

Please pray:

- ✳ North America College Training (14-20 July): Approximately 2000 college students, college-age saints, and newly graduated high school seniors from 41 countries will attend the NACT. Please pray for the Lord's prevailing work in the hearts of the attendees to raise up an army of young ones for His move on earth.
- ✳ We thank the Lord for all He has spoken during the summer training. May we pray for the formation of God's army, for all the saints to experience much growth in life, that is, "the increase of the element of God (Col. 2:19), the increase of the stature of Christ (Eph. 3:17a, 4:13), the expanding of the ground of the Holy Spirit (5:18), the decrease of the human element, the breaking of the natural life, and the subduing of every part of our soul (2 Tim. 1:7)."
- ✳ Nordic conference in Oslo, Norway (19-22 July): Saints from the Nordic countries, the Baltic States as well as from outside this region will participate in this conference. Please pray for the Lord's speaking and rich supply at the conference and for the gospel contacts who have been invited. Pray for the post-conference visit to groups of ministry readers who are already known to the saints and for the establishing of contacts with other ministry readers during the post-conference trip.
- ✳ The Lord's move in Germany: Please continue to pray for the finances to be available for a large apartment in Munich that will be rented as a residence for serving ones and students and as a meeting place for the church; pray for the potential meeting property in Berlin, that the authorities will accept the proposed renovation plan and will approve the use of the property for Christian meetings; pray for the growth, building up, and blending of the saints and the strengthening of the Lord's testimony in Hamburg, Bielefeld, Zurich (Switzerland), and Vienna (Austria).
- ✳ Vancouver meeting hall: As the construction of meeting hall #1 in Vancouver enters another phase which deals with the structural aspects, pray that there will be no delays in securing the proper construction materials. Let us be so willing to pray and offer the financial needs to meet the shortage of \$3.44 million.
- ✳ Pray for various local needs, including saints in Montreal, contacts, and those in need of care and shepherding.

Weekly Readings

- ✳ Holy Bible Recovery Version with footnotes: Dan 11:1 – Hosea 5:15

- ✳ HWMR: Propagating the Resurrected, Ascended, and All-Inclusive Christ as the Development of the Kingdom of God, week 7

Announcements

- ✳ The Library is finishing inventory. Please ensure all material borrowed is returned. The Library will be moving location soon so any willing to help serving with the Library when it is set up, please advise Monica or Phaik Keen.
- ✳ Piano service: if anyone is able to play the piano, please consider serving. There is an urgent need for serving ones.
- ✳ Anyone interested in borrowing the messages on CD, please see the bookroom serving ones to sign them out.

Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Cleaning Schedule

14 July	Serving: English/French (Rose, Julie ...) Cleaning: Chinese East (Xie, Guorong responsible)
21	Serving: Chinese Central (賈筱榮...) Cleaning: Chinese South (Xuecheng, Shishan responsible)
28	Serving: Chinese South (陳世山、劉學成...) Cleaning: English Central, Chinese Central 2 and College (Dennis, Joe, Qiang, Wenxiong responsible)
4 Aug	Serving: Chinese East (陳劉淑真...) Cleaning: Whole Church

Upcoming Events

- ✳ July 14-20: **North America College Training**
 - ✳ Aug 4 to 9, 2019, Puslinch, Ontario (Crieff Hills): **Summer School of Truth**
 - ✳ Aug 30 to Sept 1: **French speaking conference**
 - ✳ Oct 12-13, 2019, Moncton, NB: **Maritimes conference**
- The church website lists more events*

This Week's Activities

14 JULY	✳ 10am- 12pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings
LORD'S DAY	✳ 12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast
15 Monday	✳
16 Tuesday	✳ 7:30-9:00pm: English/French/Chinese prayer meetings by districts
17 Wednesday	✳
18 Thursday	✳
19 Friday	✳

20	✳	6:30-9:00pm: Various Home Meetings (English/French/Chinese)
Saturday		
21	✳	10am- 12pm Lord's Table & JULY Propheying meetings
LORD'S DAY	✳	12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast

THE PRIESTHOOD

II. THE KINGDOM OF PRIESTS BECOMING THE HOUSE OF PRIESTS

B. The Israelites Serving the Idols

While Moses was up on the mountain, the people at the foot of the mountain wondered about his delay. They said to Aaron, "Up, make us gods, which shall go before us" (32:1). Aaron succumbed to their words, collected gold, and made a golden calf. The people then worshipped the golden calf and said, "These be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt" (v. 4).

They began to worship the idol. They sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play. They indulged in great celebration. At last they had found a visible golden god for themselves. The God that Moses taught was mysterious; one could not identify where He lived or where He could be located. Even Moses, the one who worshipped this God, was nowhere to be found. Now there was a visible golden calf which they could worship. God had appointed them to be priests, but even before they were able to be His priests, they became priests to the golden calf. God's desire was for them to be a kingdom of priests. But even before they could do that, they had turned to idol worship and served the golden calf. They established other gods and other forms of worship apart from Jehovah their God.

This is man's concept of God. Man always tries to make his own god and worship according to his own ways. Man likes to worship a god created by his own hands. He does not accept God's sovereignty in His creation. He does not like to acknowledge Him as the Creator.

C. God Assigning the Priesthood to the Tribe of Levi

While Moses was on the mount, God told him to go down. Moses turned and went down with the two tablets of testimony, the Ten Commandments, in his hands. As he drew near to the camp and saw the condition of the people, his wrath waxed hot and he cast down the two tablets. Standing at the gate of the camp he said, "Who is on the Lord's side? let him come unto me" (v. 26). All the

sons of Levi gathered around him. He said to them, "Put every man his sword by his side, and go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbor" (v. 27). Regardless of whom they saw, they had to kill them all. Because the people had worshipped the idol, the golden calf, those who were faithful had to draw their sword and slay them, no matter what kind of relationship they had with them.

Many people think that this order was too cruel. Who can slay his own brother? Who has the heart to kill his own friends? Eleven of the twelve tribes did not move. They felt that the cost was too high. As a result, only the tribe of Levi drew their swords, went to and fro from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slew about three thousand men on that day. Those slain were the brothers, relatives, and friends of the Levites.

Let us consider this a little. After the incident of the golden calf, God immediately told Moses that from that time on the nation of Israel could no longer be a kingdom of priests. Although nothing was said explicitly to that effect, God had reassigned the priesthood to the tribe of Levi alone. The priesthood was originally for the whole nation of Israel. Now, the priesthood was limited to the house of Aaron of the tribe of Levi.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #23, The Priesthood by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.