

THE UNIQUENESS OF THE LORD'S RECOVERY

Message Four

(Friday—First Morning Session)

The All-inclusive Christ

Scripture Reading: Col. 1:17-18; 1 Cor. 1:9, 30; Col. 2:2b-3; 2 Cor. 11:2

I. God's intention in His recovery is to recover Christ as everything; it is to recover Christ as the unique center of God's economy and as everything to us to be our portion for our enjoyment—Col. 1:17b, 18b, 12; 1 Cor. 1:9:

- A. The "dictionary" in the Lord's recovery has only one word—Christ.
- B. It is not the goal of the Lord's recovery to recover doctrine or theology; it is to recover Christ as the unique Husband for us to love—2 Cor. 11:2; 1 Pet. 1:8.

II. The revelation of Christ's person and work in the Bible from eternity past, on the bridge of time, and into eternity future is exceedingly rich and profound—Col. 2:2b-3:

- A. Christ is Jehovah, the Triune God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—Exo. 3:2-6, 14; John 8:58; Isa. 9:6; John 14:9-11; 1 Cor. 15:45b; 2 Cor. 3:17.
- B. In the divine economy He is the portion of the saints, the One who is—Col. 1:12; John 8:58; 14:6; 6:35; 8:12; 10:9; Heb. 11:6.
- C. In creation He is the Word through whom all things came into being, and all things were created in Him, through Him, and unto Him—John 1:1-3; Heb. 11:3; Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:2-3.
- D. In His incarnation He brought the infinite God into the finite man to unite and mingle the Triune God with the tripartite man:
 - 1. He is God manifested in the flesh—1 Tim. 3:16.
 - 2. He is Jesus and Emmanuel—Matt. 1:21, 23.
 - 3. He is the second man and the last Adam—1 Cor. 15:45, 47.
- E. In His human living He expressed in His humanity the bountiful God in His rich attributes through His aromatic virtues—Matt. 13:54-56; Luke 7:49; 8:25:
 - 1. He took the form of a slave, serving God and men—Phil. 2:7; Mark 10:45.
 - 2. He was the faithful Witness of God—Rev. 1:5; 3:14.
- F. In His all-inclusive death He died with a sevenfold status:
 - 1. He died as the Lamb of God—John 1:29.
 - 2. He died as a man in the flesh—Rom. 8:3.
 - 3. He died as the bronze serpent—John 3:14.
 - 4. He died as the last Adam—1 Cor. 15:45.
 - 5. He died as the Firstborn of all creation—Col. 1:15.
 - 6. He died as the Peacemaker—Eph. 2:14-15.
 - 7. He died as the grain of wheat—John 12:24.
- G. In His all-conquering resurrection He became the first in resurrection as the Head of the Body—1 Cor. 15:20; Col. 1:18:
 - 1. He was designated in His humanity to be the firstborn Son of God, the Head of the Body—Rom. 1:3-4; 8:29.

2. He imparted the divine life into the believers for their regeneration to make them the members of His Body—John 12:24; 1 Pet. 1:3; cf. Gen. 2:22.
 3. He became the life-giving Spirit to be the content and reality of the Body—1 Cor. 15:45b; 2 Cor. 3:17; Col. 3:10-11.
- H. In His all-transcending ascension God exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name—Acts 2:33a; Eph. 1:19-20; Phil. 2:9:
1. He transcended Hades (where the dead people are being held), the earth (where the fallen men are moving against God), the air (where Satan and his power of darkness are acting against God), and all the heavens (where Satan can go)—Eph. 1:20-21; 4:8-10; Heb. 4:14; 7:26; cf. Job 1:6-12a; 2:1-6.
 2. He is being transmitted as resurrecting power, ascending power, subjecting power, and heading up power into the church, which is Christ's Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all—Eph. 1:19-23.
 3. He is the Lord and the Christ—Acts 2:36.
 4. He is the Leader (of all the kings) and Savior—5:31.
 5. He is the High Priest—Heb. 4:14; 7:26; 9:11.
 6. He is the Mediator and surety of the new covenant—9:15; 7:22.
 7. He is the Minister in the heavenly Holy of Holies—8:2.
 8. He is the Paraclete (Advocate) of the New Testament believers—1 John 2:1; John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7.
 9. He is the New Testament believers' Intercessor at the right hand of God and within them as well—Rom. 8:34, 26.
- I. In His organic salvation Christ as the life-giving Spirit is everything to the believers—1 Cor. 1:9; 2 Cor. 4:7; Eph. 3:8:
1. He is our life—John 14:6a; Col. 3:4; Rom. 8:2, 10, 6, 11.
 2. He is our necessities and enjoyment—John 8:12; 6:51, 57b; 1 Cor. 10:4; John 20:22; Gal. 3:27; John 15:7a; Col. 2:16-17; Matt. 11:28.
 3. He is God's power and God's wisdom to us—1 Cor. 1:24, 30.
- J. In the intensified work of His organic salvation, He is the sevenfold intensified Spirit to produce the overcomers and consummate the New Jerusalem—Rev. 1:4; 3:1; 4:5; 5:6; cf. 1:10; 2:7.
- K. In His coming back He will be the Son of Man—Matt. 26:64; Rev. 14:14:
1. He will be the morning star to the overcomers—22:16.
 2. He will be the bridegroom to the church—Matt. 25:1; 9:15; John 3:29.
 3. He will be the Savior to Israel—Rom. 11:26; Zech. 12:10.
 4. He will be a Judge to the Gentiles—Acts 17:31; Matt. 25:31-46.
 5. He will be another Angel to take possession of the earth—Rev. 10:1-7.
- L. In His kingdom He will be the Son of Man and the King—Matt. 13:41; Rev. 20:4, 6; 2:26-27.
- M. In the New Jerusalem He will be everything to His chosen, regenerated, transformed, and glorified tripartite people:
1. He will be the Lamb—22:1.
 2. He will be the Husband—19:7; 21:2, 9.
 3. He will be the temple—v. 22.
 4. He will be the lamp—v. 23.
 5. He will be the spring of the water of life—v. 6.
 6. He will be the tree of life—22:2, 14.

7. He will be the Son of Man—John 1:51.
8. He will be the Shepherd—Rev. 7:17.