

# The Church in New York City

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 96 October 3, 2021

---

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### • Service Office Hours

Service Office hours are available for saints to call in to fellowship or to pray with some serving ones.

**Day & Time:** Monday through Saturday (except Wednesday), 11AM-12PM.

Join via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/3785123114?pwd=dEpzN2ZGZ21aaGV5dTFob3AwQlBodz09>

Dial-in by Phone: +1 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 378 512 3114 (Password: 3131)

The burden for holding these office hours is that the hearts of the saints can be comforted and that their souls would be restored.

## PRAYER BURDENS

- The prayer ministry of the church--The strengthening of all the prayer meetings in all nine halls and the strengthening of the saints in their personal prayer life

*Acts 2:42 And they continued steadfastly in the teaching and the fellowship of the apostles, in the breaking of bread and the prayers*

*Ephesians 6:18 By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints*

- The going on of the church life in NYC:
  - a. The mutual shepherding of all the saints through personal contact, visitation and the home meetings
  - b. That all the saints would be burdened for the salvation of their friends, relatives, neighbors, co-workers and classmates
  - c. The health of all the elderly saints and the strengthening of their church life
  - d. That the Lord would strengthen all of the church meetings and that He would cover and bless all the arrangements for the in-

person meetings in the halls and all the online meetings

- e. The strengthening of all the services
- The young working saints and young couples in the churches in the Northeast--That the Lord would continue to operate in these saints so that they would be a strengthening and blessing to the church life wherever they are, and that they would:
    - a. Know the time (Rom. 13:11)
    - b. Not let their hearts be weighed down by the stupefying effects of this age but be watchful at every time, beseeching (Luke 21:34-36)
    - c. Pursue the development of their daily personal fellowship with the Lord in His Word (Psa. 27:4)
  - The International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones (ITERO) which will be held next week
  - 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 July Semiannual Training**

**General Subject: Crystallization Study of Joshua, Judges, Ruth**

*Week 6: The Intrinsic Significance of the Book of Judges and the Apostasy of Israel in the Worshipping of God*

### Portion from Days 4&6:

Many use the matter of the worship of God as a cloak for setting up a divisive center. Some would say, "What could be wrong with doing such a thing for the worship of God? Isn't it better to set up a center of worship than to go to a movie theater?" According to the history in the Old Testament, nothing throughout the generations was more sinful or more damaging to God's people than Dan's act of setting up a divisive center of worship. In Deuteronomy 12, 14, 15, and 16 the Lord through Moses charged the

children of Israel at least fifteen times not to offer their burnt offerings in the place of their choice. They were commanded to go to the unique place the Lord had chosen for His name and for His habitation. Deuteronomy 12:13 and 14 say, "Be careful that you do not offer up your burnt offerings in every place that you see; but in the place which Jehovah will choose in one of your tribes, there you shall offer up your burnt offerings, and there you shall do all that I am commanding you."...Again and again Moses, the elderly, loving lawgiver, charged the children of Israel concerning this matter. If you read these chapters, you will see that Moses charged the people concerning the unique place, the place the Lord had chosen for His name and for His habitation. The reason the Lord commanded Moses to issue this charge repeatedly was that He was concerned about maintaining the unity of His people.

Judges 18:30 says, "The children of Dan erected for themselves the sculptured idol." Here we see that the Danites did something for themselves. They did not care for the other tribes. Thus, the source of their apostasy was not caring for their brothers. Not caring for the other parts of the Body is the source of apostasy. This apostasy crept in under the guise of the worship of God. The principle is the same today. Many Christians set up other centers, not for gambling or dancing, but for worshipping God. Although this seems so positive, it is actually done by the self and for the self. Every divisive center is established for someone's self-interest. Such a practice causes not only division but also competition. (Life-study of Genesis, pp. 1317-1319)

[Second Peter] was written in the time of the church's degradation and apostasy....The burden of the writer was to inoculate the believers against the poison of apostasy....The apostasy distracted the believers from the economy of God by leading them into the human logic of puzzling philosophies. It was not the exercise of partaking of the tree of life that gives life, but of participating in the tree of knowledge that brings in death (Gen. 2:9, 16-17)....In order to inoculate against this death-poison in his healing Epistle, Peter first prescribed the divine power as the strongest and most effective antidote. This provides the believers with all things related to the generating and supplying divine life (not the killing knowledge) and the God-expressing godliness (not the show of human wisdom). This rich divine provision, which is covered in detail in the following verses (2 Pet. 1:3-11), is more than sufficient for the

believers to live a proper Christian life and overcome the satanic apostasy. (Life-study of 2 Peter, p. 14).

**Corporate Reading:** *"The History of God in His Union with Man"* Ch. 7: Working on His Elect from Abraham to Joseph (2); Ch. 8: Working On His Elect from Abraham to Joseph (3)

## MINISTRY PORTIONS

### THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND THE KINGDOM OF THE HEAVENS

#### The Kingdom of God

The kingdom of God is the divine ruling from eternity to eternity. It includes Adam in Eden (Gen. 2:8), the patriarchs (from Adam to Jacob), the nation of Israel (Exo. 19:6), the church (Matt. 16:18-19), the restored nation of Israel (Acts 1:6; 15:16), the millennium (Rev. 20:4, 6), and the new heaven and new earth (21:1-2). The kingdom of God covers all the dispensations from eternity past to eternity future.

#### The Kingdom of the Heavens

The kingdom of the heavens is the heavenly ruling from the beginning of the church to the end of the millennium, the crucial part of the kingdom of God. The kingdom of the heavens is a part of the kingdom of God just as Texas and Louisiana are part of the United States. Texas and Louisiana are the United States, but it is not correct to say that the United States is Texas and Louisiana. In like manner, we can say that the kingdom of the heavens is the kingdom of God, but we cannot say that the kingdom of God is the kingdom of the heavens. The kingdom of the heavens is the kingdom of God because it is part of the kingdom of God. ...but the kingdom of the heavens includes only two parts of the kingdom of God: the dispensation of grace and the millennium.

- Excerpts from *"The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures"*, Chapter 7: The Church (2) Section 1