

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 Being Far Superior To All Things and Matters

Before Paul was saved, his name was Saul, and he was zealous for the Jewish religion. Acts 9:1-2 says, "Saul, still breathing threatening and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked for letters from him to Damascus for the synagogues, so that if he found any who were of the Way, both men and women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem." He was not only zealous for religion, but even more, he was carrying out the orders of the religious leaders to arrest anyone who called on the name of the Lord. However, as he was on the road to Damascus, the Lord Jesus came, and a light from heaven flashed around him. Then he fell to the ground and received revelation. After this incident he understood that the entire Old Testament spoke of this Jesus whom he had persecuted. He began **to know Christ** and went on further **to appreciate Christ**. Thus, he was able to write the book of Philippians, telling people that he had once been zealous in the Jewish religion. As to zeal, he persecuted the church with the intention to completely eliminate the church; as to the righteousness which is in the law, he became blameless. **But the things that had been gains to him, these he now counted as loss on account of Christ** (Phil. 3:6-7). In the past he did not have Christ, so he practiced the righteousness which is in the law and considered it a gain, but now he counted it as loss on account of Christ. This is because **Christ is far superior to religion and the law...**

The meaning of Christ as our life is very deep and mysterious, and it is also very important. **Once Christ becomes our life, He becomes our everything.** We all know that everything we have depends upon our human life. If I were to die today, everything that is of me would be finished, but while I am living here, I can talk, eat, drink, and put on clothes. I can do this and that. When a person has life, he can do everything. When a person does not have life, everything is finished. The Lord Jesus Christ has come into us to be our life, that is, to be our everything. He has become our love. Our love for others is not our own love; our own love is empty, but His love is reality. **Without Christ, all human virtues are empty shells**; they are like a glove without a hand in it; the glove therefore is empty. All our virtues, such as love, kindness, goodness, humility, and refinement, should be Christ. **Christ is everything because He is our life.** Paul says that he was once zealous for religion, killing Christians, and keeping the law in such a way that he was blameless. He had once considered those things precious, but then he considered them as loss, as dung. The religion and law that he had before were like junk, but now he obtained Christ, who is like gold and gems. Christ in him was not an empty doctrine but a reality. The Christ whom he had obtained was the real and living God, the real and living Lord. **Because Paul had the One of peerless worth in the universe, he suffered the loss of all things and considered them dung...**

Manifesting the Fragrance of Christ

As we have seen, we are not in religion but in Christ. Christ is life, and within Him as the seed of life there is the power of resurrection. **He grows within us so that we may participate in His sufferings, being conformed to His death. In this way we experience His resurrection power and know that He is a treasure within us.** In this treasure there is an exceedingly great power, even the most excellent power. This transcendent and remarkable power, which is in us, enables us to endure the sufferings that others cannot bear and to live a life that others cannot live, thereby manifesting the fragrance of Christ. Through the power of His resurrection Christ leads us in joyful triumph in His victory procession and manifests the savor of the knowledge of Him through us.

This is the **transcendence of Christ**. This is the Christ whom we live out. This is not human culture, religion, philosophy, ethics, morality, traditions, or customs. This is the living Christ as life within us who is leading us in triumph and manifesting His fragrance (Excerpts from Christ in His Excellency, CWWL 1983 vol. 2, ch 2).

Church Announcements:

1. Prayer Mtg by area – Mar 10
2. Bible Distribution/Churching in Lloydminster – Mar 14
3. YP Conference in Calgary on Mar 27 to 29. Registration deadline – Mar 15
4. Brothers' Mtg – Mar 22

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, show us the preciousness of the kingdom of the heavens. Change our valuation to see what is precious in Your eyes. We want to know You as the cornerstone rejected by men but chosen by God.
2. Have mercy on us to choose You above all else. Cause us to have a thorough change in our concept of value, to count all things as loss on Your account, and to choose the most excellent portion.
3. Completely charm and attract us to such an extent that we would follow You regardless of our circumstances. Keep us faithful to pursue and grow in life to which we were called and enter into Your eternal glory.
4. Save us from looking down at the situations but instead look up to You as the Lord sitting on a high and lofty throne. May our eyes see the unique God-man – the One with the divine glory expressed in human virtues and full of splendor.
5. Lord, we confess that we are men with unclean lips. Continue to expose us of our old, fallen nature and bring us into the light. Cause us to see You that we may gain more of You and receive You as our element in life and nature.
6. Impart these three things into us – that this universe is under Your administration; that Your intention is to make Christ preeminent, even more so in our personal universe; and that we as Your elect give You the best coordination and cooperation.

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 increase the team of full-time serving ones in Paris to take care of the Lord's needs throughout French-speaking Europe.
2. Pray for the Young People's Conference in Calgary on March 27 to 29. Gain a fresh group of young people who will be useful, open vessels, even vessels unto honour for Your sake and for the future of the Lord's Recovery.

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 & Prophecy—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