Please Pray

- Robert and Babylyn's Situation: Brother Robert and sister Babylyn are on a visit trip to the Philippines. During their stay, brother Robert had to be admitted to the hospital due to dehydration and kidney failure. Our brother has been in the ICU since March 17. Please pray that the Lord will recover our brother as soon as possible and take care of the whole situation. They do not have travel insurance and therefore are covering all medical expenses on their own. If the Lord leads you, you may make an offering to the church to cover their expenses and the church will transfer the offerings to their account. May the Lord cover this situation and meet the needs of Robert and Babylyn. May they be supplied by the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ.
- 2024 Parents and Serving Ones Conference, Toronto, April 26-28: May many parents and serving ones in Eastern Canada be released to attend this conference. May the parents and serving ones receive a fresh speaking concerning how to raise the next generation.
- 2024 Eastern Canada Victoria Day Conference, Montréal, May **18-19:** May the Lord cover and head up all the preparations and services. May this be a wonderful time of blending in the Body. May the saints be released to attend this time. May the saints be prepared to be ready to receive a fresh speaking and dispensation from the Lord. May the Lord speak to the churches what He has on His heart during this conference.
- 2024 Summer Olympics Games, Paris, France: We encourage all the saints to open to the Lord regarding this next milestone in the Lord's move in Europe, and are inviting the saints in the Lord's recovery to join us in this labour by praying and giving. Please pray: 1) That the Lord will release the number of saints needed for the remainder of the gospel trips in August and September, and the brothers required to lead these trips. 2) For the formation of all the gospel trips teams. 3) For the clear and timely communication between us and the civil authorities, and for favourable views from them. 4) That the Lord will encourage the saints in France, will add to them, and will raise up more lampstands through this special move in His recovery.
- Pray for various local needs in Montréal: The saints, their contacts, and for the persons in need of care and shepherding.

Weekly Readings

- ♦ Holy Bible Recovery Version with footnotes: Exo 16:1 22:31.
- HWMR: An Overview of the Central Burden and Present Truth of the Lord's Recovery before His Appearing, Volume 2, Week 11.
- Life-Study of Romans, Messages 4 and 5.

Announcements

- The registration is now open for the July 2024 Semi-Annual Training. which will be held July 1-6 in Anaheim. Please inform the responsible ones in your district if you would like to attend in person. The registration deadline is May 1 for both in person and video training.
- The 2024 Eastern Canada Victoria Day Conference will be held in Montréal on May 18-19. More details will follow.
- ▼ The 2024 International Memorial Day Blending Conference will be held in Bellevue, WA on May 24-27, 2024. The live meetings will be streamed at <u>Ismwebcast.com</u> for those whose time zone allows them to watch the live meetings by webcast. Please contact the responsible brothers to get information about the registration.
- The 2024 Summer Olympics Games in Paris, France: We believe that this is a wonderful opportunity prepared by the Lord as the Lord of the harvest. We encourage all the saints to open to the Lord regarding this next milestone in the Lord's move in Europe, and are inviting the saints in the Lord's recovery to join us in this labour. Please contact brother Allan Yeow for more information and to get the link to the form to express your interest. May we join the Lord in this move by praying, giving, and going.
- Please consider your needs carefully before the Lord and email your prayer requests to Allan Yeow, allan.yeow81@gmail.com, by Wednesday evening of every week. Please also note that due to the limited space in the newsletter, we may not be able to publish all prayer burdens sent to us. May the Lord teach us how to pray for the advancement of His Economy.

Upcoming Events

- April 12-14, Anaheim, California: Spring International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones ("ITERO").
- April 26-28, Toronto: 2024 Parents and Serving Ones Conference.
- May 10-12, Kitchener, ON: Grade 6 Conference.
- May 18-19, Montréal: Eastern Canada Victoria Day Conference.
- May 24-27, Bellevue, WA: 2024 International Memorial Day Blending Conference.
- July 1-6, Anaheim, CA: July 2024 Semi-Annual Training.

Please refer to the church's website where more events are listed.

This Week's Activities

Sun-Mar-31 LORD'S DAY	 10:00am-12:00pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings. Spring 2024 Eastern Canada Young People's Conference.
Mon-Apr-01	•
Tues-Apr-02	07:30pm-09:00pm: English, French and Chinese Districts prayer meetings by conference calls.
Wed-Apr-03	•
Thur-Apr-04	•
Fri-Apr-05	06:30pm-09:00pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-Apr-06	•
Sun-Apr-07 Lord's Day	• 10:00am-12:00pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.

TERMINATING THE PAST

Today we come to the question of how a person deals with his past after believing in the Lord. After believing in the Lord, a person still carries many things of the past with him. How should he terminate these things?

I. The teaching of the Bible being concerned with what one does after salvation

The entire Bible, both the Old Testament and the New Testament, but especially the New Testament, shows that God does not pay attention to what a person does before he believes in the Lord. Try to find a verse from Matthew 1 to Revelation 22 on how believers should terminate their past, and you will see how hard it is to find something on this subject. Even the Epistles, which touch on our wrongdoings in the past, mainly tell us what we should do hereafter, not what we should do about our past. The books of Ephesians, Colossians and 1 Thessalonians all cover something about our past, but they do not tell us how we should terminate our past; they only tell us how we should go on.

You may recall that someone asked John the Baptist, "What then shall we do?" John answered, "He who has two tunics, let him share with the one who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise." He did not talk about their past but about their future. Some tax collectors came to John and asked what they should do. John answered, "Exact nothing more than what you have been ordered to." Some soldiers also asked, "What shall we do?" John replied, "Extort nothing from anyone by force, nor take anything by false accusation, and be content with your wages" (Luke 3: 10-14). This shows us that John, who preached repentance, emphasized the things that we should do hereafter, not the tings of the past.

Let us also consider Paul's Epistles. He always emphasized what we should do in the future, not that we should do regarding the past, because everything of the past has been covered under the precious blood. If we err a little in this matter, we will corrupt the gospel; we will corrupt the way of the Lord, the way of repentance, and the way of restitution. We must deal with this subject carefully.

"Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be led astray; neither fornicators nor idolaters nor adulterers nor effeminate nor homosexuals nor thieves nor the covetous, not drunkards, not revilers, not the rapacious will inherit the kingdom of God. And these things were some of you" (1 Cor. 6:9-11a). Here Paul speaks of the believers' past conduct, but he does not say how they should deal with it. "But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God" (1 Cor. 6:11b). The emphasis here is not on dealing with the past, because we have a Savior who has already dealt with all our past. Today the emphasis is on what we should do hereafter. A saved person is already washed, sanctified, and justified.

"And you, though dead in your offenses and sins, in which you once walked according to the age of this world, according to the ruler of the authority of the air, of the spirit which is now operating in the sons of disobedience; among whom we also all conducted ourselves once in the lusts of our flesh, doing the desires of the flesh and of the thoughts, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest; but God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in offenses, made us alive together with Christ (Eph. 2:1-5). These verses do not tell us how we should terminate the things of the flesh. There is only one termination — Our Lord's termination of everything for us based upon the great love with which God loved us and the rich mercy of God.

Ephesians 4:17-24 also speaks of our past condition. "This therefore I say and testify in the Lord, that you no longer walk as the Gentiles also walk in the vanity of their mind, being darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance which is in them, because of the hardness of their hart; who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lasciviousness to work all uncleanness in greediness. That you put off, as regards your former manner of life, the old man, which is being corrupted according to the lusts of the deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind and put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality."

Note: This content is extracted from CWWN, Vol. 48, Messages for Building Up New Believers (1), Chapter 2, *TERMINATING THE PAST*, by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at http://www.ministrybooks.org.