

Please pray:

- ✳ Canada brothers conference in Toronto (Nov 8-10): Pray that the brothers will be prepared to receive the speaking from the Lord; that the Lord will speak what is on His heart to the churches; that the Lord's burden may be unloaded; that the Lord would bless the blending of the brothers for His move in Canada; that the brothers may go back to the churches and be the messengers and the patterns to the churches; may the Lord gain what He is after in this conference.
- ✳ Shepherding: that we would have an intimate concern for all the saints in the church, including the ones we don't know so well; that we would take the most excellent way of love in all our dealings with each other; that our hearts would be enlarged to embrace all the brothers and sisters, regardless of their condition; that we all would be transferred from our own personal universe, concerned just for our needs and interests, into the universe of the one new man.
- ✳ Egypt: A shipment of Arabic ministry books arrived in Egypt a few days ago and is waiting at a port in customs. We have all the legal documents on our side to release these books. However, we need the help and cooperation of some individuals who do not seem as keen to help us as they did before. Meanwhile, every day these books wait at customs, we pay an extra fee. These Arabic books will be for the upcoming book fair of January 2020, so we need them released so Joseph's storehouse can be full to feed a hungry world.
- ✳ Lord's Move in Europe: The advance of the Lord's move in Germany has stirred up the attack of the evil one. Please pray that the Lord would bind the evil one, cover the co-workers and the saints, and continue to advance in an unhindered way.
- ✳ 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: Gen 1:1 – 3:24
- ✳ HWMR: Crystallization-study of Numbers (2), week 8

Announcements

- ✳ There will be a special fellowship at the meeting hall on TODAY concerning the matter of the overcomers. Please pray for the Lord to release his burden concerning this crucial matter.
- ✳ The 2019 Fall Eastern Canada Young People's Conference in Toronto, Ontario will be held on November 22-24. Registration deadline is November 13. Registration cost is

\$55 plus \$60 for gas and food on the road for a total of \$115. Registration is done online. See Aaron C. for more details.

- ✳ The monthly Ministry digest is now available for order and subscription. It is available in English, Chinese and Spanish and Korean. The purpose of this monthly digest is to help the saints get into the riches contained in the Collected Works of Witness Lee topic by topic. For more information go to ism.org. Please stop by the bookroom if you have questions or to place your standing order.

Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Cleaning Schedule

3 Nov	Serving: Chinese Central (賈筱榮...) Cleaning: English Central, Chinese Central 3 and College (Dennis, Qiang, Jonathan responsible)
10	Serving: Chinese South (陳世山、劉學成...) Cleaning: Whole Church
17*	*District Meeting Serving: Chinese South (陳世山、劉學成...) Cleaning: Whole Church Cleaning
24	Serving: French (Julie...) Cleaning: Chinese East 3 and Chinese Central 1 (Huqiang and Gary C. responsible)

Upcoming Events

- ✳ Nov 8 – 10, Toronto, ON: **The Canada Brothers Conference**
 - ✳ Nov 22-24 Toronto, ON: **Eastern Canada Young People Conference**
 - ✳ Nov. 28 – Dec 1, Houston, TX: **Thanksgiving Conference**
 - ✳ Dec 23 – 28, Anaheim, CA: **Winter Training**
- The church website lists more events*

This Week's Activities

3 November	✳ 10am- 12pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings
LORD'S DAY	✳ 12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast ✳ Special fellowship
4 Monday	✳
5 Tuesday	✳ 7:30-9:00pm: English/French/Chinese prayer meetings by districts
6 Wednesday	✳
7 Thursday	✳
8 Friday	✳ 6:30-9:00pm: Various Home Meetings (English/French/Chinese)

9	✠	
Saturday		
10	✠	10am- 12pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings
November		
LORD'S DAY	✠	12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast

BAPTISM

Scripture Reading: Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Pet. 3:20-21; Rom. 6:3-4; Col. 2:12

Baptism is a great subject in the Bible. We need to be clear about two aspects concerning baptism. First, before we are baptized, we need to be clear as to what baptism can do for us. Second, after we are baptized, we need to look backward and ask, "What is the significance of baptism?" In the first case, the baptism pool and the water are before us. As we are going to be baptized, we should ask ourselves, "What can baptism do for me?" After our baptism, we need to ask, "What is the meaning of my baptism?" One is a question posed in foresight, and the other is a question posed in hindsight. The former touches one's knowledge prior to baptism, and the latter, one's understanding after baptism.

I. WHAT BAPTISM DOES FOR A PERSON

"He who believes and is baptized shall be saved, but he who does not believe shall be condemned" (Mark 16:16). This verse shows what baptism does for a person.

A. Baptism Saving Man from the World

"He who believes and is baptized shall be saved." I suppose that all Protestants are a little afraid of this verse. Therefore, they dare not read it. Whenever they read this verse, they change it to, "He who believes and is saved shall be baptized." But the Lord's Word does not say this. In order to avoid the error of Catholicism, the Protestants deliberately go around God's Word. However, as they evade the error of Catholicism, they fall into another error. The Lord's Word is clear: "He who believes and is baptized shall be saved." Man has no authority to change it to, "He who believes and is saved shall be baptized."

1. Salvation Being a Deliverance from the World

Let us now pay attention to the meaning of the word salvation in the Bible. What is a person being saved from? According to the Bible, a man is saved from the world, not hell. The opposite of eternal life is perdition, but the Bible does not

regard salvation as the opposite of perdition. The Bible shows us that salvation is one's deliverance from the world. As long as a person is in the world, he is already in perdition.

Let us consider man's condition before God. Today man does not have to do anything to perish. I will not perish because I have killed someone, and I will not be saved from perdition because I have not killed someone. The fact is that the whole world is perishing. From among the perishing ones, God has pulled us out and saved us. The whole world is perishing corporately, but God is saving men one by one, individually. God does not catch all the fish from the sea and then separate the good from the bad, assigning some to salvation while destining others to perdition. All the fish in the sea are perishing. Those which are caught by God are saved; the rest remain in the sea.

Hence, the matter of salvation and perdition has nothing to do with whether or not you have believed or how good your conduct is; it has to do with your location. If you are in the boat, you are saved. If you are still in the sea, you are perishing. You may not have done anything, but as long as you are in the world, that is enough for you to perish. It does not matter whether you are good or bad, a gentleman or a villain. It does not matter whether or not you live by your conscience. As long as you are in the world, you are finished. If you have not left that place, you are condemned by God.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #1, Baptism by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.