

KEY STATEMENTS FOR THE 2025 THANKSGIVING BLENDING CONFERENCE

**What we need today is the up-to-date, instant, and living vision
of the heavenly Christ as the living star.**

**The practical Emmanuel is the Spirit of reality
as the presence of the consummated Triune God in our spirit;
His presence is always with us in our spirit,
not only day by day but also moment by moment.**

**The clearest revelation of the Divine Trinity is in Matthew 28:19:
“Go therefore and disciple all the nations,
baptizing them into the name
of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”**

**There are two great principles in the universe—
God’s authority and Satan’s rebellion;
the unique controversy between God and Satan
concerns authority.**

**Outline of the Messages
for the Thanksgiving Blending Conference
November 27-30, 2025**

**GENERAL SUBJECT:
THE ALL-INCLUSIVE CHRIST
AS REVEALED IN MATTHEW**

Message One

**The Up-to-date, Instant, and Living Vision
of the Heavenly Christ as the Living Star**

Scripture Reading: Matt. 2:1-12; Num. 24:17; Gen. 1:14-19; Dan. 12:3;
Rev. 1:16, 20; 2:1, 28; 3:1; 22:16; 2 Pet. 1:19; Gen. 22:17; Jude 12-13

- I. After Jesus was born in Bethlehem, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star at its rising and have come to worship Him” (Matt. 2:2); this was the fulfillment of Numbers 24:17, which says, “There shall come forth a Star out of Jacob”; this Star refers to Christ:**
- A. The magi did not say, “We saw *a* star,” or “We saw *the* star,” but “We saw *His* star”; the Star is the heavenly Christ.
 - B. The star spoken of in Matthew 2:2 was shown to these learned men; it did not appear to any of the people of Israel; whereas the Jews had the Scriptures concerning Christ and knew where He would be born (vv. 4-6), the magi saw the star of Christ.
 - C. The Jews had the knowledge in letters concerning where Christ was to be born (Micah 5:2), but these learned men from the east received a living vision of Him; eventually, the star led them to the place where Christ was (Matt. 2:1-12).
 - D. Christ is the real Sun (Mal. 4:2), but strictly speaking, He does not appear as the sun during the age of night; rather, He shines as a star (Rev. 2:28); a star shines at night, but it indicates that day is coming (Rom. 13:11-14).
 - E. When Christ came the first time, He appeared openly as a star, but when He comes the second time, He will be the morning star (Rev. 2:28; 22:16) to His overcomers, who watch for His coming; to all others Christ will later appear as the sun (Mal. 4:2; cf. Matt. 13:43).
- II. Matthew 2:1-12 reveals that to find Christ is a living matter; it is not a matter of mere doctrinal knowledge of the Bible:**
- A. The star appeared far away from the temple in the Holy Land, from the Jewish religious center, from the priests, the scribes, the Pharisees, and from all the religious ones; instead, there was a star showing something of Christ in a heathen land.
 - B. Merely to hold the Bible in our hand and read Micah 5:2, saying that Christ will be born in Bethlehem, does not work; we may have the Bible, but we may miss the heavenly star.
 - C. The star is the living revelation, the living vision, not the old and dead doctrinal knowledge of the Scriptures, not the dead knowledge of Micah 5:2; what we need today is not merely Bible knowledge but the heavenly vision, the up-to-date, instant vision, the living vision, the vision that human concepts can never teach.
 - D. Even if we have the knowledge of the Scriptures, we still need the instant, up-to-date, living star to lead us to the very street and the very house where Jesus is.
 - E. After receiving the living vision, the magi were misled by their human concept and went to Jerusalem, the capital of the Jewish nation, where its king was presumed to be; their being misled caused many young boys to be killed—Matt. 2:16.

- F. When they arrived in Jerusalem and inquired concerning where the King of the Jews was to be born, the Scripture says that “when Herod the king heard this, he was troubled and all Jerusalem with him”—v. 3:
 - 1. When they heard this news, they should have rejoiced; instead, they were troubled; this is for no other reason than that they were not genuinely seeking the Savior—cf. Prov. 4:23.
 - 2. If one who believes in the Lord is not affected by the Lord as love in his inward emotions, he is not worthy to be called a Christian—2 Tim. 4:8; Mark 12:30; 1 Cor. 2:9.
 - 3. A Christian who expects the Lord to come or who expects to be raptured should take this as a warning—2 Tim. 4:8; Titus 2:13; Rev. 2:28; 22:20; Matt. 24:40-44; 25:8-13.
- G. After the magi were corrected by the Scriptures (2:4-6), they went to Bethlehem (vv. 8-9), and the star appeared to them again and led them to the place where Christ was, “and when they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy” (v. 10):
 - 1. When the magi were corrected by the Scriptures and restored to the right track, the star appeared to them again; living vision always accompanies the Scriptures.
 - 2. The priests were those who taught people the law (Mal. 2:7), and the scribes were those who knew the Scriptures (Ezra 7:6); both the priests and the scribes had knowledge concerning the birth of Christ (Matt. 2:5-6), but unlike the magi from the east, they did not see the vision, nor did they have the heart to seek after Christ.
 - 3. Regardless of how “scriptural” we are, if we lose the presence of the Lord, we are absolutely wrong; the New Testament way to find and follow the Lord is to continually stay in His hidden presence—John 5:39-40; Isa. 45:15; Exo. 33:11, 14; cf. 2 Cor. 5:16.
 - 4. It is easy to accumulate scriptural knowledge, but if we would have living guidance, we must live in an intimate relationship with the Lord; we must be one with Him—Matt. 2:10-14.
 - 5. The magi saw Christ, and they worshipped Him; then they were warned by God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, so they departed into their own country “by another way” (v. 12); once we have seen Christ, we never take the same way, the way of religion apart from Christ, but we will always take another way.

III. Christ’s faithful followers are shining and living stars, those who follow Christ as the shining and living star to be His duplication—Dan. 12:3; cf. Gen. 22:17:

- A. The living stars follow the heavenly, living, up-to-date, and instant vision of Christ as the centrality and universality of God’s economy—Acts 26:16-18; Col. 1:17b, 18b.
- B. The living stars are those who bless God’s people; the more we praise the Lord for God’s people and speak well of them in faith, the more we put ourselves under God’s blessing—Num. 24:9; Gen. 12:2-3; 22:17.
- C. The living stars give heed to the prophetic word of the Scriptures “as to a lamp shining in a dark place” so that Christ as the morning star rises in their hearts day by day; if we give heed to the word in the Bible, we will have His rising in our hearts to shine in the darkness of apostasy where we are today, before His actual appearing as the morning star—2 Pet. 1:19; John 6:63; Rev. 2:28; 22:16; 2 Tim. 4:8:
 - 1. In the principle of the morning star, a Christian should rise up early because the early morning is the best time to meet the Lord (to fellowship with God, to praise and sing, to pray-read the Bible with the ministry, and to pray to the Lord)—S. S. 7:12; Psa. 5:1-3; 57:8-9; 59:16-17; 63:1-8; 90:14; 92:1-2; 108:2-3; 143:8; Exo. 16:21.
 - 2. The Lord will secretly give Himself as the morning star to those who love Him and who watch and wait for Him so that they may taste the freshness of His presence at His coming back after a long absence—1 Thes. 5:6; Rev. 2:28; 3:2-3; 16:15.
- D. The living stars enjoy and are filled with the sevenfold intensified Spirit to make them intensely living and intensely shining for God’s building—3:1; 4:5; 5:6.

- E. The living stars are the messengers of the churches, those who enjoy and experience the pneumatic Christ as the Messenger of God and as the fresh message from God so that they can dispense the fresh and present Christ into the people of God for the testimony of Jesus—1:16, 20; 2:1; Mal. 3:1-3.
- F. The living stars have “great resolutions in heart” and “great searchings of heart”; they are lovers of God who are like the “stars...from their courses” to fight together with God against His enemy so that they may be “like the sun / When it rises in its might” and be those who “shine forth like the sun in the kingdom of their Father”—Judg. 5:15-16, 20, 31; Dan. 11:32; Matt. 13:43.
- G. The living stars are those who fear Jehovah and hear the voice of His servant, trusting in Jehovah so that they may have light while walking in darkness—Isa. 50:10-11; Psa. 139:7-12, 23-24:
 - 1. Those who make light for themselves and walk in their self-made light instead of in God’s light will suffer torment—Isa. 50:11.
 - 2. This should be a warning to us so that we may walk in the light given by God, not in the light we make for ourselves; “Come and let us walk in the light of Jehovah”—2:5.
- H. The living stars are typified by the stars that were established on the fourth day of God’s restoration with His further creation, in which they rule by their shining; where there is shining, there is ruling for the growth of life—Gen. 1:14-19:
 - 1. The shining forth of the Lord Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration was the coming of the kingdom in power; this shining forth is actually the ruling presence of the Triune God—Matt. 17:1-8; Mark 9:1-8.
 - 2. The kingdom of God as the ruling of God, the reigning of God, with all its blessings and enjoyment is the shining of the Lord Jesus and the spreading of the Lord Jesus by shining over us.
 - 3. The kingdom is the shining of the reality of the Lord Jesus; whenever He is shining over us and we are under that shining, we are in the kingdom under God’s ruling and reigning within us for our growth of life.
- I. On the negative side, there are some who are “wandering stars”—Jude 12-13:
 - 1. The metaphor of wandering stars indicates that the erratic teachers, the apostates, were not solidly fixed in the unchanging truths of the heavenly revelation but were wandering about among God’s starlike people.
 - 2. The erratic apostates are wandering stars today, but they will eventually be imprisoned in the gloom of darkness, which has been kept for them for eternity.
 - 3. Anyone who does not teach that the local churches are not the goal of God’s economy but the procedure to reach the goal of the reality of the Body of Christ does not match the need of the ministry of God in the present age; anyone who keeps us from the blending of the churches for the reality of the Body of Christ is a wandering star; the true stars are those who turn many to righteousness, those who do not lead people astray but turn them to the right way.
 - 4. Today the living Star and the living stars are not far from us—they are in and with the local churches as the practical expressions of the Body of Christ (Rev. 1:11, 20); among all the local churches there are some living stars; we simply need to contact them and keep company with them; they will lead us to the place where Jesus is.
- J. May the Lord be merciful to us that we may always be kept in the right way to meet the Lord, to worship Him, and to offer our love to Him; may the Lord make us all like the magi, following the living star to find and make new discoveries of Christ in order to become His duplication as the living stars—cf. Eph. 5:8-9; Jer. 15:16a.

BLESSING GOD'S PEOPLE TO RECEIVE GOD'S BLESSING

“I will bless those who bless you, / And him who curses you I will curse.”—Gen. 12:3a
“Blessed is everyone who blesses you, / And cursed is everyone who curses you.”—Num. 24:9b

CWWL, 1978, vol. 1, “Fellowship with the Serving Ones, Volume One,” p. 203:

In the eyes of the Lord it is evil, unclean, to criticize the meetings. The Lord would say to you, “This is My Body. Who are you? Who gave you the right to make a standard for a meeting of My church?” As soon as you say something critical of the meeting, you break the oneness. Suppose others do not like your idea of a good meeting. What would you say? I may not like the meeting, but I dare not say a word because I know this causes division...Who am I to say that I do not like the meeting? May the Lord’s merciful shining come to us and to so many dear ones.

Life-study of Exodus, msg. 7, pp. 78-80:

Something happened in a prayer meeting in Shanghai in the early 1940s that helped me to see God’s people as He sees them. In that meeting an experienced sister co-worker, troubled by the low state of the church, cried out to the Lord on behalf of the church. As she prayed, she sighed and groaned because of the poor condition of the church. When she finished praying, Brother Nee broke forth in praise to the Lord and gave Him thanks that the church is never weak or low but always high. The congregation was shocked. Then Brother Nee helped us to understand the significance of Balaam’s prophecy regarding the children of Israel. Balaam was hired by Balak to curse the children of Israel. But instead of cursing God’s people, Balaam blessed them. Speaking on behalf of God, Balaam said, “He has not beheld iniquity in Jacob, / Nor has He seen trouble in Israel” (Num. 23:21). Furthermore, in Numbers 24:5 Balaam said, “How fair are your tents, O Jacob, / Your tabernacles, O Israel!” According to these verses, God did not see iniquity or trouble in Israel. Instead, He saw only goodness, fairness, and beauty. The same is true regarding the church today.

Do not say that the church is low or dead. The more you say this, the more you put yourself under a curse. However, if you praise the Lord for the church life and speak well concerning it, you will put yourself under God’s blessing. During all the years I have been in the church life, I have not seen one person who spoke negatively about the church who was under God’s blessing. On the contrary, all who have said that the church was poor, low, or dead have been under a curse. Those who speak positively about the church, declaring that the church is lovely and that it is God’s house, receive the blessing. This is not mere doctrine; it is a testimony that can be verified by the experiences of many saints.

Sometimes when I am disappointed over the church and do not think positively about it, the Lord within warns me to be careful. Immediately, I ask the Lord to cleanse me, and I begin to declare how wonderful the church is. Even though the church may cause me trouble, I still love the church. The more I speak in this positive way, the more I am under God’s blessing.

Whose word about the church is right, yours or the Lord’s? In eternity the Lord’s word will prove to be right, for in eternity the church will be marvelous, glorious, and transcendent. All the enemy’s accusations regarding the church are lies. To say that the church is poor or dead is to utter a devilish lie. The apparent situation of the church is a lie. It is a lie to say that the church is cold or dead or low. The church is uplifted and very living. I am thankful for Brother Nee’s strong word concerning Balaam’s prophecy. That word fully changed my concept concerning the present state of the church. From the time I received that word, I have seen the church in a completely different light.

Do not see deeper than the Lord sees. According to Balaam’s word in Numbers, the Lord did not see iniquity in Jacob. How, then, can you see it? Are you wiser or more perceptive than God? The Bible declares that the Lord does not see trouble in Israel. But you claim to see trouble in the church. Which do you choose to believe, the Lord’s sight or yours? If we stand with the Lord’s estimation of the church, we will be kept from falling from the blessing into the curse. May we all take heed how we deal with the church.