

# WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

Feb 20, 2022

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

Vital Factors for the Recovery of the Church Life – Week 8

### Ministry Publication Reading

The Law and Grace of God in His Economy, Chapter 1

### Scripture Reading:

Eph. 1:10; 3:9; Gal. 3:23-24

## Announcements

### ❖ Monthly Brothers' Meeting

- Saturday, February 26 at 8:30 am
- Zoom link information will be emailed to the brothers.

### ❖ Phoenix Conference with Brother Ron K.

- Virtual blending conference schedule:  
Message 1: 7:30 pm Friday, March 4  
Message 2: 10:00 am Saturday, March 5  
Message 3: 7:00 pm Saturday, March 5  
Lord's Table: 9:30 am Lord's Day, March 6  
Message 4: 10:00 am Lord's Day, March 6
- Conference will be held through Zoom. Zoom link information will be emailed to the saints.

### ❖ Church Prayer Burdens: <http://www.churchinphoenix.org>

### ❖ Offerings

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

## Riches from the Ministry

...[T]he economy of God...is a very great subject. Ephesians 1:10; 3:9; and 1 Timothy 1:4 are three portions of the Word that are focused on God's economy. God's economy came out of His heart's desire, which is His delight. The eternal God, the infinite God, surely has His heart's desire. The desire of God's heart is God's good pleasure. For the sake of His heart's desire and His good pleasure, God designed a plan in eternity to accomplish His purpose that He might obtain His heart's delight, His heart's desire, and His good pleasure. This plan, this design, is God's economy.

According to the book of Ephesians, God's economy is to obtain an organism. God is infinite and intangible, yet He desires to gain the tangible man so that He might enter into man to be man's life organically. God is concealed and invisible, yet He desires to be united and mingled with the tangible man so that He may have a visible, tangible expression. This expression is not an expression of man but an expression of God, who dwells in man as man's life.

God's intention is for such an organism to be the Body of Christ (Eph. 1:23) that this organism may be united and mingled with Christ (John 15:5a) and have the same life and nature as Christ, that the two may become one (Eph. 5:31-32) as Christ's counterpart...to live Christ (Phil. 1:21) and express Christ as the processed Triune God (v. 20).

The first step God took for the accomplishment of such an economy was creation. His old creation was with man as its center...God created man in His inward image and according to His outward likeness so that man may be like God within and without.

God created man in His inward image and according to His outward likeness that man may look like Him and represent Him. However, man did not have God within him. Man had only the God-created life; man did not have the uncreated life of God. The created man was man but not God; he had the human nature but not the divine nature. He had God's form, image, and likeness but not God's life and nature; he surely was not God. For man to be God's organism and become the Body of Christ, man had to receive God as life. Therefore, God put man in front of the tree of life. This means that He intended for man to eat the fruit of the tree of life that man may receive Him as life.

...God put man in front of the two trees and let man choose which tree he would eat. If man would make the right choice and would eat the right thing, he would be blessed and have life. If he would choose wrongly and eat wrongly, he would die. Today we still have these two choices. Every time we choose rightly by eating the tree of life, we have life. Every time we choose wrongly by eating the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, we die...Adam, who was created by God, made the wrong choice between the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil — he ate the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. He did not eat of the tree of life, which signifies God as his life, that he might have God's life organically and live out God...After eating of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, Adam fell from God into sin (Rom. 5:12), and the substance of death entered into him to constitute him a sinner dead by nature (v. 19a). Adam not only committed a trespass and offended God and thus had an outward sinful act, but even more he had an inward sinful nature and was constituted a sinner...God's original intention was that man would be for the producing of an organism, but man altogether became sinful, falling under God's condemnation to suffer eternal perdition.

God's intention in His economy is to accomplish a goal, that is, for the Divine Trinity to gain man to be His organism...What God wants is to have an organism that lives out God to express God, manifest God, and be joined with God as one. Such a living organism is what God wants.

Before the law was given, God first gave man a sweet promise; He promised the fallen sinner that the seed of the woman would come. This seed of the woman would destroy the enemy, the serpent, who had damaged man. The seed of the woman would become man's righteousness and man's salvation. Prior to His coming, however, man would neither believe nor receive Him. Therefore, God had to decree His law to man. The law was not there in the origination of God's economy. It was added because of man's transgressions, while God's economy was proceeding (Gal. 3:19). Due to man's fall and his not knowing himself, God was forced to insert, to add, the law...The law was not there originally but was added later in order to expose man's real condition and true nature and thus show man the true picture of himself.

The law of God is a portrait and testimony of God. In Romans 7 Paul says that the law is holy and spiritual and the commandment is holy, righteous, and good (vv. 12, 14). The law is good, holy, and spiritual, yet even so, it is only a portrait, a "photo," of God. The law describes to us what kind of God He is, what kind of image He bears, and what kind of attributes He possesses. Hence, the law as God's portrait is called "the testimony" of God in the Old Testament (Exo. 32:15; Psa. 78:5). God's portrait, God's description, is God's testimony.

...[T]he law of God has a positive function in God's hand. The law has become the custodian and child-conductor of God's chosen people to bring them to Christ — grace (Gal. 3:23-24). God's chosen people were shut up and guarded under the law, just like sheep being kept in the sheepfold (John 10:1, 16). In His economy God used the law as a sheepfold to keep His elect in custody until Christ came...When we are under law, we are just like children, and we need the law to be the custodian and child-conductor watching over us. This kind of watching over is not with an evil intention; it is for our protection. Hence, this custodian becomes our child-conductor, and this child-conductor brings us to Christ. Today Christ as the life-giving Spirit is the grace that we enjoy. When Christ comes, grace comes. He became flesh and was full of grace, and of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace. Now we are no longer children under the custody of the law. Rather, through our faith in Christ Jesus we have become children of God to enjoy Him as our grace. (Lee, *The Law and Grace of God in His Economy*, Chapter One)