

Announcements

- Living Stream Ministry is getting ready to put in a production order for the Collected Works of Witness Lee. This is a historic project compiling published and unpublished ministry from 1963 to 1997. There is a significant discount for orders this month. The last day to order the Collected Works of Witness Lee is December 31, 2017. Information and payment options can be found at www.livingstream.com/cwwl.
- December 10 is the deadline for early registration for the webcast training on Leviticus. Any registration after this date will include a late fee.
- This week we will finish reading chapter 9, “Dealing with the Flesh” (including the overview of the third stage of the experience of life).
- This week we are covering week 2 in the Holy Word for Morning Revival on “The Recovery of the Church”. Please pick up copies in the bookroom.
- The 2018 International Chinese-speaking Conference in Taipei, Taiwan is Feb 16-18, 2018. Late registration may still be possible.

Schedule

- Wednesday night ministry webcast 7:30 pm at the following locations:
 - Andy Wu - Redmond (206) 617-7767, in English
 - Miyake - Central Bellevue (425) 451-7294, in English
 - Smith – South Bellevue, (206) 914-3447, in English
 - Kim – South Bellevue, (714) 213-5213, in Korean
 - Lancaster – Kenmore, (425) 482-4499, in English

Burdens for Prayer

- Germany
- Fruits to be borne from Bible distributions in Europe
- Winter Training on Leviticus

This Week: December 4 – December 10

Morning Revival: *The Recovery of the Church, Week 2*

Hall Cleaning: Downstairs – Redmond
Upstairs – Eastgate & Redmond

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

Ministry Reading Portion

The Experience of Life

CHAPTER NINE

DEALING WITH THE FLESH

VIII. SUMMARY

The first point in dealing with the flesh is that we must know what the flesh is and sense the flesh within us. In spiritual experience, all dealings are based on our knowledge and sense regarding that very matter. The degree to which we have attained in our knowledge will be the degree to which we have dealings. The thoroughness and depth of our dealing is according to our knowledge and sense in this matter. Therefore, if we wish to have a real experience in dealing with the flesh, we need to have a clear knowledge and sense of the flesh.

The meaning of the flesh has three aspects, namely: the corrupted flesh, the whole fallen man, and the aspect of man's good. It is easier for us to discern the flesh as the corrupted body, that is the corrupted aspect of the flesh; therefore, the first stage in our dealing with the flesh is more in this aspect. But as we go on with the Lord, we need to have a deeper knowledge and dealing concerning the other two aspects of the flesh. Not only should we know that sinning, losing our temper, and doing other evil things are of the flesh, but we should also realize that even the matter of worshipping and serving God, plus the matter of godliness, can also be full of the flesh. Plainly, whatever we do must be the outcome of our touching the Lord and the Spirit while in fellowship, and we must do it by trusting in God; otherwise, no matter how good it is, we must still condemn it as something of the flesh.

The second point in dealing with the flesh is that we must know the position of the flesh before God. We must receive light from the

Bible to see how the flesh resists God and is in enmity toward God. We also need to see how the nature of the flesh is incompatible with God, how God rejects it and considers it abominable, and how He has determined to exterminate it and have no co-existence with it. This revelation will cause us to see as God sees, condemn what God condemns, and annihilate what God annihilates. Then we will seek release from the flesh, cooperate with God, and let the Holy Spirit put our flesh to death.

The third point in dealing with the flesh is that we must know the relationship and difference between the flesh and the old man. We should see that the old man, or our old I, is the real being of the flesh, and that the flesh is the expression of the old man or the old I. When the old man or our old I is being lived out in our experience, it is the flesh. Therefore, dealing with the flesh is entirely a matter of experience— that of dealing with the old man in a practical way.

The fourth point in dealing with the flesh is that we must know the dealing itself. The dealing consists of two aspects: the objective fact and the subjective experience. Both aspects are equally needed; neither one should be neglected. The aspect of the objective fact is what God has accomplished for us in Christ, while the subjective experience requires our cooperation with God in the Holy Spirit.

After we realize these four basic points in dealing with the flesh, we will have the experience of dealing with the flesh. The procedure of our experience in dealing with the flesh begins with a deeper longing and seeking for spiritual things. Once we love the Lord and pursue after Him, we naturally long that we may have a deeper life in the Lord and that the Lord would live in us in a deeper way. But in practice, our desire often is frustrated and we fail. What we desire, we cannot do, but what we do not desire, we do. The result of our repeated failures is that we are brought to the place of total misery and despair. Although we often seek the Lord's deliverance, we cannot find the way of deliverance. At this time, the Holy Spirit gradually reveals that the reason for failure is that we live in the flesh. The thing which hinders us most from a deeper mingling with the Lord and hinders the Lord from living more deeply in us is our flesh. At the same time, the Holy Spirit shows us how filthy, corrupt, evil, and wicked our flesh is. Not to mention the evil aspect of our flesh, even what we ordinarily consider as good is also full of the element of man and the self. Our flesh, the good as well as the evil, is condemned by God and unacceptable to Him. When we have seen this, we will naturally, in the light of the Holy Spirit, hate our flesh. At this time the Holy Spirit will impress us with the fact of our being crucified with Christ. This impression, as vivid as picture taking, causes us to see that our flesh, our old I, or our old man, has already been nullified on the cross of our Lord Jesus. The entrance of this light immediately

produces a killing effect which causes our old man or our old I to become gradually paralyzed and withered, eventually losing its position and power. Then all the fleshly elements in our practical living will automatically be exterminated. The more we allow the light of the Holy Spirit to shine within us, the more the old I or old man loses its position, and all the fleshly elements in our living gradually diminish and disappear. At this time we will have a little subjective experience in the matter of dealing with the flesh through the death of the cross.

However, our dealing with the flesh must not stop here. In our fellowship with the Lord and through the Holy Spirit who dwells within us and causes us to partake of the death of the Lord, we must apply the putting to death of our flesh and its expressions time after time and step after step. This is our application of the death of the cross through the Holy Spirit. This is also what Galatians 5:24-25 speaks about: the subjective experience of crucifying the flesh with the passions and the lusts thereof through the Holy Spirit. Because we give Him the opportunity, the ground, and our cooperation, the Holy Spirit within us will enable us to put our flesh to death so that we may live the life God wants us to live and do what God wants us to do. At this time, not only will we live by the Spirit, but also walk by the Spirit; then we will no longer be fleshly, but spiritual.

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Bible Reading Schedule with Footnotes	
Sunday, December 3 rd	Hab. 2:1-20
Monday, December 4 th	Hab. 3:1-19
Tuesday, December 5 th	Zech. 1:1-18
Wednesday, December 6 th	Zech. 2:1-15
Thursday, December 7 th	Zech. 3:1-20
Friday, December 8 th	Hag. 1:1-15
Saturday, December 9 th	Hag. 2:1-23