

## MESSAGE ONE

# The Vision of the Riches of Christ

## I. The unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel

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

**Ephesians 3:8** To me, less than the least of all saints, was this grace given to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel.

**Ephesians 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, **18a** The eyes of your heart having been enlightened.

**3:14** For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father.... **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, **17** That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith.

## II. The riches of Christ in the Gospel of John

### A. God

**John 1:1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

**14:9** Jesus said to him, Have I been so long a time with you, and you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how *is it that* you say, Show us the Father?

**20:28** Thomas answered and said to Him, My Lord and my God!

### B. The Word, flesh, and the tabernacle

**John 1:1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **14** And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

**18** No one has ever seen God; the only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared *Him*.

**1 John 1:1** That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we beheld and our hands handled, concerning the Word of life.

### C. Life and light

**John 1:4** In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

### D. The Lamb

**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!

### E. The Spirit

**John 1:32** And John testified, saying, I beheld the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven, and He abode upon Him.

**1 Corinthians 15:45** So also it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living soul"; the last Adam *became* a life-giving Spirit. (Cf. **2 Corinthians 3:17**, "the Lord is the Spirit," **18** "the Lord Spirit"; **4:5** "Christ Jesus as Lord")

### F. The house and the heavenly ladder

**John 1:42** He led him to Jesus. Looking at him, Jesus said, You are Simon, the son of John; you shall be called Cephas (which is interpreted, Peter).

**51** And He said to him, Truly, truly, I say to you, You shall see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.

### G. The temple

**John 2:19** Jesus answered and said to them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.... **21** But He spoke of the temple of His body.

## **H. The bronze serpent**

**John 3:14** And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up.

## **I. The eternal life**

**John 3:16** For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that everyone who believes into Him would not perish, but would have eternal life.

## **J. The bride**

**John 3:29** He who has the bride is the bridegroom... **30** He must increase, but I *must* decrease.

## **K. The spring**

**John 4:14** But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into eternal life.

**24** God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.

## **L. The Feast of the Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles**

**John 6:4** Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was near.

**54** He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up in the last day.

**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.

**63** It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words which I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.

**7:2** Now the Jews' Feast of Tabernacles was near.

**37** Now on the last day, the great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. **38** He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water. **39** But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for *the* Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

## **M. The Shepherd, the door, the pasture, and the flock**

**John 10:9** I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he shall be saved and shall go in and go out and shall find pasture.

**11** I am the good Shepherd; the good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.

**16** And I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must lead them also, and they shall hear My voice, and there shall be one flock, one Shepherd.

## **N. The resurrection and the life**

**John 11:25** Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes into Me, even if he should die, shall live.

## **O. The grain of wheat**

**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.

## **P. The way, the reality, and the life**

**John 14:6** Jesus said to him, I am the way and the reality and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.

## **Q. The Comforter**

**John 14:16-17** And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter, that He may be with you forever, *even* the Spirit of reality, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know *Him*; *but* you know Him, because He abides with you and shall be in you.

## **R. The all-inclusive consummated Spirit**

**John 20:22** And when He had said this, He breathed into *them* and said to them, Receive the Holy Spirit.