Outline of the Messages for the Full-time Training in the Spring Term of 2012

GENERAL SUBJECT: EXPERIENCING, ENJOYING, AND EXPRESSING CHRIST

Message Fifty-Five

In Revelation (4)

The Hidden Manna

Scripture Reading: Rev. 2:17; Heb. 9:4; Exo. 16:32-34

I. The hidden manna mentioned in Revelation 2:17 was hidden in a golden pot in the Ark within the Holy of Holies—Heb. 9:4; Exo. 16:32-34:

- A. Placing the hidden manna in the golden pot signifies that the hidden Christ is concealed in the divine nature—Heb. 9:4; Col. 3:1, 3; 2 Pet. 1:4.
- B. The hidden manna is for those who are intimate with the Lord, those who have forsaken the world and every separation between them and God; they come into the intimacy of God's presence, and here in this divine intimacy they enjoy the hidden manna in the divine nature—Heb. 9:4; Rev. 2:17.
- C. Our experience of Christ should not merely be open but also hidden in the Holy of Holies, even in Christ Himself as the Ark, the testimony of God—Heb. 10:19:
 - 1. The golden pot is in the Ark, the Ark is in the Holy of Holies, and the Holy of Holies is joined to our spirit; if we continually touch Christ in our spirit, we will enjoy Him as the hidden manna—4:16; 1 Cor. 6:17.
 - 2. The hidden manna is for the person who remains in the innermost part of God's dwelling place, abiding in the presence of God in the spirit—2 Tim. 4:22.

II. The hidden manna is that portion of Christ which we enjoy in the presence of God when there is no distance between us and Him—Rev. 2:17; 2 Cor. 5:20:

- A. The hidden manna cannot be enjoyed by those who live outside of God; it is enjoyed only by those who live in the Holy of Holies before God's face—Heb. 10:19; 2 Cor. 3:18.
- B. In the Holy of Holies we have direct fellowship with the Lord and know His heart and His intention—Exo. 25:21-22.
- C. When we become intimate with Christ, on some occasions we are so close to God that while touching the divine nature and partaking of it, we are beyond the world, every situation, our self, and even our natural being—2 Pet. 1:4.
- D. If we would enjoy the hidden manna, we must be in the divine nature where there is intimate fellowship between us and God—Rev. 2:17; Heb. 9:4.

III. The hidden manna is a memorial before God—Exo. 16:32-34:

- A. The Christ whom we have eaten, digested, and assimilated is the center of our being as a part of the church, God's dwelling place today—2 Tim. 4:22; Eph. 2:22.
- B. The focal point of God's building today is the Christ eaten, digested, and assimilated by His people—John 6:57.
- C. The Christ whom we eat and enjoy will become an eternal memorial, because such a Christ becomes our constitution, enabling us to build up and even become God's dwelling place in the universe—Col. 3:4, 10-11; Eph. 4:16.

D. The hidden manna is a memorial of Christ as the supply to God's people for the building of God's dwelling place—Matt. 16:18.

IV. When we enjoy the hidden manna, we will experience the budding rod and the tablets of the covenant—Rev. 2:17; Heb. 9:4:

- A. If we enjoy the hidden Christ in such a deep way, there will be the budding rod, which refers to the spread of the resurrection life and to glorification—Num. 17:8, 10:
 - 1. As we enjoy the hidden manna, we partake of the budding rod, which signifies our experience of Christ in His resurrection as our acceptance by God for authority in the God-given ministry—2 Cor. 4:1; 10:8; 13:10.
 - 2. By experiencing Christ as our life supply in such a hidden and mysterious way, we will experience the rod budding with authority in resurrection life—Heb. 9:4.
- B. As a result of experiencing the hidden manna and the budding rod, we will have the law of life, signified by the tablets of the covenant—8:10; 10:16; Rom. 8:2:
 - 1. The fact that the manna in the golden pot was placed before the Testimony indicates that manna corresponds to God's testimony, God's law, and meets its requirements—Exo. 16:32-34.
 - 2. When we take Christ as our heavenly life supply, Christ as the hidden manna preserved in the divine nature within us causes us to correspond to God's testimony and to fulfill its requirements, thereby making us God's expression—Heb. 9:4.
- C. The inward law of life, the inward working of the Spirit of the Triune God, operates within us, infusing the element of God into our being and making us a corporate reproduction of Christ for the fulfillment of His eternal purpose—Rom. 8:2, 28-29.

V. The eating of Christ as the hidden manna is related to the building of God's dwelling place; this is indicated by the white stone—Rev. 2:17:

- A. If we enjoy the Lord in the proper church life, we will be transformed into stones for the building of God—1 Pet. 2:2, 4-5.
- B. The building up of the church depends upon our transformation, and our transformation issues from the enjoyment of Christ as our life supply—2 Cor. 3:18.
- C. The new name on the white stone is the interpretation of the experience of the one being transformed; this new name is the new designation of what we are—Rev. 2:17.

VI. The tabernacle in the Old Testament is a sign of the universal incorporation— John 14:20; Rev. 2:17; 21:2-3:

- A. The processed and consummated Triune God and the redeemed and regenerated believers have become an enlarged, universal, divine-human incorporation in the resurrection of Christ, consummating in the New Jerusalem as the tabernacle of God—John 14:20; Rev. 21:2-3.
- B. The Son is in the Father, we are in the Son, the Son is in us, and we are indwelt by the Spirit of reality; this is the incorporation of the processed and consummated Triune God with the regenerated believers—John 14:17, 20.
- C. The way to be incorporated into the tabernacle is to eat the hidden manna; as we eat Christ, we are incorporated into the Triune God as a universal incorporation—Rev. 2:17; 21:2-3.
- D. The New Jerusalem is the tabernacle of God, and the center of the tabernacle is Christ as the hidden manna for us to eat; the more we eat Christ, the more we are incorporated into this universal incorporation and live because of Him in this incorporation, which today is the Body of Christ and which consummates in the New Jerusalem—John 6:57; Eph. 1:22-23; Rev. 2:17; 21:2-3.