

# The HEARING OF Faith

LIVING STREAM MINISTRY RADIO NEWSLETTER

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*"He therefore who bountifully supplies to you the Spirit . . . does He do it out of the works of the law or out of the hearing of faith?" Galatians 3:5*

## In THIS ISSUE

- 1 LETTER FROM LIVING STREAM MINISTRY
- 1 WHAT IS THE ENJOYMENT OF CHRIST?
- 2 HIGHLIGHTS FROM *LIFE-STUDY OF 1 & 2 SAMUEL*
- 2 RESPONSE FROM LISTENERS
- 4 THE PATH OF LIFE—ENJOYING CHRIST BY PRAYING

Dear Life-study Listener,

This month we begin the sixth year of daily broadcasts of *Life-study of the Bible with Witness Lee*. We started broadcasting once per week in September 1996 and then went to daily programming in April of 1997. Listeners tell us that they have read the Scriptures we cover before but that after hearing the *Life-study of the Bible* program, they feel as if they are seeing what the Lord meant in those verses for the first time. As we begin *Life-study of 1 & 2 Samuel* this month, that same inspiration and enlightenment continues.

First and Second Samuel can be summarized by five people: three positive and two negative. Hannah, Samuel, and David are faithful patterns of ones who cooperated with the Lord to carry out His economy on earth. Eli and Saul, on the other hand, are examples of failure and shame. Yet out of their failure, God raised up positive ones. This is an encouragement to us to see that the Lord can turn our shameful failures to His glory and victory. We trust that you will be uplifted in these books of history, even as we are while preparing the programs for you.


Last month we announced *Words of Life & Truth: A One-Minute Scripture Reading with Commentary* for radio stations around the country. In addition to the broadcasts over radio, these one-minute gems can be found on our Web site at [www.lsmradio.org](http://www.lsmradio.org). We think you will be surprised at just how much faith the Lord can impart into us through one minute of the hearing of faith.

Living Stream Ministry

## WHAT IS THE ENJOYMENT OF CHRIST?

The central thought of God revealed in the Scriptures is that God desires that we take Him as our enjoyment. Throughout the Bible, God has unveiled His heart's desire that man would enjoy Him. The Old Testament is filled with types depicting God in Christ to be man's enjoyment: a flowing river,

*(continued on page 3)*



**WORDS OF LIFE & TRUTH**  
*Online*

A One-Minute  
Scripture Reading  
with Commentary

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## ENJOYMENT OF CHRIST *(continued from page 1)*

a tree of life, the Passover lamb not only as a sacrifice for sin but also as a strengthening supply of life, the manna as the bread from heaven, and water gushing from a smitten rock, to name a few. In the Word of God we can see that to enjoy Christ is to take Him as our complete provision and rich satisfaction in all things.

God has given Christ to us as our all-inclusive portion (1 Cor. 1:9; Col. 1:12-13). But the Bible also reveals how Satan, God's adversary, has done his best to frustrate God's purpose and to defraud us of Christ

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as our enjoyment. First, in the garden of Eden, the serpent, Satan, distracted man from the tree of life, a type of Christ, and seduced him to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Man lost God as his joy and satisfaction and had to replace the God he lost with other things. Later, God called Abraham and the children of Israel to be His people and to take pleasure uniquely in Him. But eventually they lost God as their enjoyment and plunged into bondage in Egypt.

When God delivered the children of Israel from slavery in Egypt, He saved them through the blood of the Passover lamb, fed them with its flesh, and commanded them to

feast on unleavened bread. Then, in the wilderness, He gave them manna as their food to supply them and water from the rock to satisfy them. The New Testament tells us clearly that these were all types of Christ as our enjoyment (1 Cor. 5:7; 10:3-4).

David praised God as the unique source for man's satisfaction by exulting in the fatness of God's house, the river of His pleasures, and God Himself as the fountain of life (Psalm 36:7-9). Surely these are words speaking of David's enjoyment of God. Yet God's people were again deceived and turned away from their God. Therefore Jehovah lamented through the prophet Jeremiah, "For My people have committed two evils: they have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, to hew out for themselves cisterns, broken cisterns, which hold no water" (Jer. 2:13).

In the New Testament age, God in Christ came to the earth and presented Himself as living water (John 4:10, 14; 7:37-39) and the bread of life for us to enjoy forever (John 6:53-58). The Lord Jesus shows us in John 4:24 that we render true worship to God when we drink of Him as the living water. Yet, we also may be distracted from Him as our source of supply, exchanging the enjoyment of Christ for culture, teachings, observances, works, formalities, or religious rituals. All these things are like broken cisterns that hold no water. Only when we enjoy Christ Himself as our rich portion can both we and God be satisfied. The deep need and longing within our being are met, and God's desire to be everything to us is fulfilled.

For further reading on this subject, please see *The Tree of Life; The Enjoyment of Christ; and The Enjoyment of Christ for His Increase*, by Witness Lee, published by Living Stream Ministry.

*Blessed*  
**ARE THE PURE IN HEART**  
**FOR THEY SHALL SEE GOD.**  
*Matthew 5:8*



*THE PURE IN HEART HAVE A HEART SO PURE THAT THEY JUST WANT GOD AND NOTHING OTHER THAN GOD. If Christians are willing to allow God to work in them, the first thing they have to do is to turn their heart to God. God does not have the way to work on many people because their heart is not set on Him. We cannot say that they do not want the Lord. They really do want the Lord, but they also want something other than the Lord Himself... Their inner being is very complicated, but love should be very simple.*

Witness Lee  
*The Pure in Heart*, p. 12  
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