

Message Two

The Intrinsic Element of the Central Work of God

Scripture Reading: Matt. 16:18; Rom. 1:3-4; Eph. 3:17a; John 14:20, 23; Col. 3:10-11

I. The intrinsic element of the central work of God is the building and builded God—2 Sam. 7:12-14a; Matt. 16:18; Eph. 3:17a:

- A. God is building Himself into His redeemed people in order to produce a house—the church, the Body of Christ, the enlargement of Christ, the embodiment of the Triune God realized as the Spirit—John 14:2, 10, 16-17, 20, 23.
- B. When we build the church with the processed and consummated Triune God, it is not actually we who are building; rather, God is building through us, using us as a means to dispense and transmit Himself into others—Acts 9:15.

II. God's building is the constitution of His divine element into the human element and of the human element into the divine element—John 14:20; 15:4a; 1 John 4:15:

- A. As the divine element is constituted into our humanity, we become God in life and in nature but not in the Godhead, and as the human element is constituted into God, God becomes man; this is the building revealed in the New Testament—Eph. 2:21; 4:16.
- B. God's work on men is based upon the processed and consummated Triune God, who is building Himself into His chosen people and building them into Him.

III. For the fulfillment of God's eternal economy, God needs to build Himself in Christ into our being, working 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:

- A. The intrinsic significance of 2 Samuel 7:12-14a is that the Triune God is working Himself in His processed and consummated Trinity into His chosen and redeemed people.
- B. We need God to build up Christ into our intrinsic constitution so that our entire being will be reconstituted with Christ—Eph. 3:17a.
- C. 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:
 - 1. All the steps that God takes in our daily living are to fulfill His intention of building Himself in Christ into our being.
 - 2. The issue of this building is that we become a very particular class of people—the members of the Body of Christ—Rom. 12:5; Eph. 5:30.
- D. As the consummation of the Body of Christ, the New Jerusalem is a composition of divinity and humanity mingled, blended, and built up together as one entity—Rev. 21:2, 10:
 - 1. All the components have the same life, nature, and composition and thus are a corporate person.

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2. This is a matter of God becoming man and man becoming God in life and in nature but not in the Godhead.