

THE CHURCH IN HAMILTON NEWSLETTER

11 October 2020

District 1 (South) Ph: 839 1196
33 Beale St, Hamilton East, Hamilton 3216

Online version available at: churchinhamilton.org.nz
Email: churchinhamilton@gmail.com

District 2 (North) Ph: 852 5102
22B Gordonton Rd, Chartwell, Hamilton 3281

Morning Revival Schedule

Crystallization-Study of Jeremiah & Lamentations Week beginning:

12 Oct – Wk 11: Shepherds According to God's Heart
19 Oct – Wk 12: Experiencing and Enjoying the Contents of the New Covenant According to.....

Bible Reading Schedule

Mon	Acts 27	Rom 3:23-24 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;
Tue	Acts 28	
Wed	Romans 1	
Thu	Romans 2-3	
Fri	Romans 4-5	
Sat	Romans 6	
LD	Romans 7-8	

Ministry Digest Reading Schedule

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Week beginning:

12 Oct – The Constituents of the Vital Groups (2)
19 Oct - God's New Creation Becoming God's Oracle for His Dispensing and Spreading

Today's Radio Broadcast

Time of Broadcast: 2:30 pm on Free FM 89.0 MHz
Life-Study of Colossians 42: One Position, One Life, One Living, One Destiny, One Glory with Christ.

International Prayer Burden

Mon	France	Please pray for the brothers in these countries who have participated in the Elders and Responsible ones' online training
Tue	Romania	
Wed	Spain	
Thu	Germany	
Fri	Italy	
Sat	Poland	
LD	Hungary	

Weekly Church Accounts, 26 Sep–2 Oct

Total general offerings \$7,803.05
Average expenses \$8,000.00
Deficit \$196.95
Total building fund offerings \$230.00
Total loan of the church 760,333.22
¹incl \$5,000.00 interest-free loan

- **For offerings** to the church, please use: **03-1318-0467748-00**; Automatic payment forms are available from the church office. For Online payments put your Personal Code number as the reference if making tax refund claims for your donations.
- **For other payments** for which you will not claim a tax refund (for instance, camp fees, book sales, video trainings etc.), please use: **03-1318-0467748-02**.
- **For offerings** to the needs in Vanuatu, please use: **03-0318-0041849-000**.

Upcoming Events, October–December

16-18 Oct Intermediates Camp, Taupo
24-26 Oct Brothers' Training, Hamilton / Zoom
18 Dec Full-time Training Graduation
19-27 Dec Summer Blending, Queenstown
26 Dec-2 Jan Summer School of Truth

Crystallization-Study of Jeremiah & Lamentations Video Training

Tonight's message: Shepherd's According to God's Heart

Saturday Church Practical Service at 22B Gordonton Rd

9:00 am – 10:00 am Ministry of the Word
10:00 am – 10:30 am Morning tea
10:30 am – 12:00 pm Practical service

The Christian service is something of the Body, in the Body, with the Body, and for the Body.

Intermediates' Camp, 16–18 October

The intermediates camp will take place this coming weekend. There are 120 attending this camp from all over New Zealand. 18 of these are Intermediates registered from Hamilton along with 18 parents and serving ones.

It is our desire and the goal of the camp that each Intermediate attending would have a definite personal contact with the Lord during this weekend. We hope this camp would be a milestone in their Christian life, whether it be initial salvation, preparation for baptism, or a fresh experience of the Lord Jesus.

Please remember these precious Intermediates in your prayer this week

Mini Conference with the Church in Richmond

Date: 13-15 November

Registration Fee:

\$80 (3 days) or \$50 (2 days), covers food and lodgings)

Registration: Email church.n.richmond.conf@gmail.com, and indicate

- Whether single or married
- If you are willing to share a room or bed
- When you will be arriving and leaving
- Your contact phone number
- Registration Deadline: Thursday, 1 November

Payment: Church in Richmond BNZ account number 02-0747-0046795-000 (Put mini conference in the reference field with your name)

Contact brothers: Graeme Byars 03 547 4746, or Philip Fauchelle 03 265 5000

Summer Blending in Queenstown

There will be a wonderful time of blending in Queenstown from 19–27 December for any saints to attend. This will be exactly 50 years since the first camp in the Lord's recovery in New Zealand!

During this time saints will watch the LSM Semi-Annual Training messages, there will be a children's programme and a highschoolers programme and many outdoor activities.

For more information and to register, please visit: www.summer.blendingtrip.org

Ministry Digest Volume 2 Number 8

This issue can be purchased at \$12 per copy from the NZTC reception, 33 Beale St or from the church office, 22B Gordonton Rd

When God called His people to come back to His chosen land, very few responded; the majority remained in their captivity. Only a small number came back to the chosen land; those who returned to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple were the remnant of God's people (Ezra 1:3; 2:1-67). The Lord today is expecting a remnant of His people as the overcomers who will be willing to pay the price to follow Him for the fulfillment of His purpose and to be built up as a part of His Body and be made ready as His bride for His coming.

THE DEFINITION OF LIFE

I. Life is not devotion:

- A. Devotion is our exercise of piety.
- B. Life is Christ living in us.

Gal. 2:20a I am crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me;

II. Life is not good behavior:

- A. Good behavior is our doing.
- B. Life is Christ lived out from us.

Phil. 1:21a For to me, to live is Christ

III. Life is not power:

- A. Power is for work.

Acts 1:8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

- B. Life is for living.

John 6:57b he who eats Me, he also shall live because of Me.

IV. Life is not gift:

- A. Gift is the ability for function.

Rom. 12:6 And having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;

- B. Life is the divine being in our being.

John 1:13 Who were begotten ... of God.

V. Life is not the growth in knowledge:

- A. The growth in knowledge is the increase of knowledge.
- B. Life is the increase of God.

Col. 2:19b grows with the growth of God.

VI. Life is not our human life:

- A. Our human life (bios and psuche) is mortal (cf. Matt. 16:25-26).

Luke 8:43 And a woman who had a flow of blood for twelve years and who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and yet could not be healed by anyone,

- B. Life (zoe) is eternal.

1 John 1:2 (And the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and report to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us);

Psa. 90:2b Indeed from eternity to eternity, You are God.

VII. Life is God's content and God's flowing out:

- A. God's content is God's being.

Eph. 4:18a Being darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God

- B. God's flowing out is the impartation of Himself as life to us.

Rev. 22:1 And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street.

VIII. Life is Christ:

John 14:6a Jesus said to him, I am the way and the reality and the life;

Col. 3:4a Christ our life

1 John 5:12a He who has the Son has the life;

- A. Christ is the embodiment of God who is life.

Col. 2:9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily,

- B. Christ is the expression of God.

John 1:18 No one has ever seen God; the only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

IX. Life is the Holy Spirit:

- A. The Holy Spirit is the reality of Christ.

1 Cor. 15:45b the last Adam became a life-giving Spirit.

- B. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of life who gives life to us.

2 Cor. 3:6b for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

RECOGNIZING THE NEED FOR THE RECOVERY OF THE CHURCH

After Satan began by using so many substitutes to usurp the place of Christ, he invented the clergy-laity system.... Originally, all the members without exception were normal, functioning members. But gradually the enemy set up the clergy-laity system to limit the function to just a small number of believers. Since the majority have been put out of function, the Body has been paralyzed.

His first step is to replace the life. He does this with anything other than Christ. His second step is to kill the function. He has done this by installing the clergy-laity system. We must see the evil strategy of the enemy, Satan, behind these moves.... **Every believer must be a functioning member in the Body.**

Only after we understand the original condition of the church can we know how the church has degraded and deviated, and only then can we know the matters that have been recovered and corrected and ... what matters still need to be recovered and corrected.

Concerning the original condition of the church, ...we can look ... at some important points related to the testimony and the ground of the church so that through them we can know the church, including her principle, her constitution, and her ground.

One of the characteristics of the original church was that there was no hierarchy among the saved ones. They were all members one of another, **coordinating mutually and serving together.** First, all the saved ones are brothers without any distinctions in rank. When the Lord was on the earth, He told the disciples clearly, "The rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and the great exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you [that is, in the church]; but whoever wants to become great among you shall be your servant, and whoever wants to be first among you shall be your slave" (Matt. 20:25-27; 23:8-11) All the believers are brothers on the same level; there are no distinctions involving some who are higher and some who are lower.

Second, all the believers are members of the Body of Christ; as such, they coordinate with each other on an equal level, and each of them fulfills his particular function. This is shown very clearly in Romans 12:4-5, 1 Corinthians 12:12-27, and Ephesians 4:16. Without exception, every saved one is a member of the Body of Christ.... **As long as a person is saved, he is a member with a particular function in the church and should serve the Lord in coordination with all the saints.**

Third, all the believers are priests to God. In the Old Testament, among the people of Israel there was a group who served as priests, and the rest of the Israelites were common people.... But in the New Testament, in the church, there is no longer such an intermediary class; rather, all the believers are priests to God, without any distinctions between the so-called clergy and laity. **The normal condition is for all the people of God to be priests to Him.**

Another marked feature of the early church was that it was completely separated from the world; it was in the world but **not of the world**, just as the Lord said in John 17:14-17 and 18:36.

Whereas idols are adversaries of God, the church is the testimony of God. If the church has idols, the nature of the church has been changed. This is a certain fact. From Acts 15:29 we can see that the original church **forsook idols** in a very thorough way.

In the original church there was no human opinion and no human system; instead, the believers completely allowed **the Spirit to speak through the Scriptures.** They allowed the Holy Scriptures of God to have their position, and they also allowed the Holy Spirit of God to have His position. ...