

CHURCH IN REGINA

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The Lord tries the faith of those who serve Him. In the future we will be placed into periods of longer and more difficult trials. In the days to come there will be many such trials. There will be many aspects to these trials. Some trials will affect our **feelings**. They will cause us to **lose our interest** in serving the Lord, to **lose our sense of the sweetness** in taking this way, and to even **lose our sense of encouragement** from the Lord. Some trials will be problems in our family or problems related to our health. Some trials may be related to material things and financial matters. We may experience poverty and hardships. Some trials may be related to our work for the Lord. We may lack power and light, be unclear, and lack the Lord's leading. Our present situation will change, and we will not be able to touch the Lord's heart or know what to do...These are all trials...

Romans 1:17 says, "The righteous shall have life and live by faith." The phrase **shall have life** is related to salvation. In Hebrews 10:38, however, the same phrase is rendered as, "My righteous one shall live by faith." **The emphasis** in Hebrews is **living**. Paul seems to be saying, "**Daily you are being put into trials so that you learn to live by faith.**" **When there is no excitement, no encouragement, no attraction, and no power to go on, we need faith, not sight. We need to live by faith.**

This is **the principle of faith**. The saints in the Old Testament took the pathway of faith. For example, Abraham left Ur of Chaldea and went to Canaan by faith. In the land of Canaan it did not seem that he was walking by faith, but he was still walking with God. Even though he could not see God, Abraham walked with God his whole life. Abraham did not gain anything, yet he took the way by faith. When he finished his journey and departed from the world, he had not gained an inheritance, nor had he seen anything. Abraham had lived by faith (Heb. 11:8-10).

Sooner or later the Lord will bring us to a situation in which **faith is the only way to follow Him**. The day will come when the encouragement we received and the things we relied on in the past will vanish. Even the support from the church, the encouragement from the brothers and sisters, the fellowship of the co-workers, and the mutual care will vanish. We may pursue them, but they will vanish. We may seek them for encouragement, but they will be against us. Perhaps we will feel that the church no longer supplies us and has become a problem to us. We may also feel that the brothers and sisters do not support us; on the contrary, they are problems. We may also feel that instead of having fellowship with the co-workers, they have become a trial to us. Sooner or later the Lord will put us in such situations...

Since the Lord is bringing us to the pathway of trials, **we must learn the lesson of faith. It is better to have what is unseen than what is seen.** It is better to choose what is bitter than what is sweet. It is better to choose people's opposition than welcome their sympathy. It is better to be in poverty than to be in wealth and abundance. This requires faith. If instead of learning the lesson of faith, we yearn for the past experiences, some of us will either fall or shrink back.

Looking Away Unto Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of Our Faith

As the night becomes darker, **we must be prepared to live by faith**. However, when the night is at its darkest hour, **the dawn will come**. If we do not wait for the dawn, we will either fall or shrink back. We must exercise our faith and remember that the saints in the Old Testament were all witnesses of faith. They were not authors of faith or perfecters of faith. The Lord is the unique Author and Perfecter of our faith. Therefore, we must **strive to know Him...**

[Heb 12:2 says, "Looking away unto Jesus..." This means that **our looking away unto Jesus cuts us off from everything in our background and environment**. Casting ourselves upon the Lord is the motivating power of our walk. On the one hand, we must **learn to exercise our faith** in all kinds of situations. On the other hand, we must learn to **know the Lord in every situation**. Furthermore, we should consider the Lord always so that we can look away unto Him. As we look away unto Him, we are separated from our situations of the present and the past. May we cast ourselves completely on Him and look only unto Him. **This is our strength**. May the Lord lead us to learn these lessons (Excerpts from Christ Making His Home in Our Heart and the Building Up of the Church, CWWL 1959 vol. 2, ch 11).

*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*

Church Announcements:

1. Combined Prayer Mtg – Mar 3 at RPL-Sunrise Branch
2. Brothers' Mtg – Mar 1
3. Love Feast – Mar 8
4. Sisters' Mtg – Mar 8
5. Bible Distribution/Churching in Lloydminster – Mar 14
6. YP Conference in Calgary on Mar 27 to 29. Registration deadline – Mar 15

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. Lord, we want to experience the indwelling Christ – turning to our spirit and contacting You. Cause us to enjoy You and to look away from all things unto You.
2. Lord, we put off every encumbrance and entangling sin to strip off unnecessary weight that we may run with endurance the race set before us. Direct our hearts into the love of God and into Your endurance.
3. You are the Author, Originator, Inaugurator, and Source of our faith. Without You, we have no believing ability. Cause us to look away unto You, that You may transfuse and infuse more faith into us.
4. Recover us to focus from things seen to things not seen. We exercise our spirit of faith to substantiate everything in the unseen realm. Make all the divine elements that were transfused into us radiate from us to others.
5. Lord, we believe that You are and that You are a rewarder to those who diligently seek You. We are nothing for You are the only One who *is* – the Great *I Am*. Stop us from all our doing and remind us to deny ourselves.
6. Make us a man of faith – those who look away from all things that are not and those who look unto You. Increase our faith. Be the Author and Completer of faith in our daily lives, continually infusing us with the believing element that causes us to grow in life.

North America/Europe/Other Burdens

1. Pray for Chinese-speaking Conference in London UK on March 7 to 8. Please pray for the release of the Lord's up-to-date speaking to all the Chinese speaking saints in London and surrounding area.
2. Pray for the short-term shepherding trips and migrations to French-speaking Europe. Please pray 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.

Local Burdens:

1. Pray for the purchase of the meeting hall.
2. Pray for the continuing shepherding of the newly baptized college students – Chiara, Matthew, Prisca. May the seed sown in them grow and may they see the church and the purpose of God in this age.
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