

Church in Regina

Living and Serving According to God's Economy Concerning the Church—Week 8

THE FUNCTION OF THE CHURCH

Among Christians today the standard of the church is far below God's standard revealed in 3:15 and 16. In order to reach this standard, the church must have *all the characteristics* described in the first two and a half chapters of 1 Timothy. There must be *no differing teachings*, and *God's economy must be practiced continually*. The leading ones must have *a prayer life*, and all the other brothers must follow them to pray in every place. Furthermore, the sisters should *remain in faith, love, and holiness with sobriety*. Then the government of the church must be established with the *two offices of elders and deacons*. It is our expectation to practice this kind of church life. We praise the Lord that in His recovery we have seen such a church life at least to a certain extent. Whenever God's standard for the church is attained as outlined in 1 Timothy, *the church will function as the house of the living God and the pillar and base upholding the truth*. This is *also the great mystery of godliness, the manifestation of God in the flesh*. Not only was the Lord Jesus the manifestation of God in the past; the church today should also be the manifestation of God. This is the goal, the aim, of these four Epistles written by Paul.

Even though Paul witnessed the beginning of the decline of the church, he was not disappointed or discouraged. Because he had both insight and foresight, he could be encouraged. He knew that some day and somehow *the church would reach God's standard*. The majority of the believers may decline, but *a small number* at least would be chosen, preserved, and established to practice the church life according to the divine standard.

We in the Lord's recovery can testify of the great difference between the recovery and today's organized Christianity. Reconciliation between the two is impossible. All the saints should be encouraged that the situation in the Lord's recovery is heading toward God's standard. This **standard** is that *the church should function as the house of the living God, the pillar and base of the truth, and as the great mystery of godliness, God manifest in the flesh*. The church life today must be the manifestation of God in the flesh. When visitors, including those who have not yet believed in the Lord, come to the meetings and behold such a manifestation, they will no doubt be greatly surprised. They may say, "What is this? It is different from anything we have seen elsewhere. It is even different from the church services in religion." Yes, the church is different; it is the house of the living God, the pillar and base of the truth, and the manifestation of God in the flesh. **Every local church must reach this standard and continue according to it**. There should be no decline; rather, *we should maintain God's standard* until the glorious appearing of our Head, the Savior, Jesus Christ (Excerpt from the Life-Study of 1 Timothy, ch. 6).

Local Announcements:

1. Prayer Mtg—Apr. 23 (Group 1—Zoom; Group 2—In person)
2. Brothers' Mtg—Apr. 28
3. Church Activity / Blending Conference in Edmonton on May 3 to 5.
4. Summer Training Registration Deadline—May 1

Conferences and Trainings Information:

1. Chinese-Speaking Blending Conference—Feb.10-11, Taipei, Taiwan
2. International Training for Elders & Responsible Ones—Apr.12-14, Anaheim, CA
3. Memorial Day Blending Conference—May 24-27, Bellevue, WA
4. Summer Training—July 1-6, Anaheim, CA
5. International Training for Elders & Responsible Ones—Oct.4-6, Warsaw, Poland
6. Thanksgiving Blending Conference—Nov.28-Dec.1, Atlanta, GA
7. Winter Training—Dec.23-28, Anaheim, CA

Prayer Burdens

1. Thank You Lord for regenerating us, revealing to us, and including us to be Your house, the church. Grant us more growth that the church will also be growing and living.
2. Teach us to conduct ourselves in the church, living as You are living. We are not only Your called out ones, but we have been born of God to be Your house. Be so real and subjective to us.
3. Lord, we want to grow and be transformed for the building up of Your house. May the food we eat be suitable for the growth of Your house. Cause us to turn and remain in our spirit day by day that You can be manifested in our living in the church.
4. Lord, we want to experience You as life inwardly and as truth as its definition. You are the way, the reality, and life. Bother us to spend adequate time to learn the truth so we may spontaneously touch life.
5. Make us pillars that bear the truth and the base that upholds the pillar. Recover the high gospel and the high peak truth. May the church bear all that You are as reality and truth.
6. Lord, may we all see the reality and be enlightened as we come to the Word. We pray that our daily walk will be just looking to You for enlightenment, that the reality that we see turn into experience. Strengthen us, strengthen Your house, grant us the sufficient grace that we would have the proper practice to be filled with life and truth.

North America/Europe/Other Burdens

1. Please pray for the Conference in Paris, France and Warsaw, Poland on May 3 to 5. Please pray that many saints will attend and for the release of the Lord's burden and supply in these two conferences.

Church in Regina

1. Pray for the baptism of the new college students who will be joining the College Training.
2. Pray for the new ones. Encourage them each day to enjoy You, enjoy Your word, and exercise their spirit. Preserve them in the church life and bless them sevenfold with Yourself.
3. Pray for positive and immediate approval of all the immigration papers of the newcomers and their settling down, that their personal lives will be blessed and that their church life will be enriched:
 - > Sorronda Family (Dana and Yeska)
 - > Alforte Family (Radam and Rosalina)
 - > Orolfo Family (Wilson and Jenny and their three children)
 - > Jerome Family (Pravin and Abinaya and their two children)
 - > Miranda Family (Ann Margarette and her family)

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

- Lord's Table & Prophesying—Lord's Day 10:00-12:00PM
- Prayer Meeting—Tuesdays 7:00-8:00PM
- Home Meeting—Wednesdays 6:00-7:00PM
- Chinese-Speaking Bible Reading—MW 8:30-9:00PM
- College Meetings—Fridays 7:30-8:30PM
- YP Meetings—Fridays 7:00-8:00 PM
- Children's Meeting—Saturdays 10:00-11:00AM
- Small Group Meetings—Fridays/Saturdays 7:00-9:00PM

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