Outline of the Messages for the Full-time Training in the Fall Term of 2009

GENERAL SUBJECT: STEWARDS OF THE MYSTERIES OF GOD

Message Nine

Christ as the Mystery of God in the Fulfillment of the Old Testament Prophecies

(8)

Scripture Reading: Psa. 118:26; Dan. 2:34-35, 44-45; 7:13-14; Zech. 12:10-14; 14:4-5, 9

XXV. In the Old Testament there are prophecies related to Christ's coming back:

- A. Christ will come as the Son of Man on the cloud—Dan. 7:13; Matt. 26:64; Rev. 14:14.
- B. When Christ comes back, He will set His feet upon the Mount of Olives—Zech. 14:4:
 - 1. Because the Lord Jesus ascended from the Mount of Olives, He will also return to the Mount of Olives—Acts 1:9-12.
 - 2. He ascended physically, and He will come back physically—Matt. 24:30.
- C. Christ will come back with His saints—Zech. 14:5; 1 Thes. 3:13; 4:14.
- D. When the Lord Jesus comes back, He will come with the kingdom that He received of the Father—Dan. 7:14; Luke 19:12, 15:
 - 1. The kingdom, which the Lord will bring with Him at His second coming, is the eternal kingdom that God will raise up on earth and that is received from the Ancient of Days and belongs to the Ancient of Days, that is, to God—Dan. 2:44: 7:13-14.
 - 2. The kingdom that Christ will establish on earth will be the kingdom of God, the kingdom that is from ancient times, even from eternity.

XXVI. In Zechariah 12:10-14 we have a prophecy of Christ as the coming Messiah seen by those who pierced Him and wailed over by all the tribes of Israel:

- A. When Christ comes back to earth, the remnant of Israel will look on Him whom they have pierced, will repent and wail, and will believe in Christ and receive Him as their Savior—Rev. 1:7:
 - 1. In this way all Israel will be saved—Rom. 11:26-27.
 - 2. This will be the household salvation rendered to Israel by God.
- B. Repentant Israel will wail over Christ as the only Son of God and will cry bitterly over Him as the firstborn Son of God—John 1:18; 3:16; Rom. 8:29; Heb. 1:6:
 - 1. Christ's being the only begotten Son is for us to be redeemed and to receive eternal life—John 3:14-16.
 - 2. Christ's becoming the firstborn Son through His death and resurrection is for us to become sons of God as heirs to inherit all the riches of what God is,

- that is, to receive, participate in, and enjoy all the riches of the Triune God—Rom. 8:14-17; Gal. 3:26, 29.
- 3. In their repentance Israel will realize that as the only begotten Son Christ has redeemed them and has brought them eternal life and that as the first-born Son He has made them heirs to inherit the riches of the Triune God as their enjoyment.

XXVII. In the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies, Christ is the One coming in the name of Jehovah and blessed by repentant Israel—Psa. 118:26:

- A. Psalm 118:26 has a double fulfillment—at the Lord's first coming and at His coming back—Matt. 21:9; 23:39.
- B. At His second coming, the remnant of Israel will turn to believe in Him and be saved—Rom. 11:23, 26:
 - 1. At that time they will repent to the Lord and call upon Him, and the nation will be saved.
 - 2. This salvation will be not only for individuals but for the entire nation.

XXVIII. In His coming back Christ will be the stone falling on the Gentile kingdoms and scattering them as chaff—Dan. 2:34-35, 44-45; Matt. 21:44:

- A. When the Lord Jesus comes the second time, He will be a stone cut without hands, falling from the heavens upon the great image—Dan. 2:34, 45:
 - 1. The great image signifies the worldly powers from Babylon down to the ten kingdoms of the restored Roman Empire, which will exist at the time of Christ's coming back—vv. 31-35, 44.
 - 2. At His coming back Christ will first be the smiting stone that scatters all the broken nations as chaff, and then He will become a great mountain—the kingdom of God on earth—v. 35.
- B. To the believers, Christ is the foundation stone, the building stone, in whom they trust (Isa. 28:16); to the unbelieving Jews, He is the stumbling stone (8:14; Rom. 9:33); and to the nations, He will be the smiting stone.
- C. The unbelieving Gentiles who fight against God will know Christ as the smiting stone, which will smite them and scatter them—Dan. 2:35.

XXIX. Christ as the coming King will set up His kingdom over all the earth—Zech 14:9; Matt. 25:31-34; 1 Cor. 15:25:

- A. In the millennium there will be three realms: the realm of the earth, where the blessing of God's creation will take place (Gen. 1:28-30); the realm of the nation of Israel, in which the saved Jews will rule over the whole earth (Isa. 60:10-12; Zech. 14:16-18); and the heavenly and spiritual realm (1 Cor. 15:50-52), which will be the manifestation of the kingdom of the heavens and where the overcoming believers will enjoy the kingdom reward (Matt. 5:20; 7:21).
- B. Eventually, every enemy will be put under the feet of Christ—1 Cor. 15:25.