

**Outline of
the Messages for the Full-time Training
in the Fall Term of 2025**

**GENERAL SUBJECT:
THE CRUCIAL POINTS OF THE TRUTH IN PAUL'S EPISTLES—
PHILIPPIANS AND COLOSSIANS**

Message Thirteen

The Focus of God's Economy

Scripture Reading: Eph. 1:10; 3:9; Col. 1:15, 19, 27;
Rom. 1:3-4; 8:3; 1 Tim. 1:4b

Eph. 1:10—Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him;

Eph. 3:9—And to enlighten all *that they may see* what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things,

Col. 1:15—Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,

Col. 1:19—For in Him all the fullness was pleased to dwell

Col. 1:27—To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,

Rom. 1:3-4—Concerning His Son, who came out of the seed of David according to the flesh, ⁴Who was designated the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness out of the resurrection of the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord;

Rom. 8:3—For that which the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending His own Son in the likeness of the flesh of sin and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh,

1 Tim. 1:4—Nor to give heed to myths and unending genealogies, which produce questionings rather than God's economy, which is in faith.

**I. The divine economy is that God became man so that man may become God in life and nature but not in the Godhead to produce the organism of the Triune God, the Body of Christ, which consummates in the New Jerusalem—
Rom. 1:3-4; 8:3, 6, 10-11, 16; 12:4-5; Rev. 21:2, 10-11:**

Rom. 1:3-4—Concerning His Son, who came out of the seed of David according to the flesh, ⁴Who was designated the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness out of the resurrection of the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord;

Rom. 8:3—For that which the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending His own Son in the likeness of the flesh of sin and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh,

Rom. 8:6—For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace.

Rom. 8:10-11—But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹And if the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.

Rom. 8:16—The Spirit Himself witnesses with our spirit that we are children of God.

Rom. 12:4-5—For just as in one body we have many members, and all the members do not have the same function, ⁵So we who are many are one Body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

Rev. 21:2—And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Rev. 21:10-11—And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, ¹¹Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.

A. The divine economy is the issue of God's will, purpose, good pleasure, and counsel—Eph. 1:5, 9-11; 3:9-11:

Eph. 1:5—Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

Eph. 1:9-11—Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself, ¹⁰Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him; ¹¹In whom also we were designated as an inheritance, having been predestinated according to the purpose of the One who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

Eph. 3:9-11—And to enlighten all *that they may see* what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things, ¹⁰In order that now to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenlies the multifarious wisdom of God might be made known through the church, ¹¹According to the eternal purpose which He made in Christ Jesus our Lord,

1. God's will is God's wish, God's desire; God's will is what He wishes to do and wants to do—Rev. 4:11; Eph. 1:5.

Rev. 4:11—You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power, for You have created all things, and because of Your will they were, and were created.

Eph. 1:5—Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

2. God's purpose is God's intent set beforehand; God's eternal purpose is His eternal plan made in eternity past—v. 9; 3:11.

Eph. 1:9—Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself,

Eph. 3:11—According to the eternal purpose which He made in Christ Jesus our Lord,

3. God's good pleasure is what makes God happy; it is what God likes and what pleases Him—1:5, 9; Phil. 2:13.
Eph. 1:5—Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,
Eph. 1:9—Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself,
Phil. 2:13—For it is God who operates in you both the willing and the working for *His* good pleasure.
 4. God's counsel is God's resolution consummated in the council of the Divine Trinity—Eph. 1:9; Acts 2:23; 1 Pet. 1:20.
Eph. 1:9—Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself,
Acts 2:23—This man, delivered up by the determined counsel and foreknowledge of God, you, through the hand of lawless men, nailed to *a cross* and killed;
1 Pet. 1:20—Who was foreknown before the foundation of the world but has been manifested in the last of times for your sake,
 5. After God's will, purpose, good pleasure, and counsel, there is God's economy—God's household administration, God's plan and arrangement—1 Tim. 1:4; Eph. 1:10; 3:9.
1 Tim. 1:4—Nor to give heed to myths and unending genealogies, which produce questionings rather than God's economy, which is in faith.
Eph. 1:10—Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him;
Eph. 3:9—And to enlighten all *that they may see* what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things,
- B. The divine economy is that God became flesh, passed through human living, died, resurrected, and became the life-giving Spirit to enter into us as life and to dispense God into us so that we may be transformed for the producing of the church, which is the Body of Christ—John 1:14, 29; Acts 2:24; 1 Cor. 12:12-13; 15:45b; 1 Tim. 3:15; Rev. 5:10; 21:2.
John 1:14—And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.
John 1:29—The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
Acts 2:24—Whom God has raised up, having loosed the pangs of death, since it was not possible for Him to be held by it.
1 Cor. 12:12-13—For even as the body is one and has many members, yet all the members of the body, being many, are one body, so also is the Christ. ¹³For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.

1 Cor. 15:45—So also it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living soul”; the last Adam *became* a life-giving Spirit.

1 Tim. 3:15—But if I delay, *I write* that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and base of the truth.

Rev. 5:10—And have made them a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign on the earth.

Rev. 21:2—And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

II. The accomplishment of the divine economy is by the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity—2 Cor. 13:14; Eph. 1:3-23; 3:14-21:

2 Cor. 13:14—The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Eph. 1:3-23—Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies in Christ, ⁴Even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blemish before Him in love, ⁵Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, ⁶To the praise of the glory of His grace, with which He graced us in the Beloved; ⁷In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of offenses, according to the riches of His grace, ⁸Which He caused to abound to us in all wisdom and prudence, ⁹Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself, ¹⁰Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him; ¹¹In whom also we were designated as an inheritance, having been predestinated according to the purpose of the One who works all things according to the counsel of His will, ¹²That we would be to the praise of His glory who have first hoped in Christ, ¹³In whom you also, having heard the word of the truth, the gospel of your salvation, in Him also believing, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of the promise, ¹⁴Who is the pledge of our inheritance unto the redemption of the acquired possession, to the praise of His glory. ¹⁵Therefore I also, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which is among you and your love to all the saints, ¹⁶Do not cease giving thanks for you, making mention *of you* in my prayers, ¹⁷That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the full knowledge of Him, ¹⁸The eyes of your heart having been enlightened, that you may know what is the hope of His calling, and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹And what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the operation of the might of His strength, ²⁰Which He caused to operate in Christ in raising Him from the dead and seating Him at His right hand in the heavenlies, ²¹Far above all rule and authority and power and lordship and every name that is named not only in this age but also in that which is to come; ²²And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him *to be* Head over all things to the church, ²³Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

Eph. 3:14-21—For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father, ¹⁵Of whom every family in the heavens and on earth is named, ¹⁶That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man, ¹⁷That Christ

may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are ¹⁹And to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ, that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God. ²⁰But to Him who is able to do superabundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power which operates in us, ²¹To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.

- A. The divine economy is God's plan and arrangement of His desire and purpose; the divine dispensing is God's dispensing and distributing according to this plan and arrangement—1:5, 9-11; 3:14-17a.

Eph. 1:5—Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

Eph. 1:9-11—Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself, ¹⁰Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him; ¹¹In whom also we were designated as an inheritance, having been predestinated according to the purpose of the One who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

Eph. 3:14-17—For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father, ¹⁵Of whom every family in the heavens and on earth is named, ¹⁶That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man, ¹⁷That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

- B. Everything that is mentioned in the New Testament concerning God is related to the divine dispensing for the divine economy—Rom. 8:3, 11; Eph. 1:3-23:

Rom. 8:3—For that which the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending His own Son in the likeness of the flesh of sin and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh,

Rom. 8:11—And if the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.

Eph. 1:3-23—Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies in Christ, ⁴Even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blemish before Him in love, ⁵Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, ⁶To the praise of the glory of His grace, with which He graced us in the Beloved; ⁷In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of offenses, according to the riches of His grace, ⁸Which He caused to abound to us in all wisdom and prudence, ⁹Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself, ¹⁰Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him; ¹¹In whom also we were designated as an inheritance, having been predestinated according to the purpose of the One who works all things according to the counsel of His will, ¹²That we would be to the praise of His glory who have first hoped in Christ, ¹³In whom you also, having heard the word of the truth, the gospel of your salvation, in Him also believing, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of the promise, ¹⁴Who is the pledge

of our inheritance unto the redemption of the acquired possession, to the praise of His glory. ¹⁵Therefore I also, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which is among you and your love to all the saints, ¹⁶Do not cease giving thanks for you, making mention *of you* in my prayers, ¹⁷That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the full knowledge of Him, ¹⁸The eyes of your heart having been enlightened, that you may know what is the hope of His calling, and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹And what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the operation of the might of His strength, ²⁰Which He caused to operate in Christ in raising Him from the dead and seating Him at His right hand in the heavenlies, ²¹Far above all rule and authority and power and lordship and every name that is named not only in this age but also in that which is to come; ²²And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him *to be* Head over all things to the church, ²³Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

1. The revelation concerning the Triune God in the holy Word is not for doctrinal understanding but for the dispensing of God in His Divine Trinity into His chosen and redeemed people for their experience and enjoyment—2 Cor. 13:14.

2 Cor. 13:14—The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

2. The Triune God—the Father, the Son, and the Spirit—has been processed to become the life-giving Spirit so that we can drink of Him and that He can become our enjoyment; this is the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity—John 7:37-39.

John 7:37-39—Now on the last day, the great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. ³⁸He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water. ³⁹But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for *the* Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

3. The Divine Trinity is for the divine dispensing, that is, for the distribution of God into the believers in Christ; the Father as the origin is the fountain, the Son as the expression is the spring, and the Spirit as the transmission is the flow—4:14.

John 4:14—But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into eternal life.

III. The all-inclusive Christ is the focus of God's economy—Col. 1:27; 1 Tim. 3:15-16:

Col. 1:27—To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,

1 Tim. 3:15-16—But if I delay, *I write* that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and base of the truth.

¹⁶And confessedly, great is the mystery of godliness: He who was manifested in the flesh,

Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the nations, Believed on in the world,
Taken up in glory.

- A. The economy of God is a matter in faith, that is initiated and developed in the sphere and element of the faith—1:4b.

1 Tim. 1:4—Nor to give heed to myths and unending genealogies, which produce questionings rather than God's economy, which is in faith.

- B. God's economy has many aspects:

1. An economy is an arrangement for getting things done.

2. God's economy is God's household management, God's household administrative arrangement—Eph. 1:10; 3:9.

Eph. 1:10—Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him;

Eph. 3:9—And to enlighten all *that they may see* what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things,

3. God's economy is God's planned administration to carry out His eternal purpose—John 14:23.

John 14:23—Jesus answered and said to him, If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make an abode with him.

4. God's economy is God's distribution of Himself in Christ in faith—Col. 1:15; 1 Tim. 1:4b.

Col. 1:15—Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,

1 Tim. 1:4—Nor to give heed to myths and unending genealogies, which produce questionings rather than God's economy, which is in faith.

5. God's economy is God's plan to dispense Himself into His chosen, predestinated, and redeemed people as their life, their life supply, and their everything—Eph. 4:6; Rom. 8:11.

Eph. 4:6—One God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Rom. 8:11—And if the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.

6. God's economy is God's household administration to dispense the divine riches of the Triune God as life and the life supply to His chosen and redeemed people—2 Cor. 13:14.

2 Cor. 13:14—The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

7. God's economy is not a matter of outward things but of Christ coming into us as food—John 6:31-35, 63; 7:37; 1 Cor. 5:8.

John 6:31-35—Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, as it is written, "He gave them bread out of heaven to eat." ³²Jesus therefore said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, Moses has not given you the bread out of heaven, but My Father gives

you the true bread out of heaven. ³³For the bread of God is He who comes down out of heaven and gives life to the world. ³⁴They said therefore to Him, Lord, give us this bread always. ³⁵Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me shall by no means hunger, and he who believes into Me shall by no means ever thirst.

John 6:63—It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words which I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.

John 7:37—Now on the last day, the great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.

1 Cor. 5:8—So then let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened *bread* of sincerity and truth.

8. God's economy is that we eat Christ and become constituted with Christ—John 6:57; 1 Cor. 10:3-4; 1 Pet. 2:2.

John 6:57—As the living Father has sent Me and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also shall live because of Me.

1 Cor. 10:3-4—And all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴And all drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank of a spiritual rock which followed *them*, and the rock was Christ.

1 Pet. 2:2—As newborn babes, long for the guileless milk of the word in order that by it you may grow unto salvation,

9. The economy of God is the Triune God working Himself into us, the tripartite men; He desires to be our life, content, and complete supply so that we would become God's expression and representation—1 John 3:2; Phil. 3:21.

1 John 3:2—Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not yet been manifested what we will be. We know that if He is manifested, we will be like Him because we will see Him even as He is.

Phil. 3:21—Who will transfigure the body of our humiliation to be conformed to the body of His glory, according to His operation by which He is able even to subject all things to Himself.

10. God's economy is to work Himself as the Triune God into us so that we would have His life and nature to become the sons of God and the members of Christ to be constituted the Body of Christ, which is the church, the expression of Christ—Col. 1:27; 1 Tim. 3:15-16.

Col. 1:27—To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,

1 Tim. 3:15-16—But if I delay, *I write* that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and base of the truth. ¹⁶And confessedly, great is the mystery of godliness: He who was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the nations, Believed on in the world, Taken up in glory.

11. God's economy is God's plan and arrangement out of His desire and purpose, God's economy in relation to His good pleasure, will, counsel, and purpose—2:4; Rev. 4:11.

1 Tim. 2:4—Who desires all men to be saved and to come to the full knowledge of the truth.

Rev. 4:11—You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power, for You have created all things, and because of Your will they were, and were created.

12. God's eternal economy is to make man the same as He is in life and nature but not in the Godhead and to make Himself one with man and man one with Him, thus, to be enlarged and expanded in His expression, that all His divine attributes may be expressed in human virtues—Eph. 4:18; John 3:16; Col. 1:19. **Eph. 4:18**—Being darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance which is in them, because of the hardness of their heart;

John 3:16—For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that everyone who believes into Him would not perish, but would have eternal life.

Col. 1:19—For in Him all the fullness was pleased to dwell