

**Outline of  
the Messages for the Full-time Training  
in the Fall Term of 2022**

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**GENERAL SUBJECT:  
LIVING IN THE REALITY OF THE BODY OF CHRIST  
BY LEARNING CHRIST AS THE REALITY IS IN JESUS**

Message Twelve

**Living in the Reality of the Body of Christ  
by Knowing and Experiencing  
the True One—the Genuine and Real God**

Scripture Reading: 1 John 1:5-7; 5:6, 20; 2 John 1-2, 4; 3 John 1, 3-4, 8

- I. The Son of God has come and has given us an understanding so that we might know the true One, the genuine and real God—1 John 5:20:**
- A. This understanding is the faculty of our mind enlightened and empowered by the Spirit of reality to apprehend the divine reality in our regenerated spirit—Eph. 4:23; John 16:12-15.
  - B. *Know* in 1 John 5:20 is the ability of the divine life to know the true God in our regenerated spirit through our renewed mind, enlightened by the Spirit of reality—John 17:3; Eph. 1:17.
  - C. In 1 John 5:20 *Him who is true*—or *the true One*—refers to God becoming subjective to us, that is, to the God who is objective becoming the true One in our life and experience:
    - 1. The true One is the divine reality; to know the true One means to know the divine reality by experiencing, enjoying, and possessing this reality.
    - 2. This indicates that the divine reality—God Himself, who was once objective to us—has become our subjective reality in our experience—v. 6.
  - D. To be in the true One is to be in His Son Jesus Christ—v. 20:
    - 1. This indicates that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is the true God.
    - 2. This also indicates that the true One and Jesus Christ are one in the way of coinherence; thus, to be in the Son is to be in the true One.
  - E. The word *this* in verse 20 refers to the God who has come through incarnation and has given us the ability to know Him as the genuine God and be one with Him organically in His Son Jesus Christ:
    - 1. This genuine and real God is eternal life to us so that we may partake of Him as everything for our regenerated being.
    - 2. *This* refers to the true God and Jesus Christ in whom we are; it includes the fact that we are in this One, the true One, and implies that, in a practical sense, eternal life is the God in whom we are experientially.
    - 3. Therefore, the true God and eternal life include our being in the true One and in His Son Jesus Christ; now in our experience the true One becomes the true God, and Jesus Christ becomes eternal life.

**II. If we know and experience the true One, we will live in the divine light, the divine truth, and the divine reality—1:5-7; 5:6; 2 John 1-2, 4; 3 John 1, 3-4, 8:**

- A. The divine light is the nature of God's expression and shines in the divine life—1 John 1:5-6; John 1:4; 8:12:
  - 1. Light is God's shining, God's expression; when God is expressed, the nature of that expression is light—1 John 1:5:
    - a. To walk in the divine light is to live, move, act, and have our being in the divine light, which is God Himself—v. 7.
    - b. The shining of the divine light makes old things new—2:7-8.
    - c. If we are under God's dispensing, we participate in God's nature as light and are constituted with this element of His nature—John 1:5; 2 Cor. 4:6.
  - 2. The divine light shines in the divine life—John 1:4; 8:12:
    - a. A great principle in the Bible is that light and life go together—Psa. 36:9.
    - b. Where light is, there is life, and where life is, there is light—John 1:4.
  - 3. The divine light is the source of the divine truth—vv. 5, 9; 18:37:
    - a. When the divine light shines upon us, it becomes the truth, which is the divine reality—8:12, 32.
    - b. When the divine light shines, the divine things become real to us.
    - c. Because light is the source of truth and truth is the issue of light, when we walk in the light, we practice the truth—1 John 1:6-7.
- B. The divine light that shines in the divine life and issues in the divine truth is embodied in the Lord Jesus, God incarnate—John 1:1, 4, 14; 8:12; 9:5; 14:6:
  - 1. In John's writings the Greek word for *truth* (*aletheia*) denotes all the realities of the divine economy as the content of the divine revelation, contained, conveyed, and disclosed by the holy Word—John 17:17; 18:37.
  - 2. Truth is God, who is light and love, incarnated to be the reality of the divine things for our possession—1:1, 4, 14-17.
  - 3. Truth is Christ, who is God incarnated and in whom all the fullness of the Godhead dwells bodily, to be the reality of God and man, of all the types and figures in the Old Testament, and of all the divine and spiritual things—Col. 2:9, 16-17; John 4:23-24.
  - 4. Truth is the Spirit, who is Christ transfigured, the reality of Christ and of the divine revelation—14:16-17; 15:26; 16:13-15.
  - 5. Truth is the Word of God as the divine revelation, which reveals and conveys the reality of God and Christ and of all divine and spiritual things—17:17.
- C. The central factor in 1 John is the divine reality—4:13-14; 5:6:
  - 1. The divine reality is the divine person—the Father, the Son, and the Spirit—becoming our experience, enjoyment, and constituent through incarnation, human living, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension—John 1:14, 29; 20:22.
  - 2. The divine reality is the Father in the Son and the Son as the Spirit dispensed into God's chosen, redeemed, and regenerated people so that they may enjoy Him as life, life supply, and everything—14:6, 12-13, 16-20.