

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP – October 23, 2016

Announcements

- This week we will cover HWMR Exodus Message 45 “The Breastplate - the Central and Ultimate Point of the Priesthood”
- The weekly ministry webcast will be held on Wednesday in the following homes:
 - Andy Wu - Redmond 206 617 7767
 - Smith - South Bellevue 206 914 3447
 - Miyake - Central Bellevue 425 451 7294
 - Lancaster - Bothell 425 482 4499
 - Horace Wang - Somerset 425 653 2249 (Chinese language)
- Main Hall cleaning (Engleharts, Wilde, Lancaster).
- Second floor/entry area cleaning - (Hall).
- Deadline for signup of 2016 Winter training is Oct 30th. Please fill out the new form for registration at the bookroom.
- Donations of used Living Stream Ministry books in English can be made to the bookroom.
- There is an urgent need for offerings for a new property recently acquired in Sydney, Australia. Donations can be marked “Sydney”.
- The Collected Works of Witness Lee will be completed August 2018. Details on ordering will be forthcoming later this year.
- Please bring gifts and sign the cards to send to the FTTA trainees for a care package.

Schedule

- Saturday October 29th , breakfast 8:30 am at the Bellevue meeting hall
- October 28th-30th Junior High Girls retreat in Easton
- Nov 5th – 6th conference in Spokane with Ed Marks
- Nov 11th – 13th conference in Bellevue with Ron Kangas and James Lee
- November 24th-27th Thanksgiving Day conference in San Jose, CA
- November 24th Thanksgiving Day gospel meeting in the Chinese language at the Bellevue meeting hall

Burdens for Prayer

- Retreats
- Elections
- Bellevue College
- Gospel to the nations in Europe

This Week: October 24 - October 30

Morning Revival: *The Holy Word for Morning Revival: The Crystallization-Study of Exodus week 45*

Hall Cleaning: Downstairs – Team 3 (Engleharts, Wilde, Lancaster)

Upstairs – Hall

Tuesday	7:30 pm	Corporate prayer at meeting hall
Wednesday	10:00 am	Sisters' prayer meeting
	7:30 pm	Webcast
Saturday	8:30 am	Breakfast
Lord's Day	9:30 am	Lord's Table

Ministry Reading Portion

Basic Lessons on Service

LESSON FIVE

**THE PRACTICE OF
THE LORD'S TABLE MEETING**

(2)

*2. We, the Many Sons of God,
Following Christ in Praising the Father*

d. In Cleanness

The peace offering in Leviticus had to be presented to God in cleanness (vv. 17-21). This signifies that we enjoy the life supply, love in resurrection, and power in ascension in cleanness. We must be clean. If someone ate the peace offering when he was unclean, he would be cut off from the people. This means that if we are not in cleanness at the Lord's table to present Christ to God the Father, we will be cut off. To be cut off means to lose the fellowship of God's people.

We need to spend some time on this point concerning presenting Christ to God the Father as the peace offering. The peace offering is a wonderful type of Christ being offered to God. We need to see that this peace offering had an enjoyment of three aspects. First, the peace offering was God's food, so it was for the enjoyment of God. Second, the peace offering was also for the enjoyment of the offering priest, the one who presented the offering. Third, the congregation enjoyed their portion of the peace offering under the condition of cleanness. This is all fulfilled in the Lord's table meeting.

In the Lord's table meeting, after the breaking of the bread and the drinking of the cup, on the one hand, Christ takes the lead to sing hymns of praise to God the Father and we follow Him to do this. On the other hand, at the same time, we offer Him as the peace offering to God the Father for God's satisfaction and we enjoy Him as our life supply, as love in resurrection, and as power in ascension. Furthermore, we enjoy Him with one another in cleanness. This is the fulfillment of the presentation of the peace offering in the reality of the New Testament.

Actually, the section in the Lord's table of worshipping the Father is a section to praise the Father and enjoy His Son with Him. Much of the time our worship to the Father at the Lord's table meeting is inadequate. We need to practice presenting Christ as the peace offering to enjoy Him as our life supply, as our love in resurrection, and as our power in ascension with one another in cleanness.

The focus of this lesson can be expressed in the following statement: the worshipping of the Father should be with the Son and in the Spirit (John 4:23-24). We worship the Father with the Son as the reality and in the Spirit who dwells within our spirit. John 4:23-24 can be fulfilled in our worship to the Father at the Lord's table meeting.

We need to consider the context of John 4:23-24 so that we can understand these verses properly. In verse 20 the Samaritan woman talked with the Lord, saying, "Our fathers worshipped in this mountain, yet you say that in Jerusalem is the place where men must worship." This refers back to Deuteronomy 12, where God ordained that His people worship Him in the unique place chosen by God and with the rich produce of the good land so that they would not be empty-handed when they appeared before God. All of the Israelites had to come to the unique place with the rich produce, the rich offerings, of the good land.

The Lord Jesus indicated to the Samaritan woman that this worship was for the Old Testament age. Then He said, "An hour is coming, and it is now..." (v. 23). In other words, the Lord was saying, "Now the time has come." This means that the age had changed. Now in this new age God the Father is seeking after a kind of worship that is in spirit and in reality.

Here the spirit is our human spirit, and today our human spirit is the unique place where God's dwelling place is. This is based upon Ephesians 2:22, which says that God's habitation today is in our spirit. Since our spirit is the place where God's habitation is, our spirit is today's Jerusalem. We all need to worship God here. This is the unique place. If all Christians would worship God in their spirit, there would be no divisions. Our spirit is the uniting place, the unique center of God's worship, typified by Jerusalem.

We also need to worship God in truthfulness. Truthfulness denotes the divine reality becoming man's genuineness and sincerity (which are the opposite of the hypocrisy of the immoral Samaritan worshipper) for the true worship of God. The divine reality is Christ as the reality of all the

offerings of the Old Testament. Christ is the reality of the rich produce of the good land for our offering.

In order to understand John 4:23-24 properly we have to look at the type in Deuteronomy. In Deuteronomy we see the unique place with all the offerings. Now the Lord says that the unique place is our spirit, and the produce we offer today is not the produce of Canaan but all the riches of Christ. Thus, the unique place is our spirit and the reality is Christ Himself with all His riches. When we partake of Christ as our reality, He becomes the reality within us. This reality within us then becomes our genuineness and sincerity in which we worship God the Father with the worship that He seeks. When we follow the Lord to worship the Father at the Lord's table meeting, we worship the Father with Christ as the rich offerings in the spirit, that is, in our spirit mingled with the Holy Spirit. This is the real worship to God the Father according to His economy.

THE LORD'S TABLE MEETING REPLACING THE FEAST OF THE PASSOVER

The Lord's table meeting is a replacement of the Feast of the Passover. Actually, when the Lord set up His table, He and His disciples were attending the Passover feast. According to the custom of the Jewish Passover, they surely partook of the bread and the wine. Thus, the table meeting set up by the Lord was somewhat transitory. The Lord and the disciples first ate the passover (Matt. 26:20-25; Luke 22:14-18). Then the Lord established His table with the bread and the cup (Matt. 26:26-28; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-26) to replace the Feast of the Passover because He was going to fulfill the type and be the real Passover to us (1 Cor. 5:7). Luke 22 shows us that there were two kinds of eating and drinking. One was a part of the Passover (vv. 15-18). The other was a part of the Lord's table (vv. 19-20). Today we are at the Lord's table without any kind of transitory element.

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Bible Reading Schedule with Footnotes	
Lord's Day, October 23 rd	2 Kings 2:1 - 3:27
Monday, October 24 th	2 Kings 4:1-44
Tuesday, October 25 th	2 Kings 5:1 – 6:33
Wednesday, October 26 th	2 Kings 7:1-20
Thursday, October 27 th	2 Kings 8:1-29
Friday, October 28 th	2 Kings 9:1-37
Saturday, October 29 th	2 Kings 10:1-36