

Church in Regina

NEW LANGUAGE

CHRIST IS THE TREE OF LIFE (GEN.2:9; JOHN 1:4; 15:5)

Knowing, Experiencing, and Living the All-inclusive Christ for the Genuine Church Life —Week 8

The Model of Christ Cherishing the Churches and Nourishing the Churches in Taking Care of the Churches

Christ is the best model of **cherishing** and **nourishing** as seen in Revelation 1. In verses 12 and 13 John says, "I turned to see the voice that spoke with me; and when I turned, I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands One like the **Son of Man, clothed with a garment** reaching to the feet, and **girded about at the breasts with a golden girdle.**" This shows that Christ is taking care of the lampstands by being the Son of Man with a long garment. This garment is **the priestly robe** (Exo. 28:33-35), which shows that **Christ is our great High Priest.**

He is also girded about at the breasts with **a golden girdle.** This girdle is a long piece of gold. The girdle and the gold are not two separate things. The girdle is the gold. The golden girdle is one piece of gold to become a belt. **The Son of Man is in His humanity, and the golden girdle signifies His divinity.** This golden girdle is on His breasts, and the breasts are a sign of love.

The priests in the Old Testament were girded at the loins for their ministry (Exo. 28:4). In Daniel 10:5 Christ also was girded at His loins, with fine gold. To be girded at the loins is to be strengthened for the work. **Christ has finished His divine work in producing the churches.** Now by His love He is caring for the churches that He has produced. This is why He is girded at the breasts. **Today Christ is our High Priest taking care of His churches established by His labor.** But now He takes care of the churches with the girdle not on His loins but on His breasts, signifying love. I hope we all could realize that in these days even among us, Christ is wearing a golden girdle on His breasts.

The golden girdle is a sign, signifying **Christ's divinity becoming His energy.** Christ's energy is totally His divinity. A piece of gold is now a girdle. The totality of Christ in His divinity has become a girdle. The golden girdle signifies Christ's divinity becoming His energy, and the breasts signify that this golden energy is exercised and motivated by His love. His divine energy is exercised by and with His love to nourish the churches.

Taking Care of the Churches in His Humanity—By Dressing the Lamps and By Trimming the Wicks

He does this by **dressing the lamps** of the lampstand. The high priest in the Old Testament dressed the lamps of the lampstands every morning (Exo. 30:7). To dress the lamps is **to make them proper...** Christ cares for the lampstands by **trimming the wicks** of the lamps of the lampstand, just as the priest did according to the type in the Old Testament (Exo. 25:38). When the wick was burned out, it became charred and black, so the priest had to come to cut off the black part of the wick. This is what it means to snuff the wick so that the lamp may shine better. **The charred part of the wick, the snuff, signifies things that are not according to God's purpose which need to be cut off, such as our flesh, our natural man, our self, and our old creation.** All the lampstands are organic. They are living lampstands. Since each church is a living lampstand, each church has much feeling. A church with charred wicks will not feel comfortable.

Taking Care of the Churches in His Divinity

Christ, as the High Priest, takes care of the churches as the lampstands in His divinity **with His divine love,** signified by the golden girdle on His breasts, **to nourish the churches** (Rev. 1:13b). Christ is not only human but also divine. He is the Son of Man wearing a golden girdle, signifying His divinity as His divine energy. His divinity as the divine energy nourishes the churches in many ways.

With His Divine and Mystical Ministry by Love in His Three Stages

He is also the High Priest with His divinity as the "energy belt" to nourish us with Himself as the all-inclusive Christ in His full ministry of three stages.

That the Churches May Grow and Mature in His Divine Life

His nourishing the churches in His divinity is so that the churches may grow and mature in His divine life and become the overcomers in His sevenfold intensification.

Our Christ today is our High Priest. In His humanity He is easily touched with the feeling of our weaknesses. **He sympathizes with our weakness because He was tempted in all respects like us.** He is cherishing us in His humanity. Meanwhile, He is nourishing us in His divinity with all the positive aspects of His person revealed in the seven epistles to the seven churches in Revelation 2 and 3. He is taking care of the churches in the recovery in both ways. In His humanity He is cherishing us to make us proper so that we may be happy, pleasant, and comfortable. In His divinity He is nourishing us so that we may grow and mature in the divine life to be His overcomers to accomplish His eternal economy. (The Vital Groups, pp. 104-109)

Announcements:

- ◆ Thanksgiving Conference
Msg 5&6—Nov. 26 (4:00pm/7:00pm)
- ◆ Brothers' Mtg—Nov. 26
- ◆ New Morning Revival: An Overview of the Central Burden and Present Truth of the Lord's Recovery before His Appearing

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 Jesus, cause us to see the vision of Christ in glory, even in our down situations. We want to exercise our spirit to pray. Open our inner eyes, soften our hearts, and keep our hearts turned to You.
2. Lord, cause to us see God, know God, and love God above all so we can deny ourselves. May we gain more of God and see this vision. Purge us and cleanse us from our uncleanness so that we might express You in Your glory.
3. Lord, impress us more to realize that the entire world situation is under the rule of the heavens in order to give You the preeminence in all things. Have the first place in everything, even in our personal universe.
4. Praise You, Lord for You are girded both to produce the churches and also care for us. Lord, we want to enjoy the cherishing atmosphere of Your presence so that we can receive the nourishing supply of life.
5. Lord, You know the condition of each church because You are the walking Christ. Thank You for nourishing us so that we may grow and mature in the divine life to be Your overcomers to accomplish Your eternal economy. You are the One who live forever and ever!
6. Lord Jesus, we want to redeem the time to enjoy You as the supreme preciousness of God. Grant us the light to have a thorough change in our concept of value so that we will continually choose Christ!

North America/Other Burdens

1. 2023 Iberian Peninsula Conference in Malaga, Spain on December 1 to 3.
2. Student and Young Adults' Conference for German-speaking areas on December 1 to 3. Pray for the release of the Spirit and the Lord's rich speaking to all the saints in the Lord's Recovery through these conferences.

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 Brother Radam and his wife's permanent residence application to Canada.
3. Pray for Brother Wilson and Jenny Orolfo's family. Strengthen them in their tripartite being as they adjust and settle here in Regina. Remind them to always turn to You every day.

Misaiming Concerning the Nature of Man

Misaiming: "The Scriptures teach that the soul of man represents the whole man, and not a particular part independent of the other component parts of man's nature" (Seventh-day Adventists Answer Questions on Doctrine, p. 515).

Truth: The clear testimony of Scripture declares that man is tripartite: spirit, soul, and body (1 Thes. 5:23). Contrary to the notion presented above, the three parts of man, while certainly interdependent and interrelated, also have independent functions (Heb. 4:12). During one's earthly pilgrimage, this body serves as the temporary tabernacle of one's inner being (2 Cor. 5:1), comprising both the human spirit and human soul. Thus, when the inner man is separated from the outer man, the body, physical death occurs. The body goes to the grave, but in the case of believers, the soul and spirit go to Paradise (Luke 23:43). This is why the New Testament records that the martyred saints are in Paradise. Their soul and spirit are in Paradise, where the Lord assured the repentant thief at Calvary that he would be. That thief left his physical body in the grave, but his soul and spirit went to Paradise. When the Lord returns, even our fallen, corrupted bodies will be transfigured into ones freed from the element of mortality. Contrary to the notion that the soul sleeps in the grave with the body (the doctrine of "soul sleep"), the Scriptures make it evident that the believer departs to "be with Christ" and waits in Paradise for the day of resurrection (Phil. 1:23). At that time, the spirit and soul will be reunited with a new body, an immortal one. (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