

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP – December 16, 2018

Announcements

- You can still sign up for the winter training webcast (with a late fee). Please sign up with the bookroom.
- The ushers will meet together for extended fellowship and prayer after the Lord's day meeting on January 6th. Lunch will be provided.
- We are covering week 3 for *the Holy Word for Morning Revival*, copies are available in the bookroom.
- No parking is permitted at the Presbyterian church parking lot. A map of available parking is on the tables.
- We are reading messages 27 and 28 from the Life-Study of Numbers. The reading schedule is on the table and posted on the church website.
- The Wednesday night ministry meeting webcast starts at 7:30 pm at the following locations:
 - Smith – South Bellevue, (206) 914-3447, in English
 - Chang – Overlake, (425) 830-3900, in Korean
 - Wang – South Bellevue, (425) 653-2249, in Chinese
 - Miyake – Central Bellevue, (425) 451-7294, in English

Burdens for Prayer

- England Training Center
- Germany
- Meeting hall modifications (parking)
- Prayer meeting
- Winter Training
- Northwest localities

This Week: December 17 – December 23

Morning Revival: *Propagating the Resurrected, Ascended, and All-inclusive Christ as the Development of the Kingdom of God*, week 3

Hall Cleaning: Downstairs – Issaquah & Sammamish
Upstairs – Central Bellevue

Tuesday	7:30 pm	Prayer meeting
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Saturday	8:30 am	Breakfast
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Lord's Day	9:30 am	Lords' Table
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2018 Winter Training Webcast Schedule

Tuesday, December 25 th	Msg. 1	9:00 am
	Msg. 2	10:30 am
Wednesday, December 26 th	Msg. 3	7:00 pm
Thursday, December 27 th	Msg. 4	7:00 pm
Friday, December 28 th	Msg. 5	7:00 pm (open meeting)
Saturday, December 29 th	Msg. 6	9:00 am
	Msg. 7	10:30 am
Lord's Day, December 30 th	Msg. 8	10:30 am
	Msg. 9	6:00 pm (open meeting)
Monday, December 31 st	Msg. 10	7:00 pm
Tuesday, January 1 st	Msg. 11	9:00 am
	Msg. 12	10:30 am

LIFE-STUDY OF NUMBERS MESSAGE TWENTY-SIX JOURNEYING (11)

VI. THE LEVITICAL SERVICE AND THE AARONIC PRIESTHOOD, WITH THEIR REWARD

B. The Reward

A reward, or compensation, was given to Aaron and his sons as the priests (18:8-20) and to the serving Levites (vv. 21-32). This reward (v. 31) was altogether Christ. The priests and the Levites had no portion other than Christ. Christ was their house, their inheritance, their land, their clothing, their food, and their everything.

Today, in the New Testament, the Levitical service is combined with the priesthood. There is no difference between the priests and the servants of the priests. This means that the believers in Christ are both the priests and the serving Levites. The only reward, the only compensation, for our priestly and Levitical service is Christ.

1. To Aaron and His Sons as the Priests

a. All the Holy Portions of the Sons of Israel Reserved from the Fire

To Aaron and his sons were given all the holy portions of the sons of Israel reserved from the fire (vv. 8-10). Every item of these holy portions signifies a certain aspect of the riches of Christ.

In the New Testament the expression "riches of Christ" is used only once, by the Apostle Paul (Eph. 3:8). God gave Paul the grace to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel. In the New Testament we can see that Christ is light, life, the divine attributes, and the human virtues. However, the New Testament does not tell us in detail what the riches of Christ are. If we would know the details concerning the riches of Christ, we need to come to the Old Testament and study all the types of Christ.

The holy portions given to the priests were reserved from the fire (Num. 18:9). All the portions of the sons of Israel were given to God for His enjoyment. These offerings were offered to God through fire and were consumed by holy fire as a satisfying fragrance to please God and make Him happy. However, God reserved some parts of the offerings from the fire that they might become the portion of the priests. This means that the priests enjoy the same thing that God enjoys.

God enjoys Christ. When the Lord Jesus was baptized, the Father spoke from the heavens, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I delight" (Matt. 3:17). This indicates that the Son of God, Jesus Christ, is God's delight, enjoyment, and satisfaction. As God's portion, Christ satisfies God and makes Him happy. God saves part of His portion for us, His priests, to enjoy with Him. Therefore, both God and we, the priests of God, are enjoying the same thing—the all-inclusive Christ.

The holy portions of the sons of Israel reserved from the fire included the meal offering, the sin offering, and the trespass offering (Num. 18:8-10). All these offerings are types of Christ.

1) To Be Most Holy to the Priests

The portions of the offerings reserved for the priests were to be most holy to them because these offerings were food for God (v. 9). The priests ate not man's food but God's food, food which is most holy.

2) To Be Eaten by Every Male of the Priests' Houses in a Most Holy Place

The holy portions were eaten by every male (the stronger ones) of the priests' houses in a most holy place (v. 10). The most holy place here signifies the church, the Body of Christ. According to the typology in Numbers 18, apart from this most holy place, we cannot enjoy Christ very much. Of course, we can enjoy Christ at the altar, but this enjoyment is superficial. In order to enjoy that part of Christ which God enjoys, we need to be in a most holy place. We admit that Christ is everywhere and that we can enjoy Him everywhere. Nevertheless, some parts of Christ we cannot enjoy unless our

standing and position are right. Our standing must be in the proper church life, in the organic Body of Christ.

b. The Heave Offering and the Wave Offering of the Sons of Israel

"This also is yours, the heave offering of their gift, all the wave offerings of the sons of Israel; I have given them to you, and to your sons and daughters with you, as a perpetual due" (v. 11a). This verse speaks of two particular portions—the heave offering (the ascended Christ) and the wave offering (the resurrected Christ). To heave is to lift up. In typology, the heave offering refers to Christ's being lifted up, to Christ's ascension.

In the New Testament we have a revelation of Christ from eternity past to eternity future. In eternity past Christ was the Word (John 1:1). Then, in time, He was incarnated. Thus we have Christ in His incarnation. He lived on earth in His humanity and was crucified. Then He resurrected and ascended, becoming the Christ in resurrection and ascension. He will come again and will reign in the millennial kingdom. Finally, in eternity future, He will be in the New Jerusalem in the new heaven and new earth. Thus, we have Christ in nine great aspects: as the Word, in His incarnation, in His human living, in His crucifixion, in His resurrection, in His ascension, in His second coming, in the millennium, and in the New Jerusalem in the new heaven and new earth. Whereas this is revealed clearly in the New Testament, in the Old Testament we have Christ in typology, and the details of Christ revealed there are endless.

Concerning the enjoyment of Christ in a stronger way, there is a cycle. If we would enjoy Christ in this way, we need to be stronger. The stronger we are, the more strongly will we enjoy Christ. Then the more we enjoy Christ in a stronger way, the stronger we will be.

Witness Lee, *Life-Study of Leviticus*, Published by Living Stream Ministry.
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Bible Reading Schedule with Footnotes	
Lord's Day, December 16 th	Romans 10:16–11:10
Monday, December 17 th	Romans 11:11-22
Tuesday, December 18 th	Romans 11:23-36
Wednesday, December 19 th	Romans 12:1-3
Thursday, December 20 th	Romans 12:4-21
Friday, December 21 st	Romans 13:1-14
Saturday, December 22 nd	Romans 14:1-12