

THE CHURCH IN HAMILTON NEWSLETTER

20 December 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

The All-Inclusive Extensive Christ Replacing Culture for the One New Man

Week beginning:

21 Dec – Wk 1: The Urgent Need for Our Culture to be Replaced by the All-Inclusive, Extensive Christ

Bible Reading Schedule

Mon	Revelation 12-13	Rev. 12:11 And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they loved not their soul-life even unto death
Tue	Revelation 14-15	
Wed	Revelation 16-17	
Thu	Revelation 18-19	
Fri	Revelation 20	
Sat	Revelation 21	
LD	Revelation 22	

Ministry Digest Reading Schedule

Ministry Digest Vol. 2, No. 10

Week beginning:

21 Dec – Nourishing People with the Unsearchable Riches of Christ in His Full Ministry in the Three Stages (1)

Today's Radio Broadcast

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

Life-Study of Proverbs 4: The Detailed Precepts for Man to Live a Proper Human Life

International Prayer Burden

Mon	USA	Please pray for the all-inclusive, extensive Christ replacing culture for the one new man
Tue	South Korea	
Wed	South Africa	
Thu	Russia	
Fri	Mexico	
Sat	Brazil	
LD	Netherlands	

Weekly Church Accounts, 5–11 Dec

Total general offerings	\$8,351.15
Average expenses	\$8,000.00
Surplus	\$351.15
Total building fund offerings	\$200.00
Total loan of the church	\$742,411.62

New Publications for Sale

Holy Word for Morning Revival - \$8/copy; Ministry Digest Vol.2 No.10 - \$12/copy. These are available from the NZTC reception and the church office.

Blending Conference in Palmerston North & Feilding

Dates: 8-10 January 2021

Cost: None, but any donations will be appreciated

Registration & information:

<https://forms.gle/89gsj67QzV7ixpJ9A>

Deadline: Monday 28 December 2020

Upcoming Events, December 2020 – January 2021

26 Dec-1 Jan	Video Training (Crystallization-Study of Job, Proverbs & Ecclesiastes)
26 Dec-2 Jan	Summer School of Truth (deadline has passed)
31 Dec-3 Jan	End of Year Conference, Auckland
8-10 Jan	Blending Conference, Palmerston North & Feilding
10 Jan	Whole Church Summer BBQ (1)
17 Jan	Whole Church Summer BBQ (2)
24 Jan	Whole Church Summer BBQ (3)
12-14 Mar	Church Camp

Church Meetings

All church meetings for the next six weeks will be at the church complex, Gordonton Rd.

- English-speaking districts (E1 & E2) combined at E2 meeting hall
- Chinese-speaking districts (C1 & C2) combined at Hebron
- Korean-speaking districts at the same meeting venue

There will be **no corporate lunch**, and **no assigned crèche or children's service**. We will resume districts meetings from Lord's Day 31 January.

Video Training, Crystallization-Study of Job, Proverbs & Ecclesiastes

Dates: Saturday 26 December to Friday 1 January

Registration & information: <https://tinyurl.com/vtr2020ham>

Deadline: Tuesday 22 December

The training will be conducted in three languages (English, Chinese, and Korean), all at the Church Complex, Gordonton Rd.

We encourage you to

REGISTER

End of Year Conference, Auckland

Dates: 31 Dec 2020–3 Jan 2021 **Venue:** Hall 1, 71 Morningside Dr, Auckland

Meeting schedule:

Meeting 1	7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Thursday 31 December 2020
Meeting 2	4:30 PM – 6:00 PM	Friday 1 January 2021*
Meeting 3	7:00 PM – 8:30 PM	Friday 1 January 2021
Meeting 4	4:30 PM – 6:00 PM	Saturday 2 January 2021*
Meeting 5	7:00 PM – 8:30 PM	Saturday 2 January 2021
Meeting 6	10:00 AM – 11:45 AM	Lord's Day 3 January 2021 (includes Lord's Table Meeting)

* Dinner will be provided (6–7 PM) by the church.

Each message is also live-streamed through the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86486347738> (meeting ID 8648 634 7738).

Saturday Church Practical Service at 22B Gordonton Rd

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	Ministry of the Word	“We need a vision for the way
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM	Morning tea	of our service and a revelation
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Practical service	for the life of our service

2021 CHURCH CAMP

Next year, the Church in Hamilton will hold our CHURCH CAMP from 12 to 14 March. The goal of the camp is to offer a **blending** opportunity for all the saints across the districts, language groups, age groups, races, cultures to have a taste that we are in God's heavenly family. It is a precious opportunity to be joined and knit together and minister the riches of Christ to one another for the **mutual shepherding** unto the **building up of the Body of Christ**. All the saints are encouraged to set aside other things to participate in this church wide blending.

THE SENSE OF THE SPIRIT AND KNOWING THE SPIRIT (2)

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.⁶ For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace.

II. Consciousness:

- A. Of life:
 - 1. The higher the life, the richer its consciousness.
 - 2. The divine life being the highest life with the richest consciousness.
 - 3. This life within us causing us to be full of spiritual consciousness, enabling us to sense the spirit and the things of the spirit.
 - B. Of the law of life:
 - 1. The law of a conscious life belonging to the realm of consciousness.
 - 2. The law of the Spirit of life being full of consciousness.
 - C. Of peace:
 - 1. The peace within us being entirely a matter of consciousness.
 - 2. The consciousness of peace enabling us to know that we are in the spirit.
 - D. Of death:
 - 1. Death causing us to lose consciousness.
 - 2. Death also causing us to have the sense of death.
- ## III. Knowing the spirit by the sense of the spirit:
- A. By the sense of life:
 - 1. The divine life being contained in the Holy Spirit.
 - 2. The Holy Spirit mingling Himself with our spirit.
 - 3. The divine life becoming the life of the Holy Spirit and of our spirit.
 - 4. This divine life in the Holy Spirit through our spirit giving us the senses of life.
 - 5. By such a sense of life we know the spirit.
 - B. By the sense of the law of life:
 - 1. The law of life being the natural function of the divine life.
 - 2. The functioning of the law of life.
 - 3. The law of life giving us the natural sense on the positive side and the unnatural sense on the negative side.
 - 4. The natural sense versus the unnatural sense of the law of life.
 - C. By the sense of peace:
 - 1. The life of the Holy Spirit in our spirit being God Himself.
 - 2. Our spirit with the divine life contained in the Holy Spirit being the new man.
 - 3. God as our life versus our self.
 - 4. The new man versus our old man.
 - 5. The sense of peace being the issue of walking and living by the divine life.
 - 6. By such a sense of peace we know that we are living in the spirit.
 - D. By the sense of death:
 - 1. Death being the issue of our flesh, including our old man.
 - 2. Death being the opposite of both life and peace.
 - 3. The negative senses of death.
 - 4. By such negative senses, we know that we are not in the spirit.

Serving with a **VISION**, According to **REVELATION**, and in the Body for the Building Up of the House of God (1)

VISION AND REVELATION BEING THE WAY AND THE LIFE OF SERVICE

We need a vision for the way of our service and a revelation for the life of our service. Saul's way of serving God was not sinful, but it was a way that was according to the Old Testament, Judaism, and the law. When the heavenly light flashed around him, he knew that he could no longer take his old way. His old practices had to be abandoned, and he turned completely in his way of serving God. He did not pursue his former course; rather, he stopped. Nevertheless, it was not enough for him to change his outward way; his inner life also needed to change. His old way was unacceptable, and his old life had to be terminated.

Many in Christianity focus on the light that flashed around Paul on his way to Damascus, but few focus on the light of life that he received. Many speak of Paul's not being disobedient to the heavenly vision, but they miss his word in Galatians 1:16 concerning God revealing His Son in him. Working for the Lord involves more than an outward way or practice; it involves the matter of an inner life as well.

For example, some argue whether baptism should be by immersion or by sprinkling. I often tell people that baptism is not merely a practice; it is a matter that speaks of knowing the Lord inwardly in His death and resurrection. It is pointless if we merely make a change in an outward practice, but our inner life remains unchanged. If we change the broth but not the medicine in the broth, there will be no impact on the person who is sick. There is no value in changing outward things if there is no inward change. We need vision for our outward way and revelation for our inner life. Our way must be heavenly, whereas our life must be Christ.

A friend in the Lord once asked me, "Why does your church not take interest in social issues? It is as if you are floating in the air above the earth." I replied, "I am a servant of God in order to speak for God; how can I take an interest in social issues? How can I be involved with earthly matters?" A heavenly vision always makes people heavenly. The church is heavenly, and it should not be defiled by earthly things. Social customs and worldly practices are earthly, human matters; they are not matters related to the church. Although the church walks on the earth, she is not earthly; she walks a heavenly way on earth. The life of the church is also heavenly; it is Christ Himself. The church has a heavenly way and the life of Christ.

We must have vision and revelation in order to serve God. The way to serve God comes from the vision, and the life to serve God comes from revelation. Nothing human should be brought into the service to God, that is, nothing from our past, nothing that is Chinese, nothing that is foreign, nothing that is old, and even nothing that is new. No religious system, no person, no human method, no social

practice, and no personal ideas are allowed in the service to the Lord. In his service as Saul, Paul brought the things from the Old Testament into his service, the things given by God to his fathers. From a human perspective, there is nothing better than the things that Saul brought into his service. We can bring in things that are Socratic or Confucian in nature, but these things cannot compare to the things of the Old Testament, Judaism, and the law, things that God wanted Saul to abandon. If God did not want these things, how could He have any regard for things that are merely social, worldly, and human? Simply because something reflects a current trend does not mean that it should be brought into the service of the church. The heavenly vision stops the earthly practices and methods of God's serving ones. The heavenly vision adjusts us.

In contrast, revelation causes us to know Christ inwardly. Men such as Socrates, Confucius, Mencius, and even Bertrand Russell have spoken many words. However, we do not preach the words of men; we preach...the living Jesus, the living Christ, that is, the Lord Himself. Our speaking cannot be understood by mere mental exercise or outward Bible reading; rather, God must reveal His Son in us so that we may know the Son of God who is our life. This was the content of Paul's preaching. The way of his preaching came from a heavenly vision, and the content of his preaching came from revelation. His way was heavenly, and his content was the living Christ Himself.

... With a heavenly vision the way to serve God will be clear, and with revelation the content of our service will be proper.

(The Vision, Ministry, and Leading of the Lord's Serving Ones, pp. 10-15)