

## Message Three

### **The Law of Life of the New Covenant**

#### **I. “I will impart My laws into their mind, and on their hearts I will inscribe them”—Heb. 8:10a; cf. Jer. 31:33:**

- A. The center of the new covenant is the inner law of life; this is not an outward law but an inward law:
  - 1. In its essence, this law refers to the divine life, and the divine life is nothing less than the life-giving Spirit, the all-inclusive Christ, and the processed and consummated God.
  - 2. The law of the divine life is the spontaneous power of the divine life; it is the natural characteristic and the innate, automatic function of the divine life—cf. Prov. 30:19a; Isa. 40:30-31.
  - 3. The Triune God has been processed through incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension to become the law of the Spirit of life installed in our spirit—Rom. 8:3, 11, 34, 16, 2.
- B. By imparting His divine life into us, God puts the highest law (singular—Jer. 31:33) of this highest life into our spirit, whence it spreads into our inward parts, such as our mind, emotion, and will, and becomes several laws (plural—Heb. 8:10):
  - 1. The spreading of this law in us is the imparting (Rom. 8:10, 6), and the imparting is the inscribing.
  - 2. While the Lord is spreading, imparting, and inscribing, He reduces the old element of Adam from us and adds into us the new element of Christ, accomplishing metabolically the transformation of life for us (2 Cor. 3:18).

#### **II. The law of life has its function; this function refers to the divine capacity:**

- A. In the law of life there is the divine capacity, and the divine capacity is almighty and can do everything in us for the fulfillment of God’s purpose.
- B. The divine capacity of the law of life enables the believers in Christ to live God and causes them to be constituted with God, to be made the same as God in life and in nature, that they may become His fullness (Eph. 3:19) to express Him.
- C. The law of the divine life “sonizes” us for the building up of the Body of Christ:
  - 1. The firstborn Son is the prototype, the standard model, for the mass reproduction of the many sons of God, who are His many brothers to constitute His Body for God’s corporate expression (Rom. 8:29).
  - 2. God’s way to mass reproduce this prototype is to work His living prototype, the firstborn Son, into our being. If we cooperate with and open up to this wonderful prototype, He will spread outward from our spirit into our soul to conform us to His image, to “sonize” us.

3. The Body of Christ as the new man is the corporate reproduction of the standard model, the firstborn Son of God.
- D. The law, the divine capacity, of life constitutes us to be the members of the Body of Christ, including all kinds of functions—the joints of the rich supply and every part of the Body that functions in its measure (Eph. 4:11, 16).

**III. We must realize that God is in us now as a law which operates automatically; this is one of the biggest discoveries, even recoveries, in God's economy:**

- A. After entering into our being and dwelling in us, God works within us not by outward, objective activities but by an inward, subjective law:
  1. In the Old Testament what God did with man or for man was by activities; but in the New Testament economy, God works for His redeemed people not by activities but by the automatic principle.
  2. The processed Triune God indwelling our spirit as the law of life (Rom. 8:2) frees us from Satan, who dwells in our fallen nature as the law of sin and of death (7:23-25).
- B. The law of life has power; this power is the power which enabled the Lord Jesus to rise from the dead and ascend to heaven, far above all—Heb. 7:16; Eph. 1:19-21:
  1. It can incline our heart toward God (Psa. 119:36).
  2. It can make us submissive toward God (Phil. 2:13).
  3. It can cause us to do the good works which God has prepared for us (Eph. 2:10).
  4. It can make us labor for the Lord with all our heart and strength (1 Cor. 15:10; Col. 1:28-29).
  5. It can cause our service to be living and fresh (2 Cor. 3:5-6).
  6. It regulates within us every day and is able to do superabundantly above all that we ask for the church or think concerning the church (Eph. 3:20).
- C. We need to cooperate with the installed and operating law of the Spirit of life for our organic salvation by “switching on” this law in the following ways—Phil. 2:12-13; Rom. 8:2:
  1. By walking according to the spirit—Rom. 8:4.
  2. By minding the things of the Spirit, setting our mind on the spirit—vv. 5-6.
  3. By putting to death by the Spirit the practices of our body—v. 13.
  4. By being led by the Spirit of God to be sons of God—v. 14.
  5. By crying “Abba, Father” in the spirit of sonship—v. 15.
  6. By the Spirit's witnessing with our spirit that we are God's children—v. 16.
  7. By groaning for the full sonship, the redemption of our body—v. 23.