

Church in Regina

NEW LANGUAGE

CHRIST IS THE MAN INFERIOR TO THE ANGELS, CROWNED WITH GLORY & HONOR. (PSA.8:5; HEB.2:7)

Knowing, Experiencing, and Living the All-inclusive Christ for the Genuine Church Life —Week 6

Many verses in the New Testament tell us that at the coming of the Lord Jesus, all the saved persons who have died in the Lord will be resurrected. However, **there is a difference in the way they will participate in that resurrection.** Of all those who share in that resurrection, some will enjoy a special resurrection, an outstanding resurrection. This may be compared to a graduating class. Although all the students graduate, only the top ones share an outstanding graduation, an “extra-graduation.” Paul was pursuing this special resurrection.

The out-resurrection is nothing less than a special portion of Christ experienced by us. A special portion of Christ will be awarded to certain ones. This is similar to the hidden manna, which is different from the open manna (Rev. 2:17; Exo. 16:14-15). Both the open manna and the hidden manna are a type of Christ, but the hidden manna is a special portion. Christ is the resurrection in a general way (John 11:25), but **Christ as the out-resurrection is a special portion of Christ as a reward** (Excerpt from *A General Sketch of the New Testament in the Light of Christ and the Church* (part 2—Romans through Philemon, CWWL, 1964, vol. 2).

Philippians 3—Gaining Christ, Pursuing for the Price, and Attaining to the Out-Resurrection

Philippians 3:8 says, “I also count all things to be loss on account of the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, on account of whom I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as refuse that I may gain Christ.” Verses 12 through 14 say, “Not that I have already obtained or am already perfected...But one thing I do: Forgetting the things which are behind and stretching forward to the things which are before, I pursue toward the goal for the prize to which God in Christ Jesus has called me upward.” Verse 8 speaks of **gaining Christ**, and verse 14 speaks of **pursuing for the prize**. In fact, **the Christ who is gained in verse 8 is the prize in verse 14.** Thus, **to obtain the kingdom is to enjoy the best portion of Christ in the kingdom.** Christ reigning in resurrection is the best portion of Christ, which can be obtained only in the kingdom. Christ being life and peace is our basic enjoyment, yet Christ ruling in resurrection with all authority in heaven and on earth can be enjoyed by us only in the kingdom.

In [Philippians 3] verses 11 and 12 Paul says, “If perhaps I may attain to the out-resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained.” This word shows that **Paul had no confidence that he had attained to the out-resurrection.** Here, the word resurrection in Greek is preceded by a prefix (ek) meaning “outstanding,” indicating that this is an extra, outstanding resurrection. In 1 Thessalonians 4:16 Paul says that all the dead believers will rise. However, the resurrection in Philippians 3:11 is different from the resurrection in 1 Thessalonians; the former is an out-resurrection. This out-resurrection is not only to be resurrected but also to rise and be co-kings with the Lord as a reward from Him. According to the New Testament revelation, we do not obtain all the blessings in God’s salvation simply by believing. In the future there will be a prize for certain believers, that is, the out-resurrection. **This out-resurrection is to rule and reign with Christ in resurrection.**

Before speaking of the out-resurrection, Philippians 3 refers to knowing Christ and the power of His resurrection (v. 10). **Knowing the power of Christ’s resurrection is not only in the future but also for today.** The principle in these verses is that **our reward in the future is based on our experience of Christ today.** If we experience the power of Christ’s resurrection today, Christ will reward us in the future with the out-resurrection. Only those who are willing to **suffer the loss of all things** and **count them as refuse** in order to experience the power of Christ’s resurrection can obtain the out-resurrection and be co-kings with Christ as a reward in the future. Our reward in the future is entirely based on our experience of Christ today. If we desire to experience Christ, **we need to live by God’s life and let God be mingled with us.** We also need to **leave everything behind and abandon ourselves** in order to gain Christ. (Reward and Punishment, CWWL, 1955, vol. 3)

Announcements:

- ◆ Combined Prayer Mtg—October 3
- ◆ Church Pursuit—October 9
- ◆ **NEW Morning Revival—Knowing, Experiencing, and Living the All-inclusive Christ for the Genuine Church Life (Soft Copy Only)**

Church Meetings:

- ◆ Lord’s Table & Prophesying, Lord’s Day, 10:00-12:00PM
- ◆ Prayer Meeting, Tuesdays, 7:00-8:00PM
- ◆ Chinese-Speaking Bible Reading MWF 8:30-9:00PM
- ◆ YP & College Meetings, Fridays, 7:30-8:30PM
- ◆ Children’s Meeting, Saturdays, 10:00-11:00AM
- ◆ Small Group Meeting, Saturdays, 7:00-9:00PM

Contact Us:

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Prayer Burdens:

1. Praise You, Lord for coming out of the old creation and being One who is absolutely in God, attaining the out-resurrection. Give us this mind to have the understanding and realization that we must pursue one thing – to have our living in the out-resurrection.
2. Lord, we want to know You, the power of Your resurrection, the fellowship of Your sufferings and be conformed to Your death so that we may reach the goal of the out-resurrection.
3. Lord, cause us to forget the things which are behind and to stretch forward to the things before us so that we can have the fullest enjoyment and gaining of You, and attain the uttermost enjoyment of You in the millennial kingdom.
4. Lord, we want to experience and practice living the out-resurrection in our lifetime. Cast away our natural life with its thoughts and habits that nothing may hinder the out-resurrection.
5. Conform us to Your death that we might experience the power of Your resurrection and enter into the fellowship of Your sufferings. We want to attain to the out-resurrection today, so that we may enjoy it in the coming kingdom.
6. Keep us conformed to Your death that we may attain to the out-resurrection. May our experience be in resurrection every day. Renew our inner man that we may all arrive at the out-resurrection as the prize.

North America/Other Burdens

1. Please pray for the release of the up-to-date speaking to the leading brothers who will be attending the ITERO on October 5 to 7 in Manila, Philippines. May Your burden be released for the advancement of Your recovery in this age.
2. Gospel trips in Germany, Switzerland, and Austria (8-22 October) The saints in the recovery are invited to join the campus labor at the beginning of the university year in Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. Please pray that the Lord will gain many students in these three countries as remaining fruit and for the spread of the Lord's testimony in these countries through the gospel trips. For more information and to register, see bit.ly/GermanyGospelTrips.

Church in Regina:

1. Pray for our Chinese-speaking saints. Sustain the synchronized Bible reading every Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings. Encourage all to go on and have a habit of reading the Word.
2. Pray for the University of Regina. Pray for the students who came to the welcome dinner. May they have the real hunger for knowing the Lord and may there be regular contact with them throughout the semester. Release all the students to know You and attend the weekly campus meetings.

Misaiming Concerning Heaven Being Paradise

Misaiming: "It is important to understand that the pleasures of heaven will far exceed anything that human beings have ever known on earth. Indeed, heaven is often described as 'paradise,' a word that literally means 'garden of pleasure' or 'garden of delight'" (Ron Rhodes, *What Did Jesus Mean?*, 1999, p. 185).

Truth: The main error here is the author's confusion of Paradise with heaven, a misaiming resulting from not "cutting straight the word of the truth" (2 Tim. 2:15). The "third heaven" and "Paradise" are syntactically differentiated in 2 Corinthians 12. First, in verse 2 Paul says, "I know a man in Christ, fourteen years ago (whether in the body I do not know, or outside the body I do not know; God knows) such a one was caught away to the third heaven". He then introduces a parallel statement in verses 3 and 4: "And I know such a man...that he was caught away into Paradise. This distinction indicates that Paul was speaking of two separate places and events. Paul was caught away both to the third heaven and to Paradise. Additionally, the Greek word here translated "caught away" does not necessarily mean caught up. It literally means "translated, transported," and hence can be rendered "caught up" to the air, as in 1 Thessalonians 4: 17, or "caught away" to another geographical location, as Philip was in Acts 8:39. Here in 2 Corinthians, Paul uses this term to describe two separate changes of location one to the third heaven and another to Paradise. A second error in this passage is its assertion that our destination is heaven as Paradise with all its surpassing pleasures. Actually, **our chief pleasure is Christ Himself (Phil. 3:8) and our experience of being with Him (1:23). Our destination is also Christ (3:9), the One who is the embodiment of all spiritual and heavenly blessings (Eph. 1:3).** To regard heaven as a place of surpassing pleasures, apart from the person of Christ, is to create myths rather than to explicate the truth. Whether we are in Paradise, on earth, or in the third heaven, God has ordained and provided all the pleasure and delight we will ever need in the precious person of Christ (*Affirmation and Critique: The Ultimate Consummation of God's Economy: Heaven or the New Jerusalem? Vol. V, No. 2, April 2000*)

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