

Message Two

**The High Peak of the Divine Revelation
and the Reality of the Body of Christ**

Scripture Reading: Rom. 8:3; 1:3-4; 8:4; 12:4-5; Gal. 2:20; Phil. 3:10-11

- I. The high peak of the divine revelation is that God became man so that man may become God in life and nature but not in the Godhead to produce and build up the organic Body of Christ for the fulfillment of God's economy to close this age and bring Christ back to set up His kingdom—John 1:12-14; 1 John 3:1-2; Rom. 8:3; 12:4-5; Rev. 11:15:**
- A. God's economy is His intention to dispense Himself in His Divine Trinity into His chosen and redeemed people to be their life and nature so that they may be the same as He is for His corporate expression—1 Tim. 1:4; Eph. 1:3-23.
 - B. God has a heart's desire and eternal purpose; He wants to make Himself man and to make man God so that the two—God and man—may be the same in life and nature—vv. 5, 9; 3:11; 4:16; 5:30, 32.
 - C. For the accomplishment of His economy, God created us in His own image with the intention that we would become God in life and nature but not in the Godhead—Gen. 1:26; Rev. 4:3; 21:10-11.
 - D. God's economy, as recorded in the Scriptures, is that God became man to make us God in life, nature, and expression so that we may have a God-man living and become the Body of Christ—Rom. 8:3; 1:3-4; 8:4, 14, 29; 12:4-5:
 - 1. God sent His Son to be a man and to live a God-man life by the divine life—John 3:16; 1:14; 6:57a.
 - 2. This God-man living issues in a universal, great man who is exactly the same as Christ—a corporate God-man who lives a God-man life by the divine life for the manifestation of God in the flesh—Eph. 4:24; 1 Tim. 3:15-16.
 - E. God redeemed us for the purpose of making us God in life and nature so that God can have the Body of Christ, which consummates in the New Jerusalem as God's enlargement and expression for eternity—Eph. 1:6; 4:16; Rev. 21:2.
 - F. The One who is God yet man dwells in the one who is man yet God, and the one who is man yet God dwells in the One who is God yet man; thus, they are a mutual dwelling place—John 14:2-3, 20, 23; 15:4a.
 - G. God became man to make man God in life and nature through a marvelous process:
 - 1. With God this process was incarnation, human living, crucifixion, and resurrection—1:14; 6:57a; 1:29; 3:14; 12:24; 20:22.
 - 2. With us this process is regeneration, sanctification, renewing, transformation, conformation, and glorification—3:6; Rom. 12:2.
 - 3. In Paul's Epistles we see the ascended Christ ministering Himself to us as the life-giving Spirit to transform us into His image, making us the same as He is in His essence, element, nature, and appearance—2 Cor. 3:17-18.
 - H. It is only by God's becoming man to make man God that the Body of Christ can be produced and built up; this is the high peak of the divine revelation given to us by God—Rom. 8:3; 1:3-4; 8:14, 16, 29; 12:4-5.

II. The reality of the Body of Christ is a corporate living by a group of God's redeemed who have been made God, the God-men, by God and who live not by themselves but by another life, which is the processed and consummated Triune God—Gal. 2:20:

- A. The highest peak in God's economy is the reality of the Body of Christ; the reality of the Body of Christ is absolutely organic—Rom. 8:2, 6, 10-11; 12:4-5.
- B. The reality of the Body of Christ is the union and mingling of God and man to live out a corporate God-man—John 14:20; 15:4a; Eph. 4:4-6, 24.
- C. The reality of the Body of Christ is a corporate living of conformity to the death of Christ by the power of resurrection—Phil. 3:10.
- D. The reality of the Body of Christ requires the believers to be absolutely in the resurrection life of Christ; to be in resurrection means that our natural life is crucified and that the God-created part of our being is uplifted in resurrection to be one with Christ in resurrection—John 11:25; Phil. 3:10-11; 2 Cor. 1:9.
- E. The Lord's recovery is for the building up of the Body of Christ; thus, to know the Body is the proper recovery of the Lord—1 Cor. 12:27; Eph. 4:16; Col. 3:15:
 - 1. God's economy is to gain a Body for His Son; this Body fulfills God's desire for His expression and the destruction of the enemy—Eph. 1:22-23; 4:16; Gen. 1:26-28.
 - 2. The church takes the Body of Christ as its organic factor; without the Body of Christ, the church is lifeless and is a mere human organization—1 Cor. 1:2; 12:12-13, 27.
 - 3. The Body is the intrinsic significance of the church; without the Body, the church makes no sense and has no meaning—Rom. 12:4-5; 16:1, 4, 16.
 - 4. The Body of Christ is formed by Christ as life in us; this life mingles with us to become the Body of Christ—1 John 5:11-12; Col. 1:18; 2:19; 3:4, 15.
 - 5. The Body of Christ is a matter of the mingled spirit; to be in the reality of the Body of Christ is to live in the mingled spirit—Rom. 8:4; 1 Cor. 6:17.
 - 6. As members of the Body of Christ, we need to have the consciousness of the Body and a feeling for the Body; the Body is universal, the life within us is universal, and the sense of the Body is universal—Rom. 12:15; 1 Cor. 12:26-27; 2 Cor. 11:28-29.
 - 7. The Lord's recovery is to build up Zion—the reality of the Body of Christ consummating in the New Jerusalem; in the church life we must endeavor to reach today's Zion—Eph. 1:22-23; 4:16; 1 Cor. 1:2; 12:27; Rev. 14:1; 21:2.
 - 8. If we would have the reality of the Body of Christ, we must allow Christ to make His home in our hearts; the reality of the Body is the inner experience of the indwelling Christ—Eph. 3:16-17a; 4:16; Col. 1:27; 3:4, 15.
 - 9. The Lord urgently needs the reality of the Body of Christ to be expressed in the local churches; unless there is a substantial expression of the Body, the Lord Jesus will not return—Eph. 1:22-23; 4:16; 5:27, 30; Rev. 19:7.
 - 10. The Lord needs the overcomers to carry out the economy of God to have the Body of Christ and to destroy His enemy; without the overcomers, the Body of Christ cannot be built up, and unless the Body of Christ is built up, Christ cannot come back for His bride—Eph. 1:10; 3:10; Rev. 12:11; 19:7-9.