May 07, 2023 Volume XI Issue No. 19

Church in Regina

NEW LANGUAGE

CHRIST IS THE LAMB BROUGHT TO THE SLAUGHTER AND A SHEEP DUMB BEFORE ITS SHEARERS (ISA 53:7).

Crystallization-Study of 1 & 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther—Week 3

The Fire From the Altar Being the Genuine Motivating Power of Service

The only thing that God does concerning man's service is to send His fire to burn within man. To serve God and to work for Him mean that man is joined to God and is mingled with God. It seems as though man is serving God. However, the service comes out of God; it does not originate in man. The service is God moving through man. Without the human element, there cannot be service. However, if there is only the human element, the service is not acceptable to God. In order for our service to have spiritual value and be acceptable to God, He must move through us and serve through us. This is the purpose of the altar. God is calling those who love Him and desire to satisfy His heart's desire to offer themselves on the altar.

In Romans 12:1 the apostle Paul exhorts us to **present our bodies** a living sacrifice. This means that we must **pay the price** to forsake everything of ourselves. If we are willing to present ourselves on the altar, the divine fire will come down on us and pass through us. The issue of this burning will be our service, our work. On the one hand, such a work may be considered our work because we have a part in it; on the other hand, it is not our work because it is not out of us. This work is God working through us by being joined to us.

On the one hand, it was Peter who stood up on the day of Pentecost to preach the gospel (Acts 2:14-41); on the other hand, it was God who preached the gospel. It was the fire of God burning in Peter and speaking through Peter. This is an example of man being gained by God and of God being gained by man. God and man were joined and mingled together.

This is the service that God desires. When iron is being purified in fire, the iron seems to be swallowed up by the fire, but at the same time, the fire seems to burn in the iron. The iron becomes red because fire is burning in the iron. Then the fire burns wherever the iron is placed. We may say that it is a rod of iron, or we may say that it is a ball of fire. The fire and the iron become one. This is an illustration of the Christian service and work.

Genuine Christian service is not of man. Rather, genuine Christian service is God moving through man. God does not force man to receive Him. God has erected an altar, and those who are willing, those who love Him, may come forward willingly to be dealt with, broken, and placed on the altar. Such a person can say, "Lord, here I am. My only desire is to satisfy Your need." If we would offer ourselves sincerely in this way, fire will descend from heaven and burn us. This burning will become the energy that moves us. The issue of this burning will be our service. God wants His fire to burn in us.

The Fire on the Altar Burning and Producing a Powerful Service

The service that God desires is carried out through the fire on the altar of burnt offering. The altar of burnt offering has already been set up, and fire has also descended upon it. The altar of burnt offering is the cross of the Lord Jesus, and the fire is the Spirit. The Spirit has descended and is burning through the cross as the altar of burnt offering. Any person who is willing to touch the cross, that is, to receive the cross by applying the death of Christ, will be gained by God. Then the fire on the altar of burnt offering, that is, the Spirit, will burn in him until it produces a service. All genuine service comes out of such a burning

(Excerpts from The Service for Building Up the House of God, CWWL 1954, vol. 3, ch. 2).

Announcements:

- ♦ Love Feast—May 14
- ◆ Churching/Blending Conference w/ Church in Lethbridge—May 14
- ♦ Bible Distribution—May 19
- ◆ Brothers' Mtg—May 21 at 6pm

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

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Prayer Burdens:

1. Lord, make us absolutely for You and Your purpose. Thank You for bringing us back to Jerusalem. Gain our consecration to offer everything on the altar for the building up of the local churches and for Your satisfaction.

- 2. You are the focal point of God's economy and Your cross is the centre of God's government. May the cross become a highway to us that we would deny ourselves, take this cross daily and follow You, so that nothing can be a substitute to You.
- 3. Lord, we take You as the reality of all the offering for God's food and satisfaction. While God is satisfied, we are also satisfied for You are the food that enables us to have fellowship with God.
- 4. Lord, we confess that we are not absolute for You. Regardless of our endeavor, only You can be absolute for God. We take You, Lord as our burnt offering and our pattern of living a life absolute for God.
- 5. We lay our hands on You as our burnt offering. You were skinned and cut, stripped and broken without reservation. In our union with You, repeat the life You lived through us.
- 6. Lord, we consecrate ourselves to You—to be a living sacrifice for Your satisfaction. Cause us not only to live for You but to live to You. May our offering of Christ be such a genuine worship that You desire.

North America/Other Burdens

1. Pray for the Lord's continual increase in this province, specifically the raising up of a district in Foam Lake, Saskatchewan. We praise You, Lord for bringing Bro. Isaac and Sis. Marie's family here. We pray for their entire family's household salvation. Gain the whole Hiebert household: Jake & Anna, Jake & Rachel. Bring Bro. Abe's family, Nancy and Susana's family.

Church in Regina:

- 1. Lord, we pray for our new gospel contacts: Julie, Mike, Shanshan, Su, Tianyung, Mark, Ola, Caitlyn and Lysa. Strengthen their faith and recover them fully. Attract them with Yourself and open them to see the unique ground of oneness to leave degraded Christianity.
- 2. Pray for the upcoming National College Training in Champaign, Illinois. We pray for our college students to be fully opened to the Lord that He may have a free way to speak and work in them.
- 3. Lord, we pray for the Nsengiyumva family. Bring them home to the church, the unique ground of oneness. Bring them to the proper church life and make them thirsty and hungry for You.

Coming to the Full Knowledge of the Truth

By Spending Time in the Word Daily

The Lord's recovery today is the full recovery of the divine truths in the holy Word. In traditional Christianity, believers who desire to learn about the Word of God are encouraged to attend seminaries. In the Lord's recovery, however, we learn the truth not by attending a seminary but by reading the Scriptures in a daily way. In 1 Timothy 2:4 Paul tells us that God "desires all men to be saved and to come to the full knowledge of the truth." It is not possible for every believer to study in a seminary, but it is possible for every child of God to come to the full knowledge of the truth by spending time in the Word every day. Every believer has the capacity to come to the full knowledge of the truth.

We in the local churches need to understand the Bible in the way of apprehending its spiritual significance. In 1 and 2 Timothy Paul emphasizes that the churches need the healthy teaching so that every believer may come to the full knowledge of the truth (1 Tim. 1:10; 2:4; 4:3, 6, 16; 5:17; 6:3; 2 Tim. 2:15, 25; 3:7; 4:3). We should study the Bible according to the way ordained by God so that we may help the saints to receive the healthy teaching and know the truth in an adequate way. (CWWL, 1984, vol. 1, pp. 63-64)

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, Manila, Philippines

Thanksgiving Conference

November 23-26, 2023, Dallas, TX USA

Dec. Semiannual Training

December 25-30, 2023, Anaheim CA USA