

**KEY STATEMENTS  
FOR  
THE 2020 THANKSGIVING DAY CONFERENCE**

**The Christ who replaces our culture with Himself for the one new man  
is the all-inclusive, extensive Christ, the preeminent One,  
the centrality and universality of God's economy.**

**When we have the vision of the all-inclusive, extensive Christ,  
experience Him as our life and the constituent of our entire being,  
and live Him instead of our culture, the one new man will appear among us in  
a practical way, and we will realize the life of the new man.**

**We need to be renewed day by day with the fresh supply of the resurrection life  
to replace our culture and to become the one new man in reality  
by becoming as new as the New Jerusalem.**

**We need to live the life of the one new man instead of our culture  
by learning Christ as the reality is in Jesus;  
the way the Lord Jesus lived on earth  
is the way the one new man should live today.**

**Outline of the Messages  
for the Thanksgiving Conference November 26-29, 2020**

**GENERAL SUBJECT:  
THE ALL-INCLUSIVE, EXTENSIVE CHRIST  
REPLACING CULTURE FOR THE ONE NEW MAN**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Content	Page
Message One      The Urgent Need for Our Culture to Be Replaced by the All-inclusive, Extensive Christ	<u>1</u>
Message Two      Living the All-inclusive, Extensive Christ instead of Our Culture	<u>7</u>
Message Three    The Constituent of the One New Man— the All-inclusive, Extensive Christ Replacing Culture	<u>13</u>
Message Four     Being Renewed Day by Day with the Fresh Supply of the Resurrection Life to Replace Our Culture and to Become the One New Man in Reality by Becoming as New as the New Jerusalem	<u>19</u>
Message Five     Living the Life of the One New Man instead of Our Culture by Learning Christ as the Reality Is in Jesus	<u>28</u>
Message Six      The Universal History according to God’s Economy— the Divine History within the Human History to Fulfill the Lord’s Heart’s Desire to Have the One New Man in Reality	<u>36</u>

**Outline of the Messages  
for the Thanksgiving Conference November 26-29, 2020**

**GENERAL SUBJECT:  
THE ALL-INCLUSIVE, EXTENSIVE CHRIST  
REPLACING CULTURE FOR THE ONE NEW MAN**

**Message One  
The Urgent Need for Our Culture to Be Replaced  
by the All-inclusive, Extensive Christ**

RK Hymns #189

Scripture Reading: Col. 1:12-13, 15-18, 27; 2:8, 14-15; 3:4, 10-11

- Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;
- Col 1:13 Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,
- Col 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,
- Col 1:16 Because in Him all things were created, in the heavens and on the earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or lordships or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and unto Him.
- Col 1:17 And He is before all things, and all things cohere in Him;
- Col 1:18 And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;
- Col 1:27 To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,
- Col 2:8 Beware that no one carries you off as spoil through his philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the elements of the world, and not according to Christ;
- Col 2:14 Wiping out the handwriting in ordinances, which was against us, which was contrary to us; and He has taken it out of the way, nailing it to the cross.
- Col 2:15 Stripping off the rulers and the authorities, He made a display of them openly, triumphing over them in it.
- Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.
- Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,
- 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.

**I The book of Colossians was written because the church in Colossae had been pervaded with culture, and the saints had been distracted from Christ by culture—2:8, 16-17; 3:10-11:**

- Col 2:8 Beware that no one carries you off as spoil through his philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the elements of the world, and not according to Christ;
- Col 2:16 Let no one therefore judge you in eating and in drinking or in respect of a feast or of a new moon or of the Sabbath,
- Col 2:17 Which are a shadow of the things to come, but the body is of Christ.
- Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,
- 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. In Colossae culture had flooded the church, replaced Christ, and carried off the saints as spoil—2:8.
- Col 2:8 Beware that no one carries you off as spoil through his philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the elements of the world, and not according to Christ;

- B. The enemy of God uses culture to replace Christ; he will try to use the good aspects of culture to replace Christ—cf. Phil. 3:4-8.

Phil 3:4 Though I myself have something to be confident of in the flesh as well. If any other man thinks that he has confidence in the flesh, I more:

Phil 3:5 Circumcised the eighth day; of the race of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee;

Phil 3:6 As to zeal, persecuting the church; as to the righteousness which is in the law, become blameless.

Phil 3:7 But what things were gains to me, these I have counted as loss on account of Christ.

Phil 3:8 But moreover I also count all things to be loss on account of the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, on account of whom I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as refuse that I may gain Christ

- C. According to the book of Colossians, Christ is replaced by culture; Colossians indicates that the ultimate replacement for Christ is our culture.

- D. In Colossians *the authority of darkness* refers especially to the good aspects of culture and of our natural being—1:12-13:

Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;

Col 1:13 Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

1. The saints in Colossae came under the authority of darkness by allowing the highest aspects of culture to invade the church—2:8.

Col 2:8 Beware that no one carries you off as spoil through his philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the elements of the world, and not according to Christ;

2. The highest products of culture are nonetheless aspects of the authority of darkness by which Satan controls people—1:13.

Col 1:13 Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

3. Anything that is a substitute for Christ becomes the authority of darkness to control us—v. 13.

Col 1:13 Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

## II. Human culture arose after the fall of man—Gen. 4:16-22:

Gen 4:16 And Cain went forth from the presence of Jehovah and dwelt in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

Gen 4:17 And Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and gave birth to Enoch; and he built a city and called the name of the city after the name of his son Enoch.

Gen 4:18 And Irad was born to Enoch, and Irad begot Mehujael, and Mehujael begot Methushael, and Methushael begot Lamech.

Gen 4:19 And Lamech took two wives for himself: The name of the first was Adah, and the name of the second Zillah.

Gen 4:20 And Adah gave birth to Jabal; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and raise cattle.

Gen 4:21 And his brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all those who play the lyre and pipe.

Gen 4:22 And Zillah also gave birth to Tubal-cain, the forger of every cutting instrument of bronze and iron; and the sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah.

- A. After leaving God's presence, Cain constructed a city for his protection and self-existence—vv. 16-17:

Gen 4:16 And Cain went forth from the presence of Jehovah and dwelt in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

Gen 4:17 And Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and gave birth to Enoch; and he built a city and called the name of the city after the name of his son Enoch.

1. Within this city he produced a culture without God, a godless culture.

2. In the garden God was everything to man—his protection, maintenance, supply, and amusement; when man lost God, he lost everything.

3. Man's loss of God forced man to invent human culture, the main elements of which were cities for existence, cattle-raising for making a living, music for enjoyment, and weapons for defense—vv. 20-22.

Gen 4:20 And Adah gave birth to Jabal; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and raise cattle.

Gen 4:21 And his brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all those who play the lyre and pipe.

Gen 4:22 And Zillah also gave birth to Tubal-cain, the forger of every cutting instrument of bronze and iron; and the sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah.

- B. Apparently, a culture without God was invented by the man who refused to go God's way and thereby lost God; actually, the intrinsic factor of culture was the instigation and incitement of Satan, God's enemy, within the man who departed from God—vv. 7, 16-17; Matt. 12:26:

Gen 4:7 If you do well, will not your countenance be lifted up? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door; and his desire is for you, but you must rule over him.

Gen 4:16 And Cain went forth from the presence of Jehovah and dwelt in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

Gen 4:17 And Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and gave birth to Enoch; and he built a city and called the name of the city after the name of his son Enoch.

Matt 12:26 And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?

1. Such a culture, which was without God and was united with Satan, became a model representing all human cultures throughout the ages and signifying that these cultures are without God and have followed Satan and are united with Satan—cf. Luke 4:6, footnote 1.

Luke 4:6 And the devil said to Him, To You I will give all this authority and their glory, because to me it <sup>1</sup>has been delivered, and to whomever I want I give it.

note 1 This must have occurred in the preadamic age. The devil's word here indicates that when God anointed the archangel to be the head of the preadamic age (Ezek. 28:13-14), the authority and glory of the kingdom of the earth must have been given to him. The Lord's word in John 12:31 confirms this. After he rebelled against God and became God's enemy, Satan, he was judged by God (Isa. 14:12-15), but the full execution of God's judgment upon him will not be completed until the end of the millennium (Rev. 20:7-10). Hence, until that time he has authority over the kingdoms of the earth. He tempted the Lord Jesus by offering this authority and its glory to Him. His evil offer was rejected by God's Christ, but it will be accepted by the Antichrist, the man of lawlessness (2 Thes. 2:3-4), at the end of this age (Rev. 13:4) for the executing of Satan's evil strategy against God. Only by Christ, who lives in us, can we reject the evil tempter.

2. The godless culture began as a seed in Genesis 4, and it will develop throughout the history of the human race until it consummates in Babylon the Great in Revelation 18.

Gen 4:1 be omitted.

Rev 18:1 be omitted.

3. The Lord's word in Matthew 24:37-39 indicates that the godless culture at the time of Noah will develop to its uttermost in the period of the Lord's coming.

Matt 24:37 For just as the days of Noah were, so will the coming of the Son of Man be.

Matt 24:38 For as they were in those days before the flood, eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day in which Noah entered into the ark,

Matt 24:39 And they did not know that judgment was coming until the flood came and took all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

### III. Culture is a frustration to God's purpose concerning Christ and the church— Eph. 3:10-11; 5:32:

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,  
 Eph 5:32 This mystery is great, but I speak with regard to Christ and the church.
- A. Something very subtle stands in the way of Christ and the church; this subtle opposing element is culture—Col. 3:10-11; Eph. 2:14-15; Col. 2:14-15.
- Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,  
 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.  
 Eph 2:14 For He Himself is our peace, He who has made both one and has broken down the middle wall of partition, the enmity,  
 Eph 2:15 Abolishing in His flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances, that He might create the two in Himself into one new man, so making peace,  
 Col 2:14 Wiping out the handwriting in ordinances, which was against us, which was contrary to us; and He has taken it out of the way, nailing it to the cross.  
 Col 2:15 Stripping off the rulers and the authorities, He made a display of them openly, triumphing over them in it.
- B. Culture is a great frustration to experiencing Christ; unconsciously and subconsciously, we are frustrated by culture from the experience and enjoyment of Christ—Phil. 3:7-8.
- Phil 3:7 But what things were gains to me, these I have counted as loss on account of Christ.  
 Phil 3:8 But moreover I also count all things to be loss on account of the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, on account of whom I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as refuse that I may gain Christ
- C. Our growing up into Christ in all things and arriving at a full-grown man is hindered by our subtle, hidden culture—Col. 2:19; Eph. 4:13, 15-16.
- Col 2:19 And not holding the Head, out from whom all the Body, being richly supplied and knit together by means of the joints and sinews, grows with the growth of God.  
 Eph 4:13 Until we all arrive at the oneness of the faith and of the full knowledge of the Son of God, at a full-grown man, at the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,  
 Eph 4:15 But holding to truth in love, we may grow up into Him in all things, who is the Head, Christ,  
 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.

#### **IV. Human culture stands in opposition to the kingdom of God—Matt. 10:16-25, 34-39; 12:29, 46-50:**

- Matt 10:16 Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves. Be therefore prudent as serpents and guileless as doves.  
 Matt 10:17 And beware of men, for they will deliver you up to sanhedrins, and in their synagogues they will scourge you.  
 Matt 10:18 And you will also be brought before governors and kings for My sake, for a testimony to them and to the Gentiles.  
 Matt 10:19 But when they deliver you up, do not be anxious about how or what you should speak, for it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak;  
 Matt 10:20 For you are not the ones speaking, but the Spirit of your Father is the One speaking in you.  
 Matt 10:21 And brother will deliver up brother to death, and father his child; and children will rise up against their parents and put them to death.  
 Matt 10:22 And you will be hated by all because of My name. But he who has endured to the end, this one shall be saved.  
 Matt 10:23 And when they persecute you in this city, flee into another. For truly I say to you, You shall by no means finish the cities of Israel until the Son of Man comes.  
 Matt 10:24 A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above his master.  
 Matt 10:25 It is sufficient for the disciple that he become like his teacher, and the slave like his master. If they have called the Master of the house Beelzebul, how much more those of His household!  
 Matt 10:34 Do not think that I have come to bring peace on the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

Matt 10:35 For I have come to set men at variance: a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;  
 Matt 10:36 And a man's enemies will be those of his household.  
 Matt 10:37 He who loves father or mother above Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter above Me is not worthy of Me;  
 Matt 10:38 And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.  
 Matt 10:39 He who finds his soul-life shall lose it, and he who loses his soul-life for My sake shall find it.  
 Matt 12:29 Or how can anyone enter into the house of the strong man and plunder his goods unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will thoroughly plunder his house.  
 Matt 12:46 While He was still speaking to the crowds, behold, His mother and His brothers stood outside seeking to speak to Him.  
 Matt 12:47 And someone said to Him, Behold, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside seeking to speak to You.  
 Matt 12:48 But He answered and said to him who spoke to Him, Who is My mother, and who are My brothers?  
 Matt 12:49 And stretching out His hand toward His disciples, He said, Behold, My mother and My brothers!  
 Matt 12:50 For whoever does the will of My Father who is in the heavens, he is My brother and sister and mother.

- A. Sinful things do not oppose the kingdom of God as much as human culture does.
- B. Human culture has become a basic part and a great portion of the kingdom of Satan—v. 26.  
 Matt 12:26 And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?
- C. Culture has become a stronghold of Satan; in a subtle way he maintains a hold on culture and utilizes it to oppose God's kingdom—Acts 26:18; Col. 1:12-13.  
 Acts 26:18 To open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light and from the authority of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.  
 Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;  
 Col 1:13 Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

**V. Christ as the all-inclusive, extensive One is versus culture and should replace our culture with Himself—v. 18; 3:4, 10-11:**

Col 1:18 And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;  
 Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.  
 Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,  
 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. The purpose of the extensive revelation of Christ in the book of Colossians is to deal with culture—2:8; 3:10-11.  
 Col 2:8 Beware that no one carries you off as spoil through his philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the elements of the world, and not according to Christ;  
 Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,  
 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.
- B. In this book Paul presents a vision of the all-inclusive, extensive Christ to impress us with the fact that this Christ should replace our culture—1:27.  
 Col 1:27 To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,



**VI. The kind of Christ who replaces culture is the all-inclusive, extensive Christ, the preeminent One, the centrality and universality of God's economy—vv. 15-18; 2:16-17; 3:4, 10-11:**

- Col 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,  
Col 1:16 Because in Him all things were created, in the heavens and on the earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or lordships or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and unto Him.
- Col 1:17 And He is before all things, and all things cohere in Him;  
Col 1:18 And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;
- Col 2:16 Let no one therefore judge you in eating and in drinking or in respect of a feast or of a new moon or of the Sabbath,  
Col 2:17 Which are a shadow of the things to come, but the body is of Christ.
- Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.  
Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,  
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. The Christ who can replace our culture and become everything to us is the all-inclusive, extensive Christ—1:15, 18.  
Col 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,  
Col 1:18 And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;
- B. The book of Colossians was written in order to reveal the all-inclusive, extensive Christ who deals with our culture and replaces our culture with Himself—3:4, 10-11.  
Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.  
Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,  
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.
- C. In His salvation God not only saves us from sin, judgment, the lake of fire, the world, and the self; He also saves us from everything that replaces Christ, including our culture—Heb. 7:25.  
Heb 7:25 Hence also He is able to save to the uttermost those who come forward to God through Him, since He lives always to intercede for them.
- D. The all-inclusive, extensive Christ is in us, and we need to allow Him to fill our entire being and replace our culture with Himself—Eph. 3:17a; Col. 1:27; 3:11.  
Eph 3:17a That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, ...  
Col 1:27 To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,  
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.



## Message Two

### Living the All-inclusive, Extensive Christ instead of Our Culture

JL Hymns #541

Scripture Reading: Eph. 3:11, 16-17a; Phil. 1:20-21a; Col. 1:15, 18, 27; 3:4, 10-11

- Eph 3:11 According to the eternal purpose which He made in Christ Jesus our 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, ...  
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 ...  
Col 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,  
Col 1:18 And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;  
Col 1:27 To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,  
Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.  
Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,  
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.

#### I. The central thought of the Bible is that God desires us to live Christ for the church as the Body of Christ, the one new man—Phil. 1:21a; Eph. 2:15-16:

- Phil 1:21a For to me, to live is Christ ...  
Eph 2:15 Abolishing in His flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances, that He might create the two in Himself into one new man, so making peace,  
Eph 2:16 And might reconcile both in one Body to God through the cross, having slain the enmity by it.
- A. God's intention is that we become saturated, permeated, filled, and clothed with Christ so that we may live Christ—3:17a; Gal. 2:20; 3:27; 4:19.  
Eph 3:17a That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, ...  
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 in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.  
Gal 3:27 For as many as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.  
Gal 4:19 My children, with whom I travail again in birth until Christ is formed in you,
- B. The Christian life is the life in which the believers of Christ live Christ and magnify Him—Phil. 1:20-21a.  
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 ...
- C. To live Christ is to live a person, Christ Himself—Col. 1:27; Rom. 8:10:  
Col 1:27 To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,  
Rom 8:10 But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is life because of righteousness.
1. If we would live Christ, we must take Him as our person and be one person with Him; He and we must be one in a practical way—1 Cor. 6:17.  
1 Cor 6:17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit.
  2. If we have light concerning how Christ is replaced in our daily living, we will confess to the Lord that instead of living Him we live many other things, that we live more by culture than by Christ—1 John 1:7.  
1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from every sin.

- D. The reason we do not live Christ is that we are not constituted with Christ; what we are constituted with is what we live—Col. 3:4, 10-11; Eph. 3:17a.
- Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.
- Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,
- 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.
- Eph 3:17a That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, ...

**II. Concerning the matter of the all-inclusive, extensive Christ versus culture, we need to see that according to the full revelation in the Bible, God’s intention is to work Himself in Christ into His chosen, redeemed, and regenerated people—Gal. 1:15-16; 2:20; 4:19:**

- 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 in 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,
- A. God’s central work, His unique work, in the universe and throughout all the ages and generations is to work Himself in Christ into His chosen people, making Himself one with them—Eph. 3:17a; 1 Cor. 6:17.
- Eph 3:17a That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, ...
- 1 Cor 6:17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit.
- B. God’s intention is to thoroughly work Himself in Christ into us, making Himself our inward elements—Eph. 3:11, 16-19.
- Eph 3:11 According to the eternal purpose which He made in Christ Jesus our 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 3:17 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.
- C. For the fulfillment of God’s eternal economy, God needs to build Himself in Christ into our being, building Himself in Christ into us as our life, our nature, and our constitution to make us God in life and in nature but not in the Godhead—2 Sam. 7:12-14a; Rom. 1:3-4; Eph. 3:17a; John 14:23; Col. 3:10-11:
- 2 Sam 7:12 When your days are fulfilled and you sleep with your fathers, I will raise up your seed after you, which will come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.
- 2 Sam 7:13 It is he who will build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.
- 2 Sam 7:14a I will be his Father, and he will be My son. ...
- Rom 1:3 Concerning His Son, who came out of the seed of David according to the flesh,
- Rom 1:4 Who was designated the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness out of the resurrection of the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord;
- Eph 3:17a That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, ...
- 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.
- Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,
- 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.

1. We need God to build Himself in Christ into our intrinsic constitution so that our entire being will be reconstituted with Christ—Eph. 3:17a.  
Eph 3:17a That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, ...
2. Christ builds the church by coming into our spirit and spreading Himself from our spirit into our mind, emotion, and will to occupy our entire soul—Matt. 16:18; Eph. 3:17a.  
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 3:17a That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, ...

### **III. In saying that Christ is versus culture, we are not saying that we should drop our culture and live without any culture whatsoever—Col. 3:10-11:**

- Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,
- 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. Those who do not have Christ certainly need to live according to culture, for culture preserves, regulates, and improves people.
  - B. Prior to receiving the all-inclusive, extensive Christ, everyone needs culture.
  - C. After we have received Christ, we should not allow culture to limit Christ or to frustrate us from experiencing and enjoying Christ; rather, we should begin to learn to live according to Christ, not according to culture—2:6-7.  
Col 2:6 As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,  
Col 2:7 Having been rooted and being built up in Him, and being established in the faith even as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.
  - D. As children are growing up, they need culture and the law—Gal. 3:23-28:  
Gal 3:23 But before faith came we were guarded under law, being shut up unto the faith which was to be revealed.  
Gal 3:24 So then the law has become our child-conductor unto Christ that we might be justified out of faith.  
Gal 3:25 But since faith has come, we are no longer under a child-conductor.  
Gal 3:26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.  
Gal 3:27 For as many as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.  
Gal 3:28 There cannot be Jew nor Greek, there cannot be slave nor free man, there cannot be male and female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.
1. Before children receive Christ, they must be trained according to culture and under the law—vv. 23-24.  
Gal 3:23 But before faith came we were guarded under law, being shut up unto the faith which was to be revealed.  
Gal 3:24 So then the law has become our child-conductor unto Christ that we might be justified out of faith.
  2. After they have received Christ, gradually we can help them turn from culture to Christ—John 1:12-13; 6:57.  
John 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the authority to become children of God, to those who believe into His name,  
John 1:13 Who were begotten not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.  
John 6:57 As the living Father has sent Me and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also shall live because of Me.

### **IV. Since we have received Christ, we should not allow culture to become a substitute for Him—Col. 2:6; 3:10-11:**

- Col 2:6 As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,
- Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

- 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. Every kind of culture is versus Christ, and Christ is versus every kind of culture—v. 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.
1. Any culture, no matter what kind of culture it is, is versus Christ.
  2. Apart from Christ, everything we have and every human product and development are part of culture.
- B. The factor that limits the expansion of the enjoyment of Christ is culture; spontaneously, the culture within us keeps us from the real experience of Christ—Phil. 3:3-9.
- Phil 3:3 For we are the circumcision, the ones who serve by the Spirit of God and boast in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh,
- Phil 3:4 Though I myself have something to be confident of in the flesh as well. If any other man thinks that he has confidence in the flesh, I more:
- Phil 3:5 Circumcised the eighth day; of the race of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee;
- Phil 3:6 As to zeal, persecuting the church; as to the righteousness which is in the law, become blameless.
- Phil 3:7 But what things were gains to me, these I have counted as loss on account of Christ.
- Phil 3:8 But moreover I also count all things to be loss on account of the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, on account of whom I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as refuse that I may gain Christ
- Phil 3:9 And be found in Him, not having my own righteousness which is out of the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is out of God and based on faith,
- C. Because our culture hinders us from experiencing Christ, enjoying Christ, and living Christ, we are heavily burdened by the Lord that all the saints in the Lord's recovery may learn in a practical way to take Christ as their life and person to replace their culture—Eph. 3:17a; Col. 3:4.
- Eph 3:17a That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, ...
- Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.
- D. In Christ we have the liberty to set aside our culture in order to enlarge our capacity to enjoy the Lord; all the room within us must be given over to Christ.
- E. If our entire inward capacity is made available to Christ, spontaneously the culture within us will be replaced by the Christ who dwells in us—1:27; 3:11.
- Col 1:27 To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,
- 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.

**V. It is crucial that we see a vision of the all-inclusiveness and extensiveness of Christ; we should not endeavor to drop our culture without such a vision of Christ—Acts 26:19; Eph. 1:17-23:**

- Acts 26:19 Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision,
- Eph 1:17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the full knowledge of Him,
- Eph 1:18 The eyes of your heart having been enlightened, that you may know what is the hope of His calling, and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,
- Eph 1:19 And what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the operation of the might of His strength,
- Eph 1:20 Which He caused to operate in Christ in raising Him from the dead and seating Him at His right hand in the heavenlies,
- Eph 1:21 Far above all rule and authority and power and lordship and every name that is named not only in this age but also in that which is to come;
- 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.

- A. The Christ who indwells us is not a small, limited Christ; He is the One who is the image of the invisible God, the embodiment of the fullness of God, and the focal point of God's economy—Col. 1:15, 18; 2:2, 9-10:
- Col 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,  
 Col 1:18 And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;  
 Col 2:2 That their hearts may be comforted, they being knit together in love and unto all the riches of the full assurance of understanding, unto the full knowledge of the mystery of God, Christ,  
 Col 2:9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily,  
 Col 2:10 And you have been made full in Him, who is the Head of all rule and authority.
- Such a Christ now dwells in us and is waiting for the opportunity to spread Himself throughout our being—1:27.  
 Col 1:27 To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,
  - This Christ should be everything in our daily living, and we should live Him, not giving any ground in our living to culture—Phil. 1:21a; Col. 3:11.  
 Phil 1:21a For to me, to live is Christ ...  
 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.
- B. As soon as we see the vision of the all-inclusive, extensive Christ, we should begin to set aside our cultural background and not allow it to replace Christ or restrict Him—Acts 9:4-5; 26:19; Phil. 3:7-10:
- Acts 9:4 And he fell on the ground and heard a voice saying to him, Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?  
 Acts 9:5 And he said, Who are You, Lord? And He said, I am Jesus, whom you persecute.  
 Acts 26:19 Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision,  
 Phil 3:7 But what things were gains to me, these I have counted as loss on account of Christ.  
 Phil 3:8 But moreover I also count all things to be loss on account of the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, on account of whom I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as refuse that I may gain Christ  
 Phil 3:9 And be found in Him, not having my own righteousness which is out of the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is out of God and based on faith,  
 Phil 3:10 To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,
- We should not give any ground in our living to culture.
  - Instead, all the room within us should be given over to the all-inclusive, extensive Christ who dwells in us—Col. 1:27.  
 Col 1:27 To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,
- C. If we see such a vision of the indwelling, all-inclusive, extensive Christ, we will spontaneously drop our culture—3:10-11:
- Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,  
 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.
- Formerly, Christ was replaced by culture, but once we have seen this vision, the culture within us will be replaced by Christ—v. 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.
  - Instead of trying to drop our culture, we should simply live Christ, and Christ will replace our culture with Himself—Phil. 1:21a.  
 Phil 1:21a For to me, to live is Christ ...
- D. When we live Christ, we are spontaneously delivered from culture, and automatically the

Christ by whom we live replaces our culture; this is the revelation in the book of Colossians—1:15, 18, 27; 2:2, 9-10; 3:4, 10-11.

- Col 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,  
Col 1:18 And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;  
Col 1:27 To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,  
Col 2:2 That their hearts may be comforted, they being knit together in love and unto all the riches of the full assurance of understanding, unto the full knowledge of the mystery of God, Christ,  
Col 2:9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily,  
Col 2:10 And you have been made full in Him, who is the Head of all rule and authority.  
Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.  
Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,  
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.



Message Three  
**The Constituent of the One New Man—  
the All-inclusive, Extensive Christ Replacing Culture**

MR Hymns #1220

Scripture Reading: Col. 1:15-18, 27; 2:9-10, 16-18; 3:4, 10-11

Col 1:15	Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,
Col 1:16	Because in Him all things were created, in the heavens and on the earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or lordships or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and unto Him.
Col 1:17	And He is before all things, and all things cohere in Him;
Col 1:18	And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;
Col 1:27	To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,
Col 2:9	For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily,
Col 2:10	And you have been made full in Him, who is the Head of all rule and authority.
Col 2:16	Let no one therefore judge you in eating and in drinking or in respect of a feast or of a new moon or of the Sabbath,
Col 2:17	Which are a shadow of the things to come, but the body is of Christ.
Col 2:18	Let no one defraud you by judging you unworthy of your prize, in self-chosen lowliness and the worship of the angels, dwelling on the things which he has seen, vainly puffed up by his mind set on the flesh,
Col 3:4	When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.
Col 3:10	And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,
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.

**I. If we get into the depths of the book of Colossians, we will see that in this book Paul is dealing with the hidden matter of human culture:**

- A. Paul's use of the word *barbarian* in Colossians 3:11 is a strong indication that this Epistle deals with culture.
  - 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.
- B. Culture is the systematic method that we have developed to exist and to maintain our being—Gen. 4:16-22:
  - Gen 4:16 And Cain went forth from the presence of Jehovah and dwelt in the land of Nod, east of Eden.
  - Gen 4:17 And Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and gave birth to Enoch; and he built a city and called the name of the city after the name of his son Enoch.
  - Gen 4:18 And Irad was born to Enoch, and Irad begot Mehujael, and Mehujael begot Methushael, and Methushael begot Lamech.
  - Gen 4:19 And Lamech took two wives for himself: The name of the first was Adah, and the name of the second Zillah.
  - Gen 4:20 And Adah gave birth to Jabal; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and raise cattle.
  - Gen 4:21 And his brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all those who play the lyre and pipe.
  - Gen 4:22 And Zillah also gave birth to Tubal-cain, the forger of every cutting instrument of bronze and iron; and the sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah.
- 1. Culture is the unconscious living of every human being—Eph. 2:2-3; 4:17.
  - Eph 2:2 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;
  - Eph 2:3 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;



- Eph 4:17 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,
2. People throughout the world are under the influence of their culture.
- C. Just as culture exerted a strong influence on the believers in Colossae, culture today exerts a strong influence on us—Col. 2:8-10, 16-18:
- Col 2:8 Beware that no one carries you off as spoil through his philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the elements of the world, and not according to Christ;
- Col 2:9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily,
- Col 2:10 And you have been made full in Him, who is the Head of all rule and authority.
- Col 2:16 Let no one therefore judge you in eating and in drinking or in respect of a feast or of a new moon or of the Sabbath,
- Col 2:17 Which are a shadow of the things to come, but the body is of Christ.
- Col 2:18 Let no one defraud you by judging you unworthy of your prize, in self-chosen lowliness and the worship of the angels, dwelling on the things which he has seen, vainly puffed up by his mind set on the flesh,
1. Unconsciously, we are under the influence of the culture into which we were born; the elements of this culture are part of our being—Gal. 4:3, 9; Col. 2:8, 20.
 

Gal 4:3 So also we, when we were children, were kept in slavery under the elements of the world;

Gal 4:9 But now, having come to know God, or rather having been known by God, how is it that you turn again to the weak and poor elements, to which you desire to be enslaved yet again?

Col 2:8 Beware that no one carries you off as spoil through his philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the elements of the world, and not according to Christ;

Col 2:20 If you died with Christ from the elements of the world, why, as living in the world, do you subject yourselves to ordinances:
  2. When we came into the church life, we brought our culture with us, and this culture undermines our enjoyment of Christ and the church life.
  3. To a large extent, Christ as the unique element in the church life has been replaced by culture—v. 8; 3:11:
 

Col 2:8 Beware that no one carries you off as spoil through his philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the elements of the world, and not according to Christ;

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. Subconsciously and unconsciously, we all treasure our culture and place a high value on our particular cultural background.
    - b. In the church life Christ is replaced by culture more than by anything else—v. 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.

## II. The book of Colossians reveals that the all-inclusive, extensive Christ is everything in God's economy—1:15-18, 27:

- Col 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,
- Col 1:16 Because in Him all things were created, in the heavens and on the earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or lordships or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and unto Him.
- Col 1:17 And He is before all things, and all things cohere in Him;
- Col 1:18 And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;
- Col 1:27 To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,
- A. We need a clear vision of this wonderful Christ being everything to us.

- B. Such a vision will terminate the influence of culture on the experience of Christ and on the church life, and instead of being cultured people, we will be people occupied with, possessed by, and saturated with Christ—3:11b.  
Col 3:11b ... but Christ is all and in all.

### III. The preeminent, all-inclusive, extensive Christ is our life and the unique constituent of the one new man—vv. 4, 10-11:

- Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.  
Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,  
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. The constituent of the church as the new man is Christ and Christ alone; the content of the church is nothing other than the all-inclusive, extensive Christ—1:15-18; 2:9-10.  
Col 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,  
Col 1:16 Because in Him all things were created, in the heavens and on the earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or lordships or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and unto Him.  
Col 1:17 And He is before all things, and all things cohere in Him;  
Col 1:18 And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;  
Col 2:9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily,  
Col 2:10 And you have been made full in Him, who is the Head of all rule and authority.
- B. As our life and the constituent of the one new man, the all-inclusive, extensive Christ replaces our culture with Himself—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.
- C. The issue of enjoying Christ as our portion is that we experience Him as the content and the constituent of the one new man, and ultimately, the Christ we enjoy becomes the constituent of the new man—1:12; 3:11.  
Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;  
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.
- D. According to Colossians 3:11, in the new man there is no possibility for the various cultural distinctions to continue to exist:  
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.
1. There are no cultural distinctions in the one new man, for every part of the new man is constituted with Christ—v. 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.
  2. In the church as the new man, there is no room for regional, cultural, or national distinctions and no place for any race, nationality, culture, or social status.
- E. Because Christ is the unique constituent of the new man, there should be no differences among the believers who are part of this new man, and there should be no differences among the churches—1 Cor. 4:17; Rev. 1:12, 20; 22:16.  
1 Cor 4:17 Because of this I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways which are in Christ, even as I teach everywhere in every church.  
Rev 1:12 And I turned to see the voice that spoke with me; and when I turned, I saw seven golden lampstands,  
Rev 1:20 The mystery of the seven stars which you saw upon My right hand and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the messengers of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Rev 22:16 I Jesus have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the bright morning star.

#### IV. As the constituent of the new man, Christ is all and in all; Christ is all the members, and He is in all the members—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. In the church as the new man, Christ is everyone and He is also in everyone—1:27; 3:11.  
Col 1:27 To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,  
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.
- B. On the one hand, in the new man there is no place for the natural person, because Christ is all the members.
- C. On the other hand, the fact that Christ is in all indicates that the members continue to exist, not without Christ but as those indwelt by Christ—1:27.  
Col 1:27 To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,
- D. When we take Christ as our life and constitution, we have the sense deep within that we are one with Christ and that Christ is us, and simultaneously, we have an even deeper sense that Christ is in us—3:4.  
Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.
- E. In the church as the new man, Christ is everything; this implies that all the believers must be constituted with Christ—1:15-18; 2:16-17; 3:4, 10-11:  
Col 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,  
Col 1:16 Because in Him all things were created, in the heavens and on the earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or lordships or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and unto Him.  
Col 1:17 And He is before all things, and all things cohere in Him;  
Col 1:18 And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;  
Col 2:16 Let no one therefore judge you in eating and in drinking or in respect of a feast or of a new moon or of the Sabbath,  
Col 2:17 Which are a shadow of the things to come, but the body is of Christ.  
Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.  
Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,  
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.
1. We must be permeated with Christ, saturated with Christ, and have Christ organically wrought into our being—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. Eventually, we will be replaced by Christ, and then, in reality, Christ will be all and in all; He will be every part of the new man—Col. 3:11b.  
Col 3:11b ... but Christ is all and in all.
- F. The new man is Christ in all the saints permeating us and replacing us until all natural distinctions have been eliminated, and everyone is constituted with Christ—Gal. 4:19; Eph. 3:17a; Col. 1:27.  
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, ...  
Col 1:27 To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,
- G. When we have the vision of the all-inclusive, extensive Christ with the adequate experience of Christ, the one new man will appear among us in a practical way, and we will realize the

life of the new man—3:10-17; Philem. 10-16.

- Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,
- 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.
- Col 3:12 Put on therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, inward parts of compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, long-suffering;
- Col 3:13 Bearing one another and forgiving one another, if anyone should have a complaint against anyone; even as the Lord forgave you, so also should you forgive.
- Col 3:14 And over all these things put on love, which is the uniting bond of perfectness.
- Col 3:15 And let the peace of Christ arbitrate in your hearts, to which also you were called in one Body; and be thankful.
- Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to God.
- Col 3:17 And whatever you do in word or in deed, do all things in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.
- Philem 10 I entreat you concerning my child, whom I have begotten in my bonds, Onesimus,
- Philem 11 Who formerly was useless to you but now is useful both to you and to me.
- Philem 12 Him I have sent back to you-him, that is, my very heart-
- Philem 13 Whom I intended to keep with myself that on your behalf he might minister to me in the bonds of the gospel.
- Philem 14 But without your mind I did not want to do anything, that your goodness would not be as of necessity, but voluntary.
- Philem 15 For perhaps for this reason he was separated from you for but an hour, that you might fully have him forever,
- Philem 16 No longer as a slave, but above a slave, a beloved brother, especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

H. If Christ is the living of all the saints, then only He will be in the new man, and all the saints, whatever their nationality, will live Christ; then in a real and practical way, Christ will be all the members of the new man—Col. 3:11; Phil. 1:21a.

- 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.
- Phil 1:21a For to me, to live is Christ ...

## V. The New Jerusalem will be the final consummation of the one new man—Eph. 2:15-16; 4:24; Col. 3:10-11; Rev. 21:2, 9-10:

- Eph 2:15 Abolishing in His flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances, that He might create the two in Himself into one new man, so making peace,
- Eph 2:16 And might reconcile both in one Body to God through the cross, having slain the enmity by it.
- Eph 4:24 And put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.
- Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,
- 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.
- 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,
- A. When we have become the New Jerusalem, we will enjoy the life of the universal one new man.
- B. Today we may have a foretaste of this enjoyment by allowing the all-inclusive, extensive Christ to replace our culture, to constitute us with Himself, and to make us all part of the one

new man in reality and practicality—Col. 1:27; 2:10; 3:4, 10-11.

- Col 1:27 To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,
- Col 2:10 And you have been made full in Him, who is the Head of all rule and authority.
- Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.
- Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,
- 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.

**Message Four**  
**Being Renewed Day by Day**  
**with the Fresh Supply of the Resurrection Life**  
**to Replace Our Culture and to Become the One New Man in Reality**  
**by Becoming as New as the New Jerusalem**

EM Hymns #16

Scripture Reading: 2 Cor. 4:16; Eph. 2:15; 4:22-24; Col. 3:10-11

2 Cor 4:16	Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.
Eph 2:15	Abolishing in His flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances, that He might create the two in Himself into one new man, so making peace,
Eph 4:22	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,
Eph 4:23	And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind
Eph 4:24	And put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.
Col 3:10	And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,
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.

**I. Ephesians 4:22 says, “Put off, as regards your former manner of life, the old man”:**

- A. *The old man* refers to our natural life in our soul; the old man is our very being, which was created by God but became fallen through sin—Rom. 6:6:
- Rom 6:6      Knowing this, that our old man has been crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be annulled, that we should no longer serve sin as slaves;
1. The old man with all that it includes is a damage to the church life; wherever the old man is, there can be no church; this means that what we are, what we have, and what we do make the church life an impossibility.
  2. If we continue to live according to the old man, the church life will be seriously damaged, even terminated; if we put off the old man with its former manner of life, we will have a marvelous church life, a church life that will be a miniature of the New Jerusalem; in such a church life it is impossible to have division.
- B. The words *manner of life* imply a great deal; in every country of the world and among every people there is a characteristic manner of life:
1. The former manner of life includes everything related to us; we must put off whatever we are, whatever we do, and whatever we have; we are to put off our very way of living and our culture; the stronger our culture is, the more critical we will be of others—cf. Eph. 4:31-32; Col. 3:12-14.
 

Eph 4:31      Let all bitterness and anger and wrath and clamor and evil speaking be removed from you, with all malice.

Eph 4:32      And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ also forgave you.

Col 3:12      Put on therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, inward parts of compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, long-suffering;

Col 3:13      Bearing one another and forgiving one another, if anyone should have a complaint against anyone; even as the Lord forgave you, so also should you forgive.

Col 3:14      And over all these things put on love, which is the uniting bond of perfectness.
  2. If we truly desire to be renewed, we need to put off the former manner of life, which involves our way of living and our culture; in the new man there is no possibility for

- Greek and Jew, barbarian and Scythian, slave and free man to exist, because the former manner of life found among these peoples has been put away.
3. Whenever we return to the old manner of life, we will spontaneously sense that we are darkened within and estranged from God's life—Eph. 4:17-19.
    - Eph 4:17 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,
    - Eph 4:18 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 heart;
    - Eph 4:19 Who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lasciviousness to work all uncleanness in greediness.
  4. In order to have the church life, people from different cultures and countries have to put off the old man embodied in their former manner of life; in the church life there is room only for Christ—Col. 3:10-11.
    - Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,
    - 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.
  5. How deplorable it is to see so-called churches formed according to nationality; instead of treasuring our heritage, we should disown it; we automatically prefer our old community life, but our way of life must become absolutely new in nature, manner, and practice.

**II. Since the new man in Ephesians 2:15-16 is a corporate man, the new man in 4:24 must also be corporate; according to Ephesians 4:24, we need to put on the very new man that has already been created in Christ:**

- Eph 2:15 Abolishing in His flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances, that He might create the two in Himself into one new man, so making peace,
  - Eph 2:16 And might reconcile both in one Body to God through the cross, having slain the enmity by it.
  - Eph 4:24 And put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.
- A. In baptism we put off the old man, which was crucified with Christ and buried; it was also in baptism that we put on the new man—vv. 22-24; Rom. 6:6, 4.
    - Eph 4:22 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,
    - Eph 4:23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind
    - Eph 4:24 And put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.
    - Rom 6:6 Knowing this, that our old man has been crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be annulled, that we should no longer serve sin as slaves;
    - Rom 6:4 We have been buried therefore with Him through baptism into His death, in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so also we might walk in newness of life.
  - B. The putting off of the old man and the putting on of the new man are accomplished facts; now we must experience and realize these facts by being renewed in the spirit of our mind—Eph. 4:23:
    - Eph 4:23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind
    1. To put off the old man is to deny and renounce our old self by applying the cross to the self—v. 22; Matt. 16:24.
      - Eph 4:22 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,
      - Matt 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, If anyone wants to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.
    2. To put on the new man is to live and magnify Christ through the bountiful supply of



the Spirit of Jesus Christ (Phil. 1:19-21a); this is to apply what Christ has accomplished in creating the new man (Eph. 2:15; 4:24).

Phil 1:19 For I know that for me this will turn out to salvation through your petition and the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

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 ...

Eph 2:15 Abolishing in His flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances, that He might create the two in Himself into one new man, so making peace,

Eph 4:24 And put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.

- C. Our spirit mingled with the Spirit of God must become the spirit of our mind (v. 23); then all our living will be by the spirit, and whatever we do will be according to the spirit; as we are renewed by this spirit, we put on the new man.

Eph 4:23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind

- D. We need to walk according to the mingled spirit that is spreading into our mind and filling it; in this way the daily walk of the new man will be in the spirit of the mind; this is the secret of the church life—v. 23.

Eph 4:23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind

- E. The new man is in our spirit; the way to put on the new man is for our spirit (which is mingled with the Spirit), in which are found God, God's dwelling place, and the new man, to become the spirit of our mind—2:22; 4:23:

Eph 2:22 In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.

Eph 4:23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind

1. For the spirit to become the spirit of our mind means that the spirit directs, controls, dominates, overrules, and possesses our mind (cf. 1 Cor. 2:15-16; 2 Cor. 2:13; 10:4-5); when the spirit directs our mind, our whole being is under the control of our spirit.

1 Cor 2:15 But the spiritual man discerns all things, but he himself is discerned by no one.

1 Cor 2:16 For who has known the mind of the Lord and will instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ.

2 Cor 2:13 I had no rest in my spirit, for I did not find Titus my brother; but taking leave of them, I went forth into Macedonia.

2 Cor 10:4 For the weapons of our warfare are not fleshly but powerful before God for the overthrowing of strongholds,

2 Cor 10:5 As we overthrow reasonings and every high thing rising up against the knowledge of God, and take captive every thought unto the obedience of Christ.

2. How much we put on the new man depends on how much our spirit directs our being (1 Cor. 2:15); when our spirit dominates and directs us, there is no ground for culture, for opinions, or for ordinances; there is no room for our way because our whole being is dominated, controlled, governed, and directed by our spirit.

1 Cor 2:15 But the spiritual man discerns all things, but he himself is discerned by no one.

3. The more the mingled spirit penetrates, saturates, and possesses our mind, the more we let Christ's mind become our mind—Phil. 2:5; 1 Cor. 2:16; Rom. 12:2.

Phil 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus,

1 Cor 2:16 For who has known the mind of the Lord and will instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ.

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.

- F. When we believed in the Lord Jesus, the life-giving Spirit came into our spirit, bringing with Him the new man as a finished product; now the new man must saturate and spread into every part of our being; this spreading is both the putting on of the new man and the renewing.

- G. We should not live according to the vanity of the mind but according to the spirit of the mind; this is the key to the daily living of the corporate one new man, the secret to having a church life filled with the character of God, the aroma of Christ, and the oneness of the Spirit—Eph. 4:3-4, 17-18, 23-24.
- Eph 4:3 Being diligent to keep the oneness of the Spirit in the uniting bond of peace:  
 Eph 4:4 One Body and one Spirit, even as also you were called in one hope of your calling;  
 Eph 4:17 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,  
 Eph 4:18 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 heart;  
 Eph 4:23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind  
 Eph 4:24 And put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.
- H. By our loving the Lord and by the exercise of our spirit in prayer and in reading the Word day by day, our mind is filled with the mingled spirit; this changes and renews our mind; for us to be renewed in our mind is to get rid of all the old concepts concerning the things of the human life and be made new again by the teaching of the Holy Scriptures and the enlightening of the Holy Spirit—Psa. 119:105, 130; 2 Tim. 3:15-17; Deut. 17:18-20.
- Psa 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet / And a light to my path.  
 Psa 119:130 The opening of Your words gives light, / Imparting understanding to the simple.  
 2 Tim 3:15 And that from a babe you have known the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise unto salvation through the faith which is in Christ Jesus.  
 2 Tim 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for conviction, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,  
 2 Tim 3:17 That the man of God may be complete, fully equipped for every good work.  
 Deut 17:18 And when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write out for himself a copy of this law in a book, out of that which is before the Levitical priests.  
 Deut 17:19 And it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, in order that he may learn to fear Jehovah his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes and doing them,  
 Deut 17:20 So that his heart may not be lifted up above his brothers and he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right or to the left; that he and his sons may extend their days over their kingdom in the midst of Israel.
- I. The only possibility of God’s purpose being fulfilled in this age, to have the one new man in reality, is if we would all be willing to be renewed in the spirit of our mind.

**III. The central point of Paul’s word to the Colossians concerns the renewing of the mind unto the full knowledge of Christ, who is the image of God; the new man was created in our spirit and is being renewed in our mind unto full knowledge according to the image of Christ—Eph. 2:15; Col. 3:10-11:**

- Eph 2:15 Abolishing in His flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances, that He might create the two in Himself into one new man, so making peace,  
 Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,  
 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. Because the new man was created with us who belong to the old creation, he needs to be renewed; this renewing takes place mainly in our mind, as indicated by the phrase *unto full knowledge*—v. 10.  
 Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,
- B. The creation of the new man according to God has already been completed, but in our experience the new man is being renewed unto full knowledge little by little; the more we put on the new man, the more we are renewed according to what God is, and the more we

bear His image, the expression of what He is—v. 10.

Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

- C. To be renewed is to have God's element added into our being to replace and discharge our old element—Rev. 21:5a; 2 Cor. 5:17; Rom. 12:2; 2 Cor. 4:16:

Rev 21:5a And He who sits on the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. ...

2 Cor 5:17 So then if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold, they have become new.

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 Cor 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.

1. Our natural and national mentality was educated and built up according to our racial and cultural background; this is the greatest hindrance to the practical existence of the new man.
2. In order for the one new man to come into full existence, we must experience a thorough renewal of our mind, which has been built up according to our nationality and culture.

- D. Newness is God; therefore, to become new is to become God in life and in nature but not in the Godhead:

1. God is forever new, and He infuses His ever-new essence into our being to renew our entire being—Rom. 12:2; Col. 3:10.

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.

Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

2. The Spirit of God renews us by infusing our inward parts with God's attributes, which are forever new, can never become old, and are everlasting and unchanging—Rev. 21:5a.

Rev 21:5a And He who sits on the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. ...

3. The renewing Spirit imparts the divine essence of the new man into our being to make us a new creation, the new man—Titus 3:5; 2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 6:15.

Titus 3:5 Not out of works in righteousness which we did but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Spirit,

2 Cor 5:17 So then if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold, they have become new.

Gal 6:15 For neither is circumcision anything nor uncircumcision, but a new creation is what matters.

#### **IV. We need to be those who are being renewed day by day with the fresh supply of the resurrection life to replace our culture and to become the one new man in reality by becoming as new as the New Jerusalem—2 Cor. 4:16:**

- 2 Cor 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.

- A. Putting on the new man does not take place once for all; on the contrary, it is a lifelong matter, a gradual process that goes on throughout our Christian life.

- B. We, the regenerated believers, as parts of the new man, should walk in the newness of the divine life in resurrection and serve in newness of spirit—Rom. 6:4; 7:6.

Rom 6:4 We have been buried therefore with Him through baptism into His death, in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so also we might walk in newness of life.

Rom 7:6 But now we have been discharged from the law, having died to that in which we were held, so that we serve in newness of spirit and not in oldness of letter.

- C. The believers should be renewed to be as new as the New Jerusalem since they all are becoming the New Jerusalem by walking in newness of life (6:4) and building the New Jerusalem by serving in newness of spirit (7:6).
- Rom 6:4 We have been buried therefore with Him through baptism into His death, in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so also we might walk in newness of life.
- Rom 7:6 But now we have been discharged from the law, having died to that in which we were held, so that we serve in newness of spirit and not in oldness of letter.
- D. Our being renewed in the spirit of our mind is for our daily transformation into the image of Christ through the consuming of our outer man by the suffering in our environment for the renewing of our inner man—2 Cor. 4:16:
- 2 Cor 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.
1. While we are in the midst of suffering, we need to receive the renewing; otherwise, the suffering we pass through means nothing to us; within us there is a refuge—our spirit—Psa. 91:1; 27:5; 31:20; Isa. 32:2; 2 Tim. 4:22; Gal. 6:17-18.
- Psa 91:1 He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High / Will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.
- Psa 27:5 For He will conceal me in His shelter / In the day of trouble; / He will hide me in the hiding place of His tent; / He will raise me up upon a rock.
- Psa 31:20 You hide them in the hiding place of Your presence / Apart from the conspiracies of men; / You lay them away secretly in a shelter / Apart from the contention of tongues.
- Isa 32:2 And a man will be like a refuge from the wind / And a covering from the tempest, / Like streams of water in a dry place, / Like the shadow of a massive rock in a wasted land.
- 2 Tim 4:22 The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.
- Gal 6:17 Henceforth let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the brands of Jesus.
- Gal 6:18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.
2. God arranges our environment so that little by little and day by day our outer man will be consumed and our inner man will be renewed by the fresh supply of the pneumatic Christ as the resurrection life—2 Cor. 4:16.
- 2 Cor 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.
- E. In order to be renewed day by day, we need to be revived every morning—Matt. 13:43; Luke 1:78-79; Prov. 4:18; Judg. 5:31; 2 Cor. 4:16.
- Matt 13:43 Then the righteous will shine forth like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.
- Luke 1:78 Because of the merciful compassions of our God, in which the rising sun will visit us from on high,
- Luke 1:79 To shine upon those sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.
- Prov 4:18 But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, / Which shines brighter and brighter until the full day.
- Judg 5:31 May all Your enemies so perish, O Jehovah. / But may those who love Him be like the sun / When it rises in its might. And the land had rest forty years.
- 2 Cor 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.
- F. We are renewed day by day through four items: the cross (vv. 10-12, 16-18); the Holy Spirit by which we are reconditioned, remade, and remodeled with the divine life (Titus 3:5); our mingled spirit (Eph. 4:23); and the holy word of God (5:26).
- 2 Cor 4:10 Always bearing about in the body the putting to death of Jesus that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.
- 2 Cor 4:11 For we who are alive are always being delivered unto death for Jesus' sake that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.
- 2 Cor 4:12 So then death operates in us, but life in you.

- 2 Cor 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.
- 2 Cor 4:17 For our momentary lightness of affliction works out for us, more and more surpassingly, an eternal weight of glory,
- 2 Cor 4:18 Because we do not regard the things which are seen but the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.
- Titus 3:5 Not out of works in righteousness which we did but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Spirit,
- Eph 4:23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind
- Eph 5:26 That He might sanctify her, cleansing her by the washing of the water in the word,
- G. We need to come to the Lord's table in newness (Matt. 26:29); the Lord never takes an old table; we need to be renewed by learning to say, "I'm sorry; forgive me."
- Matt 26:29 But I say to you, I shall by no means drink of this product of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in the kingdom of My Father.

## V. The renewing of the new man depends on our seeking the things which are above—Col. 3:1-2; Eph. 2:5-6:

- Col 3:1 If therefore you were raised together with Christ, seek the things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.
- Col 3:2 Set your mind on the things which are above, not on the things which are on the earth.
- Eph 2:5 Even when we were dead in offenses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)
- Eph 2:6 And raised us up together with Him and seated us together with Him in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus,
- A. To seek the things which are above is to respond to and reflect Christ's activities in His heavenly ministry—Heb. 2:17; 4:14; 7:26; 8:1-2; Rev. 5:6; Col. 3:1-2:
  - Heb 2:17 Hence He should have been made like His brothers in all things that He might become a merciful and faithful High Priest in the things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.
  - Heb 4:14 Having therefore a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast the confession.
  - Heb 7:26 For such a High Priest was also fitting to us, holy, guileless, undefiled, separated from sinners and having become higher than the heavens,
  - Heb 8:1 Now in the things which are being said the chief point is this: We have such a High Priest, who sat down on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,
  - Heb 8:2 A Minister of the holy places, even of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, not man.
  - Rev 5:6 And I saw in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures and in the midst of the elders a Lamb standing as having just been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.
  - Col 3:1 If therefore you were raised together with Christ, seek the things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.
  - Col 3:2 Set your mind on the things which are above, not on the things which are on the earth.
  - 1. There is a transmission taking place from Christ in heaven to us on earth by means of the all-inclusive Spirit in our spirit—Eph. 1:19, 22-23; 2:22:
    - Eph 1:19 And what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the operation of the might of His strength,
    - 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 2:22 In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.
    - a. Our spirit is the receiving end of the divine transmission, whereas the throne of God in heaven is the transmitting end—Rev. 5:6.
      - Rev 5:6 And I saw in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures and in the midst of the elders a Lamb standing as having just been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

- b. By turning to our spirit, we are lifted into heaven; because of the transmission from the throne of God in heaven into our spirit, when we experience and enjoy Christ here on earth, we are simultaneously in heaven—4:1-2.

Rev 4:1 After these things I saw, and behold, a door opened in heaven, and the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, Come up here, and I will show you the things that must take place after these things.

Rev 4:2 Immediately I was in spirit; and behold, there was a throne set in heaven, and upon the throne there was One sitting;

2. In His heavenly ministry Christ is shepherding people, and we need to cooperate with Him by shepherding people; if this fellowship is received by us, there will be a big revival on the earth to bring the Lord back—1 Pet. 5:1-4; cf. Matt. 9:36; 10:1-6; John 21:15-17; 1 Pet. 2:25; Heb. 13:20.

1 Pet 5:1 Therefore the elders among you I exhort, who am a fellow elder and witness of the sufferings of Christ, who am also a partaker of the glory to be revealed:

1 Pet 5:2 Shepherd the flock of God among you, overseeing not under compulsion but willingly, according to God; not by seeking gain through base means but eagerly;

1 Pet 5:3 Nor as lording it over your allotments but by becoming patterns of the flock.

1 Pet 5:4 And when the Chief Shepherd is manifested, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

Matt 9:36 And seeing the crowds, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were harassed and cast away like sheep not having a shepherd.

Matt 10:1 And He called His twelve disciples to Him and gave them authority over unclean spirits, so that they would cast them out and heal every disease and every sickness.

Matt 10:2 And the names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; and James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother;

Matt 10:3 Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus;

Matt 10:4 Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him.

Matt 10:5 These twelve Jesus sent forth, charging them, saying, Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter into any city of the Samaritans.

Matt 10:6 But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

John 21:15 Then when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these? He said to Him, Yes, Lord, You know that I love You. He said to him, Feed My lambs.

John 21:16 He said to him again a second time, Simon, son of John, do you love Me? He said to Him, Yes, Lord, You know that I love You. He said to him, Shepherd My sheep.

John 21:17 He said to him the third time, Simon, son of John, do you love Me? Peter was grieved that He said to him the third time, Do you love Me? And he said to Him, Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You. Jesus said to him, Feed My sheep.

1 Pet 2:25 For you were like sheep being led astray, but you have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Heb 13:20 Now the God of peace, He who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, in the blood of an eternal covenant,

- B. If we turn to the heavenly Christ with all His activities and set our mind on these things, the renewing of the new man will take place spontaneously—8:1-2; 12:2; Col. 3:2.

Heb 8:1 Now in the things which are being said the chief point is this: We have such a High Priest, who sat down on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,

Heb 8:2 A Minister of the holy places, even of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, not man.

Heb 12:2 Looking away unto Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down on the right hand of the throne of God.



- Col 3:2 Set your mind on the things which are above, not on the things which are on the earth.
- C. This consummates God's intention in making the believers the new man as the new creation to consummate in the New Jerusalem; the new man as the masterpiece of God's work is an absolutely new item in the universe, a new invention of God—vv. 10-11; 2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 6:15-17; Eph. 2:10, 15.
- Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,
- 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.
- 2 Cor 5:17 So then if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold, they have become new.
- Gal 6:15 For neither is circumcision anything nor uncircumcision, but a new creation is what matters.
- Gal 6:16 And as many as walk by this rule, peace be upon them and mercy, even upon the Israel of God.
- Gal 6:17 Henceforth let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the brands of Jesus.
- Eph 2:10 For we are His masterpiece, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand in order that we would walk in them.
- Eph 2:15 Abolishing in His flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances, that He might create the two in Himself into one new man, so making peace,
- D. God's goal is to have the one new man that ultimately will consummate in the New Jerusalem, which will be the final consummation of the one new man.



Message Five  
**Living the Life of the One New Man instead of Our Culture  
by Learning Christ as the Reality Is in Jesus**

RA Hymns #750

Scripture Reading: Eph. 4:20-21; Matt. 11:28-30; 14:19; John 5:19, 30; 7:18; 10:30

- Eph 4:20 But you did not so learn Christ,  
Eph 4:21 If indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him as the reality is in Jesus,  
Matt 11:28 Come to Me all who toil and are burdened, and I will give you rest.  
Matt 11:29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.  
Matt 11:30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.  
Matt 14:19 And after commanding the crowds to recline on the grass, He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed them and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples to the crowds.  
John 5:19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, The Son can do nothing from Himself except what He sees the Father doing, for whatever that One does, these things the Son also does in like manner.  
John 5:30 I can do nothing from Myself; as I hear, I judge, and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.  
John 7:18 He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of Him who sent Him, this One is true, and unrighteousness is not in Him.  
John 10:30 I and the Father are one.

**I. Our standard of living must not be according to our culture but according to the reality in Jesus, the reality lived out by the Lord Jesus when He was on earth—Eph. 4:20-21:**

- Eph 4:20 But you did not so learn Christ,  
Eph 4:21 If indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him as the reality is in Jesus,  
A. The way the Lord Jesus lived on earth is the way the one new man should live today—Matt. 11:28-30; John 6:57; 4:34; 5:17, 19, 30; 6:38; 17:4.  
Matt 11:28 Come to Me all who toil and are burdened, and I will give you rest.  
Matt 11:29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.  
Matt 11:30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.  
John 6:57 As the living Father has sent Me and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also shall live because of Me.  
John 4:34 Jesus said to them, My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work.  
John 5:17 But Jesus answered them, My Father is working until now, and I also am working.  
John 5:19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, The Son can do nothing from Himself except what He sees the Father doing, for whatever that One does, these things the Son also does in like manner.  
John 5:30 I can do nothing from Myself; as I hear, I judge, and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.  
John 6:38 For I have come down from heaven not to do My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.  
John 17:4 I have glorified You on earth, finishing the work which You have given Me to do.  
B. *The reality is in Jesus* (Eph. 4:21) refers to the actual condition of the life of Jesus as recorded in the four Gospels; Jesus lived a life in which He did everything in God, with God, and for God; God was in His living, and He was one with God.  
Eph 4:21 If indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him as the reality is in Jesus,  
C. Jesus lived in a way that always corresponded to God's righteousness and holiness; in the life of Jesus the righteousness and holiness of the reality were always exhibited—v. 24:  
Eph 4:24 And put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.

1. The human living of Jesus was according to the reality, that is, according to God Himself, full of righteousness and holiness.
  2. It was in the righteousness and holiness of this reality—God glorified and expressed—that the new man was created.
- D. We need to learn Christ and be taught in Him to live a life of reality; to learn Christ is simply to be molded into the pattern of Christ, that is, to be conformed to the image of Christ—vv. 20-21; Rom. 8:28-29; 2 John 1; John 4:23-24.
- Eph 4:20 But you did not so learn Christ,  
 Eph 4:21 If indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him as the reality is in Jesus,  
 Rom 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.  
 Rom 8:29 Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers;  
 2 John 1 The elder to the chosen lady and to her children, whom I love in truthfulness, and not only I but also all those who know the truth,  
 John 4:23 But an hour is coming, and it is now, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truthfulness, for the Father also seeks such to worship Him.  
 John 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.
- E. As a corporate person, the new man should live a life of reality, as the reality is in Jesus—a life of expressing God.
- F. If we live according to the spirit of our mind, we shall have the daily living of the corporate new man—a living that corresponds to the reality in Jesus—Eph. 4:23.
- Eph 4:23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind

**II. The living of the one new man should be exactly the same as the living of Jesus; for the one new man as the corporate God-man, we need to live the life of a God-man—Phil. 1:19-21a; 3:10; Eph. 4:20-21; cf. 1 John 4:17 and footnote 5:**

- Phil 1:19 For I know that for me this will turn out to salvation through your petition and the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,  
 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 ...  
 Phil 3:10 To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,  
 Eph 4:20 But you did not so learn Christ,  
 Eph 4:21 If indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him as the reality is in Jesus,  
 1 John 4:17 In this has love been perfected with us, that we have boldness in the day of the judgment because even as <sup>5</sup>He is, so also are we in this world.  
 note 5 As in 1 John 3:3, 7, this refers to Christ, who lived in this world a life of God as love and who is now our life that we may live the same life of love in this world and be the same as He is.
- A. Christ's human living was man living God to express the attributes of God in the human virtues; His human virtues were filled, mingled, and saturated with the divine attributes—Luke 1:26-35; 7:11-17; 10:25-37; 19:1-10:
- Luke 1:26 And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth,  
 Luke 1:27 To a virgin engaged to a man named Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.  
 Luke 1:28 And he came to her and said, Rejoice, you who have been graced! The Lord is with you.  
 Luke 1:29 And she was greatly troubled at this saying and began reasoning what kind of greeting this might be.  
 Luke 1:30 And the angel said to her, Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found grace with God.  
 Luke 1:31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus.  
 Luke 1:32 He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to

Him the throne of David His father,  
 Luke 1:33 And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.

Luke 1:34 But Mary said to the angel, How will this be, since I have not known a man?  
 Luke 1:35 And the angel answered and said to her, The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore also the holy thing which is born will be called the Son of God.

Luke 7:11 And soon afterward He went into a city called Nain, and His disciples went with Him, as well as a large crowd.

Luke 7:12 And as He came near the gate of the city, behold, one who had died was being carried out, an only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a considerable crowd from the city was with her.

Luke 7:13 And when the Lord saw her, He was moved with compassion for her and said to her, Do not weep.

Luke 7:14 And He came near and touched the bier, and those carrying it stood still. And He said, Young man, to you I say, Arise.

Luke 7:15 And the dead man sat up and began to speak. And He gave him to his mother.

Luke 7:16 And fear took hold of all, and they glorified God, saying, A great prophet has been raised up among us, and, God has visited His people!

Luke 7:17 And this report concerning Him went out in the whole of Judea and in all the surrounding region.

Luke 10:25 And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?

Luke 10:26 And He said to him, What is written in the law? How do you read it?  
 Luke 10:27 And he answered and said, "You shall love the Lord your God from your whole heart and with your whole soul and with your whole strength and with your whole mind, and your neighbor as yourself."

Luke 10:28 And He said to him, You have answered correctly; do this, and you shall have life.

Luke 10:29 But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, And who is my neighbor?

Luke 10:30 Jesus, taking up the question, said, A certain man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who having both stripped him and beat him, went away, leaving him half dead.

Luke 10:31 And by coincidence a certain priest was going down on that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side.

Luke 10:32 And likewise also a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the opposite side.

Luke 10:33 But a certain Samaritan, who was journeying, came upon him; and when he saw him, he was moved with compassion;

Luke 10:34 And he came to him and bound up his wounds and poured oil and wine on them. And placing him on his own beast, he brought him to an inn and took care of him.

Luke 10:35 And on the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, Take care of him; and whatever you spend in addition to this, when I return, I will repay you.

Luke 10:36 Which of these three, does it seem to you, has become a neighbor to him who fell into the hands of the robbers?

Luke 10:37 And he said, The one who showed mercy to him. And Jesus said to him, Go, and you do likewise.

Luke 19:1 And He entered and was passing through Jericho.

Luke 19:2 And behold, there was a man whose name was called Zaccheus; and he was a chief tax collector, and he was rich.

Luke 19:3 And he was seeking to see Jesus, who He was, and could not because of the crowd, for he was small in stature.

Luke 19:4 And he ran on ahead and climbed up in a sycamore tree in order to see Him, for He was about to pass through that way.

Luke 19:5 And as He came to the place, Jesus looked up and said to him, Zaccheus, hurry and come down, for today I must stay in your house.

Luke 19:6 And he hurried and came down, and received Him, rejoicing.

Luke 19:7 And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, He has gone in to lodge with a sinful man.

- Luke 19:8 And Zaccheus stood and said to the Lord, Behold, the half of my possessions, Lord, I give to the poor, and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore four times as much.
- Luke 19:9 And Jesus said to him, Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham.
- Luke 19:10 For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which is lost.
1. When the Lord Jesus was on earth, though He was a man, He lived by God—John 6:57; 5:19, 30; 6:38; 8:28; 7:16-17.
    - John 6:57 As the living Father has sent Me and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also shall live because of Me.
    - John 5:19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, The Son can do nothing from Himself except what He sees the Father doing, for whatever that One does, these things the Son also does in like manner.
    - John 5:30 I can do nothing from Myself; as I hear, I judge, and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.
    - John 6:38 For I have come down from heaven not to do My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.
    - John 8:28 Jesus therefore said to them, When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am, and that I do nothing from Myself, but as My Father has taught Me, I speak these things.
    - John 7:16 Jesus therefore answered them and said, My teaching is not Mine, but His who sent Me.
    - John 7:17 If anyone resolves to do His will, he will know concerning the teaching, whether it is of God or whether I speak from Myself.
  2. The Lord Jesus lived God and expressed God in everything; whatever He did was God's doing from within Him and through Him—14:10.
    - John 14:10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak from Myself, but the Father who abides in Me does His works.
  3. The Gospel of Mark reveals that the life the Lord Jesus lived was absolutely according to and for God's New Testament economy.
- B. As the expansion, increase, reproduction, and continuation of the first God-man, we should live the same kind of life He lived—1 John 2:6:
- 1 John 2:6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk even as He walked.
1. The Lord's God-man living set up a model for our God-man living—being crucified to live that God might be expressed in humanity—Gal. 2:20.
    - 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 in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.
  2. We need to deny ourselves, be conformed to Christ's death, and magnify Him by the bountiful supply of His Spirit—Matt. 16:24; Phil. 3:10; 1:19-21a.
    - Matt 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, If anyone wants to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.
    - Phil 3:10 To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,
    - Phil 1:19 For I know that for me this will turn out to salvation through your petition and the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,
    - 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 ...
  3. We must reject self-cultivation and condemn the building up of the natural man; we need to realize that the Christian virtues are related essentially to the divine life, to the divine nature, and to God Himself—Gal. 5:22-23.
    - Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

- Gal 5:23 Meekness, self-control; against such things there is no law.
4. The One who lived the life of a God-man is now the Spirit living in us and through us; we should not allow anything other than this One to fill us and occupy us— 2 Cor. 3:17; 13:5; Eph. 3:16-19.
- 2 Cor 3:17 And the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.
- 2 Cor 13:5 Test yourselves whether you are in the faith; prove yourselves. Or do you not realize about yourselves that Jesus Christ is in you, unless you are disapproved?
- 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.
5. We need to open our entire being to the Lord to receive (in a spirit and atmosphere of prayer) His charge to us in Luke 6:36: “Be full of compassion, even as your Father also is full of compassion”; we need to contact the Lord as the compassionate One every morning—Lam. 3:22-23; Rom. 9:15 and footnote 2; Exo. 34:6; Psa. 103:8; Luke 1:78-79; 10:25-37; Rom. 12:1.
- Lam 3:22 It is Jehovah's lovingkindness that we are not consumed, / For His compassions do not fail;
- Lam 3:23 They are new every morning; / Great is Your faithfulness.
- Rom 9:15 For to Moses He says, "I will have <sup>2</sup>mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have <sup>2</sup>compassion on whomever I will have compassion."
- note 2 Mercy refers mainly to an action taken in response to man's wretched condition; hence, God's showing mercy to man is outward. Compassion, however, refers mainly to an inward feeling that is expressed by groanings and tears; hence, God's having compassion on man is inward. Therefore, compassion is deeper than mercy.
- Exo 34:6 Then Jehovah passed by before him and proclaimed, Jehovah, Jehovah, God compassionate and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in lovingkindness and truth,
- Psa 103:8 Jehovah is compassionate and gracious, / Long-suffering and abundant in lovingkindness.
- Luke 1:78 Because of the merciful compassions of our God, in which the rising sun will visit us from on high,
- Luke 1:79 To shine upon those sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.
- Luke 10:25 And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?
- Luke 10:26 And He said to him, What is written in the law? How do you read it?
- Luke 10:27 And he answered and said, "You shall love the Lord your God from your whole heart and with your whole soul and with your whole strength and with your whole mind, and your neighbor as yourself."
- Luke 10:28 And He said to him, You have answered correctly; do this, and you shall have life.
- Luke 10:29 But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, And who is my neighbor?
- Luke 10:30 Jesus, taking up the question, said, A certain man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who having both stripped him and beat him, went away, leaving him half dead.
- Luke 10:31 And by coincidence a certain priest was going down on that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side.
- Luke 10:32 And likewise also a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the opposite side.
- Luke 10:33 But a certain Samaritan, who was journeying, came upon him; and when he saw him, he was moved with compassion;

- Luke 10:34 And he came to him and bound up his wounds and poured oil and wine on them. And placing him on his own beast, he brought him to an inn and took care of him.
- Luke 10:35 And on the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, Take care of him; and whatever you spend in addition to this, when I return, I will repay you.
- Luke 10:36 Which of these three, does it seem to you, has become a neighbor to him who fell into the hands of the robbers?
- Luke 10:37 And he said, The one who showed mercy to him. And Jesus said to him, Go, and you do likewise.
- 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.

### III. In the performing of the miracle of feeding five thousand people with five loaves and two fish, the Lord trained His disciples to learn from Him—Matt. 14:14-21; 11:28-30:

- Matt 14:14 And going forth, He saw a great crowd, and He was moved with compassion for them and healed their sick.
- Matt 14:15 Now when evening fell, the disciples came to Him, saying, This place is deserted and the hour is already late. Send the crowds away that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.
- Matt 14:16 But Jesus said to them, They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.
- Matt 14:17 And they said to Him, We do not have anything here except five loaves and two fish.
- Matt 14:18 And He said, Bring them here to Me.
- Matt 14:19 And after commanding the crowds to recline on the grass, He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed them and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples to the crowds.
- Matt 14:20 And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve handbaskets full.
- Matt 14:21 And those who ate were about five thousand men, apart from women and children.
- Matt 11:28 Come to Me all who toil and are burdened, and I will give you rest.
- Matt 11:29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
- Matt 11:30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.

A. Matthew 14:19 says that He took the five loaves and the two fish, and when He was going to bless them, He looked up to heaven:

Matt 14:19 And after commanding the crowds to recline on the grass, He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed them and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples to the crowds.

1. *Looking up to heaven* indicates that He was looking up to His source, His Father in heaven:
  - a. This indicates that He realized the source of the blessing was not Him; the Father as the sending One, not the sent One, should be the source of blessing—cf. Rom. 11:36.
 

Rom 11:36 Because out from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.
  - b. Regardless of how much we can do or how much we know what to do, we must realize that we need the Sender's blessing upon our doing so that we can be channels of supply by trusting in Him, not in ourselves—cf. Matt. 14:19b; Num. 6:22-27.
 

Matt 14:19b ...and looking up to heaven, He blessed them and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples to the crowds.

Num 6:22 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying,

Num 6:23 Speak to Aaron and to his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the children of Israel; you shall say to them,

Num 6:24 Jehovah bless you and keep you;



- Num 6:25 Jehovah make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
 Num 6:26 Jehovah lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.  
 Num 6:27 So shall they put My name upon the children of Israel, that I Myself may bless them.
2. His looking up to the Father in heaven indicated that as the Son on earth sent by the Father in heaven, He was one with the Father, trusting in the Father—John 10:30:  
 John 10:30 I and the Father are one.
- a. What we know and what we can do mean nothing; being one with the Lord and trusting in Him mean everything in our ministry—cf. 1 Cor. 2:3-4.  
 1 Cor 2:3 And I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling;  
 1 Cor 2:4 And my speech and my proclamation were not in persuasive words of wisdom but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,
- b. The blessing comes only by our being one with the Lord and trusting in Him—cf. 2 Cor. 1:8-9.  
 2 Cor 1:8 For we do not want you to be ignorant, brothers, of our affliction which befell us in Asia, that we were excessively burdened, beyond our power, so that we despaired even of living.  
 2 Cor 1:9 Indeed we ourselves had the response of death in ourselves, that we should not base our confidence on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead;
3. The Lord did not do anything from Himself—John 5:19; cf. Matt. 16:24:  
 John 5:19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, The Son can do nothing from Himself except what He sees the Father doing, for whatever that One does, these things the Son also does in like manner.  
 Matt 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, If anyone wants to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.
- a. We should deny ourselves and not have the intention of doing anything from ourselves but have the intention of doing everything from Him.
- b. We need to continually exercise our spirit to reject the self and live by another life by the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ—Phil. 1:19-21a.  
 Phil 1:19 For I know that for me this will turn out to salvation through your petition and the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,  
 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 ...
4. The Lord did not seek His own will but the will of Him who sent Him—John 5:30b; 6:38; Matt. 26:39, 42:  
 John 5:30b ... because I do not seek My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.  
 John 6:38 For I have come down from heaven not to do My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.  
 Matt 26:39 And going forward a little, He fell on His face and prayed, saying, My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will.  
 Matt 26:42 Again, going away a second time, He prayed, saying, My Father, if this cannot pass away unless I drink it, Your will be done.
- a. He rejected His idea, His intention, and His purpose.
- b. All of us should be on the alert for this one thing—when we are sent to do some work, we should not take that chance to seek our own goal; we should just go seeking the idea, purpose, aim, goal, and intention of our sending Lord—cf. 1 Tim. 5:2b.  
 1 Tim 5:2b ... in all purity.
5. The Lord did not seek His own glory but the glory of the Father who sent Him—John 7:18; 5:41; cf. 12:43:  
 John 7:18 He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of Him who sent Him, this One is true, and unrighteousness is not in Him.  
 John 5:41 I do not receive glory from men.



John 12:43 For they loved the glory of men more than the glory of God.

a. To be ambitious is to seek your own glory—cf. 3 John 9.

3 John 9 I wrote something to the church; but Diotrephes, who loves to be first among them, does not receive us.

b. We need to see that our self, our purpose, and our ambition are three big destroying “worms” in our work; we must learn to hate them.

B. If we are going to be used for the Lord always in His recovery, our self has to be denied, our purpose has to be rejected, and our ambition must be given up for the sake of the one new man—Matt. 16:24.

Matt 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, If anyone wants to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.

## Message Six

# The Universal History according to God's Economy— the Divine History within the Human History to Fulfill the Lord's Heart's Desire to Have the One New Man in Reality

MC Hymns #1230

Scripture Reading: Joel 1:4; 3:11; Eph. 1:3-6; 2:15; 4:22-24; Micah 5:2; Rev. 19:7-9

- Joel 1:4 What the cutting locust has left, the swarming locust has eaten; / And what the swarming locust has left, the licking locust has eaten; / And what the licking locust has left, the consuming locust has eaten.
- Joel 3:11 Hurry and come, / All you surrounding nations, / And be gathered. / There cause Your mighty ones to descend, O Jehovah!
- Eph 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies in Christ,
- Eph 1:4 Even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blemish before Him in love,
- Eph 1:5 Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,
- Eph 1:6 To the praise of the glory of His grace, with which He graced us in the Beloved;
- Eph 2:15 Abolishing in His flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances, that He might create the two in Himself into one new man, so making peace,
- Eph 4:22 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,
- Eph 4:23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind
- Eph 4:24 And put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.
- Micah 5:2 (But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, / So little to be among the thousands of Judah, / From you there will come forth to Me / He who is to be Ruler in Israel; / And His goings forth are from ancient times, / From the days of eternity.)
- 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.

### I. In this universe there are two histories: the history of man, the human history, and the history of God, the divine history; the former is like an outward shell, and the latter, like the kernel within the shell—cf. Joel 1:4:

- Joel 1:4 What the cutting locust has left, the swarming locust has eaten; / And what the swarming locust has left, the licking locust has eaten; / And what the licking locust has left, the consuming locust has eaten.
- A. The divine history within the human history is revealed in the Bible in considerable detail; God's history is our history because He is in union with us:
1. We need to see God's history in eternity past as a preparation for His move to be in union with man:
    - a. The divine history began with the eternal God and His economy; according to His economy, God wants to work Himself into man to be one with man, to be man's life, life supply, and everything, and to have man as His expression—Eph. 3:9-10; 1:10; Gen. 1:26; 2:9.

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 1:10      Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him;
- Gen 1:26      And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.
- 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.
- b.    God in His Divine Trinity held a council in eternity to make the determination concerning the crucial death of Christ for the carrying out of God's eternal economy—Acts 2:23.
- Acts 2:23      This man, delivered up by the determined counsel and foreknowledge of God, you, through the hand of lawless men, nailed to a cross and killed;
- c.    The second of the Divine Trinity was preparing to carry out His "goings forth" from eternity into time to be born in Bethlehem as a man—Micah 5:2.
- Micah 5:2      (But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, / So little to be among the thousands of Judah, / From you there will come forth to Me / He who is to be Ruler in Israel; / And His goings forth are from ancient times, / From the days of eternity.)
- d.    God blessed the believers in Christ with the spiritual blessings in the heavenlies before the foundation of the world—Eph. 1:3-6.
- Eph 1:3      Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies in Christ,
- Eph 1:4      Even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blemish before Him in love,
- Eph 1:5      Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,
- Eph 1:6      To the praise of the glory of His grace, with which He graced us in the Beloved;
2.    God's history in man began with the incarnation and continued with His processes of human living, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension; Hosea 11:4 says that these are the cords of a man, the bands of love:
- Hosea 11:4    I drew them with cords of a man, / With bands of love; And I was to them like those / Who lift off the yoke on their jaws; / And I gently caused them to eat.
- a.    The divine history, God's move in man, is with the processed Christ, the God-man, as the prototype, unto the new man to consummate in the New Jerusalem, the great God-man, the ultimate fulfillment of God's eternal economy.
- b.    Through Christ's incarnation and human living, He brought the infinite God into the finite man, He united and mingled the Triune God with the tripartite man, and He expressed in His humanity the bountiful God in His rich attributes through His aromatic virtues.
- c.    Christ's crucifixion was a vicarious death, an all-inclusive death, an all-inclusive judicial redemption, which terminated the old creation and solved all problems (John 1:29); in His crucifixion He redeemed all the things created by God and fallen in sin (Heb. 2:9; Col. 1:20), He created (conceived) the new man with His divine element (Eph. 2:15), and He released His divine life from within the shell of His humanity (John 12:24; 19:34; Luke 12:49-50).
- John 1:29      The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
- Heb 2:9      But we see Jesus, who was made a little inferior to the angels because of the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God He might taste death on behalf of everything.
- Col 1:20      And through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace

- through the blood of His cross-through Him, whether the things on the earth or the things in the heavens.
- Eph 2:15 Abolishing in His flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances, that He might create the two in Himself into one new man, so making peace,
- John 12:24 Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless the grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it abides alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.
- John 19:34 But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately there came out blood and water.
- Luke 12:49 I have come to cast fire on the earth, and how I wish that it were already kindled!
- Luke 12:50 But I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how I am pressed until it is accomplished!
- d. In His resurrection He was begotten to be the firstborn Son of God (Acts 13:33; Rom. 1:4; 8:29), He became the life-giving Spirit (1 Cor. 15:45b), and He regenerated millions of people to be sons of God as members of the Body of Christ and constituents of the one new man, the church (1 Pet. 1:3; Col. 3:10-11).
- Acts 13:33 That God has fully fulfilled this promise to us their children in raising up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You."
- Rom 1:4 Who was designated the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness out of the resurrection of the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord;
- Rom 8:29 Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers;
- 1 Cor 15:45b ... the last Adam became a life-giving Spirit.
- 1 Pet 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has regenerated us unto a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
- Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,
- 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.
- e. He ascended to the heavens and then descended as the Spirit to produce the church as the one new man for the corporate expression of the Triune God—Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2:1-4, 16-21.
- Joel 2:28 And afterward I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh, / And your sons and your daughters shall prophesy; / Your old men shall dream dreams; / Your young men shall see visions.
- Joel 2:29 Indeed even upon the male and female slaves / In those days I will pour out My Spirit.
- Joel 2:30 And I will show wonders in the heavens and on earth: / Blood and fire and pillars of smoke.
- Joel 2:31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, / And the moon into blood, / Before the great and terrible / Day of Jehovah comes.
- Joel 2:32 And everyone who calls on the name of Jehovah shall be saved; / For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem will be an escape, / As Jehovah has said, / Even for the remnant / Whom Jehovah calls.
- Acts 2:1 And as the day of Pentecost was being fulfilled, they were all together in the same place.
- Acts 2:2 And suddenly there was a sound out of heaven, as of a rushing violent wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.
- Acts 2:3 And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which were distributed; and it sat on each one of them;
- Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, even as the Spirit gave to them to speak forth.
- Acts 2:16 But this is what is spoken through the prophet Joel:
- Acts 2:17 "And it shall be in the last days, says God, that I will pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and

your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream things in dreams;  
 Acts 2:18 And indeed upon My slaves, both men and women, I will pour out of My Spirit in those days, and they shall prophesy.  
 Acts 2:19 And I will show wonders in heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and vapor of smoke.  
 Acts 2:20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and notable day of the Lord comes.  
 Acts 2:21 And it shall be that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

- B. Thus, the church as the reality of the one new man is also a part of the divine history, the intrinsic history of the divine mystery within the outward, human history; at the end of this part of the divine history, Christ will come back with His overcomers as His army (Joel 1:4; 3:11) to defeat Antichrist and his army.

Joel 1:4 What the cutting locust has left, the swarming locust has eaten; / And what the swarming locust has left, the licking locust has eaten; / And what the licking locust has left, the consuming locust has eaten.

Joel 3:11 Hurry and come, / All you surrounding nations, / And be gathered. / There cause Your mighty ones to descend, O Jehovah!

- C. Following this, the thousand-year kingdom will come; eventually, this kingdom will consummate in the New Jerusalem in the new heaven and new earth; the New Jerusalem will be the ultimate, the consummate, step of God's history.

## II. With Peter (the fishing ministry), Paul (the building ministry), and John (the mending ministry), we can see the Lord's heart's desire to have the one new man:

- A. God used Peter on the day of Pentecost to bring in many Jewish believers (Acts 2:5-11); furthermore, Cornelius received a vision in prayer (10:30), and Peter also received a vision in prayer (vv. 17, 19) through which God's plan and move (vv. 9b-14, 27-29) to gain the Gentiles for the practical existence of the one new man were carried out.

Acts 2:5 Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven.

Acts 2:6 And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together and was confounded because each one heard them speaking in his own dialect.

Acts 2:7 And they were amazed and marveled, saying, Behold, are not all these who are speaking Galileans?

Acts 2:8 And how is it that we each hear them in our own dialect in which we were born?

Acts 2:9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites and those dwelling in Mesopotamia, both in Judea and Cappadocia, in Pontus and Asia,

Acts 2:10 Both in Phrygia and Pamphylia, in Egypt and the parts of Libya around Cyrene, and the sojourning of Rome, both Jews and proselytes,

Acts 2:11 Cretans and Arabians, we hear them speaking in our tongues the magnificent works of God?

Acts 10:30 And Cornelius said, Four days ago to this hour I was praying at the ninth hour in my house, and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing,

Acts 10:17 Now as Peter was utterly perplexed in himself as to what the vision which he had seen might be, behold, the men who were sent by Cornelius, having made diligent inquiry for Simon's house, stood at the gate.

Acts 10:19 And while Peter was pondering over the vision, the Spirit said to him, Behold, there are three men seeking you.

Acts 10:9b ... Peter went up on the housetop to pray around the sixth hour.

Acts 10:10 And he became very hungry and wanted to eat. And while they were preparing, a trance came upon him;

Acts 10:11 And he beheld heaven opened, and a certain vessel like a great sheet descending, being let down by four corners onto the earth,

Acts 10:12 In which were all the four-footed animals and reptiles of the earth and birds of heaven.

- Acts 10:13 And a voice came to him: Rise up, Peter; slay and eat!
- Acts 10:14 But Peter said, By no means, Lord, for I have never eaten anything common and unclean.
- Acts 10:27 And as he talked with him, he entered and found many who had come together.
- Acts 10:28 And he said to them, You understand that it is unlawful for a man who is a Jew to join himself to or come near one of another race; yet God has shown me that I should not call any man common or unclean.
- Acts 10:29 Hence, even without objection I came when I had been sent for. I ask therefore, For what reason have you sent for me?
- B. Paul unveils in Ephesians 2:14-15 that Christ created both the Jews and the Gentiles into one new man through His new-man-creating death (cf. 4:22-24); Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 12:13 that we were all baptized into one Body, “whether Jews or Greeks”; in Galatians 3:27-28 Paul tells us that those who have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ, and “there cannot be Jew nor Greek”; in Colossians 3:10-11 Paul tells us that the Jew and the Greek have no place in the new man.
- Eph 2:14 For He Himself is our peace, He who has made both one and has broken down the middle wall of partition, the enmity,
- Eph 2:15 Abolishing in His flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances, that He might create the two in Himself into one new man, so making peace,
- Eph 4:22 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,
- Eph 4:23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind
- Eph 4:24 And put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.
- 1 Cor 12:13 For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.
- Gal 3:27 For as many as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
- Gal 3:28 There cannot be Jew nor Greek, there cannot be slave nor free man, there cannot be male and female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.
- Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,
- 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.
- C. John tells us that the Lord purchased by His blood “men out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation” (Rev. 5:9); these redeemed ones constitute the church as the one new man; through John we also see that the churches are the golden lampstands (1:11-12), and consummately, these lampstands become the New Jerusalem; in the lampstands and in the New Jerusalem we can see no differences in peoples.
- Rev 5:9 And they sing a new song, saying: You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for You were slain and have purchased for God by Your blood men out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,
- Rev 1:11 Saying, What you see write in a scroll and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamos and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.
- Rev 1:12 And I turned to see the voice that spoke with me; and when I turned, I saw seven golden lampstands,
- D. This all indicates that daily we need to put off the old man and put on the new man by drinking of the one Spirit (1 Cor. 12:13) so that we may be renewed in the spirit of our mind in every area of our practical daily life for the carrying out of the Lord’s heart’s desire to have the one new man in reality (Eph. 4:22-24).
- 1 Cor 12:13 For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.
- Eph 4:22 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,
- Eph 4:23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind
- Eph 4:24 And put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.

**III. With the divine history there is the new creation—the new man with a new heart, a new spirit, a new life, a new nature, a new history, and a new consummation—*Hymns, #16; Ezek. 36:26; 2 Cor. 3:16; Matt. 5:8; Titus 3:5;***

*Hymns, #16*

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| 1 | Our Father, as the evergreen,<br>Thou art the ever living Lord,<br><i>(chorus)</i><br>O Father, Thou art unchanging,<br>Thru countless ages, ever fresh, | Thou art forever new;<br>Thy freshness as the dew.<br><br>Thou never hast grown old;<br>Thy newness doth unfold.<br><br>Without Thee all is worn,<br>Though many years have gone.<br><br>Thy newness doth contain;<br>And ever thus remain.<br><br>New spirit and new heart;<br>New life Thou dost impart.<br><br>And Thy new city share;<br>For all is newness there. |
| 2 | O Thou art God, and Thou art "new";<br>But all with Thee is ever fresh,  |  |
| 3 | Each blessing Thou hast given us<br>Thy covenant, Thy ways are new,  |  |
| 4 | Now we Thy new creation are<br>We're daily from the old renewed,   |  |
| 5 | The earth and heavens will be new<br>New fruits each month will be supplied,   |  |
| 6 | O Father, Thou art ever new,<br>We sing the new eternal song,  | And all is new in Thee;<br>New praise we give to Thee.   |
- Ezek 36:26 I will also give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will take away the heart of stone out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh.
- 2 Cor 3:16 But whenever their heart turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.
- Matt 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
- Titus 3:5 Not out of works in righteousness which we did but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Spirit,

A. The divine history, the history of God in man, was from Christ's incarnation through His ascension to become the life-giving Spirit and then continues with His indwelling us through God's organic salvation of regeneration, sanctification, renewing, transformation, conformation, and glorification to bring us into the full reality of the one new man and to make us the glorious bride of Christ—Eph. 4:22-24; Rom. 5:10; Rev. 19:7-9.

- Eph 4:22 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,
- Eph 4:23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind
- Eph 4:24 And put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.
- Rom 5:10 For if we, being enemies, were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more we will be saved in His life, having been reconciled,
- 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.

B. Now we need to ask ourselves this question: Are we living in the divine history, or are we living merely in the human history?

1. We all were born in the human history, but we have been reborn, regenerated, in the divine history; if our living is in the world, we are living in the human history; but if we are living in the church as the reality of the one new man, we are living in the divine history; in the church life God's history is our history; now two parties—God and we—have one history, the divine history.
2. We praise the Lord that we are in the divine history, experiencing and enjoying the



mysterious, divine things for our organic salvation and for His spreading through the preaching of the gospel of peace to the whole inhabited earth (Eph. 2:14-17; 6:15; cf. Matt. 24:14) so that we may become the one new man in reality to be His overcoming bride.

Eph 2:14 For He Himself is our peace, He who has made both one and has broken down the middle wall of partition, the enmity,

Eph 2:15 Abolishing in His flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances, that He might create the two in Himself into one new man, so making peace,

Eph 2:16 And might reconcile both in one Body to God through the cross, having slain the enmity by it.

Eph 2:17 And coming, He announced peace as the gospel to you who were far off, and peace to those who were near,

Eph 6:15 And having shod your feet with the firm foundation of the gospel of peace;

Matt 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole inhabited earth for a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.