

THE NEW JERUSALEM—THE ULTIMATE CONSUMMATION

Evening Message Two

Becoming the New Jerusalem

Scripture Reading: Rev. 3:12; 21:14; Acts 2:42; Gal. 4:22-26; Rom. 5:10; 1 Cor. 12:24b, 27

- I. **“Eventually, the triune, eternal God becomes the New Jerusalem incorporated with all of us. We do not enter into the New Jerusalem; we become the New Jerusalem. Our becoming is our entering in”** (*Crystallization-study of the Gospel of John*, p. 148).
- II. **We become the New Jerusalem by closely following the apostles’ teaching—Acts 2:42; Titus 1:9:**
 - A. The twelve foundations of the New Jerusalem bear the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb—Rev. 21:14:
 1. Representing the apostles’ teaching—Acts 2:42; Titus 1:9.
 2. Indicating that the New Jerusalem is built according to the apostles’ teaching.
 3. Signifying that the New Jerusalem is built upon the apostles and prophets with their revelation received of Christ as the rock—Matt. 16:18; Eph. 2:20; 3:3-4.
 - B. The teaching of the apostles is the entire speaking of God in the New Testament (Heb. 1:2a; Matt. 28:20; John 16:12-15) concerning God’s New Testament economy, which is to gain a universal incorporation of the union and mingling of divinity with humanity—John 14:20.
 - C. We need to continue steadfastly in and closely follow the apostles’ teaching to build up the Body of Christ to consummate the New Jerusalem—2 Tim. 3:10, 14; 2:2; Titus 1:9.
- III. **We become the New Jerusalem by enjoying the grace of God—1 Pet. 5:10; 2 Cor. 13:14; Heb. 10:29:**
 - A. Grace is the processed and consummated Triune God becoming life and everything to us.
 - B. The twelve apostles, whose names are on the twelve foundations of the New Jerusalem, represent the grace of the New Testament, signifying that grace is the source, the element, and the means for producing the New Jerusalem—Rev. 21:14.
 - C. The Jerusalem above—the heavenly Jerusalem (Heb. 12:22), the New Jerusalem—is the mother of the believers, and this mother is the new covenant of grace—Gal. 4:26:
 1. Our mother is the grace of God, and our Father is the grace and the grace-giver.
 2. The Father, the grace, the mother, the sons, the city, and the covenant will become one entity—the New Jerusalem.

3. The New Jerusalem is produced by the dispensing of the processed Triune God into us as grace to bring us forth as God's many sons to compose the New Jerusalem, which is our mother—Gal. 3:26; 4:26; Rev. 21:7.

IV. We become the New Jerusalem by experiencing God's complete salvation and by reigning in life unto eternal life—Rom. 5:10, 17-18, 21:

- A. The New Jerusalem is the embodiment of God's complete salvation—Rev. 21:19—22:2:
 1. God's complete salvation is a composition of God's righteousness as the base and God's life as the consummation—Rom. 5:18.
 2. The entire New Jerusalem is a matter of life built on the foundation of righteousness.
 3. In His organic salvation, God proceeds step by step to make His chosen people regenerated ones, sanctified ones, renewed ones, transformed ones, and glorified ones—John 1:12-13; 1 Thes. 5:23; 2 Cor. 4:16; Rom. 12:2; 8:29-30.
 4. As we experience each section of God's organic salvation, we go up level by level until we become beings in the New Jerusalem—Rev. 21:7.
- B. We reign in life "unto eternal life," that is, unto the New Jerusalem—John 4:14b; Rom. 5:17, 21:
 1. The New Jerusalem is the totality of the divine life, the totality of the life of God—John 4:14b.
 2. The issue of our reigning in life will be the New Jerusalem.
 3. The goal of our reigning in life should be uniquely and ultimately the goal of God's eternal economy—the New Jerusalem as the universal incorporation of the union and mingling of divinity with humanity.

V. We become the New Jerusalem by being blended into the reality of the Body of Christ—1 Cor. 10:17; 12:24b, 27; Eph. 4:4-6:

- A. In order to be in the reality of the Body of Christ, we need to practice the universal blending—1 Cor. 12:24b.
- B. If we would be blended into the reality of the Body of Christ, we need to know that the reality of the Body of Christ is 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; Phil. 3:9-10; 1:19-21a.
- C. The reality of the Body of Christ requires the believers to be absolutely in the resurrection life of Christ—Phil. 3:10-11.
- D. For the reality of the Body of Christ, which consummates the New Jerusalem, God is building Himself in Christ into us and building us in Christ into Him—John 14:20, 23; Eph. 3:16-17a.