

CHURCH IN REGINA

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Go therefore and disciple all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
~ Matt.28:19

Christ as the Pattern

Philippians is a book on the experience of Christ. If we would experience Christ and live Him, we must **know Him** as our pattern. In 2:5-11 Paul presents Christ as our pattern. We need to be deeply impressed with this pattern and even have it infused into us...

Reprinting the Pattern

The **very pattern** revealed in 2:5-11 must now **become our salvation**. This is indicated by the words so then at the beginning of verse 12. After giving us a clear view of Christ as our wonderful pattern, Paul says, "So then, my beloved... work out your own salvation with fear and trembling."

As our pattern, Christ is both inclusive and exclusive. The pattern is exclusive because it excludes everything worldly, fleshly, or sinful. There is no way for negative things to have any part in Him or access to Him. But, on the positive side, He is all-inclusive, for He is the God-man Savior who emptied and humbled Himself and who has been exalted and glorified by God. **With such a pattern available to us, we now must work out our own salvation.**

To work out our salvation is to work out this pattern and to become **in our experience a reprint** of the pattern. Christ as the pattern can be compared to a page of type used in printing a book, and our subjective experience of the pattern becoming our salvation can be compared to the printing of the pages of a book. In making a book, each page of type is reprinted again and again until there are many copies. **In our experience, the God-man Savior should be reprinted and become our subjective salvation.** The very salvation we are to work out is Christ as our pattern.

A Practical Point: Salvation from Murmuring and Reasonings

The salvation in 2:12 is not salvation from the condemnation of God or from hell. Rather, **salvation here refers to the salvation we experience day by day**. In particular, it is salvation from murmurings and reasonings. In verse 14 Paul says, "Do all things without murmurings and reasonings." We need an **instant salvation** to deliver us from our murmurings and reasonings.

We have pointed out that the sisters have a particular problem with murmurings, and the brothers, with reasonings. Usually the wives are given to murmuring, and the husbands, to reasoning. Because we all are troubled by murmurings or reasonings, we need the kind of salvation that can rescue us, not only from God's condemnation and from the lake of fire, but also from our murmurings and reasonings. This means that we need a subjective, moment-by-moment salvation.

We have seen that, **as our pattern, Christ emptied Himself and humbled Himself and also was exalted and glorified by God**. Sisters, do you think that while you are murmuring, God will come in to exalt you? Brothers, do you believe that while you are reasoning, God will come in to glorify you? Surely God will not exalt us or glorify us when we are murmuring or reasoning. Oh, we need salvation from murmurings and reasonings!

Both murmurings and reasonings are **signs of rebellion and disobedience**. In verse 12 Paul says that the Philippians "have always obeyed." **We also need to obey—to obey Christ as our pattern.** As the One who became our pattern, **the Lord Jesus did not murmur or reason.** Instead, **He emptied Himself and humbled Himself.** Now we must obey this pattern, realizing that Christ does not murmur or reason, but empties Himself and humbles Himself. When the brothers are tempted to reason, they need to remember the pattern of the self-emptying and self-humbling Christ. The brothers should then obey this pattern without reasoning. This obedience is the working out of our salvation. **Whenever we obey Christ as our pattern, we automatically work out our salvation from our murmurings and reasonings** (Excerpts from the Life-study of Philippians, Msg. 43).

Church Announcements:

1. Prayer Mtg by Area
2. Brothers' Meeting – Jan. 25
3. Prairie College Conference – Feb. 21 to 22. Registration deadline (for hospitality purposes) is on Feb. 8.

Conferences & Trainings

1. Chinese-Speaking Conference – Feb. 13-15 Anaheim CA USA
2. Spring ITERO – Mar. 20-22 Anaheim CA USA
3. Memorial Day Conference – May 22-25, Dallas TX USA
4. Summer Training – Jun. 29-Jul.4 Anaheim CA USA
5. Fall ITERO – Sept. 24-26 Amsterdam Netherlands
6. Thanksgiving Conference – Nov. 26-29 Denver CO USA
7. Winter Training – Dec. 21-26 Anaheim CA USA

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PRAYER BURDENS:

1. Thank You, Lord for emptying Yourself, putting aside the form of God and becoming in the likeness of man. You have the highest form yet humbled Yourself to that of a slave, being obedient even unto the cross.
2. Lord, we cooperate with Your operation to take You as our pattern both objectively and subjectively. We confess that in ourselves, we cannot work out our own salvation, but we allow You to operate in us both the willing and the working.
3. Cause us to be one with You in Your tender, inward feeling and thinking. You are not only our outward pattern, but also the life within us – the crucified life that is self-emptying and self-humbling. May we all live the crucified life.
4. We praise You for your submission to the Father. You left Your glory, became a slave and was restricted in time and space. You did not consider being equal with God and received the qualification of submission.
5. Lord, through Your submission, God's authority was established and You were made the Lord. You willingly emptied Yourself to become a representation of submission to authority, through whom we now have received grace unto the obedience of faith on behalf of Your name.
6. Teach us the principle of submission that we may serve God without rebellion and experience the fullness of salvation. We exalt You and confess that Your name is above every name. You are the Lord.

North America/Europe/Other Burdens

1. Pray for the upcoming Prairie College Conference on Feb. 21-22, 2026. May the college students joining the Bible study every Friday be released to join the weekend conference.
2. Pray for the first Lord's Table Meeting in Lille, France on January 25. Please pray that the Lord will continue to build up His testimony in Lille and in other cities in France. (This is the third new local church raised up in France since the Gospel trips related to the summer Olympics in Paris 2024.)
3. Pray for the raising up of a lampstand in Gdansk, Poland. Please pray that the Lord will reach more seeking ones in Gdansk through the gospel trip at the end of January and that two more families will move there and live near the university.

Local Burdens:

1. Pray for the purchase of the meeting hall.
2. Pray for the positive response from the 18 new contacts who joined the Welcome Dinner last Friday. May the Lord enlighten them and that they may join the Bible study this semester and become remaining fruits.
3. Pray for positive and immediate approval of the permanent resident immigration papers of Alforte and Gonzales families.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

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