Message Two

Being Saved in Life for the Body Life

Scripture Reading: Rom. 1:17; 5:10, 18; 8:2, 29; 12:1-2, 4-5, 10-11; 14:17, 19

- I. The Triune God created a tripartite man to be a living vessel to contain Him as life so that He may express Himself in humanity—Gen. 1:26; 2:7; Rom. 9:21, 23.
- II. Romans 8 unveils to us how the Triune God—the Father, the Son, and the Spirit—is dispensing Himself as life into our tripartite being—spirit, soul, and body—to make us His sons for the constituting of the Body of Christ—vv. 2, 6, 10-11, 14; 12:4-5.
- III. The Christian life is a life of being saved continually in the divine life of Christ, who is the embodiment of the processed Triune God—5:10; Col. 2:9; Phil. 1:19, 28; 2:12.
- IV. The base of God's salvation in life is God's righteousness; His salvation has the solid foundation of His righteousness, and upon this foundation of righteousness, we are being saved in life—Rom. 1:16-17; 5:10, 18; Psa. 89:14.
- V. Being saved in the divine life of Christ includes being saved from the law of sin (Rom. 8:2), the present age of the world (12:2a), our natural being (v. 2b), individualism (vv. 4-5), our self-likeness (8:29), and our body of humiliation (Phil. 3:21).
- VI. The way to be saved in life is to call upon the name of the Lord; the more we call on the Lord to experience His riches, the more we will be saved in His life—Rom. 10:12-13.
- VII. God's salvation in life touches the depths of our being; His salvation touches our nature, our individualism in the natural life, and the expression of our natural life—12:2-5; 8:29.
- VIII. We need to be saved in life from death, which includes all manner of negative things—5:10, 12, 14, 21; Heb. 2:14:
 - A. Death is the shortage of ability to fulfill God's requirements according to His divine standard—Matt. 5:48:
 - 1. We need to be saved in life so that we can be living, capable, and full of energy and ability to fulfill God's requirements according to His divine standard—Heb. 7:25; Rom. 5:10.
 - 2. In the divine life of Christ we are saved from all weakness and inability to meet God's requirements according to His divine standard—8:3-4.
 - B. The life that we have received from God through Christ is the resurrection life—John 11:25; Phil. 3:10:
 - 1. The life that we possess is a life with resurrection power—a life that has been tested by being put into death and by passing through death—Rev. 1:18; 2:8.

- 2. In order to be saved in life, we need to know and experience the life power of the Lord's resurrection—2 Cor. 1:9; Phil. 3:10-11.
- 3. The more we are saved in the resurrection life of Christ, the more this life will swallow up the death in our being—Rom. 5:10; 1 Cor. 15:26, 54-55.

IX. We need to be saved from the independence and individualism of the natural life for the Body life—Rom. 5:10; 12:4-5:

- A. We are independent, separated, and detached because we are short of life:
 - 1. The bones in Ezekiel 37:1-8 were separated, disjointed, detached, and absolutely independent and individualistic because there was no life.
 - 2. The death within us causes us to be independent, individualistic, and unwilling to coordinate with others.
 - 3. Only by being saved in life can we be joined together to be one Body and be built up together into one Body—vv. 9-14; Eph. 4:16; Col. 2:19.
- B. God's salvation in life delivers us from the individualism of our natural life so that we can live the Body life and be built up together in the Body—Rom. 12:4-5:
 - 1. Our natural life is individualistic and makes us unwilling to live the Body life—Phil. 2:21.
 - 2. Individualism is the philosophy, thought, and principle of not being one with others; when not going along with others and not being one with others becomes a principle, that is individualism—1 Cor. 12:21-22.
 - 3. We are saved from the individualism of our natural life through our cooperation by presenting our bodies as a living sacrifice and by not thinking more highly of ourselves than what we are—Rom. 12:1-3, 10.
 - 4. When we experience God's salvation in life, we can no longer be isolated and individualistic, but we are saved from the individualism of the natural life, we forget ourselves and care for others, and we can be built up into the Body of Christ—v. 15; 14:19; 15:1-2; 1 Cor. 12:14-27; 10:24; Eph. 4:16.

X. As a result of being saved in life, we are enabled to live the church life in a locality, being saved from our self-view, self-goal, and divisiveness—Rom. 14:1-19: 15:5-7:

- A. Different views and opinions produce different goals, and these different goals hinder the church from being built up; by being saved from our views and goals, we are saved from divisiveness and thus are able to practice the Body life in the church life—12:4-5; 16:1, 4, 16.
- B. Our living of the church life is local, but our fellowship should be both local and universal—vv. 1, 16b, 22-23.
- C. In living the church life, we must receive all believers in Christ according to God's receiving (14:1-3), in the light of the judgment seat (vv. 10, 12), in the principle of love (12:10; 14:15), according to the kingdom life (v. 17), and according to Christ Jesus (15:5).