

Church in Regina

NEW LANGUAGE

CHRIST, IN ETERNITY, IS THE LAMP.
(REV. 21:23)

Crystallization-Study of 1 and 2 Kings—Week 5

The Impotence of Our Natural Being in the Things of God

...[W]e want to see the impotence of our natural being in the things of God. The **impotence** is the **insufficiency**. We may be very sufficient in other things, but **we do not have any sufficiency, competence, or power in the things of God**.

I. Our Spirit Having Been Deadened

The **spirit** of fallen mankind has been deadened (Eph. 2:1, 5a), so it is **useless** in the things of God.

II. Our Soul Neither Receiving the Things of the Spirit of God nor being able to know them (1 Cor. 2:14)

...[O]ur **soul** neither receives the things of the Spirit of God nor is it able to know them. A **soulish man** is a **natural man**, one who allows his soul...to dominate his entire being and who lives by his soul, **ignoring his spirit**, not using his spirit, and even behaving as if he did not have a spirit (Jude 19). Such a man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, and he is not able to know them. Rather, he rejects them.

III. Our Heart Being Deceitful Above All Things and Being Incurable (Jer. 17:9)

...[O]ur **heart** is deceitful above all things and is incurable. In the things of God, our **heart is incurable; it is a hopeless case**.

IV. Our Mind Being Filled with Vanity and Darkened in Understanding (Eph 4:17-18a)

...[O]ur **mind** is filled with vanity and darkened in understanding...This shows that our natural mind is **utterly useless in the things of God**.

V. Our Will Being Hard (Eph. 4:18b)

Eph. 4:18b speaks of the hardness of man's fallen heart. This indicates that the **will**, as a part of man's heart, is hard, **stubborn**...

VI. Our Flesh Being Unable to be Subject to God and to Please God (Rom. 8:7-8)

Our flesh cannot do two things. It cannot be subject to God, and it cannot please God...Both the Old Testament and the New Testament tell us that **God hates the flesh**. God wants nothing to do with the flesh...The flesh is the fallen man. **If we are not in the spirit, surely we are in the flesh**. We should not think that we are so good that if we are not in the spirit, we are in the soul, not in the flesh. Actually, today our soul is one with the flesh, which is the uttermost expression of the fallen tripartite man. So if we are not in the spirit, we are in the flesh, and our flesh is altogether impotent in the things of God. It is unable to be subject to God and to please God.

VII. Our Self Needing to Be Denied (Matt. 16:24)

Matthew 16:24 says that our self needs to be denied. This shows that the **self** has been **condemned by God**.

VIII. Our Body Being of sin and Of Death (Rom. 6:6; 7:24)

Our body is a body of sin and of death. It is very active in sinning, because it is a body of sin, and it is altogether dead in doing the will of God to please God, because it is a body of death. **Sin in our body makes us very active to sin, and death in our body deadens us in doing God's will**. **Our fallen body can only sin**. It cannot do anything to accomplish God's will or to please God...After reading the above eight points, we should realize that **we cannot have any trust** in our natural being in the things of God. In Phil. 3:3 Paul says, "We are the circumcision, the ones who serve by the Spirit of God and boast in Christ Jesus and have **no confidence in the flesh**." To have no trust in our flesh is to have no trust in our natural being.

(Excerpts from *Basic Lessons on Service*, ch. 16)

Announcements:

- ◆ Combined Prayer Meeting on January 3, 2023 at Seria residence.
- ◆ Love Feast on January 8, 2023.

Church Meetings:

- ◆ Lord's Table, Lord's Day, 10:00-12:00PM
- ◆ Prayer Meeting, Tuesdays, 7:00-8:00PM
- ◆ YP & College Meetings, Fridays, 6:45-8:30PM
- ◆ Children's Meeting, Saturdays, 10:00-11:00AM
- ◆ Small Group, Fridays & Saturdays, 7:00-9:00PM

Contact Us:

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Prayer Burdens:

1. Thank You, Lord for this healthy warning – that whatever we do is a sowing of a seed. Lord, have mercy on us, that we would not have the experience of Solomon, but instead be those who walk according to the spirit.
2. Lord, grant us wisdom in our spirit and understanding in our mind. We don't want wisdom in the physical realm, but we want You to become wisdom to us, making us one with God and making us God in life and in nature.
3. Lord, make us "doves" with the proper measure of life and be those who first take care of life more than gifts. Bind our natural man so nothing can hinder Your work. We do not rely on ourselves but on You.
4. Lead us according to Your desire and not for our own achievements. Make our goals one with Your goals. Deal and put to the cross our natural ability and strength, so that we may be brought and serve in resurrection.
5. Lord, save us from forsaking You as the fountain of living waters and from hewing out broken cisterns. Conform us to Your death by the power of Your resurrection that we may die to ourselves and live to God.
6. You are our heavenly High Priest. Keep working Yourself in our spirit. We give ourselves to follow You by remaining, living, walking, and having our being in the mingled spirit.

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 our spiritual nourishment and growth in Christ. May all of us faithful to read the life-study messages consistently (www.500lifestudies.org).
2. 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 through attending the weekly meetings on campus.

Praise the Lord for...our five young children.



Events, Conferences & Trainings:

Chinese-Speaking Conference
February 17-19, 2023, Anaheim, CA USA

March ITERO
March 24-26, 2023, Anaheim, CA USA

Memorial Day Conference
May 26-29, 2023, Chicago, IL USA

July Semiannual Training
July 3-8 2023, Anaheim, CA USA

October ITERO
October 5-7, 2023, TBD

Thanksgiving Conference
November 23-26, 2023, Dallas, TX USA

Dec. Semiannual Training
December 25-30, 2023, Anaheim CA USA