

THE CHURCH IN HAMILTON NEWSLETTER

6 December 2020

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Morning Revival Schedule

The Christian Life, the Church Life, the Consummation of the Age and the Coming of the Lord

Week beginning:

7 Dec – Wk 7: Fighting the Good Fight, Finishing the Course, and Loving the Lord's Appearing

Bible Reading Schedule

Mon	James 5 – 1 Peter 1	1 Pet. 5:7 Casting all your anxiety on Him because <i>it matters to Him concerning you.</i>
Tue	1 Peter 2-3	
Wed	1 Peter 4-5	
Thu	2 Peter 1-2	
Fri	2 Peter 3 – 1 John 1	
Sat	1 John 2-3	
LD	1 John 4-5	

Ministry Digest Reading Schedule

Ministry Digest Vol. 2, No. 9

Week beginning:

7 Dec – Cherishing People in the Humanity of Jesus.

Today's Radio Broadcast

Time of Broadcast: 2:30 pm on Free FM 89.0 MHz

Life-Study of Proverbs 2: The Principles for Man to Live a Proper Human Life

International Prayer Burden

Mon	Iraq	Please pray for the all-inclusive, extensive Christ replacing culture for the One new man
Tue	Egypt	
Wed	China	
Thu	Greece	
Fri	Iran	
Sat	India	
LD	Lebanon	

Weekly Church Accounts, 21–27 Nov

Total general offerings	\$6,979.65
Average expenses	\$8,000.00
Deficit	\$1,020.35
Total building fund offerings ...	\$1,580.00
Total loan of the church	\$742,481.80

Cheques

Westpac Bank is phasing out cheques by **June 2021**. Therefore, the church in Hamilton will no longer accept cheques.

Ministry Digest Volume 2, No.9

This issue can be purchased at \$12.00 per copy from the NZTC reception, 33 Beale St or from the Church Office, 22B Gordonton Rd.

The sense of the spirit is realized through four things:

1. law,
2. life,
3. peace, and
4. death.

Upcoming Events, December

12-13 Dec	Blending Conference with Brother Ron Kangas
18 Dec	Full-time Training Graduation
19-27 Dec	Summer Blending, Queenstown (www.summer.blendingtrip.org)
26 Dec-1 Jan	Church Video Training of the LSM Semi-annual Training
26 Dec-2 Jan	Summer School of Truth (www.summerschool.nz)

Lord's Day Lunch in the Homes

There is no corporate lunch today. This provides another opportunity to blend with saints from different districts in your homes. May the Lord continue to pour His blessing through such time!

Saturday Church Practical Service at 22B Gordonton Rd

There won't be a meeting on 12 December due to the Blending Conference.

Blending Conference with Brother Ron Kangas

There will be a blending conference with brother Ron Kangas on 12 and 13 December. We strongly encourage all saints to attend this time.

This conference will be conducted in both a **physical format** and an **online format**. We encourage as many saints as possible to attend the physical conference, which will take place in all 3 languages (English, Chinese and Korean) at the New Zealand Training Centre.

The meeting schedule will be:

- Message 1: 10 AM – 12 PM Saturday 12 December
- Message 2: 3 PM – 5 PM Saturday 12 December
- Message 3: 10 AM – 12 PM Lord's Day 13 December
- Message 4: 3 PM – 5 PM Lord's Day 13 December

In addition to the blending conference, there will be meetings during which brother Ron will fellowship with the responsible brothers between 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM on both Saturday 12 December and the Lord's Day 13 December.

Visit <https://nztc.ac.nz/blending-conference/> to register

Lords Day Meeting Next Week, 13 December

On the Lord's Day **ALL DISTRICTS** will meet at 33 Beale St. We will meet in three languages. The Lord's table meeting will be for 30 minutes followed by the conference message. **There will be arranged children's service.**

Summer School of Truth

All those of high school age who attended high school in 2020 are eligible to attend.

Venue: Christian Youth Camps, Ngaruawahia **Cost:** \$340

Dates: The Summer School will begin with 6:00 PM dinner on Saturday 26 December (registration from 4:00 PM) and will conclude after lunch and clean-up on Saturday 2 January (1:30 PM).

Registration and more information: www.summerschool.nz

Deadline: Monday 14 December 2020

Summer Conference Replaced by Church Video Training

Dates: Saturday 26 December to Friday 1 January

Registration details: Awaiting information and details from LSM

/// Being a Christian is something one does for himself, whereas being a member is something for the Body. In the Bible there are many terms with opposite meanings, such as purity and uncleanness, holiness and commonness, victory and defeat, the Spirit and the flesh, Christ and Satan, the kingdom and the world, and glory and shame. ... Just as the Father is versus the world, the Spirit is versus the flesh, and the Lord is versus the devil, so also is the Body versus the individual. Once a man sees the Body of Christ, he is free from individualism.

THE SENSE OF THE SPIRIT AND KNOWING THE SPIRIT (1)

Scripture Reading:

Rom. 8:2, 6 For the law of the Spirit of life has freed me in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and of death. For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace.

I. Four things:

- A. Life—Rom. 8:2a:
 - 1. The Spirit of life.
 - 2. The Spirit containing life and belonging to life.
 - 3. The Spirit being the source of life, and life being the issue of the Spirit—v. 6b.
- B. Law—v. 2a:
 - 1. The Spirit not only belonging to life but also having its law.
- 2. Life being the content and issue of the Spirit; the law of life being the function and action of the Spirit.
- 3. By contacting life we touch the Spirit; by sensing the law we also sense the Spirit.
- C. Peace—v. 6b:
 - 1. Peace being also the issue of the spirit.
 - 2. Touching the spirit, we do not only touch life but also peace.
- D. Death—v. 6a:
 - 1. Death being the issue of the flesh.
 - 2. The sense of death causing us to know the things of the flesh, thus unveiling the spirit from the negative side.

THE SERIOUSNESS *of* MATTHEW 24 AND 25

Scripture Reading: Matt. 24:45-51; 25:16-30

and we are the slaves in the Lord's service. We have seen that we need to be watchful and pray that we may always buy the oil to arrive at the maturity in life so that we might be ready for the coming rapture. In this chapter we want to see the way to be faithful in the Lord's service.

The Lord's charge at the end of Matthew is heavy but not too heavy. The heaviest chapters in the book of Matthew are not in chapters 5 through 7, which concern the reality of the kingdom of the heavens as the very constitution of the heavenly kingdom. The heaviest chapters do not include chapter 13 concerning the appearance of the kingdom of the heavens. **The heaviest chapters are Matthew 24 and 25 concerning the manifestation of the kingdom of the heavens.** In these two chapters two heavy and sobering items are mentioned—the portion that is appointed for the hypocrites (24:51) and the outer darkness (25:30). The issue of these two items is the weeping and gnashing of teeth (24:51; 25:30). This is why I say that Matthew is a heavy book.

Matthew 24 and 25 are both a portion of the Bible and are both the word that came out of the Lord's mouth directly and shortly before His death. These two prophetic chapters were delivered by the Lord on the Mount of Olives (24:3). The very night before His death, He gave another message, which is recorded in John 14—16 with a concluding prayer in chapter 17. John 14—17 is so deep, while Matthew 24 and 25 are so heavy. Anyone who has succeeded in a certain career gives a serious word when he dies. The message in John 14—17 is very deep, unveiling to us all the riches and depths of the divine life, of the Triune God, for our experience. The message given by the Lord in Matthew before His death is a heavy warning. He had no intention to warn the unbelievers but rather His believers, who all have become the seeking virgins

waiting for Him to come back and the slaves partaking in His service. **His warning is not to sinners but to virgins and slaves.** The believers have such a twofold status. We are virgins going out of the world with a bright and shining testimony, waiting for His coming back and getting ready to meet Him. We are also slaves in service serving Him with a commission. The Lord has delivered His possessions to us and has given us the talents.

I am sorry that such a top student and teacher of the Bible such as C. I. Scofield said that the foolish virgins and the slothful slaves are false Christians. Most of the Brethren teachers felt the same way. However, another group of Bible teachers, among whom were Pember, Panton, Govett, and Lang, repudiated the Brethren teaching. They said that surely these foolish and slothful ones are not false believers. They are genuine Christians, yet they are neither watchful in their life nor faithful in their service, so they will miss the mark in Christ's rapture and miss the reward in the coming dispensation.

We want to consider again the seriousness of Matthew 24 and 25. I do not have the burden to expound the Bible in this chapter. The truths in Matthew 24 and 25 have been adequately covered in the Life-study of Matthew and in the footnotes of the Recovery Version. My burden is that we would realize the seriousness of our position. **Are we watchful to buy the oil every day and all day** to get ready for Him to come to take us up? **Have we been faithful, and are we still being faithful in His service** so that we could be at peace when He comes back to settle accounts with us? **Will we receive an appraising word and a reward** from Him in the age to come or not? These are serious questions.

The Way to Practice the Lord's Present Move, chp. 10 sec. 1

We believers in Christ all need to have a serious realization that the Lord has given us a **double status**, a twofold status. We are the virgins in the divine life, in God's life,