flesh to enter into the human species, and man becomes God in His life and nature, but not in His divine Godhead, to enter into His divine species.

To enter into this divine realm, the realm of the divine species, we need to be born of God to have the divine nature and life. That man was created in the image of God and according to His likeness indicates that man was created in God's kind, in God's species.

The believers, who are born of God by regeneration to be His children in His life and nature but not in His Godhead (1:12-13), are more in God's kind than Adam was...Thus, in regeneration God begets gods; if they are not gods, what are they? We all who are born of God are gods. But for utterance, due to the theological misunderstanding, it is better to say that we are God-men in the divine species, that is, in the kingdom of God. These God-men, who are children born of God, not only constitute the house of God but also are the constituents with which the Body of Christ is built up, and the Body of Christ will consummate the New Jerusalem as the eternal kingdom of God and of Christ...

*Excerpts from The Crystallization of the Gospel of John, ch. 12

Announcements:

- 1. Children's Fun Day on December 25 at 1:00 to 3:00pm.
- 2. Brothers' Meeting on December 25 at 6:00pm.
- 3. Semi-Annual Training on December 28-January 7.
- 4. Combined Prayer Meeting on January 3, 2023 at Seria residence.
- 5. Love Feast on January 8, 2023.