

Message Five

**Oneness in the Sanctifying Word of God and
One Accord in the All-inheriting Vision of the Age**

Scripture Reading: John 17:17; Acts 26:16-19

I. The oneness of the believers is in the Triune God through sanctification in the truth, in the holy word of God—John 17:14-21:

- A. Truth is the reality of the Triune God—the Father’s word is the truth (v. 17), Christ the Son is the truth (14:6a), and the Spirit is the truth (1 John 5:6; John 14:17).
- B. Truth is a heavenly, spiritual vision televised into our being—Acts 26:16-19:
 - 1. To know the truth we first need the divine facts in the Bible and then the light that televises the vision of the facts into our being—Eph. 1:17-18.
 - 2. All the divine facts are contained in the Word and conveyed to us through the Word; when the Spirit shines upon the facts in the Word, we have the heavenly television and know the truth—John 8:32.
- C. “Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth”—17:17:
 - 1. To be sanctified (Eph. 5:26; 1 Thes. 5:23) is to be separated from the world and its usurpation unto God and His purpose, not only positionally (Matt. 23:17, 19) but also dispositionally (Rom. 6:19, 22).
 - 2. God’s living word works in the believers to separate them from anything worldly; this is to be sanctified in God’s word, which is the truth, the reality—John 17:17.
 - 3. Truth frees us from all negative things and saturates us with the element of God—8:32; 17:17; Eph. 5:26.
- D. Daily we need to practice coming to the Word to have the Triune God as truth infused into us according to the following life principles:
 - 1. We must open our entire being to the Lord for the inner shining of the divine light and the supplying of the divine life; the one who experiences the greatest amount of transformation is the one who is absolutely open to the Lord—Psa. 119:105; Prov. 20:27; Psa. 139:23-24.
 - 2. We must seek the Lord with all our heart—119:2; Mark 12:30.
 - 3. We must deal with anything which separates us from the Lord—Acts 24:16; 2 Tim. 1:3a; 1 John 1:9; cf. Ezek. 1:22, 26.
 - 4. We must humble ourselves before the Lord, putting aside our self-confidence and self-assurance and looking to Him for His mercy and grace—Isa. 66:1-2; 1 Pet. 5:5.
 - 5. We must exercise our spirit to pray over and with God’s word and exercise our whole being to muse on His word—Eph. 6:17-18; Psa. 119:15-16; cf. Lev. 11:3.
- E. Sanctification through the word of truth results in oneness by dealing with the evil of division:
 - 1. The whole world is ill with the disease of division; in the self, there are the factors of division—worldliness, ambition, self-exaltation, and opinions and concepts—cf. 1 John 2:14-15; 3 John 3-4, 9; Rev. 2:12, 17; 3:14, 18.
 - 2. To be sanctified is to move out of ourselves and into the Triune God; every day we need to make this move out of our divisive self into the oneness of the Triune God—John 17:21; 8:31; 15:7; Eph. 3:16-17.

3. If we continually touch the Word and allow the Spirit to touch us day by day, we shall be sanctified; that is, we shall move out of ourselves, our old lodging place, and into the Triune God, our new lodging place—Psa. 90:1.
4. If we contact the Lord every morning, touch the living Word, and have the divine reality infused into our being, the factors of division in us are put to death, and we are brought into the genuine oneness of the Triune God.

II. Our one accord is in the all-inheriting vision of the age through the ministry of the age—Acts 26:19; 1:14; Rom. 15:6; 1 Tim. 1:12; Acts 20:24:

- A. The particular recovery and work that God is doing in one age is the ministry of that age—cf. 2 Kings 2:1-18.
- B. In every age there is the vision of that age, and we have to serve God according to the vision of the age; God's word reveals to us that in every age He gives only one vision to man—Acts 26:19; Eph. 1:17; 3:9.
- C. Our vision should be one that matches the age; in order for us to serve God today, our vision must extend all the way from the first vision of Adam in Genesis to the ultimate vision of John in Revelation—Gen. 2:9; Rev. 21:2.
- D. The vision that the Lord has given us in His recovery is the ultimate consummation of all visions—the New Jerusalem; within this ultimate consummation everything is included—vv. 9-10.
- E. Today we can be in one accord because we have only one vision, an up-to-date, all-inheriting vision, the vision of the eternal economy of God; where there is no vision, the people cast off restraint because there is no one accord—Prov. 29:18a.
- F. Throughout the ages there were many saints who loved the Lord and who feared the Lord, but we cannot say that they all had the vision that matched their age—Acts 15:35-39; 18:24-25; 19:1-2; 21:18-21:
 1. Many lovers of the Lord were raised up through the past centuries, but they were not able to be in one accord because the vision each held was different in degree; because the degree of the visions they saw was different, spontaneously there was no one accord.
 2. The problem among us is that some are bound by the little experience and vision they have; some are unwilling to see more and consider all those who see more to be wrong.
 3. While the Holy Spirit is moving on, some decide to follow while others decide to stay; the more the Holy Spirit moves on, the fewer are those who follow Him.
- G. Because we are under the heavenly vision of the eternal economy of God according to the unique teaching of the apostles, we can be one in teaching (1 Cor. 4:17; 7:17; 16:1; Acts 2:42; Rom. 16:17; 1 Tim. 1:3-4; 6:3; Eph. 4:13-14), practice (1 Cor. 11:16; 14:33b-34), thinking (Phil. 2:2; 4:2; 1 Cor. 1:10), speaking (Rom. 15:6), essence, appearance, and expression (Rev. 1:11-12) in God's one ministry for His one move to produce one Body as His one testimony.