

Message Six

**Experiencing Christ as the Reality
of the Good Land Promised to Abraham
and
Laboring on the Land to Produce the Riches of Christ
for Our Personal Enjoyment and to Have a Surplus
to Bring to the Church Meetings for the Corporate Worship of God**

Scripture Reading: Gal. 3:14; Col. 1:12; Eph. 3:8; John 4:23-24; 1 Cor. 14:26 ; 1 Pet. 1:8

I. Galatians 3:14 is an extremely important verse because it combines the promise of the Spirit with the blessing of Abraham:

- A. This verse indicates that the Spirit is the blessing that God promised to Abraham for all the nations and that has been received by the believers through faith in Christ— Gen. 12:1-3, 7; 13:14-17:
 - 1. God's promise to Abraham was repeated to his son and to his grandson— 26:3; 35:12.
 - 2. In Galatians 3 Paul interprets the good land as the blessing of the Spirit.
 - 3. The Old Testament promise was of the good land, but in the New Testament the fulfillment of the promise becomes the Spirit—Gal. 3:14.
- B. The physical aspect of the blessing that God promised to Abraham was the good land, which was a type of the all-inclusive Christ—12:7; 13:Gen. 15; 17:8; 26:3-4.
- C. Since Christ is eventually realized as the all-inclusive life-giving Spirit, the blessing of the promised Spirit corresponds with the blessing of the land promised to Abraham—Gal. 3:14:
 - 1. The Spirit whom we have received is the good land—v. 14.
 - 2. The good land is in us and it is where we live and walk—5:25; Col. 1:12; 2:6.
- D. Actually, the Spirit as the realization of Christ in our experience is the good land as the source of God's bountiful supply for us to enjoy—Phil. 1:19.

II. In our daily life we need to labor on the all-inclusive Christ as our good land for our personal supply and enjoyment—Deut. 8:7-10; 1 Cor. 15:10; 1 Pet. 1:8:

- A. After we enter into and possess the all-inclusive Christ as our good land, we need to labor on Christ—Rom. 16:12; 1 Cor. 15:58:
 - 1. A proper life in the good land is a life in which we are continually laboring on Christ.
 - 2. Everything of the life in the good land is a Christ who is related to us—Col. 1:12, 27:
 - a. He is not merely an objective Christ but an altogether subjective Christ.
 - b. He is a Christ labored upon by us, a Christ who is produced by us, and a Christ who is enjoyed by us—Phil. 1:25; Heb. 1:9.

3. We should labor diligently on Christ so that we may experience and enjoy His all-inclusive riches—Eph. 3:8.
- B. God has brought us into Christ and has given Christ to us as our portion—Col. 1:12:
1. Christ is our portion as our inheritance just as the land of Canaan was to the children of Israel.
 2. God has given Christ in “lots” to us as our portion—v. 12.
 3. Each of us has a portion of Christ, and now we have to labor on the portion of Christ given to us to enjoy Him day by day:
 - a. God will send us rain and sunshine to cause us to have a rich harvest, and then we will have riches on which to live—Eph. 3:8.
 - b. Our rich harvest and rich life will give glory to God—v. 21.
 4. If we do not labor on Christ, we cannot have a proper living as the people of God because we will have nothing on which to live.
 5. We labor on Christ as the good land by exercising our heart to have faith in the Lord and to love the Lord and by exercising our spirit to contact the Lord and receive the dispensing of the all-inclusive life-giving Spirit, the reality of Christ as the good land—2 Cor. 13:14; Gal. 3:14.

III. Daily we should labor on Christ to have a surplus, a harvest, to bring to the church meetings for the corporate worship of God the Father—Deut. 12:6; 1 Cor. 14:26; John 4:23-24; Deut. 16:15-16:

- A. The life in the land is a life full of the enjoyment of Christ, both personally and collectively with the Lord’s people—Deut. 8:7-10.
- B. The life in the good land is a life of laboring on Christ, producing Christ, enjoying Christ, sharing Christ with others, and offering Christ to God that He may enjoy Him with us:
 1. This kind of enjoyment and sharing is an exhibiting of Christ to the entire universe—Rev. 19:7.
 2. This is a worship to God and a shame to the enemy—John 4:23-24.
- C. May we be diligent to labor on Christ, to have our hands filled with Him, and then come to the church meetings to enjoy this rich and glorious Christ with God’s children and with God Himself—1 Cor. 14:26; John 4:23-24.
- D. Whenever we come to the Lord’s table meeting to remember the Lord and worship the Father, we should not come with our hands empty; we must come with our hands full of the produce of Christ—Deut. 16:15-16:
 1. To worship God with Christ is to worship Him collectively with all the children of God by enjoying Christ with one another and with God—1 Cor. 14:26.
 2. We need to produce enough of Christ so that there will be a surplus to share with others and offer the best part of the produce to God the Father for His joy, delight, and satisfaction—Deut. 15:11; 18:3-4; 12:11.