The Church in New York City WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

• Churchwide Truth Pursuit on Genesis

We are taking a brief pause and will resume in August.

• 2025 Northeast Summer School of Truth (July 27 -August 7)

The details for the 2024 Northeast Summer School of Truth are as follows:

TOPIC: Lesson Book Level 6: The Bible - The Word of God

Dates:

High School (Grades: 9th to 12th grade in

September 2025) - July 27- August 3

Middle School (Grades: 7th to 8th grade in September 2025) - August 3 - August 7

LOCATION: Kingston Penuel Christian Center (KPCC) also known as Camp Penuel

For more information, please visit the website: <u>www.pursuewiththose.org</u> or fellowship with the young people's serving ones in your district.

• Upcoming Church Events: details to follow

Aug 14 to 16: The Family Bible Camp (KPCC)

• Service Office Hours

Due to the many activities in the coming summer months, Service Office Hour will be suspended until September.

PRAYER BURDENS

 That the saints would not lose heart as they pass through various afflictions in their daily lives but rather experience the renewing of their inner man day by day

2 Corinthians 4:16-17 — Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. For our momentary lightness of affliction works out for us, more and more surpassingly, an eternal weight of glory.

- Thanksgiving to the Lord for blessing the Northeast College Training and prayer for the going on of all the college age saints in the churches throughout the Northeast, the Mid Atlantic and Eastern Canada
- The Chinese-speaking Perfecting Training (July 23-27 at Camp Penuel and July 30-August 3 in Cerritos, CA)
- The Summer School of Truth (July 27-August 3 for high schoolers and August 3-7 for middle schoolers at Camp Penuel)
- The Lord's move in Europe:

a. Conference for the saints in the Nordic and Baltic countries concludes today in Drammen, Norway

b. The European Young People's Conference and Family Conference to be held in Male Ciche, Poland from July 27-August 2

 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: 2024 DECEMBER SEMIANNUAL TRAINING -Experiencing, Enjoying, and Expressing Christ (2)

WEEK 1: The Seed of David Becoming the Son of God

Portion from Day 3:

The difference between the only begotten Son of God in eternity past and the firstborn Son of God in resurrection is that in eternity past, before His incarnation, He possessed only divinity without humanity. But through the process of incarnation, He put on humanity. He passed through human living, entered into death, and came out in resurrection. In resurrection He still remained the Son of God according to His divinity, but there was something more; He also possessed the humanity that He obtained through incarnation. The humanity that He put on in incarnation was also brought into resurrection to share in the sonship. This is why Acts 13:33 says that on the day of resurrection Christ was begotten of God to be God's Son. It means that resurrection "sonized" His humanity, made it also the Son of God...Christ's resurrection was a birth, making Him not only God's only begotten Son with divinity but also God's firstborn Son with both divinity and humanity.

If He were only God's only begotten Son, He could not have any brothers. To have us as His brothers, He must possess humanity...In His incarnation Christ put on humanity, and through resurrection He brought this humanity into sonship. In this way He became God's firstborn Son with both divinity and humanity. Then, as the life-giving Spirit, He entered into us to make us also sons of God. Now we are the many sons of God being conformed to the image not of God's only begotten Son but of His firstborn Son. Therefore, as God's firstborn Son, Christ has many brothers. We all need to see that being born as the firstborn Son of God was a great work that Christ accomplished through His resurrection.

The date of our regeneration was the date of Christ's resurrection. When Christ was resurrected from the dead, we, all the believers, were resurrected with Him (1 Pet. 1:3).On the day of Christ's resurrection, all of God's chosen people were resurrected and were born to be God's many sons. Now God has many sons with both divinity and humanity. But among these many sons, only the Firstborn is His only begotten Son. This only begotten Son of God, in His resurrected humanity, is also the firstborn Son of God. As the firstborn Son of God, He has both divinity and humanity, and we His believers as God's many sons also possess both the human nature and the divine nature (2 Pet. 1:4). Now day by day we are being conformed to the image of God's firstborn Son (Rom. 8:29). (CWWL, 1980, vol. 2, "The Secret of Experiencing Christ," pp. 471-472)

GOD'S PURPOSE

God gave authority to Adam for the purpose that he might rule over the earth, and especially that he might rule "over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth" (v. 26). The implication here is that God's enemy is embodied in the creeping things. In Genesis 3 the head of the creeping things came in, that is, the serpent, the enemy of God. The serpent in Genesis 3 and the scorpions in Luke 10, representing the sinful and unclean evil spirits, are creeping things. God committed His authority to man that man might have not only the power but also the authority to rule the whole earth and to subdue it. That meant that the earth had been in rebellion and that the rebellious earth had to be subdued. Throughout the sixty-six books of the Bible, there are always these two aspects. God's intention positively is to express Himself through a corporate man, and negatively to deal with His enemy, Satan, through this corporate man. At the end of the Scriptures there is a city called the New Jerusalem (Rev. 21:2). God's image is expressed through that city (v. 11; 4:3), and God's authority is exercised through that city (22:5; 21:24-26). That city is the very expression and representation of God.

Excerpts from "The Tree of Life", Chapter 1: The Way to Fullfill God's Purpose (part 1)