Message Three

Being Renewed for the Practical Existence of the One New Man

Scripture Reading: Eph. 2:15-16; 4:22-24; Col. 3:10-11; Rom. 12:2

I. The one new man was created through Christ's death on the cross—Eph. 2:15-16:

A. The one new man was created by Christ with two different materials—the redeemed created man and the divine element; on the cross Christ put these two materials together to produce a new man.

B. In the creation of the one new man, our natural man was crucified with Christ, and then, through the crossing out of the old man, Christ imparted the divine element into us, causing us to become a new entity—Rom. 6:6; 2 Cor. 5:17.

C. The one new man, as a corporate child, was brought forth by Christ in His resurrection—John 16:21; Eph. 2:15.

D. The one new man has been created by Christ, but the believers need to partake of this creation by putting off the old man and putting on the new man through renewing—4:22-24; Col. 3:10.

II. Because the one new man was created with us who belong to the old creation, he needs to be renewed; this renewing takes place mainly in our mind—v. 10; Eph. 4:13:

A. When the new creation took place in our spirit at the time of regeneration, the Holy Spirit with the divine life was added to our being—2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 6:15.

B. The regeneration of the spirit (John 3:6) is actually the creation of the new man; for this reason, we can say that the new man has already been created.

C. Although our spirit has been regenerated, our soul with its faculties of mind, will, and emotion remains in the old creation and still needs to be renewed—Rom. 12:2; Eph. 4:23:

1. Through the process of renewing, the new man spreads from our spirit into our soul and actually increases within us.
2. To be renewed is to have God's element added into our being to replace and discharge our old element—Rev. 21:5a; 2 Cor. 5:17; Rom. 12:2; 2 Cor. 4:16:
   a. Newness is God; therefore, to become new is to become God in life and in nature but not in the Godhead—Rom. 6:4; 7:6.
   b. The renewing Spirit imparts the divine essence of the new man into our being to make us a new creation—Titus 3:5.

III. According to Ephesians 4:23, the key to putting off the old man and putting on the new man is to be renewed in the spirit of our mind:

A. A regenerated spirit is a renewed spirit; this renewed spirit must be strengthened (3:16) to invade, subdue, and occupy every part of our soul.

B. When the life-giving Spirit, who dwells in and is mingled with our regenerated spirit, spreads into our mind, this mingled spirit becomes the spirit of our mind; it is by this mingled spirit that our mind is renewed—4:23.

C. To be renewed in the spirit of our mind is inward and intrinsic—Rom. 12:2:

1. The renewing in the spirit of our mind revolutionizes our logic, philosophy, thought, concept, and psychology.
2. Renewing is to have our mind changed in our religion, logic, and philosophy concerning God, the universe, and mankind by the Spirit of truth with the revelations in the Scriptures, even to have Christ's mind replacing our mind through the consuming work of the cross—Titus 3:5; Rom. 12:2; 8:6; Phil. 2:5; 2 Cor. 4:16.

D. The only possibility of God's purpose being fulfilled in this age is that we would all be willing to be renewed in the spirit of our mind.

IV. In order for the one new man to come into full existence, we need to experience a thorough renewal of our mind, which has been built up according to our nationality and culture—Eph. 4:23; Col. 3:10-11:

A. We need to be renewed in the spirit of our mind actually and daily in our living; otherwise, there is no way for the Lord to have the one new man.

B. In order to put off the old man (the old social life) and to put on the new man (the new church life), we need to open our spirit and allow the Spirit of Christ to fill, saturate, and permeate our spirit until the Spirit overflows into our mind, emotion, and will; it is by this overflowing Spirit that we can be renewed for the one new man—Rom. 8:11; 1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 5:18; 4:22-24; 3:16-19.

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