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produced the passage from the Heavenly Doctrine stating that the Lord asks for our total submission so that He might bless us. The idea of total submission stimulated a great deal of thought for us. The other monthly service is a more formal one which John prepares and leads. The latest one was our New Church Day Service it was held at John and Jenny's but zoomed live to 7 other people. It was also recorded and made available for other members who could not join us. Zoom has proved to be a wonderful resource for us as we are scattered and many becoming more elderly. We thank the Lord for providing it. Several members are enjoying being part of different Logo Praxis groups and as well as being inspired by the passages also meeting people from the WWNC.

We have discovered that the Nile online shopping company is selling Swedenborg Society introductions to Swedenborg and his thought on NZ's TradeMe site. It illustrates to me that the Lord works in many ways which we are unaware of and which have nothing to do with us at all.

An interesting debate is taking place in the public arena here in NZ. A Christian School is being taken to task by a LGBT advocate for insisting on teaching that marriage is between a husband and a wife. They also insist that children are born either male or female and therefore insist that children who come to their school accept that they are one or the other and have names which do not suggest another gender. The LGBT advocate is calling their stance homophobic and is asking the Department of Education to persuade the school to alter its stance. Watch this space.

I notice that the Convention Church in America was debating these challenges at its recent annual meeting and some of the papers presented are available on line.

It all makes for interesting times. I am relieved that I am not publicly involved in the debate as I feel ignorant about the issues which appear to challenge the Biblical statement that 'male and female He made them.'

Wishing you the Lord's blessings from your Kiwi cousins,

John Sutton