Message Three

Walking Worthily of God’s Calling
for the Reality of the Body of Christ
by Walking in a Manner Worthy of God

Scripture Reading: 1 Thes. 2:12; Phil. 1:20-21a; Rom. 6:4; 1 John 1:7

I. As believers in Christ and children of God, we should walk in a manner worthy of God—1 Thes. 2:12.

II. God’s economy is a matter of having God as life and living Him—1 John 5:11-12:
   A. God’s intention in His economy is to impart His element, substance, and nature into us so that we may live Him—1 Tim. 1:4; Eph. 3:17; Phil. 1:20-21a.
   B. God’s aim in His economy is for us, His chosen and redeemed people, to have His life and nature inwardly and His image and likeness outwardly—Gen. 1:26; 2:9:
      1. God is working Himself into us to make us the same as He is in life and nature but not in the Godhead—Rom. 8:2, 6, 10-11, 29.
      2. Eventually, we will become a corporate entity—the Body of Christ—to be one with Him and to live Him for His corporate expression—Eph. 4:4-6.

III. To walk in a manner worthy of God is to live God—Phil. 1:20-21a:
   A. Our daily living should actually be God Himself—John 5:26.
   B. Only God is worthy of Himself; only God can match Himself—1 Pet. 1:15-16.
   C. Since only God is worthy of Himself, to walk in a manner worthy of God is to live God, that is, to express God in our daily living—1 Cor. 10:31:
      1. To live God’s life means to live by God and even to live God Himself.
      2. Only a life that lives God is worthy of God; when we live God, we walk in a manner worthy of Him—Phil. 1:20-21a; 1 Thes. 2:12.

IV. To walk in a manner worthy of God is to live the life of a God-man, a man of God—1 Tim. 6:11; 2 Tim. 3:17:
   A. A man of God is one who partakes of God’s life and nature, thus becoming one with God in His life and nature and thereby expressing Him—John 1:12-13; 2 Pet. 1:4; 1 Cor. 6:17.
   B. God’s intention was to make Job a man of God, filled with Christ, the embodiment of God, to be the fullness of God for the expression of God in Christ—1 Tim. 6:11; 2 Tim. 3:17; Eph. 3:16-19.
   C. God’s stripping and consuming were exercised over Job to tear him down so that God might have a base and a way to rebuild him with Himself, thereby making him a God-man—Job 42:1-6.
   D. We need to see that we are God-men, born of God and belonging to the species of God—John 3:3, 5-6:
      1. A God-man lives God and expresses God; the living of a God-man is the living of God in man—Phil. 1:20-21a.
      2. God-men are divine and mystical persons, doing everything with God, in God, by God, and through God—1 Cor. 10:31; Col. 3:17.
V. To walk in a manner worthy of God is to walk in newness of life—Rom. 6:4:
   A. The newness of life is of the divine life, which we have received of God—John 3:15-16.
   B. The realm of the divine life is newness, and our walk should be in the realm of the newness of the divine life—Rom. 6:4.
   C. To walk in newness of life is to live in the realm of resurrection and to reign in life; this kind of living deals with all that is of Adam in us until we are fully transformed and conformed to the image of Christ—5:17; 12:2; 8:29.

VI. To walk in a manner worthy of God is to walk in the light—1 John 1:7:
   A. Light is the nature of God in His expression—v. 5.
   B. When we walk in the light, we enjoy the Triune God and participate in His purpose:
      1. The fellowship of the divine life brings us into the divine light—v. 3.
      2. The divine light keeps us in the enjoyment of God and in the participation in His purpose—vv. 5, 7.

VII. To walk in a manner worthy of God is related to entering into the kingdom of God and being ushered into the glory of God—1 Thes. 2:12:
   A. The kingdom of God is the sphere for us to worship God and enjoy God under the divine ruling with a view to entering into God's glory—Matt. 6:13b.
   B. When the authority of God's kingdom is allowed to operate in us, righteousness, peace, and joy will characterize our daily life—Rom. 14:17.
   C. We need to walk in a manner worthy of God so that we may be able to enter into His kingdom and participate in His glory—1 Thes. 2:12.