

**Outline of
the Messages for the Full-time Training
in the Spring Term of 2022**

**GENERAL SUBJECT:
CHAPTERS FIVE THROUGH EIGHT OF ROMANS—
THE KERNEL OF THE BIBLE**

Message Sixteen

**Awaiting the Revelation of the Sons of God—
the Consummation of the Process of Designation**

Scripture Reading: Eccl. 1:2; 12:8; Psa. 39:4-6; Rom. 6:5; 8:11, 17-23; Phil. 3:21

I. The universe is eagerly awaiting the revelation of the sons of God—Rom. 8:19:

- A. Sonship began with the regeneration of our spirit, is continuing with the transformation of our soul, and will be consummated with the redemption of our body—v. 23.
- B. The creation is anxiously watching and eagerly awaiting the revelation of the sons of God—v. 19:
 - 1. Revelation is an unveiling or an appearing of something previously covered or hidden—Eph. 1:17; 3:5; Gal. 1:15-16; Rev. 1:1.
 - 2. At the Lord's second coming, when we will be glorified and our bodies will be fully redeemed, the veil will be lifted—Rom. 8:18.
- C. All creation has been made subject to vanity—v. 20:
 - 1. According to Ecclesiastes, human history, from its beginning to the present, is vanity—1:2; 12:8.
 - 2. No matter how good, excellent, marvelous, and wonderful a thing may be, as long as it is of the old creation, it is part of the vanity of vanities under the sun—1:9; 2:11, 17, 22.
 - 3. In Psalm 39:4-6 David realized the nothingness and vanity of his life:
 - a. In this psalm David was brought by God to realize that he was nothing and vanity; he learned that every man at his best is altogether vanity—v. 5.
 - b. Our realizing that our condition is sinful (Psa. 38) and that our situation is one of vanity opens the way for Christ to crucify us and enter into us to replace us by living Himself through us and causing us to live together with Him in an organic union, as expressed by Paul in Galatians 2:20.
- D. Man was created by God with the highest and most noble purpose, that is, to express God in His image with His divine life and nature—Gen. 1:26:
 - 1. God's enemy, Satan, the devil, came in to inject himself as sin into the man created by God for His purpose—3:1-6; Rom. 5:18; 3:23; 1 John 3:4.
 - 2. As a result of Satan's injecting himself as sin into man, man and all created things were brought into the slavery of corruption and made subject to vanity—Rom. 5:12; 8:20-21.
 - 3. Because creation has been made subject to vanity and to the slavery of corruption, everything under the sun is vanity—Eccl. 1:2; 12:8.
 - 4. At present the creation is enslaved under the law of decay and corruption; its only hope is to be freed from the slavery of corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God when the sons of God are revealed—Rom. 8:20-21.

- E. The creation groans together and travails in pain together until now, and we ourselves groan in ourselves, eagerly awaiting the revelation, the manifestation, of the sons of God—vv. 19, 22-23, 16.

II. The revelation of the sons of God will come as the consummation of the process of designation that we are now passing through—1:3-4:

- A. In resurrection Christ in His humanity was transfigured and designated the Son of God, and by means of such a resurrection, we also are in the process of being designated sons of God—Matt. 17:2, 9; Rom. 1:3-4; 8:11.
- B. As we share Christ's resurrection, we undergo the process of being designated the sons of God; we are designated by resurrection—6:5; 8:11:
1. We all are presently in the process of being designated sons of God by means of resurrection—1:3-4.
 2. The process of our being designated, sonized, is the process of resurrection with four main aspects—sanctification, transformation, conformation, and glorification—6:22; 12:2; 8:29-30.
 3. We are designated the sons of God by a change in life through the process of resurrection—John 11:25.
 4. Romans 6:5 speaks of the experience of resurrection; this verse says that we have grown together with Christ in the likeness of His death and that we will also be in the likeness of His resurrection.
 5. Resurrection is life-power—Christ being the life-power to us—Eph. 1:19-20.
 6. Resurrection is able to conquer every negative thing, including death; although death is powerful, resurrection is even more powerful—Acts 2:24.
 7. Resurrection not only conquers death; it also devours death—1 Cor. 15:54.
 8. Resurrection has many positive functions—growth, transformation, and shaping.
 9. With resurrection there is also the power to rise up; the calamus in Exodus 30:23 is a picture of the power in Christ to rise up.
 10. As believers, we have Christ within us as resurrection, and this resurrection is our life-power, causing growth, transformation, and shaping—Rom. 8:11; 12:2.
 11. The Spirit is the reality of resurrection; the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in us as the reality of resurrection—8:11; 1 Cor. 15:45b.
 12. Instead of trying to improve ourselves or make ourselves sinlessly perfect, we should experience and enjoy the designating Spirit; by the power of resurrection we will be transformed, conformed, and eventually glorified—Rom. 12:2; 8:17, 21, 29.
- C. Our future glorification will be the ultimate step of the process of designation by resurrection; it is a resurrection applied to the body—v. 23:
1. We need the redemption of our body, that is, resurrection applied to our body.
 2. The divine life within us will eventually be expressed through our physical body in a full way, transfiguring it into a glorious body—Phil. 3:21.
 3. In this way, mortality will be swallowed up by the divine life within us.
 4. This means that we will be altogether in resurrection, with the divine life and nature permeating our whole being; that will be full sonship—Rom. 8:15, 23.
- D. The kind of teaching we need today is not objective teachings about prophecy or dispensations but teaching regarding how we are designated sons of God by experiencing and enjoying the resurrected Christ as the life-power—John 11:25:
1. If we have this kind of teaching, we will realize that in ourselves we are hopeless and helpless, and we will no longer try to improve ourselves—Phil. 3:3.
 2. We need to exercise our spirit to contact the Lord and participate in the process of designation by resurrection until we are glorified—Rom. 8:17-18, 21.