

# LIVING A LIFE FOR THE FULFILMENT OF GOD'S ETERNAL PURPOSE

## Message One

### **Knowing the Central Thought of God, Cooperating with the Central Work of God and Living in the Divine Romance**

Scripture Reading: Matt. 16:16, 18; Eph. 5:32; 3:16-17a; Gal. 4:19; S.S. 1:2-4

- I. If we would live a life for the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose, we need to know the central thought of God – Gen. 2:9-12, 18, 21-23; Rev. 21:2:**
  - A. The central thought of God is to have Christ as His expression through the church – Col. 1:15; Heb. 1:3; Eph. 1:22-23; 3:21.
  - B. The central thought of the divine mind is that we, as living vessels to contain God, should receive God in Christ as our life and life supply; that we need to be transformed into gold, pearl and precious stones; and that we must be built together as a living Body, a living counterpart to match Christ – Gen. 2:9-12, 18, 21-23; Rev. 21:2, 9-12, 18-21; 22:17.
- II. If we would live a life for the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose, we need to cooperate with the central work of God – Rom. 12:1-2; Gal. 4:19:**
  - A. The governing vision of the Bible is the Triune God working Himself into His chosen and redeemed people as life in order to saturate and permeate their entire being with the Divine Trinity - 2 Cor. 13:14; Rom. 8:10, 6, 11; Eph. 3:19.
  - B. God's New Testament economy is for the processed and consummated Triune God to be wrought into us to become our life, our being, and our person so that we may be His corporate expression – vv. 16-17a; 1:22-23.
  - C. God's New Testament economy is focused on His central work, His unique work – John 5:17; 4:34; Phil 2:13; 1 Cor. 15:58; Eph. 3:16-17a.
- III. If we would live a life for the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose, we need to live in the divine romance – S.S 1:2-4:**
  - A. The Bible is a romance, in the most pure and holy sense, of a universal couple – God in Christ as the Bridegroom and God's redeemed people as the bride – John 3:29; Matt. 25:6; Rev 19:7; 21:2, 9-10; 22:17.
  - B. Song of Songs is a marvelous and vivid portrait, in poetic form, of the bridal love between Christ as the Bridegroom and His lovers as His bride; the subject of Song of Songs is the history of love in an excellent marriage, revealing the progressive experience of an individual believer's loving fellowship with Christ: 1) the attracting and pursuing stage (1:2-4; 2) the stage of experiencing the cross (2:14); 3) the stage of living in the heavenlies to become God's new creation in resurrection; and 4) the stage of becoming the sanctuary, the Holy of Holies (6:4).
  - C. Only love can keep us in a proper relationship with the Lord – Mark 12:30.
  - D. In order for us to maintain and develop our first love to the Lord. We need to live before Him as vessels open to Him, loving Him, receiving Him, enjoying Him, being filled with Him, and letting Him be everything to us and do everything through us, in us, and with us for the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose – Rev. 2:4; 2 Cor. 4:7; Rom. 9:21, 23; Eph. 1:9; 3:9-11.

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## Message Two

### **Enjoying God for the Purpose of God by eating God, Living for the Good Pleasure of God, and Knowing and Doing the Will of God**

Scripture Reading: 2 Tim. 1:9; Psa. 36:8-9; John 6:57; Eph. 1:5, 9; Col. 1:9; Matt. 7:21

- I. For the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose, we need to enjoy God by eating God – 2 Tim. 1:9; Psa. 36:8-9; John 6:35, 51, 57; 1 Cor. 10:17:**
  - A. God wants us to enjoy Him and live for His purpose – Psa. 36:8-9; Rom. 8:28.
  - B. God's economy is that we eat Christ and be constituted with Him in order to express Him and represent Him – 1 Tim. 1:4; John 6:35, 51, 57; Gen. 1:26.
  - C. We are what we eat; therefore, if we eat God as our food, we will be one with God and even become God in life and nature but not in the Godhead – John 1:1, 14; 6:35, 51, 57.
- II. To live a life for the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose is to live for God's good pleasure – Eph. 1:5, 9; Matt 17:5:**
  - A. The book of Ephesians is written from the perspective of God's good pleasure, the desire of His heart – 1:5, 9.
  - B. What is most pleasant in the eyes of God is that we live and walk in our spirit for the fulfillment of His eternal purpose – John 4:24; Eph. 1:9, 17; 3:11, 16.
- III. In order to live a life for the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose, we must know and do the will of God – Col. 1:9; Matt. 7:21:**
  - A. God is a God of purpose, having a will of His own pleasure, and He created all things for His will that He might accomplish and fulfill His purpose – Rev. 4:11; Eph. 3:9-11; Col. 1:9.
  - B. We need to be filled with the full knowledge of His will – Col. 1:9.
  - C. To have the full knowledge of God's will is to have the revelation of God's plan so that we may know what God plans to do in the universe – Rev. 4:11.
  - D. If we would enter into the manifestation of the kingdom of the heavens in the coming age, we must do the will of the Father in this age – Matt. 7:21-23; 6:10; 12:50; Rev. 4:11; Rom. 12:2; Eph. 1:5,9, 11; 5:17; Col. 1:9; 4:12.

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### Message Three

#### **Living by Grace and Knowing the Body**

Scripture Reading: 1 Cor. 15:10; 2 Cor. 12:9; 13:14; Rev. 22:21; Rom. 12:4-5; 1 Cor. 12:12

- I. In order to live a life for the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose, we need live by the grace of God in the economy of God – 2 Cor. 12:9; 13:14:**
  - A. Grace is the manifestation of the Triune God in His embodiment in three aspects – the Father, the Son and the Spirit – v. 14; Num. 6:22-27; Psa. 36:8-9.
  - B. Grace is the Triune God in His incarnation to be dispensed into the believers by the Father as the source, by the Son as the element, and by the Spirit as the application – 2 Cor. 13:14.
  - C. The New Testament believers' living under the grace in God's economy is a total living of experiencing the processed and consummated Triune God as grace – Gal. 6:18; Heb. 4:16; Rev. 22:21.
  - D. A total living means that our entire living is a living of the Triune God processed to be grace in us – 2 Cor. 13:14.
  - E. The consummation of the believers' experience of the grace of God in His economy is the church as the Body of Christ – Eph. 1:6-8, 22-23.
- II. In order to live life for the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose, we need to know the Body – Rom. 12:4-5; 1 Cor. 12-13, 20, 27; Eph. 1:22-23:**
  - A. The goal of God's economy is to produce a Body for His Son; this Body fulfills God's desire for His expression and for the destruction of Satan – Rom. 12:4-5; 1 Cor. 12:12, 27; Eph. 1:22-23; 4:4, 16; Col. 1:18; 2:19; Gen. 1:26-28.
  - B. The Lord urgently needs the reality of the Body of Christ to be expressed in the local churches; unless there is a substantial expression of the Body, the Lord Jesus will not return – Rom. 12:4-5; 16:16; 1 Cor. 1:2; 12:27; Eph. 1:23; 4:16; 5:27, 30; Rev. 19:7.
  - C. Christ Himself is the Head, and Christ in all of us is the Body – Rom. 8:10; 12:4-5; 2 Cor. 13:5; 1 Cor. 12:27; Eph. 3:17; 4:15-16; Col. 1:18, 27; 2:19.
  - D. The work of the Triune God in us is to produce and build up the Body of Christ – Eph. 3:16-21; Rom. 8:11; 12:4-5.
  - E. The Body is the governing law of the life and work of the children of God – Eph. 4:4,16; 1 Cor. 12:4-6, 12-13, 27.
  - F. All the problems of the church today are due to ignorance concerning the Body of Christ – Eph. 1:17-23.
  - G. We need to know the Body in life – 1 John 5:11-12; Col. 3:4; 2:19; Rom. 8:2, 6, 10-11; 12:4-5.
  - H. We need to know the Body in practice – 1 Cor. 12:20, 27; 15:58.
  - I. If we know the Body, in our consideration, the Body will be first and the local churches will be second – Rom. 12:4-5; 16:1, 4, 16.