Outline of the Messages for the Full-time Training in the Spring Term of 2008

GENERAL SUBJECT: THE BELIEVERS

Message Forty-Eight

Their Present—Experiencing the Dispensing of the Divine Trinity in Being Profited by All Things in Their Circumstances and Environments and in Having the Best Attitude toward Others

Scripture Reading: Rom. 8:28-29, 35-39; Matt. 5:43-44a; Rom. 12:14, 18

- I. The believers experience the dispensing of the Divine Trinity in being profited by all things in their circumstances and environments—Rom. 8:28:
 - A. In His sovereignty God causes all things, all matters, and all persons to work together for good to those who love Him and who have been called by Him to the end that He may fulfill His purpose—v. 28:
 - 1. We have been predestinated to be conformed to the image of God's Son so that He may be the Firstborn among many brothers; this is God's purpose, the purposeful determination in His plan—v. 29.
 - 2. God has determined our destiny beforehand, and this destiny cannot be fulfilled without the outward arrangement that causes all things to work together for us—v. 28.
 - 3. Growth in life comes from inward nourishment, but this nourishment needs the coordination of the outward environment—Col. 1:10; 2 Pet. 3:18.
 - 4. Whether or not the things, matters, and persons in our environment are good for us depends on whether or not we love God—Rom. 8:28:
 - a. Loving God causes us to care for His desire and to be willing to coordinate with Him—Col. 4:12.
 - b. God's working needs our coordination, and our coordinating with God confirms that we are called by God according to His purpose—Phil. 2:12-14; 2 Tim. 1:9.
 - 5. Nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord—Rom. 8:35-39:
 - a. In Romans 8 Paul guides us into the love of God—v. 35.
 - b. Love is the source of all that God does for us, and this love is His heart; love is the fountain, love is the root, and love is the source of it all—Eph. 1:4.
 - c. Because the love of God is not merely the love of God itself but the love of God in Christ Jesus, we are assured that nothing can separate us from it—Rom. 8:39.

- 6. Instead of being defeated, we more than conquer because God loves us; through our loving One we not only conquer—we can be conquerors—v. 37.
- B. Under God's sovereign arrangement, many trials, troubles, tribulations, and sufferings have been assigned to us—1 Thes. 3:3; Eph. 3:13:
 - 1. Suffering is related to the growth in the divine life; the more we suffer, the more we grow and the faster we are matured—1 Pet. 4:19; 5:9; 2 Pet. 1:5-7:
 - a. All the spiritual growth in the divine life is carried out through suffering—Eph. 3:13; 4:16.
 - b. Without suffering, the growth in the divine life is impossible—Col. 1:24, 28-29: 2:19.
 - 2. We need to believe that our Father in the heavens is sovereign and that He manages everything and assigns everything, and we should leave our future with Him—Eph. 1:11.
 - 3. A basic lesson that we all need to learn is that everything in our circumstances and environments depends not on us but on the sovereign Lord—Matt. 10:28-31:
 - a. He will accomplish whatever He desires; our destiny is up to Him.
 - b. We are not only in the Lord's hand but in the Lord Himself; He is the place in which we should remain—John 10:28-29; 14:20; 15:4a.
 - c. Day by day we should simply stay under His dispensing to have the direct enjoyment of the divine supply of the processed and consummated Triune God—2 Cor. 13:14.

II. The believers experience the dispensing of the Divine Trinity in having the best attitude toward others—Matt. 5:43-44a; Rom. 12:18:

- A. If the believers would have the best attitude toward others, they should love their enemies—Matt. 5:43-44a:
 - 1. The reason we find it difficult to love our enemies is that they are against our being and our natural feeling—vv. 46-47.
 - 2. The requirement that we love our enemies is a test to prove whether we live by ourselves or by Christ—v. 48; Luke 6:27, 35; Gal. 2:20.
 - 3. Through the dispensing of the Divine Trinity the believers are able to love their enemies—Eph. 3:16-17a:
 - a. In order to love our enemies and do good to those who hate us, we need to be a God-man, a person saturated with God—Luke 6:27, 35.
 - b. Since we have been born of God, we surely have been born of the nature of God's being, which is the divine love—1 John 3:1; 4:9, 16.
 - c. The love with which we love others, especially our enemies, is the love of God our Father—v. 19.
- B. We should bless those who persecute us and not curse them—Rom. 12:14:
 - 1. We have been called to bless others, so we, as a blessed people, should always bless others so that we may inherit blessing—1 Pet. 3:9.
 - 2. If we would bless our persecutors and not curse them, we need to be saturated with the processed and consummated Triune God through His dispensing—2 Cor. 13:14; Eph. 3:16-17a.
- C. As far as it depends on us, we should live in peace with everyone—Rom. 12:18.