

**Outline of
the Messages for the Full-time Training
in the Fall Term of 2025**

**GENERAL SUBJECT:
THE CRUCIAL POINTS OF THE TRUTH IN PAUL'S EPISTLES—
PHILIPPIANS AND COLOSSIANS**

Message Six

**To Know Christ,
the Power of His Resurrection,
and the Fellowship of His Sufferings,
Being Conformed to His Death,
to Attain to the Out-resurrection from the Dead**

Scripture Reading: Phil. 3:10-11; Eph. 1:19-20; Rom. 1:4

I. “To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death”—Phil. 3:10:

- A. In verse 8 to have the excellency of the knowledge of Christ is by revelation, but to know Him in verse 10 is by experience—to have the experiential knowledge of Him, to experience Him in the full knowledge of Him.
- B. Paul first received the revelation of Christ and then sought the experience of Christ so that he could know and enjoy Christ in an experiential way.
- C. The power of Christ's resurrection is His resurrection life, which raised Him from the dead—Eph. 1:19-20:
 - 1. The reality of the power of Christ's resurrection is the Spirit—Rom. 1:4.
 - 2. To know, to experience, this power requires identification with Christ's death and conformity to it.
 - 3. To experience the power of Christ's resurrection, we need to live a crucified life, as He did.
 - 4. Our conformity to His death affords the power of His resurrection a base from which to rise up so that His divine life may be expressed in us.
- D. The participation in Christ's sufferings (Matt. 20:22-23; Col. 1:24) is a necessary condition for the experience of the power of His resurrection (2 Tim. 2:11) by being conformed to His death:
 - 1. Paul was pursuing to know and experience the life power of Christ's resurrection and the participation in His sufferings.
 - 2. With Christ, the sufferings and death came first, followed by the resurrection; with us, the power of His resurrection comes first, followed by the participation in His sufferings and conformity to His death.
- E. We must take Christ's death as the mold of our life:
 - 1. Paul lived a crucified life continually, a life under the cross, just as Christ did in His human living.
 - 2. Through such a life the resurrection power of Christ is experienced and expressed.
 - 3. The mold of Christ's death refers to Christ's experience of continually putting to death His human life that He might live by the life of God—John 6:57.

4. Our life should be conformed to such a mold by our dying to our human life to live the divine life.

II. “If perhaps I may attain to the out-resurrection from the dead”—Phil. 3:11:

- A. The result of being conformed to Christ’s death is that we may attain to the out-resurrection from the dead—v. 11.
- B. The out-resurrection is the outstanding resurrection, the extra-resurrection, which will be a prize to the overcoming saints—Rev. 20:4, 6:
 1. All believers who are dead in Christ will participate in the resurrection from the dead at the Lord’s coming back—1 Thes. 4:16; 1 Cor. 15:52.
 2. The Lord’s overcomers will enjoy an extra, outstanding portion of that resurrection, a resurrection in which they will receive the reward of the kingdom; this is what the apostle Paul sought after—Heb. 11:35, 26.
 3. The out-resurrection should be the goal and destination of our Christian life—Phil. 3:11-15a.
- C. To arrive at the out-resurrection indicates that our entire being is gradually and continually resurrected—1 Thes. 5:23:
 1. God first resurrected our deadened spirit; then from our spirit He proceeds to resurrect our soul and our mortal body, until our whole being—spirit, soul, and body—is fully resurrected out of our old being by His life and with His life—Eph. 2:5-6; Rom. 8:6, 11.
 2. This is a process in life through which we must pass and a race that we must run until we arrive at the out-resurrection as the prize—Phil. 3:11-14.
 3. If we are conformed to Christ’s death, every part of our being will be gradually resurrected; thus, the Christian life is a process of resurrection.
 4. We can reach this goal only by being conformed to the death of Christ, by living a crucified life—v. 11; Gal. 2:20.
- D. The out-resurrection is a resurrection out of the old creation into the new creation—6:15; 2 Cor. 5:17:
 1. To be in the out-resurrection means to leave everything of the old creation and to be brought into God.
 2. In the out-resurrection there is no element of the old creation; instead, everything is full of the divine element—Rev. 21:5a.
- E. For Paul, to live was Christ as the out-resurrection—Phil. 1:21a; 3:11:
 1. The out-resurrection is actually the dear, precious, excellent person of Christ, the One who, through crucifixion and resurrection, has passed out of the old creation and has entered into God—John 14:3, 20; Heb. 6:19-20.
 2. The Christ whom we should live is Himself the out-resurrection—Phil. 1:21a; 3:11.
- F. In Philippians 3:12 Paul had already obtained the believers’ common salvation by the believers’ common faith, but he had not obtained the extra portion of resurrection:
 1. To obtain that portion he had to pursue, to run, and to finish the course triumphantly—2 Tim. 4:7-8.
 2. The Greek word for *pursue* in Philippians 3:12 is the same word as for *persecute*; this word means also “to press toward, to follow after”:
 - a. In such a way Paul ran the race to obtain the prize and reach maturity.
 - b. Before he was saved, he persecuted Christ; after he was saved, he pursued Christ to such an extent that he persecuted Christ, but in a positive way.
- G. We need to be conformed to Christ’s death so that by any means we may attain to the out-resurrection.