

**Outline of
the Messages for the Full-time Training
in the Spring Term of 2026**

**GENERAL SUBJECT:
THE CRUCIAL POINTS OF THE TRUTH IN PAUL'S EPISTLES—
FIRST AND SECOND THESSALONIANS**

Message Fifteen

**The Mystery of Lawlessness, the Man of Lawlessness,
and Our Need to Be Reconstituted with the Healing Christ,
Sanctified Wholly, and Preserved Complete for His Second Coming**

Scripture Reading: 2 Thes. 2:3-10; Matt. 16:18; Dan. 2:28; Mal. 3:1-3, 10; 4:2; 1 Thes. 5:23-24

2 Thes. 2:3-10—Let no one deceive you in any way, because *it will not come* unless the apostasy comes first and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of perdition, ⁴Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or an object of worship, so that he sits in the temple of God, setting himself forth, *saying* that he is God. ⁵Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I said these things to you? ⁶And now you know that which restrains, so that he might be revealed in his own time. ⁷For *it is* the mystery of lawlessness *that* is now operating, *but* only until the one now restraining goes out of the way. ⁸And then the lawless one will be revealed (whom the Lord Jesus will slay by the breath of His mouth and bring to nothing by the manifestation of His coming), ⁹The coming of whom is according to Satan's operation in all power and signs and wonders of a lie ¹⁰And in all deceit of unrighteousness among those who are perishing, because they did not receive the love of the truth that they might be saved.

Matt. 16:18—And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

Dan. 2:28—But there is a God in the heavens who reveals mysteries, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will happen in the last days. This is your dream, even the visions of your head upon your bed.

Mal. 3:1-3—I am about to send My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me; and suddenly the Lord, whom you seek, will come to His temple. And the Angel of the covenant, whom you desire, He will come, says Jehovah of hosts. ²And who will endure the day of His coming? And who will stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. ³And He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver, and He will purify the sons of Levi and purge them like gold and like silver, and they will offer to Jehovah a sacrifice in righteousness.

Mal. 3:10—Bring the whole tithe to the storehouse that there may be food in My house; and prove Me, if you will, by this, says Jehovah of hosts, whether I will open to you the windows of heaven and pour out blessing for you until there is no room for it.

Mal. 4:2—But unto you who fear My name will the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in His wings, and you will go forth and leap about like well-fed calves.

1 Thes. 5:23-24—And the God of peace Himself sanctify you wholly, and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴Faithful is He who calls you, who also will do *it*.

I. In order to be built up to be Christ's bride for His return, we need to see the vision of the divine history within the human history, showing us "what will happen in the last days"—Dan. 2:28; Matt. 16:18; Gen. 2:22; cf. 11:4:

Dan. 2:28—But there is a God in the heavens who reveals mysteries, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will happen in the last days. This is your dream, even the visions of your head upon your bed.

Matt. 16:18—And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

Gen. 2:22—And Jehovah God built the rib, which He had taken from the man, into a woman and brought her to the man.

cf. Gen. 11:4—And they said, Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower whose top is in the heavens; and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered over the surface of the whole earth.

A. In Daniel 2 the history of man is signified by a great human image, with the four sections of this image corresponding respectively to the Babylonian Empire, the Medo-Persian Empire, the Grecian Empire, and the Roman Empire; the armies of these empires were like locusts coming to devastate and consume Israel totally—vv. 34-35; Joel 1:4; cf. 2:25.

Dan. 2:34-35—You were watching until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the image at its feet of iron and clay and crushed them. ³⁵Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed all at once, and they became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

Joel 1:4—What the cutting locust has left, the swarming locust has eaten; And what the swarming locust has left, the licking locust has eaten; And what the licking locust has left, the consuming locust has eaten.

cf. Joel 2:25—And I will restore to you the years That the swarming locust has eaten, The licking locust and the consuming locust and the cutting locust, My great army That I sent among you.

B. During the church age (the age of the intrinsic history of the divine mystery within the outward, human history), Christ is building up the church to be His bride, and He will return with His overcoming bride as a smiting stone to crush the aggregate of human government and usher in the age of God's dominion over the entire earth—Gen. 2:22; Matt. 16:18; Dan. 2:34-35, 44-45; Rev. 17:14; 19:19; 11:15-17.

Gen. 2:22—And Jehovah God built the rib, which He had taken from the man, into a woman and brought her to the man.

Matt. 16:18—And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

Dan. 2:34-35—You were watching until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the image at its feet of iron and clay and crushed them. ³⁵Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed all at once, and they became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

Dan. 2:44-45—And in the days of those kings the God of the heavens will raise up a kingdom which will never be destroyed, and its reign will not be left to another people; it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms; and it will stand forever. ⁴⁵Inasmuch as you saw that out of the mountain a stone was cut without hands and that it crushed the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold, the great God has made known to the king what will happen afterward; and the dream is certain, and its interpretation trustworthy.

Rev. 17:14—These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and they who are with Him, the called and chosen and faithful, *will also overcome them.*

Rev. 19:19—And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to make war with Him who sits on the horse and with His army.

Rev. 11:15-17—And the seventh angel trumpeted; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, The kingdom of the world has become the *kingdom* of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign forever and ever. ¹⁶And the twenty-four elders who sit before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshipped God, ¹⁷Saying, We thank You, Lord God the Almighty, He who is and who was, because You have taken Your great power and have reigned.

II. The mystery of lawlessness is working today among the nations and in human society; this lawlessness will culminate in the man of lawlessness, Antichrist—2 Thes. 2:3-10:

2 Thes. 2:3-10—Let no one deceive you in any way, because *it will not come* unless the apostasy comes first and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of perdition, ⁴Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or an object of worship, so that he sits in the temple of God, setting himself forth, *saying* that he is God. ⁵Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I said these things to you? ⁶And now you know that which restrains, so that he might be revealed in his own time. ⁷For *it is* the mystery of lawlessness *that* is now operating, *but* only until the one now restraining goes out of the way. ⁸And then the lawless one will be revealed (whom the Lord Jesus will slay by the breath of His mouth and bring to nothing by the manifestation of His coming), ⁹The coming of whom is according to Satan's operation in all power and signs and wonders of a lie ¹⁰And in all deceit of unrighteousness among those who are perishing, because they did not receive the love of the truth that they might be saved.

- A. The day of the Lord “will not come unless the apostasy comes first and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of perdition”; the apostasy is a falling away from the straight way of God's economy—v. 3.

2 Thes. 2:3—Let no one deceive you in any way, because *it will not come* unless the apostasy comes first and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of perdition,

- B. Antichrist will be the power of Satan, the embodiment of Satan; he will persecute and destroy the people of God—both the God-fearing Jews and the Christ-believing Christians—Dan. 8:24; Rev. 12:17; 13:7.

Dan. 8:24—And his power will be mighty, but not by his *own* power. And he will destroy in an extraordinary manner And will prosper and take action. He will destroy mighty men And the holy people.

Rev. 12:17—And the dragon became angry with the woman and went away to make war with the rest of her seed, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus.

Rev. 13:7—And *permission* was given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them; and authority was given to him over every tribe and people and tongue and nation.

- C. Antichrist will wear out the saints of the Most High—Dan. 7:25; 2 Tim. 3:1; cf. Mark 6:45-52.

Dan. 7:25—And he will speak things against the Most High and wear out the saints of the Most High; and his intention will be to change the times and the law; and they will be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time.

2 Tim. 3:1—But know this, that in the last days difficult times will come.

cf. Mark 6:45-52—And immediately He compelled His disciples to step into the boat and go before to the other side, toward Bethsaida, while He sent the crowd away. ⁴⁶And after He said farewell to them, He went away to the mountain to pray. ⁴⁷And when evening fell, the boat was in the midst of the sea and He was alone on the land. ⁴⁸And seeing them distressed as they rowed, for the wind was contrary to them, He came toward them about the fourth watch of the night, walking on the sea, and He intended to pass by them. ⁴⁹But when they saw Him walking on the sea, they thought that it was a ghost, and they cried out, ⁵⁰For they all saw Him and were startled. But immediately He spoke with them and said to them, Take courage. It is I. Do not be afraid. ⁵¹And He went up unto them into the boat, and the wind ceased. And they were greatly astonished in themselves beyond measure, ⁵²For they did not understand concerning the loaves, but rather their heart was hardened.

- D. Satan and Antichrist want the souls of men to be the instruments for their activities in the last age—Rev. 18:11-13; 2 Tim. 3:5; cf. Zech. 12:1.

Rev. 18:11-13—And the merchants of the earth weep and mourn over her because no one buys their cargo anymore: ¹²Cargo of gold and silver and precious stone and pearls and fine linen and purple and silk and scarlet, and every *kind* of thiyne wood, and every vessel of ivory, and every vessel of most precious wood and brass and iron and marble, ¹³And cinnamon and amomum and incense and ointment and frankincense and wine and oil and fine flour and wheat and cattle and sheep, and *cargo* of horses and chariots and slaves and souls of men.

2 Tim. 3:5—Having an outward form of godliness, though denying its power; from these also turn away.

cf. Zech. 12:1—The burden of the word of Jehovah concerning Israel. *Thus* declares Jehovah, who stretches forth the heavens and lays the foundations of the earth and forms the spirit of man within him,

- E. The Lord prophesied that before Antichrist makes the covenant of seven years with the nation of Israel at the consummation of the present age, the nation of Israel would be restored—Matt. 21:19; 24:32-35; Dan. 9:27.

Matt. 21:19—And seeing a fig tree on the way, He came to it and found nothing on it except leaves only. And He said to it, May there no longer be fruit from you forever! And the fig tree was instantly dried up.

Matt. 24:32-35—But learn the parable from the fig tree: As soon as its branch has become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that the summer is near. ³³So also you, when you see all these things, know that it is near, at the doors. ³⁴Truly I say to you that this generation shall by no means pass away until all these things happen. ³⁵Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words shall by no means pass away.

Dan. 9:27—And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week; and in the middle of the week he will cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease and will replace the sacrifice and the oblation with abominations of the desolator, even until the complete destruction that has been determined is poured out upon the desolator.

- F. Antichrist will break his covenant with Israel, and his idol will be set up in the temple of God at the beginning of the great tribulation, which will last for three and a half years; this indicates that the temple must be rebuilt before the Lord comes back—v. 27; 2 Thes. 2:3-4.

Dan. 9:27—And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week; and in the middle of the week he will cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease and will replace the sacrifice and the oblation with abominations of the desolator, even until the complete destruction that has been determined is poured out upon the desolator.

2 Thes. 2:3-4—Let no one deceive you in any way, because *it will not come* unless the apostasy comes first and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of perdition, ⁴Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or an object of worship, so that he sits in the temple of God, setting himself forth, *saying* that he is God.

- G. Before the great tribulation, the gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole inhabited earth, and the overcomers will be raptured, leaving the majority of the believers, those who are not yet mature, on the earth to pass through the great tribulation—Rev. 12:5-6; 14:1, 4; Matt. 24:14-15, 40-41.

Rev. 12:5-6—And she brought forth a son, a man-child, who is to shepherd all the nations with an iron rod; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne. ⁶And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place there prepared by God so that they might nourish her there a thousand two hundred and sixty days.

Rev. 14:1—And I saw, and behold, the Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him a hundred and forty-four thousand, having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads.

Rev. 14:4—These are they who have not been defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are they who follow the Lamb wherever He may go. These were purchased from among men *as* firstfruits to God and to the Lamb.

Matt. 24:14-15—And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole inhabited earth for a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come. ¹⁵Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation, which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let him who reads understand),

Matt. 24:40-41—At that time two men will be in the field; one is taken and one is left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding at the mill; one is taken and one is left.

III. The book of Malachi reveals that we need to be purified and reconstituted with the healing Christ for His second coming—3:1-3; 4:2:

Mal. 3:1-3—I am about to send My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me; and suddenly the Lord, whom you seek, will come to His temple. And the Angel of the covenant, whom you desire, He will come, says Jehovah of hosts. ²And who will endure the day of His coming? And who will stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. ³And He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver, and He will purify the sons of Levi and purge them like gold and like silver, and they will offer to Jehovah a sacrifice in righteousness.

Mal. 4:2—But unto you who fear My name will the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in His wings, and you will go forth and leap about like well-fed calves.

A. Malachi prophesied at the time of Nehemiah; at that time the priests and the remnant of God's people were in the darkness of self-deception, which is obsession—1:6-7; 1 John 1:8, 10; Acts 9:1-2; John 16:2; cf. Phil. 3:3:

Mal. 1:6-7—A son honors his father, and a servant his lord. Therefore if I am a Father, where is My honor? And if I am the Lord, where is My fear? says Jehovah of hosts to you, O priests who despise My name. But you say, How have we despised Your name? ⁷You offer defiled food upon My altar. And you say, How have we defiled You? In that you say, The table of Jehovah is despicable.

1 John 1:8—If we say that we do not have sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1 John 1:10—If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

Acts 9:1-2—But Saul, still breathing threatening and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²And asked for letters from him to Damascus for the synagogues, so that if he found any who were of the Way, both men and women, he might bring *them* bound to Jerusalem.

John 16:2—They will put you out of the synagogues; but an hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering service to God.

cf. Phil. 3:3—For we are the circumcision, the ones who serve by the Spirit of God and boast in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh,

1. The symptom of a person who is obsessed is that what he thinks and does are totally wrong, yet he thinks and believes that he is totally right.
2. Malachi shows us the degraded condition of God's self-deceived people, who were under Satan's authority of darkness—1:2, 6-7; 2:13, 17; 3:7-8, 13-15; cf. Col. 1:12-13; Acts 26:18.

Mal. 1:2—I have loved you, says Jehovah; but you say, How have You loved us? Was not Esau Jacob's brother, declares Jehovah? Yet I loved Jacob;

Mal. 1:6-7—A son honors *his* father, and a servant his lord. Therefore if I am a Father, where is My honor? And if I am the Lord, where is My fear? says Jehovah of hosts to you, O priests who despise My name. But you say, How have we despised Your name? ⁷You offer defiled food upon My altar. And you say, How have we defiled You? In that you say, The table of Jehovah is despicable.

Mal. 2:13—And this second thing you do: You cover the altar of Jehovah with tears, with weeping and sighing, so that He no longer regards the sacrifice or receives *it* with pleasure from your hand.

Mal. 2:17—You have wearied Jehovah with your words; but you say, How have we wearied *Him*? By saying, Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of Jehovah, and He delights in them; or, Where is the God of justice?

Mal. 3:7-8—From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from My statutes and have not kept *them*. Return to Me, and I will return to you, says Jehovah of hosts. But you say, How shall we return? ⁸Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me. But you say, How have we robbed You? In tithes and offerings.

Mal. 3:13-15—Your words have been strongly against Me, says Jehovah; but you say, What have we spoken against You? ¹⁴You say, It is vain to serve God; and what profit is it that we have kept His charge and have walked mournfully before Jehovah of hosts? ¹⁵And now we call the arrogant blessed; not only have those who act wickedly been built up, but they also try God and escape.

cf. Col. 1:12-13—Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light; ¹³Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

cf. Acts 26:18—To open their eyes, to turn *them* from darkness to light and *from* the authority of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.

3. The reasons for obsession, self-deception, are loving the darkness rather than the light (John 3:19-20), pride (Obad. 3), not receiving the love of the truth (2 Thes. 2:10-11; cf. Prov. 23:23), and not seeking the glory that is from the only God (John 5:44).

John 3:19-20—And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the light, for their works were evil. ²⁰For everyone who practices evil hates the light, and does not come to the light, lest his works be reproved.

Obad. 3—The pride of your heart has beguiled you, O you who dwell in the clefts of the rock, Whose habitation is lofty, Who says in his heart, Who will bring me down to the ground?

2 Thes. 2:10-11—And in all deceit of unrighteousness among those who are perishing, because they did not receive the love of the truth that they might be saved.¹¹And because of this God sends to them an operation of error that they might believe the lie,

cf. Prov. 23:23—Buy truth, and do not sell *it*; Buy wisdom and instruction and understanding.

John 5:44—How can you believe when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that is from the only God?

4. The way to be saved from obsession, self-deception, is to live in the light—Isa. 50:10-11; Psa. 36:9; 1 John 1:5, 7, 9; Col. 1:12-13.

Isa. 50:10-11—Who among you fears Jehovah; Who hears the voice of His servant; Who walks in darkness And has no light? Let him trust in the name of Jehovah, And rely on his God. ¹¹Indeed, all of you who kindle a fire, Who surround yourselves with firebrands, Walk into the light of your fire And into the firebrands which you have lit. You will have this from My hand: You will lie down in torment.

Psa. 36:9—For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light.

1 John 1:5—And this is the message which we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

1 John 1:7—But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from every sin.

1 John 1:9—If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Col. 1:12-13—Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light; ¹³Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

- B. The healing Christ is the Messenger of God and the living message of God as a refiner's fire and as fullers' soap to refine and purify the degraded remnant of God's people—Mal. 3:1-3; Rev. 1:20; 2:1; Amos 3:7; cf. Luke 2:26; Heb. 11:7.

Mal. 3:1-3—I am about to send My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me; and suddenly the Lord, whom you seek, will come to His temple. And the Angel of the covenant, whom you desire, He will come, says Jehovah of hosts. ²And who will endure the day of His coming? And who will stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. ³And He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver, and He will purify the sons of Levi and purge them like gold and like silver, and they will offer to Jehovah a sacrifice in righteousness.

Rev. 1:20—The mystery of the seven stars which you saw upon My right hand and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the messengers of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Rev. 2:1—To the messenger of the church in Ephesus write: These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, He who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands:

Amos 3:7—Surely the Lord Jehovah will not do anything unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.

cf. Luke 2:26—And it had been divinely communicated to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

cf. Heb. 11:7—By faith Noah, having been divinely instructed concerning things not yet seen and being moved by pious fear, prepared an ark for the salvation of his house, through which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

- C. The healing Christ is the Angel of the covenant and the Desire of all the nations—Mal. 3:1; Hag. 2:7.

Mal. 3:1—I am about to send My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me; and suddenly the Lord, whom you seek, will come to His temple. And the Angel of the covenant, whom you desire, He will come, says Jehovah of hosts.

Hag. 2:7—And I will shake all the nations, and the Desire of all the nations will come; and I will fill this house with glory, says Jehovah of hosts.

- D. The healing Christ is the Sun of righteousness—Mal. 4:2; 3:1-3:

Mal. 4:2—But unto you who fear My name will the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in His wings, and you will go forth and leap about like well-fed calves.

Mal. 3:1-3—I am about to send My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me; and suddenly the Lord, whom you seek, will come to His temple. And the Angel of the covenant, whom you desire, He will come, says Jehovah of hosts. ²And who will endure the day of His coming? And who will stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. ³And He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver, and He will purify the sons of Levi and purge them like gold and like silver, and they will offer to Jehovah a sacrifice in righteousness.

1. In His first coming, Christ was the dawning sun to the dark age; in His second coming, Christ will return as the Sun of righteousness in His kingdom—Luke 1:78-79; Mal. 4:2; cf. Matt. 17:1-8.

Luke 1:78-79—Because of the merciful compassions of our God, in which the rising sun will visit us from on high, ⁷⁹To shine upon those sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Mal. 4:2—But unto you who fear My name will the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in His wings, and you will go forth and leap about like well-fed calves.

cf. Matt. 17:1-8—And after six days Jesus took with *Him* Peter and James and John his brother, and brought them up to a high mountain privately. ²And He was transfigured before them, and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as the light. ³And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with Him. ⁴And Peter answered and said to Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You are willing, I will make three tents here, one for You and one for Moses and

one for Elijah. ⁵While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and behold, a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is My Son, the Beloved, in whom I have found My delight. Hear Him! ⁶And when the disciples heard *this*, they fell on their face and were greatly frightened. ⁷And Jesus came to *them* and touched them and said, Arise, and do not be afraid. ⁸And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus Himself alone.

2. As the Sun of righteousness, Christ is our enjoyment for our growth in life in the dispelling of darkness and also for our healing in life in the effacing of unrighteousness—John 1:4-5; 8:12; 2 Cor. 4:6; Acts 26:18.

John 1:4-5—In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

John 8:12—Again therefore Jesus spoke to them, saying, I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall by no means walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

2 Cor. 4:6—Because the God who said, Out of darkness light shall shine, is the One who shined in our hearts to illuminate the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Acts 26:18—To open their eyes, to turn *them* from darkness to light and *from* the authority of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.

- E. To be healed is to be saved, to be made whole; Christ will heal us, but we must give Him the freedom to use His wings to fly above us, around us, through us, and within us—Mal. 4:2; Prov. 4:18:

Mal. 4:2—But unto you who fear My name will the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in His wings, and you will go forth and leap about like well-fed calves.

Prov. 4:18—But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, Which shines brighter and brighter until the full day.

1. We must see God's great love for us and keep ourselves in the love of God—Mal. 1:1-2; Eph. 1:4-5; 2 Cor. 5:14; Jude 19-21; 2 Thes. 3:5.

Mal. 1:1-2—The burden of the word of Jehovah to Israel through Malachi. ²I have loved you, says Jehovah; but you say, How have You loved us? Was not Esau Jacob's brother, declares Jehovah? Yet I loved Jacob;

Eph. 1:4-5—Even 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,

2 Cor. 5:14—For the love of Christ constrains us because we have judged this, that One died for all, therefore all died;

Jude 19-21—These are those who make divisions, soulless, having no spirit. ²⁰But you, beloved, building up yourselves upon your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹Keep yourselves in the love of God, awaiting the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

2 Thes. 3:5—And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the endurance of Christ.

2. We must take heed to our spirit, exercise our spirit, not grieving or quenching the Spirit—Mal. 2:15-16; Eph. 4:30; 1 Thes. 5:19; Rom. 8:6.

Mal. 2:15-16—But did He not make *them* one? And the remnant of the Spirit was His. And why the one? He sought the seed of God. Take heed then to your spirit, and let no one be treacherous to the wife of his youth. ¹⁶For I hate divorce, says Jehovah the God of Israel; and he *who does it* behaves in violence, says Jehovah of hosts. Take heed then to your spirit, and do not be treacherous.

Eph. 4:30—And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, in whom you were sealed unto the day of redemption.

1 Thes. 5:19—Do not quench the Spirit;

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

3. We must honor and fear God by bringing the whole tithe into the storehouse for the need of the church, the advancement of the gospel, the supply of the Lord's servants, and the supply of the needy saints—Mal. 3:7-12; Deut. 14:22-23; Phil. 1:5; 4:15-16; 3 John 5-8; Rom. 12:13:

Mal. 3:7-12—From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from My statutes and have not kept *them*. Return to Me, and I will return to you, says Jehovah of hosts. But you say, How shall we return? ⁸Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me. But you say, How have we robbed You? In tithes and offerings. ⁹With the curse you are cursed, yet you, *even* the whole nation, rob Me. ¹⁰Bring the whole tithe to the storehouse that there may be food in My house; and prove Me, if you will, by this, says Jehovah of hosts, whether I will open to you the windows of heaven and pour out blessing for you until there is no room for it. ¹¹And I will rebuke the devourer for your sake, and for your sake he will not destroy the fruit of the ground; and for your sake the vine will not lose its fruit in the field, says Jehovah of hosts. ¹²And all the nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says Jehovah of hosts.

Deut. 14:22-23—You must give a tenth of all the produce of your seed, which the field brings forth, year by year. ²³And you shall eat before Jehovah your God, in the place where He will choose to cause His name to dwell, the tithe of your grain, of your new wine, and of your fresh oil and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear Jehovah your God always.

Phil. 1:5—For your fellowship unto *the furtherance of* the gospel from the first day until now,

Phil. 4:15-16—And you yourselves also know, Philippians, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I went out from Macedonia, no church had fellowship with me in the account of giving and receiving except you only; ¹⁶For even in Thessalonica you sent both once and again to my need.

3 John 5-8—Beloved, you do faithfully in whatever you have wrought for the brothers, and this *for* strangers, ⁶Who testified to your love before the church; whom you will do well to send forward in a manner worthy of God; ⁷For on behalf of the

Name they went out, taking nothing from the Gentiles. ⁸We therefore ought to support such ones that we may become fellow workers in the truth.

Rom. 12:13—Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality.

- a. Although the word concerning the tithe was spoken to the Israelites in the Old Testament, in principle it applies also to the New Testament believers—Mal. 3:10; cf. Heb. 7:1-3; Matt. 23:23.

Mal. 3:10—Bring the whole tithe to the storehouse that there may be food in My house; and prove Me, if you will, by this, says Jehovah of hosts, whether I will open to you the windows of heaven and pour out blessing for you until there is no room for it.

cf. Heb. 7:1-3—For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, ²To whom also Abraham apportioned a tenth part of all; first being interpreted king of righteousness, and then also king of Salem, which is king of peace; ³Being without father, without mother, without genealogy; having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but likened to the Son of God, abides a priest perpetually.

cf. Matt. 23:23—Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you give a tenth of the mint and the anise and the cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law—justice and mercy and faithfulness. But these you should have done and not neglected the others.

- b. If we would be faithful to live for God's administration in caring for money and material matters, there would be no financial needs in the recovery—Neh. 13:10-14; Luke 6:38; Acts 20:35; Matt. 6:1-4.

Neh. 13:10-14—I also found out that the portions of the Levites had not been given to them and thus the Levites and the singers, who performed the service, had gone back, each to his own field. ¹¹So I contended with the rulers and said, Why has the house of God been forsaken? Then I gathered them together and set them in their stations. ¹²And all Judah brought the tithe of the grain and the new wine and the fresh oil to the storehouses. ¹³And I appointed treasurers over the storehouses, Shelemiah the priest, and Zadok the scribe, and of the Levites, Pedaiah; and next to them was Hanan the son of Zaccur, the son of Mattaniah; for they were counted faithful, and it was their charge to distribute to their brothers. ¹⁴Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and do not blot out my loyal deeds, which I have done for the house of my God and for its services.

Luke 6:38—Give, and it will be given to you; a good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, they will give into your bosom. For with what measure you measure, it shall be measured to you in return.

Acts 20:35—In all things I have shown you by example that toiling in this way we ought to support the weak and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Matt. 6:1-4—But take care not to do your righteousness before men in order to be gazed at by them; otherwise, you have no reward with your Father who is in the heavens. ²Therefore when you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you

as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be glorified by men. Truly I say to you, They have their reward in full. ³But you, when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴So that your alms may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

4. The overcomers who are reconstituted with Christ as the Sun will shine forth like the sun in the kingdom of their Father—13:43; Judg. 5:31.

Matt. 13:43—Then the righteous will shine forth like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

Judg. 5:31—May all Your enemies so perish, O Jehovah. But may those who love Him be like the sun When it rises in its might. And the land had rest forty years.

IV. The Lord's second coming will resolve all the problems of the world:

- A. The Lord's second coming will resolve the problem of injustice—Isa. 11:4.

Isa. 11:4—But He will judge the poor in righteousness, And decide with equity for the afflicted of the land. And He will strike the land with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked.

- B. The Lord's second coming will resolve the problem of war—2:4.

Isa. 2:4—And He will judge between the nations, And will decide *matters* for many peoples. And they will beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning knives; Nation will not lift up sword against nation, Nor will they learn war anymore.

- C. The Lord's second coming will resolve the problem of sickness—Rev. 22:2; Ezek. 47:12.

Rev. 22:2—And on this side and on that side of the river was the tree of life, producing twelve fruits, yielding its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

Ezek. 47:12—And on the banks on both sides of the river will grow all *kinds* of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither, nor will their fruit fail; but they will bring forth new fruit every month, because the water for them flows out of the sanctuary. And their fruit shall be for food, and their leaves for healing.

- D. The Lord's second coming will resolve the problem of famine—Isa. 35:1, 6.

Isa. 35:1—The wilderness and the desert will be glad; And the desert will exult and blossom Like the rose.

Isa. 35:6—Then the lame will leap like a hart, And the tongue of the dumb will give a ringing shout; For water will break forth in the wilderness, And streams in the desert.

- E. The Lord's second coming will resolve the problem of education—2:2-5; 4:2-6; 11:9; Hab. 2:14; Heb. 8:11; Psa. 2:6, 12.

Isa. 2:2-5—But in the last days The mountain of the house of Jehovah will be established On the top of the mountains; And it will be lifted up above the hills; And all the nations will stream to it, ³And many peoples will come and say, Come and let us go up to the mountain of Jehovah, To the house of the God of Jacob, That He may instruct us in His ways, And that we may walk in His paths. For from Zion will go forth instruction, And the word of Jehovah from Jerusalem; ⁴And He will judge between the nations, And will

decide *matters* for many peoples. And they will beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning knives; Nation will not lift up sword against nation, Nor will they learn war anymore. ⁵House of Jacob, come and let us walk in the light of Jehovah.

Isa. 4:2-6—In that day the Shoot of Jehovah will be beauty and glory, and the fruit of the earth, excellence and splendor, to those of Israel who have escaped. ³And he who is left over in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy, everyone who has been written down in Jerusalem for life; ⁴When the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion and has cleansed away the bloodstains of Jerusalem from her midst, by the judging Spirit and the burning Spirit. ⁵Jehovah will create over the entire region of Mount Zion and over all her convocations a cloud of smoke by day, and the brightness of a fiery flame by night; for the glory will be a canopy over all. ⁶And there will be a tabernacle as a daytime shade from the heat and as a refuge and a cover from storm and rain.

Isa. 11:9—They will not harm nor destroy In all My holy mountain, For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of Jehovah, As water covers the sea.

Hab. 2:14—For the earth will be filled With the knowledge of the glory of Jehovah As water covers the sea.

Heb. 8:11—And they shall by no means each teach his fellow citizen and each his brother, saying, Know the Lord; for all will know Me from the little one to the great one among them.

Psa. 2:6—But I have installed My King Upon Zion, My holy mountain.

Psa. 2:12—Kiss the Son Lest He be angry and you perish from the way; For His anger may suddenly be kindled. Blessed are all those who take refuge in Him.

- F. The Lord's second coming will resolve the problem of sinful establishments—
Matt. 13:41-43.

Matt. 13:41-43—The Son of Man will send His angels, and they will collect out of His kingdom all the stumbling blocks and those who practice lawlessness, ⁴²And will cast them into the furnace of fire. In that place there will be the weeping and the gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine forth like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

- G. The Lord's second coming will resolve the problem of the suffering of all creation—Rom. 8:21-22; Isa. 11:6, 9.

Rom. 8:21-22—In hope that the creation itself will also be freed from the slavery of corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation groans together and travails in pain together until now.

Isa. 11:6—And the wolf will dwell with the lamb; And the leopard will lie down with the kid, And the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a young boy will lead them about.

Isa. 11:9—They will not harm nor destroy In all My holy mountain, For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of Jehovah, As water covers the sea.

H. The Lord's second coming will resolve the problem of earthly governments—Rev. 11:15; Dan. 2:34-35, 44-45.

Rev. 11:15—And the seventh angel trumpeted; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, The kingdom of the world has become the *kingdom* of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign forever and ever.

Dan. 2:34-35—You were watching until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the image at its feet of iron and clay and crushed them. ³⁵Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed all at once, and they became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

Dan. 2:44-45—And in the days of those kings the God of the heavens will raise up a kingdom which will never be destroyed, and its reign will not be left to another people; it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms; and it will stand forever. ⁴⁵Inasmuch as you saw that out of the mountain a stone was cut without hands and that it crushed the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold, the great God has made known to the king what will happen afterward; and the dream is certain, and its interpretation trustworthy.

V. In order to make ourselves ready for the Lord's coming, we must cooperate with the inner operating God of peace so that He may sanctify us wholly by saturating us with Himself so that we can become the New Jerusalem as the holy city—Rom. 6:19, 22; Eph. 5:26; 1 Thes. 5:23-24; Rev. 21:2:

Rom. 6:19—I speak in human *terms* because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves to uncleanness and lawlessness unto lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness unto sanctification.

Rom. 6:22—But now, having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you have your fruit unto sanctification, and the end, eternal life.

Eph. 5:26—That He might sanctify her, cleansing *her* by the washing of the water in the word,

1 Thes. 5:23-24—And the God of peace Himself sanctify you wholly, and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴Faithful is He who calls you, who also will do *it*.

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.

A. God desires to sanctify us, and He Himself will do it as long as we are willing to pursue Him as holiness and cooperate with Him; in this way we can be holy as He is holy (1 Pet. 1:15-16); without holiness we cannot see Him (Heb. 12:14).

1 Pet. 1:15-16—But according to the Holy One who called you, you yourselves also be holy in all *your* manner of life; ¹⁶Because it is written, “You shall be holy because I am holy.”

Heb. 12:14—Pursue peace with all men and sanctification, without which no one will see the Lord;

- B. The God of peace is the Sanctifier; His sanctification brings in peace; when we are wholly sanctified by Him from within, we have peace with Him and with man in every way—1 Thes. 5:23, 13; 2 Thes. 3:16.

1 Thes. 5:23—And the God of peace Himself sanctify you wholly, and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thes. 5:13—And to regard them most highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves.

2 Thes. 3:16—Now the Lord of peace Himself give you peace continually in every way. The Lord be with you all.

- C. By sanctifying us, God transforms us in the essence of our spirit, soul, and body, making us wholly like Him in nature; in this way He preserves our spirit, soul, and body wholly complete—1 Thes. 5:23.

1 Thes. 5:23—And the God of peace Himself sanctify you wholly, and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

VI. God sanctifies us wholly and also preserves our spirit, soul, and body complete:

- A. In order to cooperate with God to preserve our spirit in sanctification, we must keep our spirit living by exercising it to have fellowship with God; if we fail to exercise our spirit in this way, we will leave it in a deadened situation—vv. 16-18.

1 Thes. 5:16-18—Always rejoice, ¹⁷Unceasingly pray, ¹⁸In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

- B. In order to cooperate with God to preserve our soul in sanctification, we must clear the three main “arteries” of our psychological heart, the parts of our soul—our mind, emotion, and will; in order for our soul to be sanctified, our mind must be renewed to be the mind of Christ (Rom. 12:2), our emotion must be touched and saturated with the love of Christ (Eph. 3:17, 19), our will must be subdued by and infused with the resurrected Christ (Phil. 2:13; cf. S. S. 4:4a; 7:4a), and we must love the Lord with our whole being (Mark 12:30).

Rom. 12:2—And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.

Eph. 3:17—That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

Eph. 3:19—And to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ, that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God.

Phil. 2:13—For it is God who operates in you both the willing and the working for *His* good pleasure.

S. S. 4:4—Your neck is like the tower of David, Built for an armory: A thousand bucklers hang on it, All the shields of the mighty men.

S. S. 7:4—Your neck is like a tower of ivory; Your eyes, *like* the pools in Heshbon By the gate of Bath-rabbim; Your nose is like the tower of Lebanon, Which faces Damascus.

Mark 12:30—And you shall love the Lord your God from your whole heart and from your whole soul and from your whole mind and from your whole strength.”

- C. In order to cooperate with God to preserve our body in sanctification, we must present our body to Him so that we may live a holy life for the church life, practicing the Body life in order to carry out God’s perfect will—Rom. 12:1-2; 1 Thes. 4:4; 5:18.

Rom. 12:1-2—I exhort you therefore, brothers, through the compassions of God to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, well pleasing to God, *which is* your reasonable service. ²And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.

1 Thes. 4:4—That each one of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,

1 Thes. 5:18—In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.