# 2024 Fall Conference of Southern California Christian Assembly

Theme: The Work of The Eternal Construction

日期 Dates	9/7 Sat 10:00AM	9/7 Sat 7:00PM	9/8 Sun 10:00AM
Message	Back to the Beginning  – The Blueprint and	Back to the Bible  – The Word and	Back to the Body  – The Life and
	Model of the Construction	Heritage of the Construction	Testimony of the Construction
Speaker	Timothy Liang		
Song Leader/Hymns	Fisher Xiong H409; H663	Sheng Chung Chang H543; H647	Hsiung Hsia H696;H676
Love Feast	Lunch 12:00PM	Dinner 5:30PM	Lunch 12:00PM
Usher	San Gabriel	Pomona	Culver City
Location	8141 Hellman Ave., Rosemead, CA 91770 Zoom ID: 668 348 4613; Passcode: 551211		

#### Notes:

- 1. Before each message meeting, there is a half-hour waiting time for the Lord. Please come early to prepare
- 2. Workshops on Saturday afternoon 2-4 PM: by Victoria Liang in the big classroom (Educational Building)
- 3. A three-church online Breaking of Bread meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on Sunday evening.

#### Announcements:

- 1. There is English translation for all three sessions during the Conference. Young people over 13 are encouraged to attend.
- 2. Children's program is held concurrently. Parents can drop off children in the classroom 20 minutes before each session.
- 3. Please enter the meeting room early to prepare our hearts. Please do not talk casually or do things that easily distract us from focusing on the Lord.
- 4. Mask wearing is optional; if you have a fever or discomfort, please participate online.
- 5. Parking space is limited, so please carpool, and park on the street if you arrive early.
- 6. Please pray for the co-workers of Testimony of Christ Mission. To donate for this special conference or mission's work, please make your check payable to "Testimony of Christ Mission", and put it into the offering box in the chapel. Zelle transfer: tochristmission@gmail.com



# 聚會時間表 Meeting Schedule

日期 Date 時間 Time	09/07 週 六 Saturday	09/08 主 日 Lord's Day	
9:30 am ~ 10:00 am	會前禱告 Prayer	會前禱告 Prayer	
10:00 am ~ 12:00 pm	第一堂信息 Message I	第三堂信息 Message III	
12:00 pm ~ 1:30 pm	午 餐 Lunch		
2:00 pm ~ 4:30 pm	工作坊 Worship and Workshop		
4:30 pm ~ 5:30 pm	自由活動 Free Time		
5:30 pm ~ 6:30 pm	晚 餐 Dinner		
6:30 pm ~ 7:00 pm	會前禱告 Prayer		
7:00 pm ~ 9:00 pm	第二堂信息 Message II	7:30 pm ~ 8:30 pm 三區合併擘餅聚會 Online Breaking of Bread	

# Message I Back to the Beginning – The Blueprint and Model of the Construction

1John 2:24 See that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. If it does, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father.

#### I. The Pattern and Blueprint of the Building Work of the Church

- A. The pattern of the tabernacle on the mountain
  - Exo 25:8 "Then have them make a sanctuary for me, and I will dwell among them. 9 Make this tabernacle and all its furnishings exactly like the pattern I will show you.
  - Heb 8:5 They serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: "See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain."
- B. The blueprint of the holy temple
  - 1Ch 28:10 Consider now, for the LORD has chosen you to build a temple as a sanctuary. Be strong and do the work." 11 Then David gave his son Solomon the plans for the portico of the temple, its buildings, its storerooms, its upper parts, its inner rooms and the place of atonement. 12 He gave him the plans of all that the Spirit had put in his mind for the courts of the temple of the LORD and all the surrounding rooms, for the treasuries of the temple of God and for the treasuries for the dedicated things. . . . 19 "All this," David said, "I have in writing from the hand of the LORD upon me, and he gave me understanding in all the details of the plan."

# II. The Testimony and Example of the Early Church

The church in Ephesus (Rev. 2: 1-7): apostles, zeal, love and gospel preaching

- A. The power of the Holy Spirit and entrusting of the faith
  - Act 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you
    will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of
    the earth."
  - Jud 3 Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt I had to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints.
- B. The wide-spreading of the word of the Lord and the testimony of the church
  - Act 2:40 With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." 41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. 42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.
  - Act 2:43 Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

• Act 19:20 In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power.

# III. The Internal and External Testing Faced by the church

The church in Smyrna (Rev. 2: 8-11): Great persecution by Roman Empire

- A. External persecution by Roman Empire
  - 1. The reasons why Roman Empire persecuted Christians
  - 2. The blood of the martyrs became the seeds of the church
- B. Internal danger by heresies
  - 1. Legalism: Insisting on practicing Judaism prior to believing Jesus; opposing "justified by faith"
  - 2. Gnosticism: Mixing teaching of other religions and Greek philosophies into Christian faith
  - 3. Montanism: Uploading prophets and prophesy
  - 4. Arianism: Denying the deity of Christ and His saving power
- C. The implementation of the Ecumenical Councils and Apostles' Creed
  - 1. 325 AD Council of Nicene
  - 2. 381 AD Council of Constantinople
  - 3. 431 AD Council of Ephesus
  - 4. 451 AD Council of Chalcedon

#### IV. The Church United with the World

The church in Pergamum (Rev. 2: 12-17): the era of state religion, Roman state church

- A. The converted Constantine
- B. Christianity became the state religion
- C. The fundamental changes of the church nature

#### V. Back to the Beginning to Build the Church

- A. Hold unto the Lord and His Unchangeable Purpose
- Act 26:19 "So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven.
- 1Jo 2:24 See that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. If it does, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father.
- Rev 2:5 Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place.
- Build the Glorious Church
- Eph 5:26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27 and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.
- Rev 21:2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

# Message II Back to the Bible – The Word and Heritage of the Construction

Eph 2:19 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

#### I. The Church is Built on the Words of God

- A. The source of the building work with God's words
  - Psm 33:9 For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.
  - Jhn 5:39 You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, 40 yet you refuse to come to me to have life.
  - Jhn 6:63 The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.
  - B. The words that edify the church
  - 2Ti 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,
  - 1Co 14:2 For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God. Indeed, no one understands him; he utters mysteries with his spirit. 3 But everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort. 4 He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.

# II. The Ruling of the Pope and the Loss of the Faith

The church in Thyatira (Rev. 2: 18-29): the era of the Pope, the church's dark age, worshiping statues of saints, offering indulgences, etc.

- A. The result of church's uniting with the world
- B. The birth of the system of papacy
- C. The dark age of the church

# III. Back to the Bible – the Restoration of the Spiritual Heritage

- A. Two lines of God's restoration work
  - 1. Revival of individual spiritual life focusing on individual victory and spiritual leaders
  - 2. Revival of the testimony of the church focusing on God's purpose and the preparation of people that fit for His work
- B. The development of the Reformation
  - 1. John Wycliffe (1320~1384)
  - 2. John Huss (1369~1415)
  - 3. Brethren of the Common Life
- C. The movement of the Reformation

The church in Sardis (Rev. 3: 1-6) - The Reformation that saved the pure faith for the church and delivered her from the crooked teaching of the Roman Holy See

- 1. Martin Luther (1483-1546) and Reformation
  - (1) The declaration of 95 theses by Martin Luther the beginning of the Reformation
  - (2) The victory of Martin Luther in restoring spiritual heritage justified by faith and making Bible public

- 2. The Reformation movement in Switzerland
  - (1) Ulrich Zwingli of Zurich (1484-1531)
  - (2) John Calvin of Geneva (1509-1564)
- 3. The Reformation movement in Scotland and England)

#### D. The Era of the church Revival

The church in Philadelphia (Rev. 3: 7-13): Spiritual revival and the rising of missionary work

- 1. Brilliant achievements of God's servants in the 17<sup>th</sup> century
  - (1) Molinos (1627-1697): author of "The Spiritual Guide"
  - (2) Madame Guyon (1648-1717): absolute obedience
  - (3) Lawrence (1611-1691): abiding in God's presence
  - (4) Fenelon: indwelling life
  - (5) William Law (1686 $\sim$ 1761): the mysterious abiding life
- 2. Puritans (1550-1700)
- 3. Methodism (John Wesley 1703-1791): sanctified by faith
- E. The spiritual giants that restored spiritual heritages in recent centuries
  - 1. Isaac Watts (1674-1748) redemption love of the cross
  - 2. Nicolaus Zinzendorf (1700-1760) Christ is the center of unity and fellowship
  - 3. Charles Grandison Finney (1792-1875) the power of the gospel
  - 4. John Nelson Darby (1800-1882) grace and brotherly love
  - 5. George Muller (1805-1898) the path of faith
  - 6. Albert B. Simpson (1843-1919) Christ is all
  - 7. Watchman Nee (1903-1972) application of the cross and the body of Christ

# IV. Obtaining Heritage and Preaching the Words

- A. Obtaining spiritual food for building His church
  - Jer 15:16 When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, O LORD God Almighty.
  - Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.
- B. Know and keep hold of the deep truths of the faith
  - 1Ti 3:9 They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience.
  - 2Ti 2:15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.
  - Jud 20 But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit. 21 Keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.

#### Message III Back to the Body – The Life and Testimony of the Construction

# I. The Construction of the Body of Christ

- A. Church is the body of Christ
  - Eph 1:23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.
  - Rom 12:1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship.
     5 so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.
  - 1Co 12:13 For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body--whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free--and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.
- B. The Construction of the living stone and life
  - Eph 2:19 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, . . . 21 In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.
  - 1Pe 2:4 As you come to him, the living Stone--rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him-- 5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

# II. Back to the Body – the footsteps of brothers

A. The line of the non-main-stream church

The church started to fall when Emperor Constantine made Christianity the national faith. However, there was a group of followers of the Lord that refused to enjoy the benefits offered by Constantine. Although constantly being persecuted, they followed Christ faithfully and formed a silver thread kept by God himself. They stemmed from the Apostolic age till this day.

- 1. Priscillian
- 2. Paulician
- 3. Nestorian
- 4. Waldeness
- 5. Brethren

# B. The testimony of the body of Christ

Brethren in the valley have impact not only on anabaptist but also main stream church when Christians were persecuted and gathered in one place, manifesting a beautiful and harmonious testimony.

- 1. Brethren in Bohemia and Moravia
- 2. Herrnhut
- 3. The testimony of unity and the work of the Holy Spirit
- 4. The testimony of church body and missions
- Mat 28:19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

#### III. Build up the Body of Christ in Love

- Eph 4:16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.
- A. Building the gifts of the Body
  - Eph 4:11 It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers,
  - Rom 12:6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. 7 If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; 8 if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.
  - 1Co 12:4 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. 6 There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. 7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.
- B. Live out the testimony of the Body
  - Jhn 13:34 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."
  - Col 3:13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.
  - Rom 15:7 Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.