

Church in Regina

NEW LANGUAGE

CHRIST IS THE LIGHT (GEN.1:3; JOHN 8:12; 9:5)

Knowing, Experiencing, and Living the All-inclusive Christ for the Genuine Church Life —Week 7

The Lord told His people that they must come together to worship Him at least three times a year: at the time of the *Passover*, at the time of *Pentecost*, and at the Feast of *Tabernacles*. And He told them that **whenever they come together...they must bring something in their hands to Him, something of the produce of the good land**. If they were lazy and did not work on the land, not only would they be unable to bring anything to the Lord, but they would have nothing to satisfy themselves; they would be hungry.

Brothers and sisters, we must realize that whenever we come to the meetings, whenever we come to worship the Lord, **we should not come with our hands empty**. We must **come with our hands full of the produce of Christ**. We have to labor on Christ day by day so that we produce Him in mass production. We need more than just a little of Christ to satisfy our own needs. We must **produce enough of Him** so that there will be a **surplus remaining for others**, for the poor and for the needy: "You must open your hand to your brother, to the poor one with you and to the needy one with you in your land" (Deut. 15:11). There must also be a surplus to meet the needs of the priests and the Levites: "This shall be the priests' rightful due from the people, from those who offer a sacrifice, whether an ox or a sheep: They shall give the priest the shoulder...You shall give him the firstfruits of your grain, of your new wine, and of your fresh oil, and the first shearing of your sheep" (18:3-4). And **above all, the best of the surplus must be reserved for the Lord**: "Then to the place where Jehovah your God will choose to cause His name to dwell, there you shall bring all that I am commanding you, your burnt offerings and your sacrifices, your tithes and the heave offering of your hand and all your choice vows which you vow to Jehovah" (12:11). When they harvested the field, they were to reserve **the firstfruits for the Lord**. When the cattle were brought forth, the firstborn were for the Lord. **We must labor diligently, not only to bring forth enough to satisfy our own needs but also to acquire a surplus to meet the needs of others, with the best reserved for the Lord**. Then we will be acceptable to the Lord, and He will be pleased with us.

This is **the life in the good land**. It is a life in which we are **continually laboring on Christ**, in which we are producing Him in a mass way. We are reaping so much of Christ that we are fully satisfied, and beyond that we have a surplus to share with others and to worship God. **To worship God with Christ** does not mean to worship Him individually but **to worship Him collectively with all the children of God by enjoying Christ with one another and with God**. When you come, you bring something of Christ. When he comes, he brings something of Christ. Everyone brings a portion of Christ from his laboring on Him, and there is a rich enjoyment of Christ, not only by all the saints but most of all by God, to whom the best is offered.

How to Labour on Christ

We have seen briefly our need to work on Christ and make Christ our industry...**How can we apply it in a practical way? What must we do to work on Christ daily?** Let me illustrate. Every morning you need to pray, "Lord, I consecrate myself once more to You, not to work for You but to enjoy You." You must consecrate yourself sincerely to the Lord for the simple purpose of enjoying and experiencing Him—nothing more. From the moment you awake in the morning, you need to say, "Lord, here I am. I give myself to enjoy You. Grant me through the entire day, from this moment on, to experience and apply You in every situation. I am not asking for anything tomorrow. I am asking for grace to enjoy You today. Show me how to till the ground, sow the seed, and water the plants of the Lord." Moment by moment through the whole day you will maintain your communion with the Lord. You will live practically in the Lord, laboring on Him, applying Him, and enjoying Him. If you do this, consider how fruitful and how beautiful your "farm" will be. The farm of Christ in your daily life will be full of produce. When the Lord's Day comes, and you go to worship the Lord with the saints, you will be able to say, "I am going now to see my God; I am going to worship my Lord. I will not go with empty hands but with hands full of Christ. I have a surplus, and in my right hand is the best part reserved for my dear Lord." When you come to the meeting, a brother may approach you, saying, "I am having a certain problem. Could you help me?" You can have a little fellowship with him and pass on some of your surplus of Christ. You can give him a little of the produce from the Christ upon whom you have been laboring, the Christ whom you have been enjoying day by day. You have been abundantly satisfied with Him, and you have something over to share with the brothers and sisters. When the meeting begins, you are well prepared to offer your prayers and praises to the Lord from your reserve for Him. This is the best of your surplus, and with the saints you joyfully render it to the Lord for His enjoyment and satisfaction. You have reaped enough of Christ for yourself, for the needy ones, and for the Lord. You have furthermore put aside a considerable portion that will stand you in good stead in future days.

If we are rich with Christ, we must necessarily be rich with work, rich with industry. **In Christ we cannot be lazy**. We must **let God enjoy Christ with us and at the same time with others**. If you do this, I do this, and we all do this, how wonderful the meetings will be when we come together to worship the Lord. I will share with you, and you will share with me. You will give me something of the Lord, and I will give you something in exchange. There will be every kind of sharing and mutual enjoyment. And the Lord will have His full portion (Excerpts from The All-Inclusive Christ, pp. 342-352).

Announcements:

- ◆ Thanksgiving Conference
- Msg 1—Nov. 23 (7:30pm)
- Msg 2—Nov. 24 (4:00pm)
- Msg 3&4—Nov. 25 (4:00pm/7:00pm)
- Msg 5&6—Nov. 26 (4:00pm/7:00pm)
- **Msgs 2 to 6—Combined by Small Groups
- ◆ Brothers' Mtg—Nov. 26

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

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Prayer Burdens:

1. Lord, cause us to be diligent to labor on the good land, seeking and enjoying You in every situation. Lord, make us those who are diligent to fellowship with You especially in the morning that we may experience You during the day and all day long.
2. Lord, keep us enjoying You today. May we be those who labor on You and let You give us much produce. Grant us every day's portion of grace. We consecrate ourselves daily for the purpose of experiencing and enjoying You by laboring on You as the good land.
3. Teach us, Lord to always to exercise our spirit and to contact the Spirit. Throughout the day, in every situation and in all our circumstances, remind us always to turn and exercise our spirit.
4. Lord, we want to enjoy You as a spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey. Keep our being open to You always in fellowship with You, so that we may be infused with Your riches. Keep us enjoying Your sweetness, Your goodness, and Your riches.
5. Lord, may we be those who are constituted with You as milk and honey so that we may minister Your goodness and sweetness to others. Bring us further and higher to experience and enjoy Your redeeming and generating life day by day.
6. Lord, keep us coming to You throughout the day. Increase our capacity to daily labor on You until we have a surplus, a harvest to bring to the church meetings for the corporate worship of God the Father.

North America/Other Burdens

1. Migration to six European cities and strengthening of lampstands—Barcelona, Brussels, Dublin, Lisbon, Rome and Zurich.
2. Thanksgiving Conference in Dallas Texas on November 23 to 26. Pray for the release of the Spirit and the Lord's rich speaking to all the saints in the Lord's Recovery through this conference.

Church in Regina:

1. Pray for our campus work and the new students who are attending regularly: Chiara, Hope, Lysa, Matthew, Daine. Preserve these new ones and pray for their baptism.
2. Pray for the small group meetings. Strengthen and blend us all through these weekly meetings. Sanctify this time and pray for everyone's attendance to be a consecrated time to practice living the genuine church life.

Misaiming Concerning Mixing Culture with Worship

Misaiming: "What Determines the Worship Model? I think we should let culture determine the worship style....So, if you're in California, you should have a California culture church. If you're in Ohio, you have an Ohio culture church. If you're in Mississippi, you should have a Mississippi culture church" (Rick Warren, "Let Culture Determine Your Style of Worship," Pulpit Helps, June 2001, pp. 1-2).

Truth: The quotation above misdirects the believers with the erroneous notion that worship should be determined by contemporary regional culture. This thought leavens the possibility for true worship with culture in order to make worship more accessible. This notion contains a major error. The New Testament strongly declares that human culture with all of its inherent ordinances and enmity has been completely annulled on the cross of Christ. All the cultural differences between Jews and Gentiles—representing all humankind—were done away with on the cross, and as a result, both peoples have been fully reconciled to God in one Body (Eph. 2:16). Whereas the cross has expunged culture, this article welcomes culture back into the worship of the church. It promises that culture will build up the church; conversely, however, the New Testament warns us that **culture divides the church**. Paul proclaims that in the church "there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all and in all" (Col. 3:11). According to the divine revelation of Scripture, there cannot be California, Ohio, or any other kind of culture in the church life. Rather, all cultures of the old adamic race have been replaced with the divine attributes and human virtues of the wonderful person of Jesus Christ. Here, in His Body the church, He alone is all in all. But if we heed the advice of this author, we could have a Yankee church in Connecticut, a beach church in Florida, and a cowboy church in Texas. In other words, we would introduce even more divisions into the Body of Christ than there already are. **We should not be bound to any form of culture.** Instead, we should be bound uniquely to Christ, and all worship should simply be an expression of Christ within His members. (Affirmation and Critique, Transformation, Vol. VI • No. 2 • October 2001)

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