

Church in Regina

NEW LANGUAGE

CHRIST IS THE SACRIFICE AFFORDING THE COATS OF SKINS FOR ADAM AND EVE (GEN. 3:21; GAL. 3:27).

An Overview of the Central Burden and Present Truth of the Lord's Recovery Before His Appearing—Wk 3

The Church Built Not by Outward Organization But Through Inward Transformation

Concerning the building up of the church, we **do not trust in outward organization**; rather, we pay our **full attention to the inward transformation**, that is, to the inner constituting by the spiritual metabolism. In different kinds of meetings, we endeavor to **minister Christ into the saints as their spiritual food and drink**. The more we receive Christ in this way, the more we will experience the inner, spiritual metabolism. This metabolism is transformation, and transformation is the building.

Just as every member of our physical body is organic, so every member of the Body of Christ is organic. **The church is a group of transformed people who have grown into one organism, the organic Body of Christ**. The way to be built up as this organism is to grow, and the way to grow is to eat, drink, and breathe Christ. **No matter what our race or nationality** may be, we are all undergoing the **same metabolic process** that day by day produces transformation, which equals building. This is the spiritual growth and also the spiritual building.

Every member of our physical body is not only organic but also inseparably connected to our body, for all the members have grown together organically to be one body. The principle is the same with the Body of Christ. As one who has been in the church for over sixty years, I can testify that I cannot be separated from the church. Without the church I could not live, for **apart from the church, life would have no meaning**.

Four Layers of Building

We need to have the proper understanding of the building up of the Body of Christ. First, according to Matthew 16:18, *the Lord builds*. Then He builds through the *gifted persons, the apostles, prophets, evangelists, and shepherds and teachers* (Eph. 4:11). He then builds the church *through us, the perfected saints* (v. 12). These are three layers of building. Eventually, *the Body builds* itself up (v. 16). This is the fourth layer. This is all by ministering Christ as the daily supply, as food, water, and breath.

We cannot build the church. We can only minister Christ to others. When they are **nourished with Christ** as their supply, a spiritual metabolism within them transforms them into His image and makes them just Him. Such a **metabolic transformation** is both the growth and the building up. This is the way the Lord Jesus builds us into the church (Excerpts from the Life-Study of 1 & 2 Samuel, ch. 24).

Taking Heed How We Build Upon the Foundation

We must **take heed not to build with anything other than Christ**. This means that whenever we give a message or a testimony, or whenever we have fellowship with others, we must **be careful not to give others anything except Christ**. Furthermore, the Christ we share should not be a doctrinal Christ, but a Christ whom we have experienced. We should minister not merely the knowledge of Christ or the doctrine of Christ, but Christ Himself. **In everything we do** in the church life, we must take heed not to minister anything other than the Christ we have experienced...

It is **very easy to build on the foundation with something natural** or something of our culture, even though we have no intention to do so and are not aware of what we are doing. For example, we may build with something American, Chinese, or German. Furthermore, we may also build with certain elements common to the culture of our particular region. If we minister to others in this way, we are very careless. We are not taking heed how we build...**It is crucial for us all to learn to build upon Christ as the foundation with the Christ we have experienced in a practical way**. There is a lack of such building among us. I am concerned that many brothers and sisters will simply repeat messages in a doctrinal way. What is **urgently needed** is the **actual, practical, present, and living** Christ in our experience. To build with such a Christ is to take heed how we build (Excerpts from the Life-Study of 1 Corinthians, ch. 26).

Announcements:

- ◆ Brothers' Meeting—December 17
- ◆ Winter Training—December 25 to 30
Fee \$180 CAD (Video)
Fee \$280 CAD (Live)

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. Thank You, Lord for coming to us to build Yourself into us. Reconstitute our entire being so You only would become our intrinsic constitution. Make us Your particular and peculiar people.
2. Lord, have mercy on us that we would afford the seed of divinity to grow in us. We want to participate in Your building work by the growth of this seed, in the mingled spirit where we can experience the Father's nature, the Son's redemption, and the Spirit's transformation.
3. Lord, continue to make home downward in every part of our heart. As You make home, may we be rooted deeper in God's farm, grounded in God's building and be able to apprehend Your immeasurable dimension with all the saints.
4. Lord, save us from being empty. Cause our work to minister the processed, consummated Triune God into others so You may build Yourself into our inner man. Our work today is to build with gold, silver, and precious stones.
5. Teach us to work in the way of mutual constitution – of building humanity into divinity and divinity into humanity. Constitute Yourself into us that You may become our element.
6. Grant us the vision to see the New Jerusalem – the mutual dwelling place of God and man. Lord, remind us to be in fear and trembling to adorn the New Jerusalem with God the Father as the pure gold, God the Son as the pearl, and God the Spirit for the wall of precious stones.

North America/Other Burdens

1. The UK Building Project—new training center in London at Bower House. Construction will begin in December 2023.
2. Meeting halls in Malaga and Barcelona, Spain; Paris, France; and Stuttgart, Germany. Please pray that the Lord will continue to provide for the remodeling of these properties.
3. Pray for the Winter Training on December 25 to 30, 2023.

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 Church in Regina's direction for 2024. Revive us, Lord, to be shepherds feeding people. Increase our capacity to learn to feed, to shepherd, and to flock together. Pray for each small group meeting and for every one's revival.

Misaiming Concerning Grace

Misaiming: The exact and discriminate meaning of the word grace should be crystal clear to every child of God...The word favor is the nearest biblical synonym for the word grace...Grace is favor, and favor is grace...Grace means pure unrequited kindness and favor (Journal of the Grace Evangelical Society, Autumn 1994, pp. 37-38).

Truth: John 1:16 says, "For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace." The fullness of Christ is dispensed to His believers in waves of grace. But what is this fullness? Colossians 2:9 says of Christ, "For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily." **Grace is thus the continuous dispensing of God Himself in Christ.** The Epistles make this very clear. In Galatians 2:20 Paul says, "It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me." However, in the sister verse (1 Cor. 15:10), Paul replaces Christ with grace: "I labored...yet not I but the grace of God." **Grace here is equated with Christ and is in fact personified.** Paul also personifies grace in Titus 2:11-12: "For the grace of God...has appeared, training us." Grace is personified as a trainer. How shallow to think that mere favor or kindness could train us to live the Christian life! It is God in Christ as the Spirit, daily received and enjoyed, that trains us to live soberly in this age. In two more instances grace is synonymous with Christ. "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit" (Gal. 6:18). "The Lord be with your spirit" (2 Tim. 4:22). In addition, Ephesians 6:10 says, "Be empowered in the Lord," and 2 Timothy 2:1 says, "Be empowered in the grace." **When we have Christ with our spirit, we have grace with our spirit, and when we are empowered in the Lord, we are empowered in grace** (Affirmation and Critique, 1996, Experiencing the Triune God Vol. I No. 2 April 1996).

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