

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP – March 17, 2019

Announcements

- The Collected Works of Witness Lee will be published in Chinese. A deposit of \$100 can be placed at www.twgbr.org.tw. The deadline to order is May 26, 2019.
- Registration for the summer training is due 5/1 (for both the live and video trainings). The church van will drive down to the training again.
- We are starting week 1 of the Holy Word for Morning Revival on Numbers. Copies are available in the bookroom.
- The local training on the Practical Lessons on the Experience of Life has begun, but if saints would still like to sign up fill out a form on the table and purchase a book.
- We would like to re-vitalize the shuttle service; if you can sign up to take the van, please contact Nathan Shih, David Desimone, or Francisco Hernandez.
- The upcoming national college training is planning to receive up to 2800 saints. Financial support is needed to bear the needs of the training. You can donate at <https://donate.collegetraining.org>. Please pray for the college training.
- We would like to expand the piano service, if you are interested in this service, please contact Michael Wang.
- The Smiths and Miyakes will not be able to host the Wednesday night ministry meeting webcast this week, but the following locations are open at 7:30 pm:
 - Chang - Overlake, (425) 830-3900, in Korean
 - Wang - South Bellevue, (425) 653-2249, in Chinese
 - Lu - Kirkland, (206) 696-2543, in English/Chinese
- We are reading message 53 from the Life-Study of Numbers. The reading schedule is posted on the church website. We will continue our ministry reading with the Practical Lessons on the Experience of Life, please pick up a copy even if you are not signed up for the training.

Burdens for Prayer

- London Training Center
- Gospel trips around Europe and America
- Germany
- Meeting hall modifications (parking permit)
- Prayer meeting

- Northwest localities
- How to get into the matters of the experience of life to bring us to maturity
- National College Training (July 14 to 20, 2019)

This Week: March 18– March 24		
Morning Revival: <i>Numbers</i> , week 1		
Hall Cleaning: Downstairs – East Bellevue Upstairs – Eastgate		
Tuesday	7:30pm	Prayer Meeting
Saturday	8:30am	Breakfast
Lord's Day	9:30am	Lord's Table
March		
22-24	Junior High Boys Retreat	
29-31	Conference in Missoula, MT	
July		
14-20	National College Training	

**LIFE-STUDY OF NUMBERS
MESSAGE FIFTY-THREE**

**A VITAL SKETCH
OF THE DIVINE REVELATION
IN THE BOOKS OF EXODUS, LEVITICUS,
AND NUMBERS CONCERNING GOD'S ECONOMY
WITH HIS CHOSEN AND REDEEMED PEOPLE (5)**

In this message we come to the conclusion of the vital sketch of the divine revelation in the books of Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers concerning God's economy with His chosen and redeemed people.

**V. A FULL TYPE OF THE CHURCH
IN THE MYSTICAL UNION WITH THE
ALL-INCLUSIVE CHRIST, THE VERY EMBODIMENT OF
THE PROCESSED AND DISPENSING TRIUNE GOD**

Apparently the Old Testament has nothing to do with the church. Actually the history of Israel recorded in the Old Testament is a picture of the church life. We need to have this understanding as we read Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers. If we have this view, then we will see that in the divine revelation

in the books of Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers we have a full type of the church in the mystical union with the all-inclusive Christ, who is the embodiment of the processed and dispensing Triune God.

A. A Full Type of the Church

Let us first consider the full type of the church and then the matter of the mystical union with the all-inclusive Christ.

1. Chosen by God

Deuteronomy 7:6 says, "You are a holy people to Jehovah your God; Jehovah your God has chosen you, from among all the peoples which are upon the face of the earth, to be a people for His personal treasure." In type, this indicates that the church has been chosen by God.

2. Redeemed from God's Judgment and Saved from the Bondage of the Fall

The typology in Exodus 1, 12, and 14 indicates that the church has been redeemed from God's judgment and saved from the bondage of the fall. As believers today, we know this and have experienced it.

3. Enjoying the Divine Care, and Christ as the Heavenly and Divine Provisions

Having been redeemed from God's judgment and saved from the bondage of the fall, we, like the children of Israel in the Old Testament, are now enjoying the divine care and Christ as the heavenly and divine provisions (Exo. 15–17). Under God's care, we enjoy His nourishing and cherishing us with Christ as our provisions—as the manna, as the living water which flows out of the smitten rock which follows us, and as the tree (the crucified Christ) cast into the bitter water. No matter what our circumstances may be, if we apply the crucified Christ to our situation, the bitter water will become sweet (Exo. 15:23-25). This is an aspect of Christ as the heavenly and divine provisions. Another aspect is typified by the twelve springs and seventy palm trees at Elim (Exo. 15:27).

4. Receiving the Divine Revelation and Being Trained in Knowing God, in Being Built Up Together with God in His Divine Trinity as His Dwelling on Earth for the Expression and Testimony of the Triune God, and in the Priesthood for the Divine Service

At Mount Sinai the children of Israel received the divine revelation recorded in Exodus 19–40 and Leviticus 1–27. This revelation is marvelous; human, philosophical writings cannot compare with it. The type here signifies that the church today has received God's revelation.

At Mount Sinai the children of Israel not only received the divine revelation but were also trained in knowing God, in being built up together with God in His divine trinity as His dwelling on earth for the expression and testimony of the Triune God, and in the priesthood for the divine service. The children of Israel stayed at Mount Sinai for nine months, and during that time they

were trained by the Lord. We may say that through this training they became a divinely cultured people, with God Himself as the main constituent of this culture. In the church life today, we also are being trained by the Lord in knowing Him, in being built up together with Him, and in serving Him.

5. Formed into an Army of God to Fight for God's Economy

According to the book of Numbers, the children of Israel were formed into an army of God to fight for God's economy (Num. 1—4; 21:1-4, 21-35; 31:1-12). We have a similar revelation in the book of Ephesians. The first five chapters of this book are sufficient for the revelation concerning the church. But in the sixth chapter Paul goes on to show us that the believers have been formed into an army to fight for God's economy.

6. Journeying with God and Suffering Frustrations and Trials for Its Purification

The church today is also journeying with God and suffering frustrations and trials for its purification. Before we were saved, we were traveling in this worldly wilderness by ourselves, but now that we have been saved we are journeying with God. God is our companion not merely beside us or in front of us but mainly within us. Sometimes we may not want to walk with Him, but He continues to walk with us, and His presence changes our journey. At other times we may cause Him to be unhappy with us or we may not agree with Him, but we cannot get away from Him. Even if we decide to give up journeying with Him, He will not stop journeying with us, and eventually we have to come back to Him to be one with Him.

As we are journeying with the Lord, we suffer frustrations and trials for our purification. These trials and frustrations deal with our peculiar traits. The members of our family, the brothers and sisters in the church, and the many different persons and things in our environment may be contrary to us and thus become frustrations to us. However, these frustrations are needed for our purification.

Witness Lee, *Life-Study of Leviticus*, Published by Living Stream Ministry.
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Bible Reading Schedule with Footnotes	
Lord's Day, March 17 th	Gal. 1:1-5
Monday, March 18 th	Gal. 1:6-14
Tuesday, March 19 th	Gal. 1:15-24
Wednesday, March 20 th	Gal. 2:1-13
Thursday, March 21 st	Gal. 2:14-21
Friday, March 22 nd	Gal. 3:1-4
Saturday, March 23 rd	Gal. 3:5-14