Outline of the Messages for the Full-time Training in the Spring Term of 2019

GENERAL SUBJECT: THE WONDERFUL CHRIST IN THE CANON OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

Message Seventeen

The Ultimate Revelation of Jesus Christ and

the Vision of the Enthroned Christ as the Administrator in God's Universal Government

Scripture Reading: Rev. 1:1, 4-5, 13, 18; 3:14; 4:2, 5, 11; 5:1-14; 19:9a; 21:2

I. The book of Revelation is the ultimate revelation of Jesus Christ—1:1a:

- A. Revelation, as the conclusion, completion, and consummation of the whole Bible, is "the revelation of Jesus Christ"—v. 1a:
 - 1. The expression *the revelation of Jesus Christ* does not refer to the revelation given by Christ.
 - 2. *The revelation of Jesus Christ* means that the book of Revelation is the revelation concerning Christ; it is the unveiling of Christ Himself:
 - a. The word *revelation* refers to the opening of a curtain or veil.
 - b. The word revelation in Greek is apokalypsis:
 - (1) Apo means "to lift," and kalypsis means "veil."
 - (2) Together they mean to lift the veil and to reveal what is behind the veil.
 - c. If we only have Christ but do not have the revelation of Jesus Christ, we still do not know who Christ is, and it is as if Christ were still behind the veil.
 - d. As those who seek to know Christ and experience Him, we have not only Christ but also the revelation of Jesus Christ.
 - 3. In the book of Revelation we should see only one figure, Jesus Christ, because this book is a revelation and unveiling of Jesus Christ.
 - 4. In Revelation 1:5-6 Christ is revealed as the faithful Witness, the Firstborn of the dead, and the Ruler of the kings of the earth, and He is the One who loves us, has released us from our sins, and made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father.
- B. The ultimate revelation of Jesus Christ is a revelation of the all-inclusiveness of Christ:
 - 1. Jesus as Jehovah the Savior and Christ as the One anointed by God to carry out His economy—v. 1a.
 - 2. The faithful Witness—v. 5; 3:14.
 - 3. The Firstborn of the dead—1:5.
 - 4. The Son of God and the Son of Man—2:18; 1:13.
 - 5. The First and the Last, the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End—v. 17; 2:8; 22:13.
 - 6. The living One—1:18.
 - 7. The Holy One and the true One—3:7.
 - 8. The faithful One—19:11.
 - 9. The Amen—3:14.

- 10. The beginning of the creation of God—v. 14.
- 11. The Root and the Offspring of David—5:5; 22:16.
- 12. The Lion and the Lamb—5:5-6; 21:23; 22:1.
- 13. Another Angel—7:2; 8:3; 10:1; 18:1.
- 14. King of kings and Lord of lords—19:16; 17:14.
- 15. The Word of God—19:13.
- 16. The morning star—22:16; 2:28.
- 17. The lamp—21:23.
- 18. The Husband—v. 2; 19:9a.
- C. The ultimate revelation of Jesus Christ is a revelation of Christ in the stage of intensification—5:6:
 - 1. Christ as the life-giving Spirit has been intensified to be the seven Spirits, the sevenfold intensified Spirit—2:1, 7a; 3:1; 4:5; 5:6.
 - 2. Christ's ministry in the stage of intensification is to intensify His organic salvation, to produce the overcomers, and to consummate the New Jerusalem as the goal of God's economy.
- D. The ultimate revelation of Jesus Christ is a revelation of Christ in the divine administration—v. 6; 22:1:
 - 1. In the divine administration Christ is the Ruler of the kings of the earth, ruling the whole earth that the gospel may be spread and that the churches may be produced—1:5.
 - 2. In the divine administration Christ is the High Priest, judging and purifying the churches and holding the messengers of the churches—vv. 13, 16a, 20; 2:1.
 - 3. In the divine administration Christ is the worthy Lion-Lamb, the overcoming Redeemer, opening the scroll of God's economy—5:3-7.
- E. The ultimate revelation of Jesus Christ is a revelation of Christ in His ascension, in His coming back, in His judgment, in His possessing the earth, in His reigning in the kingdom, and in His centrality and universality in eternity—v. 6; 3:3b; 1:7; 15:1; 18:1; 20:4, 6; 21:23.

II. The book of Revelation shows a vision of the enthroned Christ as the Administrator in God's universal government—1:5; 4:2; 5:1-14; 8:4-5; 21:2, 9-11:

- A. Revelation is a book of God's administration, unveiling the throne of God for the divine administration throughout the universe—4:2; 5:1; 6:16; 7:9; 8:3; 21:5; Isa. 6:1; Ezek. 1:26; Dan. 7:9:
 - 1. The subject of Revelation is Christ as the center of God's administration according to God's eternal economy—5:1; 22:1.
 - 2. This book presents a clear view of God's universal administration, revealing the fact that the universe operates according to God's administration—4:2, 5.
 - 3. We need to see a vision of the throne of God—5:1; 6:16; 7:9; 8:3; 21:5:
 - a. The throne in Revelation 4 and 5 is the throne of divine authority:
 - (1) God's throne is related to His administration, which is a matter of His economy—1 Tim. 1:4; Eph. 1:10; 3:9.
 - (2) Apparently, the throne is invisible and is not realized by man, but actually, it is behind the scene ruling over everyone and everything—Isa. 6:1; 1 Kings 22:19.
 - (3) Everything in today's world situation is decided on the throne; no one can do anything and nothing can happen outside the rule of God's throne.

- b. The throne of God is not only for God to reign but also for God to accomplish His eternal purpose—Eph. 1:9, 11; 3:11; Rom. 8:28; Rev. 4:11:
 - (1) In His economy God administrates the universe to fulfill His purpose—2 Tim. 1:9.
 - (2) God is a God of purpose, having a will according to His good pleasure—Eph. 1:5, 9.
 - (3) God created all things for His will so that He might fulfill His purpose—Rev. 4:11.
 - (4) Revelation, the unveiling of God's universal administration, shows us that the will, the purpose, of God in His creation is to have an eternal habitation—the New Jerusalem—for His satisfaction and expression—21:2, 9-11.
- c. There are seven lamps of fire—the seven Spirits of God—burning before the throne—4:5:
 - (1) The burning of the seven Spirits of God is for the carrying out of God's administration.
 - (2) The burning of the seven Spirits of God is to bring forth the golden lamp-stands, the churches, for the fulfillment of God's economy—1:12.
 - (3) The burning of the seven Spirits motivates us to rise up and take action for the carrying out of God's economy—Dan. 11:32.
- B. Christ in His ascension has been enthroned to execute God's administration, His governmental operation—Heb. 12:2; Rev. 3:21; 5:6; 22:1, 3:
 - 1. Christ's ascension was for His enthronement for God's administration—Eph. 1:20-21:
 - a. The Lord Jesus has been enthroned to execute God's governmental administration in the universe.
 - b. We need to see that the Lord is on the throne as a man and realize that the Lord of the universe is a man, the God-man, the man-God—Ezek. 1:26.
 - 2. The Lamb, the Redeemer, the One slain for our sins, is now on the throne carrying out God's administration over the entire universe—Rev. 5:6.
 - 3. As the Lamb with the seven eyes, the seven Spirits of God, He is carrying out God's administration for the accomplishment of God's economy—v. 6.
 - 4. As the One enthroned to be the heavenly Administrator in God's universal government, Christ is the worthy Lion-Lamb, the overcoming Redeemer, opening the scroll of God's economy—vv. 1-14:
 - a. As the Lion, He is the Fighter against the enemy, Satan; as the Lamb, He is the Redeemer for us—Gen. 49:9; John 1:29.
 - b. Because Christ has solved the problems of the rebellion of Satan and the fall of man, He is worthy to open the scroll of God's economy—Rev. 5:9.
 - c. The scroll of God's economy has been put into His hands, and now He holds God's economy and carries it out.
 - d. The Lamb has seven eyes for executing God's administration; Christ carries out the divine administration by the seven Spirits as His eyes—v. 6.
 - e. The Administrator, the worthy and enthroned Lion-Lamb, is administrating the universe through our prayers—v. 8; 8:3-4.
 - f. We all must worship Christ as the divine Administrator, as the One in the heavens administrating all things for the fulfillment of God's economy—5:9-14.