

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

Feb. 19, 2023

The church in Phoenix

Meeting Schedule

Lord's Day

10:00 am – Lord's Table Meeting

11:00 am – Prophesying Meeting

Tuesday

7:30 pm – English-speaking prayer meetings at Districts 1 & 2

7:30 pm – Chinese-speaking prayer meeting at District 2

7:00 pm - Spanish-speaking prayer meeting in the homes

Friday

6:30 pm – English-speaking College Meetings

7:00 pm – Chinese-speaking Student Meetings

7:30 pm – Small Group Meetings

Saturday

7:30 pm – Young People's Meeting

7:30 pm – Small Group Meetings

Continue in the Ministry
and the Word

Holy Word for Morning Revival

The Divine Dispensing of The Divine Trinity for The Divine Economy – Week 2

Ministry Publication Reading

The Genuine Ground of Oneness, Chapter 2

Scripture Reading:

John 17:11, 17, 22

Announcements

❖ Annual Business Meeting of the Church in Phoenix

- Date: March 19
- Place: Hall 1 @ 17803 N 27th Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85281

❖ 2023 Blending Conference in Phoenix

- Dates: Friday, Feb. 24 through Lord's Day, Feb. 26.
- In-Person meeting at the church in Phoenix meeting hall at 17803 N. 27th Ave.
- Form to sign up to provide hospitality: tinyurl.com/2023MTNBCHospitality
- Planned meeting schedule:
Message 1: Friday evening: 7:30 – 9:30 PM
Message 2: Saturday morning: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Message 3: Saturday evening: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Lord's Table: Lord's Day morning: 9:30 AM – 10:00 AM
Message 4: Lord's Day morning: 10:00 AM -12:00 PM

❖ Holy Word for Morning Revival - The Divine Dispensing of The Divine Trinity for The Divine Economy

- Available for sale at the Church bookroom
- Cost: \$7.00

❖ 2023 International Memorial Day Conference

- Dates: Friday, May 26 through Monday, May 29
- Place: Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile, 540 N Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL 60611
- Lodging: special group rate of \$139.00 USD/per night plus tax for single and double occupancy rooms (one king bed), and \$149.00 USD/per night plus tax for triple and quadruple occupancy rooms (two double beds).
- For room reservations, please call 1-877-303-0104 and request the Living Stream Ministry group rate for the 2023 Memorial Day Blending Conference. To make
- online reservations at the special group rate, please go to: <https://book.paskey.com/e/50485866>.
- Reservations must be made on or before 5:00 PM local time (CDT) on Friday, May 5, 2023 in order to get this reduced rate.

❖ 2022 Contribution Letter

- Saints who need a 2022 Contribution Letter from The Church in Phoenix can request it from Won Huang via email at: wzhcpa@outlook.com.

❖ Offerings

- Please send your offerings through Zelle to the church's bank account using the following email address: offerings@churchinphoenix.org.

Now we will go on to consider how life and light are the essence of the oneness of the church as God's new creation. In John 17 the Lord dealt with the matter of oneness not by teaching His disciples about it but by praying regarding it. This prayer reveals that oneness can be preserved and realized only in life. In verse 11 the Lord prayed, "Holy Father, keep them in Your name, which You have given to Me, that they may be one even as We are." To be kept in the Father's name is to be kept by His life, because only those who are born of the Father and have the Father's life can participate in the Father's name. The Son has given the Father's life to those whom the Father has given Him (v. 2). Hence, the believers enjoy the divine life as the essence of their oneness. If we are kept in the Father's life, we will be preserved in the oneness.

In verse 17 the Lord went on to pray, "Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth." To be sanctified is to be separated unto God from the world. In a very real sense, to be sanctified is to be preserved. Here the Lord prayed to the Father to sanctify the believers in the truth, which is the Father's word. As the Father's name is a matter of life, so the Father's truth is a matter of light. Life and light are, therefore, the very essence of oneness.

John 17:22 says, "The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, even as We are one." This verse indicates that the Triune God with His glory keeps the oneness of the believers. We are not kept in oneness by teachings or doctrines. We are preserved in oneness by life and light. The Triune God Himself is the life, and His word with His speaking is the light. By this life and this light the oneness is maintained. This is the reason that Ephesians 4 relates the oneness of the church, the Body of Christ, to the Triune God, to the Spirit, the Lord, and God the Father.

It is crucial for us to see that the oneness among God's children is preserved by life and light. It is not maintained through doctrine, organization, or maneuvering. We thank the Lord that in His recovery we have light and life. First, we are enlightened through the Lord's speaking. Then we receive the supply of life. Eventually, however, the life brings in more light. Actually, we enjoy the cycle of light and life, and life and light. The more light we have, the more life we enjoy; the more life we enjoy, the more light we receive. Light, life, and oneness go together. The more light, the more life; the more life, the more oneness; and the more oneness, the more light. This cycle of light, life, and oneness preserves the oneness.

However, we lose the oneness whenever we are in darkness and death. Darkness brings in death, and death causes detachment. But when we repent and confess to the Lord, we are cleansed by the precious blood. The cleansing of the blood is always related to the shining of light (1 John 1:7). As we are cleansed by the blood under the shining of light, we once again experience life. According to our experience, we can testify that the life, light, and blood in 1 John 1 also function as a cycle that keeps us in the oneness. But when we are in darkness, we lose the oneness, for we lose the proper ground of the church. The result is death and detachment. Once again we see that the essence of the oneness is life and light. The oneness is in life, with light, and on the proper ground.

Life and light are also the essence of the oneness of the new city, the New Jerusalem. Revelation 21 and 22 speak of this new city. In chapter 21 we mainly see the matter of light, whereas in chapter 22 we primarily have the matter of life. Revelation 21:23 says, "The city has no need of the sun or of the moon that they should shine in it, for the glory of God illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb." In the New Jerusalem there will be no need of natural light because the city will be enlightened by the glory of the Triune God. The city will be illumined by the shining of God Himself. Furthermore, as the next verse says, "The nations will walk by its light" (v. 24). This reminds us of Isaiah 2:5: "House of Jacob, come and let us walk in the light of Jehovah." Light preserves oneness and rules out disorder. The light in the New Jerusalem will control, rule, guide, and keep everything in order. Hence, it will preserve the oneness.

Revelation 22:1 and 2 say, "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. And on this side and on that side of the river was the tree of life." The river of water of life flows out of the throne of God and of the Lamb to supply the city. The water of life here is a symbol of God in Christ as the Spirit flowing Himself into His redeemed people to be their life and life supply. In Revelation 22:1 the water of life is a river proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb to supply and saturate the entire New Jerusalem. In this way the city will be filled with the divine life to express God in His glory of life.

As verse 2 says, the tree of life grows "on this side and on that side of the river."...As the tree of life, Christ is the life supply available along the flow of the Spirit as the water of life. Where the Spirit flows, there the life supply of Christ is found. By the water of life and by the tree of life, the new city will be richly supplied for eternity. Through this abundant supply of life the oneness of the New Jerusalem will be forever maintained. It will not be possible for there to be any division. The light will shine throughout the city, and the life will water and supply the city. This life and light will eliminate the possibility of division. Even the nations that surround the new city will be one. At that time, all things in heaven and on earth will be headed up in Christ (Eph. 1:10). This will be the ultimate, universal, and eternal oneness. As we have pointed out again and again, this oneness will be kept and preserved in life and with light.

All the churches in the Lord's recovery must be in life and under the shining of light. By the shining of the light and through the watering and supplying of the life, we are one. There is no need for us to make arrangements or to organize anything. The essence of our oneness is not organization — it is life and light. May we all be deeply impressed with the fact that oneness can be prevailing and can be preserved only by life and light. (*Lee, The Genuine Ground of Oneness, Chapter Two*)