

Church in Regina

NEW LANGUAGE

CHRIST IS THE PRIEST ORDAINED BY GOD WITH AN OATH ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHISEDEC (PSA;110:4 HEB 5:6)

Knowing, Experiencing, and Enjoying Christ as Revealed in Philippians—Week 1

The Centrality and Universality of Christ

...[L]et us consider **five items** concerning Christ as everything in God's intention.

CHRIST IN THE GODHEAD

The first item that we want to consider is Christ in the **Godhead**. **Even in the Godhead, Christ is the center**. In the Godhead, there are three persons—the Father, the Son, and the Spirit. The Father is the source; the Spirit is the communion, the fellowship, the transmission; and the Son, Christ, is the center. All that the Father has planned and purposed is **in the Son, for the Son**, and **through the Son**, and all that the Spirit is doing is also for the Son. The Spirit comes to witness for the Son, to glorify the Son, and to make the Son real to us (John 16:13-15). Thus, we see that even in the Godhead, Christ is the center.

Furthermore, **all the fullness of the Godhead is pleased to dwell in Christ bodily** (Col. 1:19; 2:9). If we do not have the Son, we do not have the Father. If we have the Son, we have the Father also, because the Father is in the Son (John 10:38; 14:10-11) and the Son is the very embodiment of the Father (Col. 2:9). Christ is the image of God (1:15; 2 Cor. 4:4b) and the impress of God's substance, the expression of what God is (Heb. 1:3a). **Apart from Christ we cannot meet God or have God**. Christ is God (John 1:1; 20:28-29; Rom. 9:5). Hence, Christ is the center of the Godhead.

CHRIST IN GOD'S PLAN

The second thing that we want to consider is Christ in God's **plan**... In God's plan **Christ is the Head to head up all things** (1:10). The whole universe is for Christ. Whatever God has planned, whatever God has done, and whatever God is doing are to make Christ the Head, the center, and everything. **This is God's eternal purpose**. The phrase to head up all things in Christ (v. 10) indicates the divine economy. Hence, in God's plan, in God's economy, Christ is the Head and the center. **Christ is everything**.

CHRIST IN GOD'S CREATION

The next item that we want to consider is Christ in God's **creation**, that is, the **old creation**. In God's creation **Christ is the first, the One who has preeminence among all creatures**. In the old creation all things were **created in Christ, through Christ, and unto Christ** (Col. 1:15b-16). Furthermore, all things cohere, subsist together, and are compacted as one in Christ (v. 17b). We can see the beauty of the universe and the oneness of all things in this universe. If the moon went out of its orbit even to a small degree, there would be a terrible result on this earth. However, today everything in the universe is going on in a good order. This is due to the power of Christ. Christ is the power by which and in which all things cohere. Christ is the center of God's creation, and He has the first place in all creation.

CHRIST IN THE NEW CREATION

The fourth item is concerning Christ in the **new creation**, that is, **the church**. Whereas the old creation was created by God in Christ, through Christ, and unto Christ, the new creation is something of the old creation that has died and resurrected into life to have a fresh start in newness. Christ is the **Firstborn from the dead** (v. 18); He is the **first in resurrection**. As such, He has the **first place in the church** as God's new creation (2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 6:15). Christ is not only the Firstborn of the new creation but also **the Head of the church**, the Body. Moreover, He is the **constituent of the Body**. He is all the members of the Body and in all the members (Col. 3:11). Even the Body itself is Christ (1 Cor. 12:12). Everything of the Body, the church, in a positive way and in the proper condition, must be Christ Himself. Christ is the Head, Christ is the life, and Christ is the constituent of the church. Hence, in the new creation, the church, Christ is everything.

CHRIST IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

...In the Christians, or in the **Christian life**, **we should not have anything other than Christ**. Christ must be everything in our Christian life...The real humility and loveliness of a Christian must be Christ Himself. Our love toward others must be Christ. Our patience, our humility, our wisdom, our knowledge, and our insight must be Christ (The Centrality and Universality of Christ, CWL, 1964, vol. 1).

Announcements:

- ◆ Brothers' Meeting—Aug 27
- ◆ Church Pursuit—Sept 4

Church Meetings:

- ◆ Lord's Table & Prophesying, 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:

- ◆ Email: thechurchinregina@gmail.com
- ◆ Mobile Phone Numbers:
306.737.3315
306.216.0685
306.529.5386

Prayer Burdens:

1. Lord, free us from all distractions and bring us back to Christ. Cause us to see that Christ is the centre of all things. May we give Him the first place in all things. Save us from being content with where we are and what we have.
2. Unveil us, Lord to see and realize inwardly that nothing else matters other than Christ. We pray that we will exercise always to walk worthily of You, bearing fruit in every good work by living, growing, expressing, and propagating You in every respect.
3. Lord, teach us to count all things as refuse on account of the excellency of the knowledge of Christ. We don't want to be good Christians or just do the right thing but be in the wrong realm. May we always learn to take Christ as our life and our everything daily.
4. Lord, we want to gain You thoroughly. Cause us to have an increasing sense of Your presence, feel bright and clear inwardly, feel inwardly supplied with You as our spiritual food and drink, grow in life, be transformed into Your image, and have vitality and to take action.
5. Teach us, Lord, to continually deny our self and turn to our spirit. Lord, we pray that we would learn how to set our mind on the spirit, trust and depend on You. May we learn the real secret of living the Christian life for the church life, that is to set our mind on the spirit.
6. Lord, keep us protected by Your presence. Keep us in the fellowship and increase our prayers that are centered on Your economy. May we all pray in such a way that it is "no longer I, but Christ."

North America/Other Burdens

1. University Training in Glasgow, Scotland on September 8-13. Please pray that the Lord will gain many university students in Europe to pursue Him and gain Him for His Body.
2. Special Prayer for Bro. Michael Stewart and his family. Bro. Michael has recently been diagnosed with malignant brain tumour. Please pray for their whole family to be strengthened, that the Lord's perfect will be done, and that He would get the glory.

Church in Regina:

1. Pray for a meeting hall (the right one and the right place), not for a physical building, but for Your expression here in Regina.
2. Pray for our Chinese-speaking saints. Raise up shepherd-teachers to help them in the pursuit of the truth and to fully enter into the practice of the church life.
3. Pray for the upcoming school year. Remember all our young people, the high schoolers and the college students. Preserve them and keep them from this evil age.

Dispensational Transfer—The Word of God's Grace

We can testify that, by the Lord's mercy, the word of God's grace can be found in the Life-study Messages...If the young people are constituted in this way, in the recovery there will be a great dispensational transfer. I would encourage the young people to take the time over the next several years to become constituted of all the Life-study Messages. If the young people are saturated with these messages in the coming years, saturated with the word concerning God's New Testament economy, many will be useful in serving the Lord full time. They will be able to go to other cities and countries and convey to others God's New Testament economy. This will cause the situation among today's Christians to be transformed. In this way the riches in the Life-studies will become known to the entire Christian community. However, the main thing is that among us many living vessels are raised up and constituted of God's New Testament economy.

We should not think that only the young people need to be constituted of the Life-study Messages. Even those who are much older still have the time to be constituted of these messages and then have years to serve the Lord by carrying out God's New Testament economy throughout the earth." (Life-study of Acts, p. 477).

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