

Church in Regina

Being a Vessel Unto Honor, A Fully Equipped Man of God, By Being Empowered in the Grace
Which is in Christ Jesus to Fully Accomplish Our Ministry in the Unique Ministry of God's Economy—Week 2

God's Economy, Arrangement, Administration, Dispensation, and Stewardship

Ephesians 1:8-11 says, "Which He caused to abound to us in all wisdom and prudence, making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself, unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him; in whom also we were designated as an inheritance, having been predestinated according to the purpose of the One who works all things according to the counsel of His will."

In this passage we can see [God's eternal purpose concerning the church](#). The church is something of God's economy. The word economy means "an arrangement, an administration, a dispensation, a stewardship." When we put all these words together—stewardship, dispensation, arrangement, administration—we have an economy. The word economy means very much. It means that [God made an arrangement and an administration to do something](#), which is [to dispense Himself to man](#).

The church is the central matter in God's economy. To use our human words, the church is God's "business." Business is the central matter in an economy. A big corporation has an economy to do a certain business. God also has an economy, and in this economy God's divine business is the church. [God's economy is to have the church](#). Therefore, **the church is not a small item**. Many Christians do not realize the church to such an extent. We may have the thought that the church is merely a gathering of people who were fallen and now are saved and come together to worship God. However, this is too low a thought. If we think this, we have never looked from the heavens, and we have never looked from eternity. If we would look from the heavens and into eternity, we will **see that the church is higher** than the traditional Christian thought about it. [It is the central item of God's economy](#). God's dispensation, administration, arrangement, and governmental stewardship are for the church. We need to realize the church to such an extent.

Because the church is the central item in God's economy, it was planned by God. [The church did not come about by accident or all of a sudden](#). It was planned by God in eternity past. That is why Ephesians 1:10 mentions God's economy concerning the church, and 3:11 speaks of the eternal purpose which God made. God purposed and planned to have the church.

The Church Being Eternal in Nature

The church is something eternal because it is something of the eternal plan of God. Eternal is a matter not only of time but also of nature. Eternal means unlimited in time, but it also refers to the uncreated nature. Anything that is created is not eternal; anything uncreated is eternal. Only God is uncreated, so only God is eternal. **If the church were not mingled with God, the church could not be eternal**. All created things are merely in time, not in eternity. Only when God Himself mingles with us do we have eternity, the eternal nature.

The Church Being in God Himself

The church is according to the economy of God; it is the purpose, or plan, of God, and it is eternal. The church is also in God Himself (1:4-5). Verse 5 says, "Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will." Several times the writer of Ephesians uses the word Himself with emphasis, instead of simply Him (v. 9; 2:15; 4:11; 5:2, 27). The church must be something of God and in God Himself. [To be in God Himself is the real meaning of the word holy](#). The wooden boards of the tabernacle became golden by being in the gold. In the same way, to be holy means to be in God.

The Church Being in Christ and for Christ

The church is also something [in Christ](#) and [for Christ](#) (Rom. 12:5; 1 Cor. 1:30; Gal. 1:22; Eph. 2:6, 10; 3:10-11). I hope that you would remember well these five points: the church is God's purpose, it is God's economy, it is eternal, it is in God Himself, and it is in Christ (Excerpts from The Vision, Practice and Building Up of the Church as the Body of Christ, CWWL, 1965, vol. 1).

Local Announcements:

1. Prayer Meeting Grp 1 in person; Grp 2 by Zoom
2. Churching in Lethbridge—Sept 22
3. Brothers' Mtg—Sept 29
4. Children's Fun Day—Sept 29

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. Lord, we are for Your purpose. You are our Creator and Savior—creating us to place us into You, making us one with You, and saving us to rescue us and bring us back to our original purpose. Enlarge our view to see Your desire and make it our own.
2. Lord, deal with each one of us, that we may gain You to the fullest extent, and that You might be expressed through us, for the fullness of Your eternal purpose.
3. Thank You for calling us, mingling Yourself with us, and predestinating us into sonship. Cause us to know and do Your will for the fulfilment of Your purpose. May we, the church, display Your multifarious wisdom and head up all things in Christ.
4. Lord, continue to recover the full knowledge and experience of Your will among us. Day by day, remind us to walk in You, experience You, and apply You in everything in our daily life. Remember the saints and those whom You've called.
5. Lord, give us the heart to do the will of the Father and enter into the kingdom of the heavens. Save us from lawless work. Our purpose is to accomplish the will of our heavenly Father.
6. Father, may Your will be done. Cause us to walk in the narrow and constricted way that leads to life. Give us the assurance that in whatever we do, we are doing Your will.

North America/Europe/Other Burdens

1. Pray for the establishment and first Lord's Table Meeting in Vicenza, Italy on September 29.

Church in Regina

1. Pray for our contacts: Abe Friesen, Shane McClellan, David Hyman, Lianne and Jeff Racette, Patricia Schurman and Daniel Clark, Anthony and Celeste Sernat and family, Orlando Sernat and family, Jun and Divine Linantud, Charles and Janet Argawanon (Yorkton SK), and William Mejares Temonio and family (Stenen SK).
2. Pray for the new semester and the college/campus work. Bring more seeking students who are hungry for the truth to the campus meeting every Friday. Gain young people to see You, know You, and love You. Show them the real purpose and meaning of their human lives.
3. Special petition and prayer for Sister Diana Ballao and her pregnancy. May she have a normal delivery of the twin boys with no complications.
4. Pray for positive and immediate approval of all the immigration papers:
 - > Alforte Family (Radam and Rosalina) - PR Application
 - > Orolfo Family (Wilson and Jenny and their three children) - PR Application
 - > Jerome Family (Pravin and Abinaya and their two children) - PR Application
 - > Miranda Family (Ann Margarete and her family) - PR Application

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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