

## Message Four

### **The Full Ministry of Christ and the Divine and Mystical Realm**

Scripture Reading: John 1:14; 1 Cor. 15:45b; Rev. 5:6; John 14:10-11, 16-20

- I. The apostles' teaching (Acts 2:42) is the unique teaching of God's New Testament economy (1 Tim. 1:3-4) concerning the full ministry of Christ in three stages, and we need to experience and enjoy Christ in His full ministry in His three divine and mystical stages—incarnation, inclusion, and intensification:**
- A. We need to know Christ in all three stages—John 1:14; 1 Cor. 15:45b; Rev. 5:6.
  - B. If we know the three stages of incarnation, inclusion, and intensification, we will truly know the Bible.
  - C. The first stage is the stage of incarnation—the stage of Christ in the flesh: In this stage Christ brought the infinite God into the finite man; He united, mingled, and incorporated the Triune God with the tripartite man; He expressed in His humanity the bountiful God in His rich attributes through His aromatic virtues; and He accomplished His all-inclusive judicial redemption—John 1:14, 29.
  - D. The second stage is the stage of inclusion—the stage of Christ as the life-giving Spirit: In this stage Christ was begotten to be the firstborn Son of God; He became the life-giving Spirit; and He regenerated the believers for His Body—1 Cor. 15:45b; 2 Cor. 3:17.
  - E. The third stage is the stage of intensification—the stage of Christ as the sevenfold intensified Spirit: In this stage Christ intensifies His organic salvation; He produces the overcomers; and He consummates the New Jerusalem—Rev. 1:4; 4:5; 5:6; 3:1:
    - 1. In order for the Body to be produced in a full and complete way, there is the need of the third stage of Christ's ministry; there is the need for the compound, all-inclusive life-giving Spirit to be the sevenfold intensified Spirit—4:5.
    - 2. Christ has become the sevenfold intensified Spirit to overcome the degradation of the church that the overcomers may be produced to bring forth the Body—2:7b:
      - a. The overcomers are for the building up of the Body to consummate the New Jerusalem—Eph. 4:16; Rev. 21:2.
      - b. The ministry of Christ in the stage of intensification will build up the Body to consummate the New Jerusalem—Eph. 4:12.
  - F. In the Lord's recovery, we need to do a work of three sections or stages:
    - 1. The work of the first section—incarnation—is to produce redeemed people; the work of the second section—inclusion—is to produce churches; and the work of the third section—intensification—is to build up the Body to consummate the New Jerusalem—Acts 14:22-23; Eph. 4:16; Rev. 21:10-11.
    - 2. The first stage is in the physical realm for the accomplishment of judicial redemption; the second stage is divine and mystical; and in the third stage

there will be a maturing and a ripening in the divine and mystical realm, and the Body will be built up to consummate the New Jerusalem.

## **II. The divine and mystical realm is the realm of the Triune God:**

- A. The Triune God Himself is a divine and mystical realm—John 14:10-11:
  - 1. The three of the Divine Trinity—the Father, the Son, and the Spirit—are self-existing, ever-existing, and coinhering and as such are a divine and mystical realm.
  - 2. The Father is embodied in the Son, and the Son is the Father's embodiment, forming a divine and mystical realm.
- B. The divine and mystical realm into which we may enter is the divine and mystical realm of the consummated Spirit and the pneumatic Christ—vv. 16-20:
  - 1. Another Comforter, the Spirit of reality, is the reality of the Son realized as the Son's presence in the believers—vv. 16-18.
  - 2. In resurrection the Son became the life-giving Spirit, and He came to the disciples to breathe into them, asking them to receive the Holy Spirit; by this we can know that the Son is in the Father, the believers are in the Son, and the Son is in the believers—1 Cor. 15:45b; John 20:22; 14:19-20.
- C. If we would appreciate the divine and mystical realm, we need:
  - 1. To be impressed with a sharp contrast: earthly versus heavenly, judicial versus organic, objective versus subjective, physical versus mystical.
  - 2. To distinguish between the procedure and the purpose of God's complete salvation—Rom. 5:10:
    - a. The procedure is judicial and is in the physical realm.
    - b. The purpose is organic and is in the mystical realm.
- D. We should regard highly the entrance into the divine and mystical realm:
  - 1. Christ's heavenly ministry is carried out in the divine and mystical realm—Heb. 8:1.
  - 2. God's organic salvation is accomplished in the divine and mystical realm.
  - 3. All the believers need to be in the divine and mystical realm of the consummated Spirit and the pneumatic Christ to be mingled with the Triune God for the keeping of oneness—John 17:21, 23.
- E. We enter into the divine and mystical realm by seeing this realm; in spiritual things to see is to enter into—3:3, 5.
- F. We enter into the divine and mystical realm by becoming part of this realm:
  - 1. We become part of the divine and mystical realm through the divine birth; through regeneration we were born into the divine and mystical realm—v. 6.
  - 2. We become part of the divine and mystical realm by participating in God's divinity—v. 15; 2 Pet. 1:4; Eph. 4:23; 2 Cor. 3:18; Rom. 8:23, 29.
  - 3. We become part of the divine and mystical realm by being built up in the Body of Christ, which consummates the New Jerusalem as the divine and mystical realm in the new heaven and new earth for eternity—Eph. 4:16; Rev. 21:2.