

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP – December 18, 2016

Announcements

- Morning revival this week, Returning to the Orthodoxy of the Church, Week 5, “The Church in Thyatira”
- The weekly ministry webcast will be held on Wednesday in the following homes:
 - Miyake – Central Bellevue 425 451 7294
 - Lancaster – Bothell 425 482 4499
 - Smith – South Bellevue 206 914 3447
 - Horace Wang – Somerset 425 653 2249 (Chinese Language)
- Main Hall cleaning - Washington/Desimone
- Second floor/entry area cleaning - Kirkland
- No breakfast next Saturday (December 24)

Schedule

- Prayer meeting Tuesday 7:30 pm
- Winter Video training begins December 27 – January 4

Burdens for Prayer

- Bellevue College
- Building up an atmosphere of reading the ministry
- Winter Training
- Gospel to the nations in Europe

This Week: December 19 - 25

Morning Revival: *Returning to the Orthodoxy of the Church, week 5*

Hall Cleaning: Downstairs – Washington, Desimone home meeting

Upstairs – Kirkland

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|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday | 7:30 pm | Corporate prayer at meeting hall |
| Wednesday | 10:00 am 7:30pm | Sisters' prayer meeting Ministry webcast |
| Lord's Day | 9:30 am | Lord's Table |

Ministry Reading Portion

Basic Lessons on Service

LESSON EIGHT **THE PRACTICE OF THE LORD'S TABLE MEETING (5)**

D. The Portions of the Peace Offering

5. To Others

a. The Flesh of the Cattle

There are five parties participating in the five portions of the peace offering. One portion is to God, one portion is to the conducting priest, one portion is to all the priests, one portion is to the offerer, and the last portion is to others, that is, to the rest of the congregation who are worshipping God (7:19-21). The last portion to others is the flesh of the cattle. Of course, no offerer by himself can eat all the offerings, so some "eating helpers" are needed. This is why we all come together at the Lord's table to enjoy the unsearchably rich Christ.

Today we ourselves must be the conducting priests, the serving priests. In the Old Testament worship, there were the serving priests and the ones who came to them to offer something. But in the New Testament there are no clergy and laity. Today we must be all four parties: the offerers, the conducting priests, the general priests, and the congregation. Only certain portions of the peace offering, mostly the inward parts, are for God, but the rest are for us.

Some among us, however, may come to the meeting merely as a part of the congregation and not as offerers. Others may be offerers, but they are not that strong and there is not the real serving priesthood with them. Doctrinally speaking, there are no clergy and laity among us. But actually some may offer a "layman's" prayer, whereas others may offer a serving one's prayer. We can discern the difference. We are all priests, but some may be lazy and will not serve. These ones can enjoy only the wave breast, not the heave thigh. This typology in Leviticus presents a full picture of today's situation.

b. Cleanness Being Required

Anyone who wants to eat the peace offering must be clean, without sin. This is fully dealt with in 1 Corinthians 11, which points out that it is possible for us to partake of the Lord's table in an unworthy manner (v. 27). First Corinthians 5 tells us what kinds of

persons are unclean and should be excluded from the fellowship of the Lord's Body.

The focus of this lesson is as follows: Christ as the peace offering offered by us to the Father is for the enjoyment of God and all the parties participating in the worship in the dispensing of God.

LESSON NINE
**THE PRACTICE OF
THE LORD'S TABLE MEETING
(6)**

In the previous lesson we saw the portions of the peace offering. In this lesson we want to begin to fellowship about the enjoyment of the peace offering. For this lesson we need to read all of Leviticus 3. I feel that we need to help the saints to read this chapter very carefully, and we need to ask them to pay their full attention to two things: the blood and the fat. We have seen that the net above the liver is also God's portion from the peace offering. The net is a part of the fat. In addition to this, there are the two kidneys and the fat tail. Actually, the fat tail is additional fat (Lev. 3:9).

E. The Enjoyment of the Peace Offering

1. God's Portion

a. The Blood

In this lesson we want to cover God's portion of the enjoyment of the peace offering. God's portion firstly is the blood (Lev. 3:2, 8, 13, 17; 7:26-27, 33). The fat is for God, and the blood is also for God. Men were not allowed to eat the fat or to drink the blood. Leviticus 3:17 says, "It shall be a perpetual statute throughout your generations wherever you dwell, that you shall not eat any fat or any blood." This verse strongly charges that no fat or blood should be taken by anyone.

1) To Satisfy His Righteous Requirements

The blood satisfies God's righteous requirements. God needs the blood. God desires to have fellowship with His chosen people, but He is righteous. His righteous requirements will not allow Him to have fellowship with His chosen people as long as they have sins. Therefore, the blood is required. We may say that our sin or our sins require the blood, but actually, it is not so accurate to say this. The most we can say is that our sin or our sins need the blood to solve their problem. But the requirements are not on our side; the

requirements are on God's side. God's righteous requirements need the blood. So the blood firstly satisfies God's righteous requirements.

2) To Maintain His Holy Position

Righteousness is a condition, whereas holiness is a position. The blood is needed to satisfy God's righteousness, and it is also needed to maintain God's holiness, God's holy position. If God came to fellowship with us sinners without the blood, this would overthrow His position. He is the holy God, and His position is altogether holy, separated from anything common.

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| 2016 Winter Training Webcast | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|
| Tuesday, Dec. 27 th | Msg. 1 | 7:00 pm |
| Wednesday, Dec. 28 th | Msg. 2 | 7:00 pm |
| Thursday, Dec. 29 th | Msg. 3 | 7:00 pm |
| Friday, Dec. 30 th | Msg. 4 | 7:00 pm (open meeting) |
| Saturday, Dec. 31 st | Msg. 5 | 9:00 am |
| | Msg. 6 | 10:30 am |
| Lord's Day, Jan. 1 st | Msg. 7 | Following Lord's Table (open meeting) |
| | Msg. 8 | 6:00 pm (open meeting) |
| Monday, Jan. 2 nd | Msg. 9 | 9:00 am |
| | Msg. 10 | 10:30 am |
| Tuesday, Jan. 3 rd | Msg. 11 | 7:00 pm |
| Wednesday, Jan. 4 th | Msg. 12 | 7:00 pm |

| Bible Reading Schedule with Footnotes | |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Lord's Day, December 18 th | 2 Chron. 35:1 – 36:23 |
| Monday, December 19 th | Ezra 1:1-11 |
| Tuesday, December 20 th | Ezra 2:1-70 |
| Wednesday, December 21 st | Ezra 3:1 – 4:24 |
| Thursday, December 22 nd | Ezra 5:1 – 6:22 |
| Friday, December 23 rd | Ezra 7:1-28 |
| Saturday, December 24 th | Ezra 8:1-36 |