

BANNERS FOR THE 2010 MEMORIAL DAY CONFERENCE

**For the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose,
we need to know the central thought of God,
cooperate with the central work of God,
and live in the divine romance
for the good pleasure of God.**

**For the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose,
we need to enjoy God by eating God,
know and do the will of God,
live by the grace of God in the economy of God,
and know the Body in life and in practice.**

**For the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose,
we must walk according to the mingled spirit
by calling on the Lord's name, pray-reading His living word,
praying unceasingly, not quenching the Spirit,
and not despising prophesying.**

**For the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose,
we must live a life of consecration, morning revival,
shepherding, practicing the priesthood of the gospel,
and building up the vital groups.**

**Outline of the Messages
for the Memorial Day Conference
May 28-31, 2010**

GENERAL SUBJECT:

LIVING A LIFE FOR THE FULFILLMENT OF GOD'S ETERNAL PURPOSE

Message One

**Knowing the Central Thought of God,
Cooperating with the Central Work of God,
and Living in the Divine Romance**

Scripture Reading: Matt. 16:16, 18; Eph. 5:32; 3:16-17a; Gal. 4:19; S. S. 1:2-4

- Matt 16:16** And Simon Peter answered and said, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.
Matt 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.
Eph 5:32 This mystery is great, but I speak with regard to Christ and the church.
Eph 3:16 That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man,
Eph 3:17a That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, ...
Gal 4:19 My children, with whom I travail again in birth until Christ is formed in you,
S.S. 1:2 Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth! For your love is better than wine.
S.S. 1:3 Your anointing oils have a pleasant fragrance; Your name is like ointment poured forth; Therefore the virgins love you.
S.S. 1:4 Draw me; we will run after you—The king has brought me into his chambers—We will be glad and rejoice in you; We will extol your love more than wine. Rightly do they love you.

I. If we would live a life for the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose, we need to know the central thought of God—Gen. 2:9-12, 18, 21-23; Rev. 21:2:

- Gen 2:9** And out of the ground Jehovah God caused to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, as well as the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
Gen 2:10 And a river went forth from Eden to water the garden, and from there it divided and became four branches.
Gen 2:11 The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that goes around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold.
Gen 2:12 And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there.
Gen 2:18 And Jehovah God said, It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper as his counterpart.
Gen 2:21 And Jehovah God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh in its place.
Gen 2:22 And Jehovah God built the rib, which He had taken from the man, into a woman and brought her to the man.
Gen 2:23 And the man said, This time this is bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; This one shall be called Woman Because out of Man this one was taken.
Rev 21:2 And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

A. The central thought of God is to have Christ as His expression through the church—Col. 1:15; Heb. 1:3; Eph. 1:22-23; 3:21:

- Col 1:15** Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,
Heb 1:3 Who, being the effulgence of His glory and the impress of His substance and upholding and bearing all things by the word of His power, having made purification of sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;
Eph 1:22 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him *to be* Head over all things to the church,
Eph 1:23 Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

Eph 3:21 To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.

1. The central thought of God is that Christ must have the church as His Body, His bride, His increase, and His counterpart to express Christ in a corporate way; in all the Scriptures nothing is more central, vital, or important than this—Matt. 16:16, 18; Eph. 1:22-23; 5:32.

Matt 16:16 And Simon Peter answered and said, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.

Matt 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

Eph 1:22 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him *to be* Head over all things to the church,

Eph 1:23 Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

Eph 5:32 This mystery is great, but I speak with regard to Christ and the church.

2. God's central thought is to make Christ everything to us so that we, the Body of Christ, can be the corporate expression of God in Christ—Col. 3:11:

Col 3:11 Where there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all and in all.

- a. God's intention is to have Christ wrought into His chosen and redeemed people to be life to them and to have them as a corporate expression so that God may be expressed in Christ through them—Eph. 3:16-21.

Eph 3:16 That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man,

Eph 3:17 That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

Eph 3:18 May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are

Eph 3:19 And to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ, that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God.

Eph 3:20 But to Him who is able to do superabundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power which operates in us,

Eph 3:21 To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.

- b. God desires to have a group of people mingled with Christ, transformed into the image of Christ, and built up together in Christ as a corporate Body to contain and express Christ—Rom. 8:16; 12:1-2, 4-5.

Rom 8:16 The Spirit Himself witnesses with our spirit that we are children of God.

Rom 12:1 I exhort you therefore, brothers, through the compassions of God to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, well pleasing to God, *which is* your reasonable service.

Rom 12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.

Rom 12:4 For just as in one body we have many members, and all the members do not have the same function,

Rom 12:5 So we who are many are one Body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

3. Christ as the expression of God and the church as the Body of Christ constitute the central thought of God; this is the greatest mystery in the universe, and if we do not understand this mystery, we do not know the meaning of the universe and of our human life—Eph. 5:32; Rev. 4:11.

Eph 5:32 This mystery is great, but I speak with regard to Christ and the church.

Rev 4:11 You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power, for You have created all things, and because of Your will they were, and were created.

- B. The central thought of the divine mind is that we, as living vessels to contain God, should receive God in Christ as our life and life supply; that we need to be transformed into gold, pearl, and precious stones; and that we must be built up together as a living Body, a living counterpart to match Christ—Gen. 2:9-12, 18, 21-23; Rev. 21:2, 9-12, 18-21; 22:17.

- Gen 2:9 And out of the ground Jehovah God caused to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, as well as the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
- Gen 2:10 And a river went forth from Eden to water the garden, and from there it divided and became four branches.
- Gen 2:11 The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that goes around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold.
- Gen 2:12 And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there.
- Gen 2:18 And Jehovah God said, It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper as his counterpart.
- Gen 2:21 And Jehovah God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh in its place.
- Gen 2:22 And Jehovah God built the rib, which He had taken from the man, into a woman and brought her to the man.
- Gen 2:23 And the man said, This time this is bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; This one shall be called Woman Because out of Man this one was taken.
- Rev 21:2 And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
- Rev 21:9 And one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, Come here; I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.
- Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,
- Rev 21:11 Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.
- Rev 21:12 It had a great and high wall and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names inscribed, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel:
- Rev 21:18 And the building work of its wall was jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.
- Rev 21:19 The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with every precious stone: the first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, chalcedony; the fourth, emerald;
- Rev 21:20 The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysoprase; the eleventh, jacinth; the twelfth, amethyst.
- Rev 21:21 And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; each one of the gates was, respectively, of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.
- Rev 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let him who hears say, Come! And let him who is thirsty come; let him who wills take the water of life freely.

II. If we would live a life for the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose, we need to cooperate with the central work of God—Rom. 12:1-2; Gal. 4:19:

- Rom 12:1 I exhort you therefore, brothers, through the compassions of God to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, well pleasing to God, *which is* your reasonable service.
- Rom 12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.
- Gal 4:19 My children, with whom I travail again in birth until Christ is formed in you,
- A. The governing vision of the Bible is the Triune God working Himself into His chosen and redeemed people as life in order to saturate and permeate their entire being with the Divine Trinity—2 Cor. 13:14; Rom. 8:10, 6, 11; Eph. 3:19.
- 2 Cor 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- Rom 8:10 But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is life because of righteousness.
- Rom 8:6 For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace.
- Rom 8:11 And if the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.
- Eph 3:19 And to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ, that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God.
- B. God's New Testament economy is for the processed and consummated Triune God to be wrought into us to become our life, our being, and our person so that we may be His corporate expression—vv. 16-17a; 1:22-23:

- Eph 3:16 That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man,
- Eph 3:17a That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith,...
- Eph 1:22 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him *to be* Head over all things to the church,
- Eph 1:23 Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.
- 1 God's eternal purpose is to work Himself into us as our life and our everything so that we may take Him as our person, live Him, and express Him—v. 9; 3:11; Gal. 1:15-16; 2:20; 4:19; Phil. 1:20-21a.
 - Eph 1:9 Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself,
 - Eph 3:11 According to the eternal purpose which He made in Christ Jesus our Lord,
 - Gal 1:15 But when it pleased God, who set me apart from my mother's womb and called me through His grace,
 - Gal 1:16 To reveal His Son in me that I might announce Him as the gospel among the Gentiles, immediately I did not confer with flesh and blood,
 - Gal 2:20 I am crucified with Christ; and *it is* no longer I *who* live, but *it is* Christ *who* lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the *faith* of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.
 - Gal 4:19 My children, with whom I travail again in birth until Christ is formed in you,
 - Phil 1:20 According to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I will be put to shame, but with all boldness, as always, even now Christ will be magnified in my body, whether through life or through death.
 - Phil 1:21a For to me, to live is Christ ...
 - 2 God's intention is to have Christ thoroughly worked into our being; however, in our spiritual seeking we may have no concern for this, caring instead for our own intention—Gal. 4:19; Phil. 2:21.
 - Gal 4:19 My children, with whom I travail again in birth until Christ is formed in you,
 - Phil 2:21 For all seek their own things, not the things of Christ Jesus.
- C. God's New Testament economy is focused on His central work, His unique work— John 5:17; 4:34; Phil. 2:13; 1 Cor. 15:58; Eph. 3:16-17a:
- John 5:17 But Jesus answered them, My Father is working until now, and I also am working.
- John 4:34 Jesus said to them, My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work.
- Phil 2:13 For it is God who operates in you both the willing and the working for *His* good pleasure.
- 1 Cor 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.
- Eph 3:16 That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man,
- Eph 3:17a That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, ...
- 1 God's central work, His unique work in the universe, is to work Himself in Christ into His chosen and redeemed people, making Himself one with them— Gal. 4:19; Eph. 3:17a.
 - Gal 4:19 My children, with whom I travail again in birth until Christ is formed in you,
 - Eph 3:17a That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, ...
 - 2 God's purpose is to work Himself into us, making Himself in His Divine Trinity our inward elements; this purpose is the center of the universe, and apart from this purpose the Christian life is meaningless—Rev. 4:11.
 - Rev 4:11 You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power, for You have created all things, and because of Your will they were, and were created.
 - 3 We need to live a life of consecration for the central work of God and become a person who cooperates with God in His central work; such a person is poor in spirit, pure in heart, and willing to be filled with the Triune God as his content—Rom. 12:1-2; 2 Tim. 1:7; Matt. 5:3, 8; Eph. 3:16-19.
 - Rom 12:1 I exhort you therefore, brothers, through the compassions of God to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, well pleasing to God, *which is* your reasonable service.

- Rom 12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.
- 2 Tim 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of cowardice, but of power and of love and of sobermindedness.
- Matt 5:3 Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of the heavens.
- Matt 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
- Eph 3:16 That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man,
- Eph 3:17 That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,
- Eph 3:18 May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are
- Eph 3:19 And to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ, that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God.

III. If we would live a life for the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose, we need to live in the divine romance—S. S. 1:2-4:

- S.S. 1:2 Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth! For your love is better than wine.
- S.S. 1:3 Your anointing oils have a pleasant fragrance; Your name is like ointment poured forth; Therefore the virgins love you.
- S.S. 1:4 Draw me; we will run after you—The king has brought me into his chambers—We will be glad and rejoice in you; We will extol your love more than wine. Rightly do they love you.
- A. The Bible is a romance, in the most pure and the most holy sense, of a universal couple—God in Christ as the Bridegroom and God's redeemed people as the bride—John 3:29; Matt. 25:6; Rev. 19:7; 21:2, 9-10; 22:17.
- John 3:29 He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices with joy because of the bridegroom's voice. This joy of mine therefore is made full.
- Matt 25:6 But at midnight there was a cry, Behold, the bridegroom! Go forth to meet him!
- Rev 19:7 Let us rejoice and exult, and let us give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.
- Rev 21:2 And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
- Rev 21:9 And one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, Come here; I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.
- Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,
- Rev 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let him who hears say, Come! And let him who is thirsty come; let him who wills take the water of life freely.
- B. Song of Songs is a marvelous and vivid portrait, in poetic form, of the bridal love between Christ as the Bridegroom and His lovers as His bride; the subject of Song of Songs is the history of love in an excellent marriage, revealing the progressive experience of an individual believer's loving fellowship with Christ: the attracting and pursuing stage (1:2-4), the stage of experiencing the cross (2:14), the stage of living in the heavenlies to become God's new creation in resurrection (4:8), and the stage of becoming the sanctuary, the Holy of Holies (6:4).
- S.S. 1:2 Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth! For your love is better than wine.
- S.S. 1:3 Your anointing oils have a pleasant fragrance; Your name is like ointment poured forth; Therefore the virgins love you.
- S.S. 1:4 Draw me; we will run after you—The king has brought me into his chambers—We will be glad and rejoice in you; We will extol your love more than wine. Rightly do they love you.
- S.S. 2:14 My dove, in the clefts of the rock, In the covert of the precipice, Let me see your countenance, Let me hear your voice; For your voice is sweet, And your countenance is lovely.
- S.S. 4:8 Come with me from Lebanon, my bride; With me from Lebanon come. Look from the top of Amana, From the top of Senir and Hermon, From the lions' dens, From the leopards' mountains.
- S.S. 6:4 You are as beautiful, my love, as Tirzah, As lovely as Jerusalem, As terrible as an army with banners.
- C. Only love can keep us in a proper relationship with the Lord—Mark 12:30:

- Mark **12:30** And you shall love the Lord your God from your whole heart and from your whole soul and from your whole mind and from your whole strength."
- 1 Whatever one loves, his whole heart, even his whole being, is set on and occupied and possessed by—1 Tim. 6:10; 2 Tim. 3:2-4; 4:8, 10a.
 - 1 Tim **6:10** For the love of money is a root of all evils, *because of* which some, aspiring after *money*, have been led away from the faith and pierced themselves through with many pains.
 - 2 Tim **3:2** For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boasters, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,
 - 2 Tim **3:3** Without natural affection, implacable, slanderers, without self-control, savage, not lovers of good,
 - 2 Tim **3:4** Traitors, reckless, blinded with pride, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,
 - 2 Tim **4:8** Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, with which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will recompense me in that day, and not only me but also all those who have loved His appearing.
 - 2 Tim **4:10a** For Demas has abandoned me, having loved the present age, ...
 - 2 We should love the Lord for His interests and according to His way, taste, intention, and goal—Matt. 16:18; Eph. 4:16; Rev. 19:7-9; 21:2, 10-11; 22:17.
 - Matt **16:18** And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.
 - Eph **4:16** Out from whom all the Body, being joined together and being knit together through every joint of the rich supply and *through* the operation in the measure of each one part, causes the growth of the Body unto the building up of itself in love.
 - Rev **19:7** Let us rejoice and exult, and let us give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.
 - Rev **19:8** And it was given to her that she should be clothed in fine linen, bright *and* clean; for the fine linen is the righteousnesses of the saints.
 - Rev **19:9** And he said to me, Write, Blessed are they who are called to the marriage dinner of the Lamb. And he said to me, These are the true words of God.
 - Rev **21:2** And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
 - Rev **21:10** And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,
 - Rev **21:11** Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.
 - Rev **22:17** And the Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let him who hears say, Come! And let him who is thirsty come; let him who wills take the water of life freely.
 - 3 It is the love in God that gives Him the yearning to unite, mingle, and incorporate with us, and it is the same love in us that gives us the yearning to unite, mingle, and incorporate with Him—1 John 4:8, 16; John 14:20, 23.
 - 1 John **4:8** He who does not love has not known God, because God is love.
 - 1 John **4:16** And we know and have believed the love which God has in us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God and God abides in him.
 - John **14:20** In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.
 - John **14:23** Jesus answered and said to him, If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make an abode with him.
 - 4 We love the Lord because He first loved us, infusing and dispensing His loving essence into us and generating within us the love with which we love Him— 1 John 4:19; Rom. 5:5; 8:35, 39; 15:30.
 - 1 John **4:19** We love because He first loved us.
 - Rom **5:5** And hope does not put *us* to shame, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.
 - Rom **8:35** Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or anguish or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword?
 - Rom **8:39** Nor height nor depth nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
 - Rom **15:30** Now I exhort you, brothers, through our Lord Jesus Christ and through the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God on my behalf,

- 5 In order to maintain and develop our first love toward the Lord, we need to live before Him as vessels open to Him, loving Him, receiving Him, enjoying Him, being filled with Him, and letting Him be everything to us and do everything in us, through us, and with us for the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose—Rev. 2:4; 2 Cor. 4:7; Rom. 9:21, 23; Eph. 1:9; 3:9-11.
- Rev 2:4 But I have *one thing* against you, that you have left your first love.
- 2 Cor 4:7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels that the excellency of the power may be of God and not out of us.
- Rom 9:21 Or does not the potter have authority over the clay to make out of the same lump one vessel unto honor and another unto dishonor?
- Rom 9:23 In order that He might make known the riches of His glory upon vessels of mercy, which He had before prepared unto glory,
- Eph 1:9 Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself,
- Eph 3:9 And to enlighten all *that they may see* what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things,
- Eph 3:10 In order that now to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenlies the multifarious wisdom of God might be made known through the church,
- Eph 3:11 According to the eternal purpose which He made in Christ Jesus our Lord,