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 ONE DOLLAR ONE SOUL

Feature

EVERLASTING POSSESSION

Written by/ KC Tsai

Get out, and then receive the blessings.

God, who looks at the heart of all men, chose Abraham from among the nations and said to him: “Get out of your country, from your kindred and from your father’s house, to a land that I will show you....” (Gen 12:1).

Get out, for God wants to bless. God would not allow Abraham to receive His blessings while he was in his father’s house. Abraham had to get out from there and from his country with his wife and all that belonged to him. While his relatives remained on the other side of the River to serve other gods, and perish (Josh 24: 2~3), he obeyed and left, and embarked on the road of blessings.

This is the choosing of God. One who is blessed should resolve to forsake the erroneous belief of the past and his old self that had lived in sin, and get out.

After conversion in the true church, one begins a new journey of faith. If such a person could not get rid of the load of human emotions that came from his previous faith, but continues to participate in bible studies and fellowships of his former faith, he would confuse himself in his beliefs. The result of such compromises will only become a stumbling block to his receiving of the blessings. If one could not free himself from the old ways of worship even after he had been baptized, but presses on to show superstitious concerns in his life, how would he receive the peace that was promised? If one who has been called still views the church, or measures the grace of God, with the secular value system of his “fathers and country”, he would be inevitably fumbling between what is holy and what is common. As such, how would he perceive the true promise of God? Abraham resolutely walked out of his father’s house that “serves other gods”. He journeyed with his wife, possessions, men and maid servants in make-shift tents, moving from one place to another, where pastures and waters led him. At times when he encountered and dwelled among other peoples, he lived a separate life. He was comfortable with his “sojourning life” from which we see his determination in loving God and submitting to Him.

Come out and be separate. And the blessings God gave to Abraham were worth it. Eventually, God made him a blessing (Gen 12:2), and a blessing to all the families of the earth (Gen 12: 3). How much would he realize that the deepest blessing he received was to become a blessing to others, while he lived through his nomadic life as a separate people?

What kind of blessing is it?

“And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you. Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God” (Gen 17 : 7~8)

Everlasting covenant? Is there a covenant that will last forever? In this world, any covenant will have a deadline or an expiry date. An everlasting covenant requires the endurance of both parties. God endures forever. He has the authority and is capable of establishing this covenant, but how about Abraham?

About two thousand years later, when the Pharisees questioned the Lord Jesus concerning the resurrection, the Lord said:

“Now even Moses showed in the burning bush passage that the dead are raised, when he called the Lord the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. For He

is not the God of the dead but of the living, for all live to Him” (Lk 20: 37~38).

When God said to Moses “I am the God of Abraham”, He did not refer to Himself as “having been the God of Abraham while he was still alive”, rather, he meant He “is” the God of Abraham who is living. To God, all live. And Abraham is exactly the one with whom God wants to make the covenant forever. God will “forever” be his God and the God of his descendants. He gives them the land that will become their everlasting possession.

God declares through prophet Isaiah: “So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the things for which I sent it (Isa 55: 11)

God’s words will never go unfulfilled.

In deed, the author of Hebrews wrote: By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would afterward receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going (Heb 11: 8).

Not knowing where he was going? Is not that so? Where on earth is there such a place as what God calls an “everlasting possession?”

Through his experiences with God, he eventually understood where this “future land of possession” was. At the end he left the world in peace, clinging to God’s promise. He had no regrets to have lived in tents all his life, even though relocating was prevalent. He knew what kind of everlasting God had established for him and he delightedly embraced this everlasting possession (Heb 11 8~18).

What people are considered Abraham’s descendants to inherit the promise?

When the Lord Jesus was preaching on earth and testifying to the Jews about the truth, they did not know Him. They called themselves the descendants of Abraham but had no place for the Lord’s word. Hence, the Lord disclaimed Abraham was their father. He said that the children of Abraham would do the works of Abraham and not what he did not do (Jn 8: 37~41).

Then, who are truly the descents of Abraham?

“And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise” (Gal 3: 29). Today we as believers of the church of salvation are descendants of Abraham. We are promised to be heirs to the possession that God had given to Abraham. However, look at the things we face everyday. They are of this world, never short of vain glory,

materialistic values, indulgence of lusts, foolish greed.....

The first blessing that comes from God is: to get out.

Get out from the greed and vanity of one's own heart.

Sadly just on the contrary, quite a few believers today left their fathers' house and the true church in their localities, traveled to distant lands such as South Africa or other foreign countries. There the local church is so far from home, they rarely have time and will to attend services. They set out from fathers' place with a beautiful dream to get rich in an alien place and to return home in glory. Little do they know, as they have put all of their lives in the worldly pursuits and amidst the vices of competing in the markets, they have lost the direction of their faith. Day and night they live in fear in a strange land where safety issue has worsened drastically. How would they be reminded of the everlasting promise that is not of this world?

How could one get out of his father's house and his own people that would uphold each other's faith, and step in the mire that only sinks him deeper and deeper? The distance and dangers on the road make it almost impossible to attend church services. With no time or mood to hold services at home, to read the Bible and to pray, this decision to "get out of the father's house" truly needs to be reconsidered.

God said: "In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and confidence shall be your strength (Isa 30: 15). One should leave the adverse environments where worshipping God in peace is difficult, and return to God; to the homeland where he can worship God with the peace of mind, and not to worry day and night about the threats that come from the bandits. Only in this way can we gain strength from the Lord to serve Him quietly and confidently.

"Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty (2 Cor 6: 17~18). The Lord requires us to not conform to the world where men go after material things. Get out of such a worldly life, and come back to the Lord. Though simple and impoverished as life may be in one's own country, as long as one separates himself from directionless worldly pursuits, he is dwelling on the land that is flowing with milk and honey.

Come out of the world to inherit that "everlasting" as our possession.

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 *Church News*

GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN UNITED KINGDOM
(December 2006 to May 2007)

Written by/ James Lin

The 2006 Church Delegates Conference was held at Newcastle church on 20th November 2006, 32 delegates from eight UK churches and a prayer house with three UK Preachers attended the meeting. During the meeting, each department of UKGA as well the Preachers presented work reports to the delegates, to enable them to better understand the current situation and development of the Divine work in UK. The UKGA financial accounts of 2005/06 as well as the budget proposal for the coming year were passed. The amended UKGA by-laws and the election methods of UK church were both proposed by the Legalistic Reform Committee, and a retirement plan for the UKGA full-time workers was passed by the Delegates Conference. Starting from next year, the UKGA board members need to enhance the fellowship and communication with local church board members as well as the brethren in each local church. Only then can we resolve the difficulties and progress in the holy work. Everyone must unite in propagating and prospering the gospel to glorify the name of Jesus.

The 4th Africa Voluntary Missionary Workers Training Courses combined with the UK Youth Church Work Training Seminar was held at London church from 7th to 12th January 2007. More than 30 brethren from UK and different parts of the world participated in the training. The lecturers were: Pr. Derren Liang (Evangelism in the Acts of Apostles); Pr. H.H. Ko (The Seven Churches in the End-time); Pr. Y.M. Yang (From the Book of Ezekiel to see God's Glory); Pr. T.K. Chin (The Only True Church). The opening ceremony was conducted by Pr. Ko. The class schedule began with morning prayer at 7:00A.M., followed by three lecture sessions and then 4 afternoon lectures before the evening prayer session. After dinner, there was either a special report session or an additional lecture before the day ended. All of the attendees spent six days living harmoniously and demonstrating love for one another. The event ended on 12th January, with a closing ceremony conducted by Pr. D. Liang. The AMC meeting was held later that evening.

In preparation for the Truth Study Committee of IA, The UK counter part held a meeting in Elgin church on 15-17/01/2007 and 12-14/03/2007 respectively, to discuss carefully the Bible teachings, so that more people can know the truth.

In order to care for the spiritual needs of the middle-aged brethren in UK, the General Affairs department arranged a Cadre fellowship at Newcastle church on Monday 5th February. More than one hundred UK brethren attended the fellowship services, hymnal singing and activities. All the participants fully enjoyed themselves in the spiritual feast of love and fellowship. All thanks be to the Lord!

The 11th meeting of the 7th term of UKGA Board was held on 5th and 6th March at Gifford Park church. Some of the UK proposals and matters were discussed before the UK delegates went to Taiwan for the World Delegates Conference. During this GA Board meeting, the resolution was also made that the Literary Ministry department would collect and compile information on the early church history in Ap-Choi, Hong Kong, together with the testimonies of church members. The Religious Education department will arrange a national choir fellowship for year 2008.

The Legalistic Reform Committee held its 5th meeting at Gifford Park church on 16th and 17th April. The UKGA by-laws and the standing rules and regulations were corrected and amended or changed by this committee before proposal to the UKGA Board for discussion.

The following workers were sent to Africa or Moscow for ministry trips:

East Africa: Pr. Fu-Fah Chong and Dn. Luke Chan (25th January to 25th February).

Pr. Joseph Shek, Bro. Michael Hsu and Bro. Johnny Liu (3rd May to 3rd June)

West Africa: Pr. T. K. Ckin and Pr. Steve Hwang of USAGA (17th May to 17th June)

Moscow, Russia: Pr. Michael CW Chan (15th February to 5th March)

Pr. Yu-Ming Yang and Dn. Luke Chan (26th April to 28th May)

Prayer Requested: Recently the Russian government has changed its trading laws which have impacted and affected our Chinese brethren's livelihood in Moscow.

European Continental: Pr. Joseph Shek and Bro. James Lin visited Holland and Rhein area, Germany. (15th to 25th February)

The 17th National Sister Spiritual Cultivation Seminar was held at Edinburgh church on 14^h & 15th May. About 250 UK sisters attended the seminar. The theme was : "Improving myself" Speakers were: Pr. Fu-Fah Chong and Dn. James Tang. Besides regular services and prayer sessions, the sisters from different age groups participated in hymnal singing and fellowship activities.(i.e. hymnal, Bible quiz, Testimonies and Sharing life experiences, etc.) As well as being spiritually benefited, the sisters also learned a great deal from sharing with one another. Thank God for His grace and love.

On 21st and 22nd May, the 14th National Evergreen Fellowship was held at Sunderland Church. More than one hundred and forty senior members (aged 60 years and above) attended the meeting. The theme for this year was: “Grasping a beautiful Tomorrow” Pr. F.F. Chong and Dn. James Tang led the two days program which was specially designed for our elderly brethren. Group games were arranged for the attendants, who were also presented with several beautiful hymns by the children class.

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Church News

SINGAPORE COORDINATION BOARD (June 2007)

Written by/ SCB

Report on the 80th Anniversary Spiritual Meeting of the True Jesus Church, Singapore

The Truth was preached to Malaysia & Singapore between the year 1925 and 1926. And on 27 February, 1927, the True Jesus Church was established in Singapore. To date, it has been 80 years. A working committee was formed last year to organize this 80th Anniversary Spiritual Meeting. A few meetings and discussions were held and the works were carried out by the committee members. Thank the Lord Jesus for His guidance that the Spiritual Meeting and Commemorative Service were carried out successfully.

The spiritual convocation was held in Adam Road Church and due to the limited space and facilities, we did not invite the churches from overseas. Invitation was only extended to the representatives from the International Assembly, General Assemblies of Taiwan, Malaysia, Myanmar Mission Coordinating Centre and Pr Chang Kuo Ching and wife.

The estimated number of participants was 800 and the overseas representatives were Eld Lin Yung Ji (IA), Eld Tse Fu Ming (Taiwan GA), Dn Joshua Phoong, Pr Joel Chong, Dn Philip Wong (Malaysia GA), Dn Thomas Yen and a few members from West Malaysia, Xia Men and Taiwan.

The commemorative service was held on 3rd June. It began with a morning prayer, followed by a sermon, ordination (Bro Shee Tse Koon ordained as Dn Philip Shee and Sis Daisy Khoo ordained as Dns Anna Khoo), speech by representatives, introduction of church members who

have believed in Jesus and baptized for more than 80 years, a multi-media presentation on our church history, photography session and hymn presentations by five groups from the three churches. Lastly we had Eld Lin Yung Ji to conduct the Holy Communion followed by a thanksgiving offering session.

Number of cups received during the Holy Communion: 725 and the Offering: S\$75,873.65 , M\$810 , USD25

Many members from the three churches were involved in the preparation of the spiritual convocation. Much time and effort were spent in completing the tasks given to them. Thank the Lord! May Our Lord Jesus remember their labour.

Hymn Leader, Pianist & Organist Seminar 2007

Thank the Lord that the SCB Training Department was able to invite Pr. Ezekiel Chang from Malaysia to conduct the seminar on 24th June 2007 at Telok Kurau Church from 9.45 am to 4 pm. A total of 72 brethren attended the seminar. This was a seminar especially catered for the present hymn leaders, pianists and organists so that they could improve on their divine service in church.

Pr. Chang first exhorted the divine workers on “Music Ministry in Church”, followed by a group discussion where the divine workers brought up their difficulties in their service and how they could improve upon them. In the latter half of the seminar, Pr. Chang led the group in practical sessions, highlighting the things to take note of when leading hymns and playing the organ and piano. Indeed the session has benefited the hymn leaders, pianists and organists.

Junior Youth Bible Seminar

During the June school holidays, the SCB Training Department organized a Bible Seminar especially for the Junior Youths from 11~15 June 2007. A total of 22 students from the three churches attended the seminar.

We had preachers and Junior/Intermediate Youth RE teachers to exhort the students. Not only were they guided in studying the Bible, they were also exposed to issues pertaining to their Faith, Christian Living, Festivals, Emotions and Relationships. In addition, the students were also engaged in various activities conducted by the Intermediate Youth students.

Thank God that the students were very diligent in praying for the Holy Spirit throughout the seminar. And by His grace, 5 students received the precious Holy Spirit by the end of the seminar. They are Bro. Hansel Tan (TK), Bro. Benjamin Chin (TK), Sis Charlene (TK), Bro. Kevin Chen (Adam) and Bro. Pang Zi Chao (Sembawang). All glory be given to God.

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Intercession

1. IA WORK IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES:

Date	Venue	Nature of Work	Worker
6/29-9/4	UK, France	Pastoral visitation; Training	EY Ho
7/2-8/26	Australia	Pastoral work; Seminar; Training	Joel Chong
7/5-8/6	Russia	Pastoral work; Training	Luke Chan
7/19-9/19	Japan	Resident pastoral work in Tokyo church	CZ Luo
7/30-8/19	UK	Youth Theological Training	YM Yang
8/1-15	Philippines	Evangelical work; Hymnal Evangelism	Daniel Shiao, Taiwan VMT
8/2-11	Fiji	Evangelical & pastoral work; training	Bejamin Chen, Lawrence Kao
8/3-16	Japan	Student Spiritual Convocation	MY Chao
8/5-9/3	Indonesia	National Advanced Bible Seminar; Eastern Hemisphere Minister and Committee Member Divine Work Symposium; Eastern Hemisphere Meeting, South-East Asia Preacher Seminar; Spiritual Convocation	YJ Lin
8/7-23	HK/ Kowloon	Short-Term Theological Training	HT Chen
8/8-9/16	Canada	Evangelical Services and Spiritual Convocation	EZ Chang
8/9-20	Myanmar	Church Divine Worker Seminar	Isaiah Pan, Shee Tse Loong
8/9-21	Malaysia	Spiritual Convocation; Seminar	Zephaniah
8/14-9/24	USA	Evangelical Services and Spiritual Convocation	HH Tian
8/17-9/9	Indonesia	Eastern Hemisphere Minister and	Jonathan Chou,

		Committee Member Divine Work Symposium; Eastern Hemisphere Meeting; Eastern Hemisphere Voluntary Missionary Team Training; EHVMT Refresher Training	Joshua Phoong
8/17-9/16	Sabah	All State LM Writing Skills Training; All State Youth Bible Camp	YC Lee
8/23-9/3	Chile	Pastoral work	CM Chu
8/27-28	UK	Africa Missionary Committee Meeting; Russia Missionary Committee Meeting	YM Yang, HH Ko
8/30-9/9	Dominican Rep.	Pastoral work	Jason Hu
September	New Zealand	Spring Evangelical Services and Spiritual Convocation; Bible Seminar	FA Shih
9/2-30	India	Junior and Intermediate Youth Bible Camp; Youth Seminar; Elder/Deacon and Preacher Spiritual Nurture; Full-Time Worker and CBI Executive Committee Member Spiritual Nurture; Pastoral work	Joseph Chong, Isaiah Chang, Lee Siew Ern, Grace Ho fooi Lin
9/3-30	Australia	Evangelical Services and Spiritual Convocation; Bible Seminar	Lemuel Leong
9/6-10/17	West Africa	Training; evangelical and pastoral work	FF Chong, Luke Chan, Jeremy Tse, Lawrence Wong, Jones Joanne, Cindy Li
9/10-25	UK	Full-Time Theological Student Training	HH Ko
9/13-10/14	East Africa	Training; evangelical and pastoral work	TK Chin, Silas Chan, Anthony Tang, Chad Liu

2. DEVELOPMENT OF DIVINE WORK IN ALL NATIONS

3. WORKERS IN ALL PIONEERING AREAS

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 **Bulletin**

Eastern Hemisphere Voluntary Missionary Workers' Training Course

Date: 2~7 September 2007

Venue: Grace Village, Indonesia

Closing for registration: July 31, 2007

Eastern Hemisphere Voluntary Missionary Workers Refresher Course

Date: 7~9 September 2007

Venue: Grace Village, Indonesia

Closing date of Registration: 31st July 2007

Kindly submit all application form to IA-EHDWM by August 6, 2007.

Asking Application Form to: tjciatwn@ms25.hinet.net

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 ***You Could Help the Worldwide Evangelism Mission Simply by Contribution***

a dollar a day...



How You Can Help

You are called to take action for the sake of worldwide evangelism and the spreading of the gospel...with **a dollar a day**. If everyone could daily extend one dollar towards the International Assembly World Evangelism Fund, we could, together, accomplish the commission that our Lord Jesus Christ left behind. Your financial commitment will open up possibilities and resources that will lead us to save many souls.

Please take time to fill out the offering sheet available at your local church, to pass this message on to loved ones and family, and to pray for God's ministry. May the Lord be gracious to you!

To find out more about the dollar-a-day program and donation options, ***please contact*** ia@tjc.org ***or*** tjciatwn@ms25.hinet.net.

✧ *May our Lord remember your contribution and bless you abundantly!*

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