

Message Three

The Three Aspects of the Lord's Recovery

(1)

The Divine Revelation in the Bible

Scripture Reading: 1 Tim. 1:4; Matt. 28:19; Col. 2:9; John 7:39; 3:15-16; Eph. 1:22-23

I. The first aspect of the Lord's recovery is the revelation of God; the revelation of God is the speaking of God, which has become the completed Bible—Heb. 1:1-2; Rev. 22:18-19.

II. The divine revelation in the Bible is the content of the Lord's recovery:

- A. The revelation concerning the eternal economy of God—1 Tim. 1:4; Eph. 1:10; 3:9:
1. God's economy is His household administration, which is to dispense Himself in Christ into His chosen and redeemed people that He may have a house to express Himself, which house is the church, the Body of Christ—1 Tim. 1:4; 3:15; Eph. 2:21-22; 1:22-23.
 2. God's economy is that God became man so that man may become God in life and nature but not in the Godhead to produce the organism of the Triune God—the Body of Christ, which consummates the New Jerusalem—3:9; 1:4-5, 22-23; Rev. 21:2, 10-11.
 3. God's economy is carried out by God's dispensing, the imparting of Himself to us according to His plan and arrangement—2 Cor. 13:14.
- B. The revelation concerning the Divine Trinity—John 14:9-20; Matt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14; Rev. 1:4-5:
1. God is uniquely one, yet He is triune, three-one—the Father, the Son, and the Spirit—Psa. 86:10; Isa. 45:5; 1 Cor. 8:4; Matt. 28:19.
 2. The three of the Divine Trinity coexist and coinhere eternally—Eph. 3:14-17; 2 Cor. 13:14; John 14:10-11, 16-17, 26; 15:26.
 3. The essential Trinity refers to the essence of the Triune God for His existence, whereas the economical Trinity refers to the plan of the Triune God for His move—Matt. 28:19; Rev. 1:4-5.
 4. The Divine Trinity is for the divine dispensing; the Father as the origin is the fountain, the Son as the expression is the spring, and the Spirit as the transmission is the flow—2 Cor. 13:14; Jer. 2:13; John 4:14; Rev. 22:1.
- C. The revelation concerning the person and work of the all-inclusive Christ—Col. 2:9, 16-17:
1. The all-inclusive Christ, as the preeminent One and the One who fills all in all, is the centrality and universality of God's economy—1:17-18; Eph. 1:23.
 2. Christ is everything to the believers for their enjoyment, and He is everything to the church—Col. 1:12, 18; 3:4, 10-11.
 3. We need to have the subjective experience of Christ as the center of God's economy—Gal. 1:15-16; 2:20; 4:19; Eph. 3:17a; Phil. 1:20; Col. 1:27; 3:11.

- D. The revelation concerning the consummated life-giving Spirit—1 Cor. 15:45b; John 7:39; Rev. 22:17:
1. The Spirit of God has been compounded with a number of other elements to become a compound Spirit, typified by the anointing ointment—Exo. 30:23-25.
 2. In His resurrection, Christ, the last Adam in the flesh, became a life-giving Spirit—1 Cor. 15:45b; 2 Cor. 3:17.
 3. In Revelation the Spirit of God becomes the seven Spirits, the sevenfold intensified Spirit—1:4; 4:5; 5:6.
- E. The revelation concerning the eternal life of God—John 3:15-16:
1. This life is eternal both in time and in nature—1 John 1:2; John 3:36.
 2. The eternal life is the uncreated, indestructible, and incorruptible life of God—Eph. 4:18; Heb. 7:16; 2 Tim. 1:10.
 3. The eternal life as a blessing from God to us is in three stages, which are in three ages—the present age, the kingdom age, and the eternal age—John 3:15-16; Matt. 19:17; Rev. 2:7; 22:1-2, 14.
- F. The revelation concerning the Body of Christ, which is the church of God—Eph. 1:22-23; 1 Cor. 12:12-13, 27; 10:32:
1. The church is the organic Body of Christ for Him to have a counterpart that is organically united with Him to be His expression—Eph. 1:22-23; 5:30.
 2. The Body of Christ is a divine and human constitution constituted with the regenerated and transformed believers as its outward, visible frame and the processed and consummated Triune God as its inward, invisible content—4:4-6.
 3. The oneness of the Body of Christ is according to the Lord's aspiration expressed in His prayer to the Father in John 17:
 - a. In the Father's name by His divine life—vv. 6-13.
 - b. Through the sanctification by the reality of the word—vv. 14-21.
 - c. In the divine glory for the expression of the processed and mingled Triune God—vv. 22-24.