



The Church in 皮斯卡特维 *Piscataway* 召会周讯 Weekly News

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EXCERPT FROM MINISTRY READING (THE KINGDOM CHAPTER 30): CHRIST VERSUS RELIGION, POLITICS, DOCTRINES, AND LAW

THE WEDDING GARMENT

We have been invited to the wedding feast. We have been called, and we did not reject that calling. However, although we have accepted the invitation and have come, this does not in itself mean that we are qualified to participate in the wedding feast. After being called, we need a wedding garment. What is this wedding garment? In the Bible garments and clothing signify our righteousness. In some verses, such as Luke 15:22, garments signify Christ as our righteousness. However, in Matthew 22:11-12 and in Revelation 19:8, the wedding garment signifies the practical righteousnesses of the saints. According to Psalm 45, the queen who typifies the church has two garments. One signifies Christ Himself as our righteousness, and the other signifies our practical daily walk as our covering garment. We were clothed with Christ when we were saved. Christ as our righteousness qualifies us to be justified for salvation (1 Cor. 1:30). But after being saved and justified, we need to live out Christ as our practical righteousness. This is the overcoming life. Christ lived out of us will become our practical righteousness to cover us. This is the second aspect of righteousness, which is not necessary for salvation but which qualifies us to attend and participate in the wedding feast. The wedding feast refers to the millennium, the one-thousand-year reign with Christ (Rev. 20:4-6). Christ's wedding feast will not last twenty-four hours; it will last one thousand years. Only those who have a wedding garment will participate in that wedding feast.

To be saved we only need to have Christ as our righteousness covering us in the presence of God. Concerning this point we must be very clear. Christ is our righteousness by which we are justified. However, we should not think that all the problems are now solved. To be saved is one thing, but to be matured and saturated with Christ is another. We must go on to live by Christ, and not only to live by Him but to live Him out, to manifest Him. We need to express Christ by continually living by Christ. The very Christ whom we live out in this way will be our wedding garment, our practical righteousness. When we come to God for justification, we simply take Christ as our righteousness. However, at that point we have only received Christ; we have not yet experienced Him. In order to attend the wedding feast we need to experience the Christ whom we have received. Christ must become our experience. When Christ has become our experience, He will be the subjective, experiential righteousness that qualifies us to attend the wedding feast.

Matthew 22:14 says, "Many are called but few are chosen." Here we see again the two steps. To be called is one thing; to be chosen or selected is another. To be called means to be saved. Whether or not we are chosen, that is, qualified for the wedding feast, is something pending. Christianity mostly preaches to people about being called but hardly mentions anything about the Lord's selection. But both Matthew 22:14 and Revelation 17:14 mention the matter of being called and of being chosen. I have no doubt that all of us are called. However, I have a real concern as to how many of the called ones will be selected. We have been called for salvation, but we must be selected for the wedding feast. For example, all the students in a school may graduate, but not everyone will receive a prize. This does not mean that if you do not receive a prize you do not graduate. You may graduate and yet not have a prize. Whether or not we participate in the one-thousand-year wedding feast on that wonderful, universal wedding day depends upon one thing: whether or not we live out Christ today.

Announcement:

1. District prayer meeting on the coming Tuesday 7/28 is scheduled at district prayer meeting on-line locations starting from 8 PM. We encourage the saints to separate time to attend.
2. Corporate pursuing this week: "The Kingdom" messages 29 & 30.
3. When COVID-19 outbreak in March, saints in Mainland China care the members of The Body in United States. Along with their fellowship, we also received a shipment of regular face masks. This is the fellowship of the body and praise to the Lord. If any of our brothers/sisters and any of gospel friends whom we are caring for need face mask, please notify serving ones in small group. We will finalize the quantity and distribute face mask as soon as we collect the needs.
4. 2020 Memorial Day conference morning revival arrived and they are available at the entrance of meeting hall. For saints who have standing orders, you may pick it up or ask help from small group serving ones to arrange delivery. Bookroom also has a few additional copies for saints to purchase. We will be entering into this new morning revival from Monday 7/27.

Meeting Attendance:

Small Groups (7/17~7/18): 145

Lord's Table (7/19): 130

Prayer Meeting (7/21): 48

Prayer Burdens:

Meeting to Know & Do the Will of God -

- A. Pray for the burden in the past week's Morning Revival. May we, especially during the pandemic, all realize the importance of the church meetings and not abandoning our own assembling together (Heb 10:25).
- B. May we earnestly practice laboring on Christ during the week, so that we can supply Christ and build up the Body of Christ through prophesying on the Lord's Day.

The Nazarite Vow (NACT Burden) -

- A. Pray for the Lord to gain many people as today's Samuel that voluntarily consecrate themselves to God to turn this age.
- B. Pray that the Lord would raise up many persons like Hannah in the Old Testament to make a vow to the Lord to be persons who can bring forth fruit, at least one Samuel, for the Lord's purpose (1 Sam 1:11, 16, 20).

Summer School of Truth -

Please see the back side for the detail.

Chinese Speaking Serving Ones Perfecting Training

Since 2003, this training has been a training that I must attend on site every year. This is the Lord's great mercy. Co-workers from North America, Taiwan and even all over the world, including some English-speaking brothers would come to the east coast (Texas for year 2008) to support and supply the training every year. I am so encouraged by the perfecting from the training, by blending and fellowshiping with members of the body from different localities who love the lord, my vision, living, pursuit, practice and service are refreshed, strengthened and lifted up, thus I can continue to move forward. I can testify that many brothers and sisters, including myself, are perfected for the church life, and the building up of the body of Christ. Starting from 2016, Serving ones' weekend training was added to the perfecting training. The need is great and urgent.

This year's training was truly a special one, both in the way and the burden. From 7:30 am-9:00 pm, all the corporate morning revivals, group studies, thematic messages, and special topics were held online. There was no chance for face-to-face fellowship at dinner, greeting by a handshake or embrace, talk and prayer while walking along quiet paths, saints in twos and threes in the bookroom or under the night sky, even sweat running down like raindrops from the lack of A/C. But the dispensation of the Spirit and the timely words came upon us intensively. Thank the Lord! Praise the Lord! What the Spirit gives is immeasurable!

The topic of Serving Ones' Perfecting Training this time is "Living and Serving In the Oneness and the One Accord of the Body of Christ". One who serves the Lord needs to touch the heart of the Lord, the longing of the Lord, and the heartbeat of the Lord. What the Lord is longing for in His heart are the oneness and the one accord of His believers, the living and serving in the body of Christ.

We need to know the Body of Christ and see we are members of the Body as being saved the second time. Our living, serving and even the growth of the spiritual life cannot be outside of the Body.

Brother Minoru specifically mentioned about our culture; his burden was very heavy. Culture is terrible. It is versus Christ and brings in division and enmity. Colossians 3:9-11 tells us that we need to put off the old man with his practices and put on the new man. We are not this man and that man, we should only be new man and God-man. The biggest problem to the building of the Body is culture, which includes our social method, living habit, and language, etc. We all need to be delivered out of culture in order to serve the saints of all kinds of language, otherwise what we produce might not be the new man, but some ethnic groups. Our Lord has abolished the ordinances and made peace (Eph 2:14-16). Grace swallows up races. Our responsibility is to keep growing, so that we can utilize the gift from the Lord, care for the will of God and the desire of Christ, may the reality of the New Man appear.

2020 Summer School of Truth

This coming Monday, the Summer School of Truth will begin. It will be held from July 27th - August 8th. This year, the topic of the Summer School of Truth is God's Full Salvation. There will be two sessions each day where the young people will have the opportunity to be with 300 other young people from the Northeast to be under the hearing of faith. Along with the main meeting, each young person will be in a smaller group where they will have the opportunity to get to know other young people from other localities.

Since the young people can't physically gather together this time, there was the feeling among the saints to prepare a package for each participant with an outline, lesson book and tshirt. The saints then went out to deliver the packages to each young person in order to have the opportunity to see them face to face. We are all very much looking forward to the day when we can be together in person once again.



Please pray for this upcoming two weeks:

- 1) Pray that all the registrants (young people, parents, teaching assistants, serving ones) can be strengthened into the inner man and their whole beings are open and ready for the time.
- 2) Pray for the truth of God's full salvation to be released, received, and experienced.
- 3) Pray for the special burden for household salvation and the participation of all young people's parents throughout the summer school of truth.
- 4) There would be no issues with technology - wifi or computers.