
Church in Campbell Weekly News

January 1, 2012 Issue 12- 01

The Focus of the Lord's Recovery

I. The Need to see the Focus of the Lord's Recovery

We need to have a vision of the Lord's recovery – a vision that revolutionizes us, governs us, controls us, directs us, preserves us, keeps us in the genuine oneness, and gives us the boldness to go on. If we do not have a clear and strong vision of what is on the Lord's heart concerning His recovery, we are not in the recovery intrinsically, and we are doing things in vain.

The Lord's recovery is the recovery of the unique plan, the unique economy, the unique way, the unique work, and the unique focus by the unique ministry. The unique focus of the Lord's recovery is the testimony of the Triune God – the corporate expression of the Triune God; this focus is the testimony of Jesus. God's original intention was that man would receive his life and nature and thereby become His expression. As the corporate expression of the Triune God, the church is the fullness of God and a four-in-one organic entity – the Father, the Son, the Spirit, and the Body mingled together as one. The four-in-one organic entity in Ephesians 4:4-6 corresponds to the golden lampstands, the testimony of Jesus, in Revelation 1:9, 12 and 20.

The testimony of Jesus is the testimony of the Son coming with the Father and by the Spirit to live on earth, to die on the cross to clear up the universe, to release the divine life, and to resurrect from the dead to become a life-giving Spirit, who comes as the Son with the Father compounded with the divinity, humanity, human living, crucifixion, and resurrection. Such a compound testimony is the testimony of Jesus, and this testimony has a symbol – the golden lampstand. In the golden lampstand there are three main factors. The entire lampstand is gold; it is not only golden but gold itself, signifying God the Father's divine nature. The gold is in a definite form and a purposeful shape, signifying the Son, Christ, as the embodiment of the Godhead, the embodiment of the Father's nature. The seven lamps shining for God's expression are the seven Spirits of God. In everything we do in the church life and in our daily life, we must bear a clear, evident, strong testimony of a golden lampstand constituted with the Father's nature, the Son's embodiment, and the Spirit's expression.

To bear such a testimony is to hold the mystery of faith. The faith is the content of God's New Testament economy, in which we believe. According to the context of 1 Timothy 3:9, the mystery of the faith should include the church, because the church is

constituted with God in Christ and with Christ as the life-giving Spirit; this corresponds to the constitution of the lampstand. Thus, the church is a golden lampstand shining forth the corporate expression of the Triune God; this is the focus of the Lord's recovery.

II. The Focus of the Epistles – the Divine Trinity for the Divine Dispensing

The Divine Trinity is the focus of the Epistles. Christ the Son died for us, the Spirit has been given to us, and through this Spirit the love of God has been poured out in our hearts. In Romans 8:9, the Spirit of God and the Spirit of Christ are used interchangeably, indicating that the indwelling Spirit of life is the all-inclusive life-giving Spirit of the Triune God. In Romans 8:11, we have the entire Triune God; "the One who raised Jesus from the dead," "Christ," and "His Spirit who indwells you." In this verse we also have the process required for the divine dispensing. The divine dispensing is shown by the words "*give life to your mortal bodies.*" Romans 15:16 unveils that Paul was a laboring priest of the gospel of the Triune God, ministering Christ Jesus, the Son, to the Gentiles; eventually, the result of his work was to offer the Gentiles to God as a sanctified entity through the Holy Spirit.

Everything that is mentioned concerning the Divine Trinity in the New Testament is related to the divine dispensing. The crucial focus of Ephesians is the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity into the believers. Chapter 1 unveils how God the Father chose and predestinated the members in eternity, God the Son redeemed them, and God the Spirit sealed them as a pledge, thus imparting Himself into His believers for the formation of the church. Chapter 2 shows us that in the Divine Trinity all the believers, both Jewish and Gentile, have access unto God the Father, through God the Son, in God the Spirit. In chapter 3 the apostle prays that God the Father would grant the believers to be strengthened through God the Spirit into their inner man so that Christ, God the Son, may make His home in their hearts, that they may be filled unto all the fullness of God. Chapter 4 portrays how the processed God as the Spirit, the Lord, and the Father is mingled with the Body of Christ so that all the members of the Body may experience the Divine Trinity. Chapter 5 exhorts the believers to praise the Lord, God the Son, with the songs of God the Spirit, and give thanks in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, God the Son, to God the Father. Chapter 6 instructs us to fight the spiritual warfare by being empowered in the Lord, God the Son, putting on the whole armor of God the Father, and wielding the sword of the Spirit. In our daily living we need to receive, experience, and enjoy the divine dispensing in a normal, gradual and steady way. The more we experience the divine dispensing, the more we grow in life for the building up of the Body of Christ.

III. Romans 8 – the Focus of the Entire Bible and the Center of the Universe

Romans 8 reveals that the processed Triune God as the law of the Spirit of life gives the divine life to the believers for their living. God's desire and goal are that we live by the divine life and minister life to others for the building up of the church; this life is in Christ Jesus, and it is the life of the law of the Spirit of life; the all-inclusive indwelling Spirit is constantly transmitting this life into each one of us to build up the church, edify the saints, and minister the riches of Christ to everyone who contacts us. We need to see the way to live as a man by the law of the Spirit of life; we must be controlled and directed by the law of the Spirit of life to experience a genuine and normal Christian life. We need to walk according to the spirit, to be according to the spirit, to mind the things of the Spirit, to put to death the practices of our body, to be led by the Spirit of God, to cry, "Abba, Father!"

If we are experiencing Romans 8, we are in the center of the universe. In the eternity past God purposed to enter His redeemed people so that He could be their life and so that they could be His corporate expression; this is the focus of God's economy. Man is the center of God's creation, because God's intention is to be expressed through man, man can become God's expression only by God entering man to be man's life and content and to make man one with Him so that man may live by Him and even live Him out; in this way God is expressed from within man. The central focus in the universe is the processed Triune God has come into us and now dwells in us. The indwelling Spirit in Romans 8 is the Triune God. When Christ enters into us, our spirit is regenerated, making our spirit life when we love the Lord and set our mind on the things concerning Him, our mind is life; therefore, if the Spirit of the resurrecting One indwells us, He will give life to our body. When God is thus added into our being, we will receive the life element that causes us to grow for the building up of the Body of Christ. Ultimately, this life will prepare the bride of Christ, which will cause the Lord to come back and usher us into the next age.

IV. The Focus of God's Economy – the Mingled Spirit

The focus of God's economy is the mingled spirit, the divine Spirit mingled with the human spirit, whatever God intends to do or accomplish is related to this focus. The union of God and man is a union of the two spirits; the union of these two spirits is the deepest mystery in the Bible.

The essence of the New Testament is the two spirits – the divine Spirit and the human spirit – mingled together as one spirit. The mingled spirit is a spirit that is one spirit with God and that is the same as God in His life and nature but not in His Godhead. The God-man living is the living of the two spirits, the Spirit of God and the spirit of man joined and mingled together as one. To be proper Christians, we must know that the Lord Jesus today as the embodiment of the Triune God is the Spirit indwelling our spirit and mingled with our spirit as one spirit.

All our spiritual experiences, such as our fellowship with the Lord, our prayer to Him, and our living with him, are in this mingled spirit. Romans 8 speaks of the Spirit of life, the spirit of the believers, and the mingled spirit. The spirit of faith in 2 Corinthians 4:13 is the mingled spirit – the Holy Spirit mingled with the regenerated human spirit. We must exercise the spirit of faith to believe and to speak the things that we have experienced of the Lord, especially His death and resurrection. Ultimately, the Bible requires only one thing of us – that we walk according to the mingled spirit. The key to experiencing and enjoying the processed and consummated Triune God through the divine dispensing is found in the wonderful Spirit who is in our regenerated spirit and who has become one spirit with our spirit. By living in the mingled spirit, we can experience Christ as everything to us, spontaneously bear the cross, be kept from Satan and let Christ fill and saturate us. We will be saved in life to the extent that God and we, we and God, will be completely mingled as one, having one life and one living. If we enter experientially into the depths of the truth concerning the mingled spirit, our inner being will be radically changed, and our life, ministry, and service in the church will be affected in a revolutionary way.

Burdens for Church Prayers

- Pray for the 5-day and 5th term GOWT that the Lord continue to train us with His grace.
- Pray for YP that they will experience Christ in their spirit as the reality of all the sacrifices and the offerings for building up of God's dwelling place.
- Pray for the growth of the feeling of the Body of Christ.
- Pray for spreading to nearby cities
- For daily exercise in GOW training: prophesying on Lord's day by daily enjoying His word and pursue the truth and attend Lord's day meeting on time.
- For gospel preaching on West Valley College campus, as well as for English-speaking testimony in Campbell.

Announcement

- Morning Revival: 2011 Thanksgiving International Conference Message One, the Need to See the Focus of Lord's Recovery.
- YP Bible reading: John chapter 10.
- Prayer meeting Tuesday (1/3), brothers at meeting hall to attend prayer retreat, sisters pray by companions.
- Hospitality needed to receive about 20 saints from other localities for attending the 5-day GOW training on 1/6 and 1/7.