Outline of
the Messages for the Full-time Training
in the Spring Term of 2006

GENERAL SUBJECT: KNOWING AND EXPERIENCING
THE INTRINSIC CONSTITUTION OF THE BUILDING OF GOD

Message Eleven
Being Mingled with God to Grow with the Growth of God and
to Be Transformed by God to Minister God for the Building of God

Scripture Reading: 2 Sam. 7:12-14a; Col. 2:19; Matt. 13:18-23; John 17:11, 21; Eph. 4:15-16

I. The church as the Body of Christ is the organism of the Triune God, and
the building up of the church is by our being mingled with God to grow
with the growth of God and to be transformed by God to minister God for
us to be perfected into one for the building of God—Eph. 1:22-23; 4:4, 16;
Lev. 2:4-5; Col. 2:19; Acts 6:4; John 17:23; cf. Eph. 4:11-13:
A. Real building is the growth in life (1 Cor. 3:6-12a; Eph. 2:21-22), real building
is the transformation in life (Rom. 12:2), and real building is the oneness of the
Body, the oneness in the Triune God (Eph. 4:4-6, 12-13; John 17:21, 23).
B. The mingling of God with man and the oneness of the Body are the central
matters in the Bible and in our Christian life; the oneness is like a thermom-
eter—it can tell us how much we are in the mingling; the result of being
mingled with God is the oneness of the Body—1 Cor. 6:17; 12:13, and footnote 1.
C. The mingling of God and man causes the growth and transformation in life,
and this mingling takes place by our eating, drinking, digesting, and assimilat-
ing Christ as our spiritual food and drink—John 6:57, 63; 1 Cor. 10:3-4.
D. The more we enjoy Christ by eating and drinking Him, the more we experience
the inner spiritual metabolism of transformation, which is both the growth and
the building up of the church—Jer. 15:16; John 4:10, 14; Rom. 12:2; Matt. 16:18.
E. God’s economy is to work Himself into us so that we may experience the meta-
bolic process of spiritual digestion and assimilation for our transformation by
giving Him the thoroughfare in our whole being for God’s building—Eph. 3:16-19;
Matt. 5:3, 8; Isa. 66:1-2; Psa. 51:10-12.
F. The organic building up of the church through the process of spiritual metab-
olism is actually what Jehovah prophesied to David in 2 Samuel 7:12-14a; it is
only through this process that something human—the human seed—can become
divine—the sons of God.

II. Matthew 13 reveals that Christ is the Sower, the Distributor of the divine
life, to sow Himself as the life seed, the word of God, into our human
spirit with the human heart to grow Christ as the divine seed in us for
God’s farm, God’s building—John 10:10b; Matt. 5:3, 8; 13:3, 8, 18-23; Mark
4:14; John 6:68; Mark 12:30; 1 Cor. 3:9:
A. For the growth of Christ as the life seed in us, we must deal with the Lord
daily to be poor in spirit, to be emptied in our spirit, acknowledging that we
have nothing, know nothing, can do nothing, and are nothing apart from
Christ as the Spirit, the new, present, and “now” Christ—Matt. 5:3; John 8:58.

B. For the growth of Christ as the life seed in us, we must deal with the Lord daily
to be pure in heart, keeping our heart with all vigilance—Matt. 5:8; Prov. 4:23:
1. We must love the Lord with all our heart, keeping it from becoming hardened
by worldly traffic, like the wayside—Matt. 13:19.
2. We must love the Lord with all our heart, keeping our heart from being
shallow, with hidden sins, personal desires, self-seeking, and self-pity, which
are rocks that hinder the life seed from taking root in us—vv. 20-21.
3. We must love the Lord with all our heart, keeping our heart free from the
anxiety of the age and the deceitfulness of riches, which are thorns choking
the growth of the life seed to make us become unfruitful—v. 22.
4. We must love the Lord with all our heart, giving our entire heart to the
Lord so that it can be the good earth to supply the divine seed with all its
human nutrients for His growth in us—v. 23; cf. 12:34-37.

III. John 17 reveals that we are built into one in the Triune God by being
mingled with Him so that we may be one even as the Triune God is one for
His one testimony (one expression), His one Body (one organism), and His
one city (one expression)—vv. 11, 21; Rev. 1:11-12; Eph. 4:4; Rev. 21:2, 11:
A. We are built into one in the Triune God by His blending and uniting life (the
element of our oneness), delivering us from the natural man—John 17:2-3, 6.
B. We are built into one in the Triune God by His washing and sanctifying word
(the means of our oneness), delivering us from the satanic world—vv. 14-19.
C. We are built into one in the Triune God by His radiant and effulgent glory (the
expression of our oneness), delivering us from our divisive self—vv. 21-24.

IV. The organic building up of the Body is the growth of the Body, and the
work of the ministry to build up the Body is directly by the perfected
saints in the growth in life—Eph. 4:11-16:
A. The growth of the Body in life is “into” the Head, and the function of the Body
in service is “out from” the Head—vv. 15-16:
1. When we allow Christ to be the Head in everything, staying intimately
connected to Him and growing up into Him in all things, we will be supplied
with the riches of His life to minister God as life into other members of the
Body—Col. 2:19; 1 Cor. 14:4b; John 7:37-39; Phil. 1:25.
2. By prayer we grow up into the Head, and by the ministry of God’s word we
function out from the Head; this is to be one with Christ in His heavenly
ministry to build up the church—Acts 6:4; cf. Heb. 7:26; 8:1; 1 Cor. 14:4b.
3. To build up the Body of Christ is to be filled with the Spirit to minister the
Spirit into the saints for their growth in life—2 Cor. 3:2-3, 6, 8; 5:18-20.
B. Out from Christ the Head, all the Body (the supplying joints and operating
parts) causes the growth of the Body of Christ unto the building up of itself in
love; love is the most excellent way for the building up of the Body of Christ—

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