

The Church in New York City

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 90 August 22, 2021

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Spanish-speaking Conference for the churches in the Northeast (September 10-12)**

For details please see the church website:

www.churchinnyc.org.

- **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 church life in NYC---That all the saints would have the diligent service for the Lord, the living testimony of the resurrection life of the Lord, and the absolute love poured out upon the Lord as portrayed in John 12
- The going on of the young people and college-age saints:
 - a. For their daily contact with the Lord in and through the Word; that they would be sanctified in the truth and that the truth would set them free (John 17:17; 8:32)
 - b. That in the new school year they all would be "the light of the world" and "let their light shine" to all their friends and classmates and be the seeds of the gospel on all of their campuses (Matt. 5:14, 16)
- The arrangements for the children's meeting and the young people's services during the upcoming school year
- The new term of the Full-Time Training in Anaheim and the FTTA Extension in Boston
- The Labor Day weekend conference for the churches in Upstate NY

- Any saints' relatives who live in Haiti, as well as all the people of Haiti, in the aftermath of the earthquake which struck that country this past weekend
- 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 6: Knowing and Spreading the Up-to-date Truth of the Highest Gospel of God's Eternal Economy according to the Ministry of the Age

Portion from Days 1 & 6:

Our hearts are full of thanksgiving to God. From all these brothers we have received much help. As Paul said, "Neither did I receive it from man" (Gal. 1:12). In the same way, we can say that although we have received help from our brothers, these revelations were not received from man. We received help from Luther, Zinzendorf, the Moravian Brethren, and the Keswick messages. Today we believe that God's ultimate goal is to have Christ as everything....I believe that God has only one work today. It is the message of Colossians 1:18 which says that God desires to see Christ have the first place in all things. The basis of everything is the death, the resurrection, and the ascension of Christ. Other than Christ, there is no spiritual reality. This is God's "present truth."

We thank God that we can touch God's grand purpose. We need to humble and prostrate ourselves and to deny ourselves. We need to be clear that our work today is not just to save some souls or to help others become spiritual. Our goal is indeed the greatest and the most glorious. Thank God that we can know God's "present truth." May God be

gracious to us so that we do not become the castaways of the “present truth.” May we be watchful, and may we not allow the flesh to come in or the self to gain any ground. May God’s will be accomplished in us. (*CWWN, vol. 11, “What Are We?” pp. 844, 856-859*)

If we continue to take our old way, I am afraid that after another ten years we will be in the same condition. We are just giving people a little injection to help them grow in life mainly by inspiration, but no solid truth has been constituted into their being that can remain in their memory and that can be presented to others in a proper doctrinal way. By taking the way that we have taken, we have lost the nature of the testimony of Jesus, which must be a constitution of the proper truth that produces a proper daily living. If the saints are not properly constituted with the truth, they cannot live a proper life. If they live only by inspiration and not by the constitution of the truth, I do not trust in that kind of living to be a testimony of the Lord. We must educate our spiritual children. We should not only help them grow in life but should also help them to be educated and built up in the proper knowledge of the truth.

The elders have to endeavor to get into the truth. Do not excuse yourself by saying that you are too old. Even at the age of eighty I spend a certain time every day in the Word. If I can make it, so can you. It all depends upon whether or not we have the heart.... All of us elder brothers need to get ourselves saturated, soaked, and constituted with this basic knowledge of God’s Word.

We must remember that at the beginning of any endeavor we always feel awkward and not so successful. However...if we keep endeavoring to get into the truth, I believe the result that will issue will be very promising. We should encourage the saints to have a private time in the Lord’s Word and...do this as a proper rule of their daily life. Regardless of how busy or how tired we are, we can reserve thirty minutes a day for a time with the Lord in the Word....If there is the will, there is the way.

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

MINISTRY PORTIONS

The Lampstands

These local churches are lampstands. A lampstand is the embodiment of the Triune God. How do we know this? First, the substance of the lampstand is gold, signifying God the Father and the divine nature. Then, the lampstand has a shape; it is not just a lump of gold but has a definite form. This signifies Christ as the very embodiment of God. Third, the seven lamps are the seven eyes of the Lamb and the seven Spirits of God (5:6; 4:5). The seven lamps as the seven Spirits of God are the expression of the Triune God. The Spirit is the expression, the Son is the shape, the form, and the Father is the substance of the church as the wonderful lampstand.

To say that the church is the embodiment of the Triune God is not to make the church a part of deity, an object of worship. We mean that the church is an entity born of God (John 1:12-13), possessing God’s life (1 John 5:11-12) and enjoying God’s nature (2 Pet. 1:4). The church has the divine substance, bears the likeness of Christ, and expresses the very God. Since we have been born of God, we surely have God’s life and possess His nature, and we enjoy this life and nature every day. We are learning by His mercy and grace not to live by our natural life but by the divine life and nature. As we are thus being transformed, there will be the fullness, the expression, the form, the appearance, of Christ, and we will be shining, not by ourselves but by the sevenfold intensified Spirit.

- Excerpts from “*The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures*”, Chapter 5: The Church (Section 7)

SELECTED VERSES

Phil. 3:13b-14

3:13b ... One thing I do: Forgetting the things which are behind and stretching forward to the things which are before,

3:14 I pursue toward the goal for the prize to which God in Christ Jesus has called me upward.

Rom. 12:2

12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.

2 Cor. 3:18

3:18 But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.