

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

Jan. 22, 2023

The church in Phoenix

Meeting Schedule

Lord's Day

10:00 am – Lord's Table Meeting

11:00 am – Prophesying Meeting

Tuesday

7:30 pm – English-speaking prayer meetings at Districts 1 & 2

7:30 pm – Chinese-speaking prayer meeting at District 2

7:00 pm - Spanish-speaking prayer meeting in the homes

Friday

6:30 pm – English-speaking College Meetings

7:00 pm – Chinese-speaking Student Meetings

7:30 pm – Small Group Meetings

Saturday

7:30 pm – Young People's Meeting

7:30 pm – Small Group Meetings

Continue in the Ministry and the Word

Holy Word for Morning

Revival

Crystallization-Study of 1 and 2 Kings – Week 11

Ministry Publication Reading

The Application of the Interpretation of the New Jerusalem to the Seeking Believers, Chapter 3

Scripture Reading:

Rev. 4:3a; 21:12a, 14a, 18-20

Announcements

❖ 2023 Blending Conference in Phoenix

- Dates: Friday, Feb. 24 through Lord's Day, Feb. 26.
- In-Person meeting at the church in Phoenix meeting hall at 17803 N. 27th Ave.
- Form to sign up to provide hospitality: tinyurl.com/2023MTNBCHospitality
- Service Groups: The service groups of the church should begin praying, having fellowship, planning, scheduling, and preparing for this conference:
 - Service Office – hospitality arrangement and shepherding of the saints
 - Children's service
 - Ushering & Parking service
 - Piano service
 - Lord's Table service – bread & wine
 - Audio & Translation service – Chinese & Spanish
 - Cleaning & Maintenance/Repair service
- Planned meeting schedule:
 - Message 1: Friday evening: 7:30 – 9:30 PM
 - Message 2: Saturday morning: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
 - Message 3: Saturday evening: 7:00 – 9:00 PM
 - Lord's Table: Lord's Day morning: 9:30 – 10:00 AM
 - Message 4: Lord's Day morning: 10:00 AM -12:00 PM

❖ Offerings

- Please send your offerings through *Zelle* or *Popmoney* to the church's bank account using the following email address: offerings@churchinphoenix.org.

Riches from the Ministry

Now we want to see the functions of the holy city's wall and its foundations (21:12a, 14).

The first function is to separate, to sanctify, the city unto God from all things other than God, thus making the city the holy city (vv. 2a, 10b).

The second function of the wall of the holy city with its foundations is to protect the interest of the riches of God's divinity on the earth and the attainments of His consummation. What are the riches of God's divinity, which need to be protected? Today God's divinity has been mocked. Some say that it is a heresy to believe that we are born of God to be His children and that we are God's family and have become God in life and in nature but not in the Godhead. To oppose this great truth is to mock the interest of the riches of God's divinity on the earth. Second, the wall protects. In ancient times the cities had walls around them for protection. The wall of the holy city protects the interest of the riches of God's divinity and the attainments of Christ's consummation.

Those who do not see the riches of the Father's divinity do not know how to protect them. When we came to this country, we put out messages to define the divine Father and to thus protect the riches of the divinity of the Father. Isaiah 9:6 says clearly concerning Christ that as the child born, He is called the mighty God, and as the Son given, He is called the eternal Father. Some said that the Father in this verse does not refer to the Father in the Godhead but to the Father of eternity. This twisting of Isaiah 9:6 implies that these ones believe in two divine Fathers — the Father in the Godhead and the Father of eternity. This is really heretical. Actually, the Father of eternity is the Father in the Godhead. Apart from the Father in the Godhead, there is not another divine Father called "the Father of eternity." We must put out the pure truth from the Word to protect the interest of the riches of God's divinity.

The wall of the city also functions to protect the attainments of Christ's consummation. God in Christ consummated so many things. He consummated incarnation, death, and resurrection. Today some theology mocks the reality of Christ's incarnation, death, and resurrection. There is the need of the wall of the New Jerusalem to protect the attainments of His consummation. His attainments, which He consummated in His ascension, are for the accomplishment of God's eternal economy through His heavenly ministry. In His ascension He became the Head of the Body, the church (Col. 1:18), the Lord and Christ (Acts 2:36), and the Leader and Savior (5:31). He became our High Priest (Heb. 4:14), the Mediator of the new covenant (9:15), the surety of the better covenant (7:22), and the Minister in the heavenly Holy of Holies (8:2). Today in ascension He is also the Paraclete (Advocate) of the New Testament believers (1 John 2:1; John 15:26), and our Intercessor at the right hand of God (26, Rom. 8:34).

The colors of its foundations are like the colors of the rainbow. The rainbow is God's guarantee in His unflinching faithfulness that the earth will never again be destroyed by the flood of water (Gen. 9:8-17). But the fire as a destructive element (19:24-25) will be used by God to punish all His enemies for eternity (Rev. 14:10-11; 21:8). In Genesis God used two kinds of elements to destroy the human-occupied earth. First, God used water to make a flood to destroy the corrupted generation during Noah's age. Later, the people in Sodom and Gomorrah became even more evil, so God destroyed them by another element, fire. Ultimately, the lake of fire will be used for God's destruction of all His opposers.

Eventually, in the new heaven and new earth, there will be a new city with the colors of a rainbow. The rainbow is a sign of God's guarantee that He will never destroy the city. But outside of the city there will be a lake of fire, where Satan and all of God's opposers will suffer the second kind of destructive element forever. Fire as a destructive element will be used by God to punish all His enemies for eternity.

Now we need to consider how to apply this fellowship. In our created state we were dust, but God wants to transform us into something that is wonderful in His eyes. By His Spirit He transforms us through the renewing of our mind, emotion, and will, the components of our soul...The soul is the natural man, the natural man is the fallen man, and the fallen man is the man abandoned by God. If we want to change our status, we need transformation. In order to be transformed, our mind, emotion, and will must be renewed.

In order to experience the transformation of God by the Spirit, we have to apply all the Bible teachings to our mind. We have to let our mind be renewed so that it can eventually be occupied by the Spirit. Ephesians 4:23 says that we need to be renewed in the spirit of our mind. Through the spirit spreading into our mind, we are renewed for our transformation.

Transformation is a lifelong matter. It cannot be consummated within a short time. I have been under this renewing work for over sixty-three years. While I was teaching others, my mind, emotion, and will were renewed. Now I have a subdued will. In the past my will was like a wild horse without a bridle. I did whatever I liked or decided to do. But through the Bible's teachings, my mind, emotion, and will have been renewed. Our stubborn will must be subdued to be a renewed will, which is so willing to submit itself to the will of God. (Lee, *The Application of the Interpretation of the New Jerusalem to the Seeking Believers*, Chapter Three)