

The Church in New York City

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 89 August 15, 2021

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Spanish-speaking Conference for the churches in the Northeast (September 10-12)**
Details will be provided in the coming weeks
- **Young Adults and Young Couples Conference for the churches in the Northeast (September 24-26)**
Details will be provided in the coming weeks
- **Service Office Hours**
Due to the many activities this summer, Service Office Hours have been suspended and will be resumed after Labor Day, starting September 13, 2021.

PRAYER BURDENS

- The second week of the Northeast Summer School of Truth held last week
- The new term of the Full-Time Training in Anaheim and the FTTA Extension in Boston beginning last week
- The strengthening of the families and all the households in the church life
- The arrangements for the children's meeting and the young people's services during the upcoming school year
- The various needs of the saints both locally and in other localities (e.g. physical and emotional, health-related, job-related, family-related, etc.)

MORNING WATCH

HWMR: 2021 International Memorial Day Weekend Conference

General Subject: Knowing the Truth, Being Absolute for the Truth, and Proclaiming the Truth in the Present Evil Age

Week 5: Upholding the Truth and Testifying to the Truth That the Church Is the Pillar and Base of the

Truth and the Corporate Manifestation of God in the Flesh

Portion from Days 2 & 6:

Suppose that on this earth among the human race there had never been such a book as the Bible. If we had not had a Bible in our hands during the past two thousand years since the Lord Jesus resurrected and ascended to the heavens, everything would be in the air, and nothing could be solid. Even the things concerning the Spirit could not be solid. The Spirit depends upon the Word. This is why the Lord said that the words that He has spoken to us are spirit (John 6:63). The words that the Lord speaks are the solid spirit...In innumerable instances we have seen that whenever people contact the holy Word, many times they get the Spirit, but it is hard to give an instance where people touch the Spirit and then get the Word. There are a great many instances, however, that show us that when you touch the Word, you get the Spirit. This is history. A principle has been set up through history that there is the desperate need of the living truth to produce the church, to help the church exist, and to build up the church.

In the church life there should be the manifestation of God in the flesh. In order for this to be the situation, there must be in the church the glorious union of God and man. Inwardly we should have God, but God is manifested in the flesh through a normal and proper humanity. All those in the church life—the brothers and the sisters, the elderly ones and the young ones—should behave in a way that is normal and fitting for their respective ages. Instead of pretense, there should be a genuineness that is both human and divine.

The church as the house of God is the living God becoming flesh and being manifested in the flesh. In the four Gospels God was manifested in the flesh in Jesus as a single individual. But in 1 Timothy 3 God's manifestation in the flesh is in the entire church corporately.

Christ is the manifestation of God in the flesh, but so is the church. We are the church, but we are

still in the flesh. When we meet together in the Spirit, God is manifested among us; this is the manifestation of God in the flesh. Just as Christ the Head is the manifestation of God in the flesh, so also is His Body. If the whole church is gathered together in a proper way, and an unbeliever comes in, “falling on his face, he will worship God, declaring that indeed God is among you” (1 Cor. 14:23-25). God’s presence is known whenever the church meets together properly. We admit that we are still flesh, but the God who lives in our spirit will be manifested, expressed, in our flesh. This manifestation must be not merely individual but corporate. Because the proper church life is the corporate manifestation of God in the flesh, the church of the living God is the consummate mystery of godliness. For the church to be the corporate expression of God in the flesh, everyone in the church must be transformed (2 Cor. 3:18). (The Conclusion of the New Testament, pp. 3665-3667)

Corporate Reading: “*The History of God in His Union with Man*” Chapters 2 and 3: God’s History in Time (1) & (2)

MINISTRY PORTIONS

THE FULLNESS (EXPRESSION) OF THE ONE WHO FILLS ALL IN ALL

Many Christians do not understand what the word fullness means in Ephesians 1:23 and 3:19. They think that the word fullness means riches. ... We must differentiate between the riches and the fullness. The United States has supermarkets full of the riches of America. The riches of America are its products, but the fullness of America is a husky American. This fullness is the expression.

The fullness comes out of the riches. However, if we do not eat and digest the riches, we may have them without having the fullness. The riches issue in the fullness through eating and digesting. If we do not eat and digest the riches, we will remain skinny and short. In like manner, the church is not only the Body of Christ but also the fullness, the expression, that issues from the enjoyment of the riches of Christ.

Christ fills all in all, and we the church, by enjoying His riches, eventually become His fullness. If I had only a head, without a body, I would have no fullness. This fullness is my expression. We must realize that the church as the Body of Christ is Christ’s fullness as His expression.

THE FULLNESS (EXPRESSION) OF GOD

When we eat Jesus, we “smell of” Him (2 Cor. 2:15), we express Him, and we become Him. What is the church? The church is the expression of the very Christ whom we eat. All the fullness of the Godhead is embodied in this Christ, and this very Christ is our bread of life (John 6:48). He said, “He who eats Me, he also shall live because of Me” (v. 57). When we eat Christ, we live by Him. This Christ is the embodiment of the Triune God; when we eat Christ, we eat the Triune God. Our Savior, Jesus Christ, the embodiment of the Triune God, is our daily manna, our daily food. We eat Him, so we express Him. This expression is the fullness of the One who fills all in all. Eventually, this is the fullness of the Triune God. We can be such an expression by eating Jesus. Let Him saturate your entire being. Let Him settle in every room, every avenue, and every corner of your inner being—in your mind, your emotion, your will, your conscience, your soul, and your spirit, in your loving, your decisions, your intention, and your motive. Whatever you do must be filled with Christ.

- Excerpts from “*The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures*”, Chapter 5: The Church (Sections 4-6)

SELECTED VERSES

1 Tim 2:1, 3-4; 3:15-16

2:1 I exhort therefore, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercessions, thanksgivings be made on behalf of all men;

2:3 This is good and acceptable in the sight of our Savior God,

2:4 Who desires all men to be saved and to come to the full knowledge of the truth.

3:15 But if I delay, I write that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and base of the truth.

3:16 And confessedly, great is the mystery of godliness: He who was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the nations, Believed on in the world, Taken up in glory.

2 Tim 2:15

2:15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, an unashamed workman, cutting straight the word of the truth.