

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

...[Colossians 2:2] says, "That their hearts may be comforted, they being knit together in love and unto all the riches of the full assurance of understanding, unto the full knowledge of the mystery of God, Christ." The title of this message is taken from this verse—"The mystery of God, Christ." Paul wrote this **in a certain way** and **for a certain reason**. When introducing a matter as high and profound as the mystery of God, why did he include in the same verse, "That their hearts may be comforted, they being knit together in love and unto all the riches of the full assurance of understanding"? We must pay attention to the word unto, which means "resulting in." Their hearts being comforted results in what? This results in "all the riches of the full assurance of understanding," which results in "the full knowledge of the mystery of God, Christ." These two phrases, all the riches of the full assurance of understanding and the full knowledge of the mystery of God, Christ, are in apposition to each other, indicating that they mean the same thing. Having all the riches of the full assurance of understanding is related to our seeing the mystery of God, Christ. But **to know the mystery of God, we need the experience of everything in Colossians 2:2**, that is, we first need the comforting of our hearts. Why does Paul put this here? This shows that **our heart, and actually our whole inner being, has to be engaged if we are to see this mystery**. Our whole inner being with all its inward parts must function properly for us to see the mystery of God. If it does not, then we will be left with a feeling that everything is too high and too objective.

The Colossians needed their hearts to be adjusted. **We need a sober mind, a regulated emotion, and a subdued will if we are to see the mystery of God**. We need an unoccupied mind that is not cluttered with many things. The Colossians had many things, including many standards, that they had allowed to come into the church life. They were even judging one another according to these things. The result was that they were being defrauded of their prize (v. 18), and they were being carried away as spoil from Christ as their good land because their mind was full of other things (v. 8).

We need to consider **how many things are in our mind** when we are with the Lord personally. Can we be emptied for just ten minutes? Can we be calm? Can we be available to the Lord for just ten minutes? Sometimes this is not that easy. There are so many things that come our way. Oh, that we would have the grace to **be emptied, opened, and focused**! We can pray, "Lord Jesus, here I am. I do not want my thoughts to be corrupted from the simplicity and the purity toward You. Lord, keep me for these ten minutes." Thirty minutes is better, but sometimes we have to spend thirty minutes in order to have ten quality minutes. **We need to take the time to be emptied...**

In verse 2 Paul uses this phrase: **all the riches of the full assurance of understanding. Some of us may have faith but not the full assurance**. We have faith but not certainty. Even regarding the basic Christian faith, we must have certainty, full assurance, so that we are not easily shaken. Some may attack us regarding the church, and we may be shaken because we do not have the full assurance. **We may not have all the riches of the full assurance, and we may not be able to explain everything, but at least in our heart we should have full assurance**. We should have the assurance that we are taking the way of the Lord according to His word. If we do not have this assurance, we should pray, "Lord, why do I not have this assurance?" We have to have full assurance of faith in the way of the Lord's recovery. Many of us have passed through times of shaking and have wondered, "What am I doing here?" While we were passing through some turmoils and storms, we had to go to the Lord and ask Him, "Why am I here? What is this? Is this Your word? Is this Your move?" Through some transactions with the Lord, we concluded that we know what we are doing here.

Concerning the faith, concerning the church, and concerning the Lord's recovery, we need the full assurance of understanding. Then we can have the full knowledge of the mystery of God—Christ. When we have this certainty, we have the same assurance of a martyr who is willing to lay down his or her life for the Lord. We need that kind of full assurance. But for that we need our inward parts engaged and exercised in a proper way. Psalm 51:6 says, "Behold, You delight in truth in the inward parts; / And in the hidden part You would make known wisdom to me." We need our inward parts engaged and properly functioning to see the mystery of God—Christ (Excerpt from The Ministry of the Word, vol. 29, No. 07, pp.86-100).

Church Announcements:

1. Prayer Mtg by area – Feb 3
2. Love Feast – Feb 8
3. Sisters' Meeting – Feb 15
4. ICSC – Feb 14 to 16
*Combined Local Viewing on Feb 16 at RWPC
5. 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

Contact Us:

Arcola Community Centre
Multipurpose Room
3860 Buckingham Regina SK

306.737.3315
306.216.0685
306.529.5386

churchofthesaintsinregina@gmail.com

Church Website

PRAYER BURDENS:

1. Lord, open our eyes to see the things that are hidden in Your heart, the five great mysteries in the Bible. Comfort our hearts unto the full knowledge of the mystery of God and open to us a door for the word to speak the mystery of Christ.
2. Make known to us the mystery of Your will according to Your good pleasure. We want to know and live out the mystery of Christ and the church. May we all see this matter and bring others into seeing this great mystery.
3. Lord, we open and exercise our whole being to have the full assurance of understanding the mystery of God. Cause us all to go on from merely knowing You as our Saviour in an outward way to knowing You as the mystery of God.
4. Lord, You are the true Source of wisdom and knowledge for all things are hidden in You. Save us from empty words of philosophy and give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation to know You and all Your wonderful history.
5. We praise You for all the fullness of the Godhead dwells in You bodily – both the riches of the Godhead and the expression of the riches of what God is. Give us the realization of the Christ in whom we are put in.
6. We need no other source than You for in You we have been perfected and completed. We exercise our faith to realize what we have and to partake of all that is ours in You.

North America/Europe/Other Burdens

1. Pray for the short-term shepherding trips and migrations to French-speaking Europe. Please pray:
 - That the Lord will raise up lampstands in Rouen, Versailles, Esch-sur-Alzette (Luxembourg), Geneva (Switzerland), Marseilles, Caen, Nante, and Montpellier.
 - That the Lord will increase the team of full-time serving ones in Paris to take care of the Lord's needs throughout French-speaking Europe. Please pray for the release of long stay visas for these saints.
 - That many students, families, and mature saints will migrate to France within the next several years for the Lord's interest.

Local Burdens:

1. Pray for the purchase of the meeting hall.
2. Pray for the 11 registered college students who are attending the Prairie College Conference
 - Brothers: Matthew, Jaspyn, Marcel
 - Sisters: Chiara, Bola (with 2 friends), MJ, Prisca, Hannah, Christine
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