CHURCH IN REGINA

Local Announcements

- 1. Church Pursuit and combined Prayer Meeting at AECC 5:00 to 6:30-Pursuit 6:30 to 7:15—Dinner 7:15 to 8:45—Prayer
- 2. Churching to Lloydminster-Nov 16
- **Thanksgiving** Conference—Nov 27
- Annual Service Meeting-Dec 14

Conferences & Training

- 1. Chinese-Speaking Blending Conference— Feb. 14-16, Anaheim,
- 2. International Training for Elders & Responsible Ones— Apr. 4-6, Anaheim, CA
- 3. Memorial Day Blending Conference—May 23-26, Phoenix, AZ
- 4. Summer Training—June 30-July 5, Anaheim, CA
- 5. International Training for Elders & Responsible Ones— Klang, Malaysia
- 6. Thanksgiving Blending Conference—Nov.27-30, Indianapolis, IN
- 7. Winter Training—Dec.22 -27, Anaheim, CA

CONTACT US

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One Accord and Crucial Aspects of the Book of Acts—Week 8

The Life of God—Our Entrance into the Kingdom of God

The kingdom is a great and difficult subject. We must realize that any kind of life is a kingdom. The plant life is the plant kingdom, the animal life is the animal kingdom, the human life is the human kingdom, and the divine life is the divine kingdom. A life is always a kingdom. The life of God is the kingdom of God. If you want to enter into a kingdom, you need that kingdom's particular life. If you want to enter into the botanic kingdom, you need the botanic life. If you want to enter into the animal kingdom, you need the animal life. We human beings are all in the human kingdom because we were born into it—we have the human life. The human life is our entrance into the human kingdom. In the same principle, John 3:5 tells us that we must be born of the Spirit, which means that we are born with the divine life, God's life, the uncreated eternal life. Then we can enter into the kingdom of God. The life of God is our entrance into the kingdom of God. We must see this basic principle. When most Christian teachers touch this matter of the kingdom, they do not see this basic principle.

The Kingdom and the Church

Now we must see the difference or the relationship between the kingdom and the church. This is very hard to discern and to understand clearly. We have seen that any kind of life is a kingdom, so the kingdom is the life itself. The kingdom of God is the life of God, but the church is not the life, nor is the life the church. The church is the product of life. The divine life is the kingdom, and this life produces the church. The New Testament concept is that the gospel brings in the kingdom. The gospel does not bring in the church, but the gospel brings forth the church. Thus, the gospel brings in the kingdom of God, and the gospel also brings forth the church of God. This is why the gospel is called the gospel of the kingdom in the New Testament (Matt. 4:23; 9:35; 24:14). There is not a verse in the New Testament that tells us that the gospel is the gospel of the church. The gospel of the kingdom brings forth, produces, the church because the kingdom is the life itself, and the church is the issue, the produce, of life. As you can see, the kingdom and the church are very closely related. The New Testament refers to the preaching of the gospel of peace (Eph. 2:17). This peace produces the church. No verse, however, tells us to preach the church. The Bible also tells us to preach forgiveness of sins (Luke 24:47) and to preach the gospel of the kingdom, but it never tells us to preach the church, because the church is the product of what is preached.

The Lord told Peter in Matthew 16:18-19 that He would build His church upon the revelation of Christ, which Peter had received from the Father. Immediately after this the Lord said to Peter, "I will give to you the keys of the kingdom of the heavens" (v. 19). Without the kingdom as the reality of life, the church could never be produced or built up. To produce the church and to build up the church, we need the kingdom. The kingdom actually is the reality of the church. We cannot say, however, that the church is the reality of the kingdom. We can only say that the kingdom is the reality of the church.

With this understanding as a basis, we can understand many verses in the New Testament. The first preaching of the New Testament gospel told people that they needed to repent because the kingdom of the heavens had drawn near (Matt. 3:2; 4:17; 10:7). There is no verse that says the church is coming, so repent. John the Baptist, Jesus, and the twelve apostles initiated the New Testament gospel by telling people that the kingdom had drawn near. This meant that the time had come for God to come to dispense Himself as life to people. The gospel brings God as life, and life is a kingdom. The kingdom is the realm of life for life to move, to work, to rule, and to govern so that life may accomplish its purpose, and this realm is the kingdom. Actually, the kingdom as the realm of life is life itself. If one were to take away all the animals in the zoo, there would be no animal kingdom there. When the animals are there, the animal life is there, and that realm of animal life is the animal kingdom. The gospel brings in the divine life, and the divine life has its realm for it to move, to work, to rule, and to govern so that this life may accomplish its purpose. This is the kingdom, and this divine life with its realm produces the church (Excerpts from Elders' Training, Book 2: The Vision of the Lord's Recovery CWWL, 1984, vol. 2, ch 4).

PRAYER BURDENS

- 1. Lord, have mercy on us to see the matter of the Divine Trinity and keep us under the divine dispensing. We praise You for Your ascension and we open to Your pouring out. You are our life essentially and our authority economically.
- 2. Lord, cause us to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit and to experience the Spirit of Jesus with the divine element of God and the human element of Jesus. Carry out Your New Testament economy by the Holy Spirit and the Spirit of Jesus.
- 3. Guide, direct, instruct and constitute us with the all-inclusive Spirit that our work will be the expression of the Spirit. Grant us a heavenly vision to see the truth concerning the Spirit and apply it as we carry out You New Testament economy.
- 4. Thank You for becoming a God-man who died for us purchasing us with Your <u>own blood</u>, obtaining the church, and making our redemption eternally secured and effective.
- 5. Lord, we worship You as the resurrected and ascended One. Continue to use us for the propagation and spreading of the church, Your kingdom, for Your expression. May we all carry the burden of enlarging Your kingdom today.
- 6. Lord, in all our situations, may we endeavour to enter into the realm of the full enjoyment of the resurrected and ascended Christ as the kingdom of God. Cause us to live under the divine ruling that will develop us into the coming kingdom.

North America/Europe/Other Burdens

1. Please pray for the Central and Eastern Europe and Balkans (CEEB) Blending Conference that will take place in Bucharest, Romania on November 15 to 16. Please pray for the release of the Lord's timely word and for the blending of the saints in that region.

Church in Regina

- 1. Pray for the purchase of the meeting hall.
- 2. Pray for the strengthening of the campus work at the University of Regina for the remainder of the Fall semester. Pray for all contacts to be remaining fruits and be able to see the reality of the church as we read through Ephesians
- 3. Pray for the baptism of new ones and the continuing shepherding of the Lord's flock.
- 4. Pray for the propagation work in Saskatchewan. Pray for the Hiebert Family (Foam Lake), Temonio Family (Sturgis), Jerome Family (Moose Jaw), Steemkamp Family (White City) and Argawanon Family (Canora).
- 5. Pray for positive and immediate approval of the permanent resident immigration papers:
 - > Alforte Family (Radam and Rosalina)

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

- Lord's Table & Prophesying-Lord's Day 10:00-12:00PM
- Prayer Meeting—Tuesdays 7:00-8:00PM
- Home Meeting-Fridays 7:30-8:30PM
- Chinese-Speaking Bible Reading-Mondays 7:15-8:15PM
- College Meetings—Fridays 6:30-7:30PM
- YP Meetings—Sundays 4:00-5:30 PM
- Children's Meeting—Saturdays 10:00-11:00AM
- Small Group Meetings—Wednesdays/Fridays/Saturdays 7:00-8:30PM