

**Outline of
the Messages for the Full-time Training
in the Spring Term of 2018**

**GENERAL SUBJECT:
ENJOYING THE RICHES OF CHRIST
FOR THE BUILDING UP OF THE CHURCH AS THE BODY OF CHRIST**

Message Fifteen

**Experiencing and Enjoying the All-inclusive Christ
as the All-inclusive Life-giving Spirit
for the Church as the Israel of God**

Scripture Reading: Gal. 1:15-16; 2:20; 4:19; 3:13-14; 6:16

- I. The most crucial and mysterious matter revealed in the Bible is that God's ultimate intention is to work Himself in Christ into His chosen people—Eph. 3:17a; 4:4-6:**
 - A. God's desire to work Himself into our being is the focal point of the divine revelation in the Scriptures—Rom. 8:9-10, 6, 11.
 - B. The book of Galatians reveals that God's intention is for Christ to be wrought into His chosen people that they may become sons of God for His corporate expression—1:15-16; 2:20; 4:19; 3:26; 6:10, 16.

- II. The book of Galatians reveals Christ, a living person, and thus Galatians is emphatically Christ-centered—1:15-16; 2:20; 3:26-28; 4:19:**
 - A. Christ was crucified to redeem us out of the curse of the law and rescue us out of the evil religious course of the world—3:1, 13; 1:4, 15-16.
 - B. Christ was resurrected from the dead that He might live in us—v. 1; 2:20.
 - C. We were baptized into Christ, being identified with Him, and we have put on Christ, clothing ourselves with Him; thus, we are in Christ and have become of Him—3:27-29; 5:24.
 - D. Christ has been revealed in us, He is now living in us, and He will be formed in us—1:16; 2:20; 4:19.
 - E. To Christ the law has conducted us, and in Christ we are all sons of God—3:24, 26.
 - F. In Christ we inherit God's promised blessing and enjoy the all-inclusive Spirit—v. 14.
 - G. In Christ we are all one—v. 28.
 - H. We should not be deprived of all profit from Christ and thus be separated, severed, from Him—5:4.
 - I. We need Christ to supply us with grace in our spirit that we may live Him—6:18.
 - J. God's desire is that His chosen people receive His Son into them; this is the gospel—1:15-16; 2:20; 4:19.

III. The Christ who lives in us is the all-inclusive life-giving Spirit, who is the all-inclusive and ultimate blessing of the gospel—2:20; 3:2, 5, 13-14:

- A. The Spirit is the blessing that God promised to Abraham for all the nations and that has been received by the believers through faith in Christ—vv. 5, 14.
- B. The Spirit is God processed in His Trinity through incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection, ascension, and descension that we may receive Him as our life and our everything—v. 2.
- C. The physical aspect of the blessing that God promised to Abraham is the good land (Gen. 12:7; 13:15; 17:8; 26:3-4), which is a type of the all-inclusive Christ.
- D. Since Christ is eventually realized as the all-inclusive life-giving Spirit (1 Cor. 15:45b; 2 Cor. 3:17), the blessing of the promised Spirit corresponds to the blessing of the land promised to Abraham.
- E. Actually, the Spirit as the realization of Christ in our experience is the good land as the source of God's bountiful supply for us to enjoy—Deut. 8:7-10.

IV. The apostle Paul considers the many individual believers in Christ collectively as the Israel of God—Gal. 6:16:

- A. God's New Testament economy is not only to make us sons of God but also to make us the Israel of God—Eph. 1:5; Heb. 2:10; Gal. 3:26; 4:6-7; 6:16.
- B. The Israel of God is the real Israel, including all the Gentile and Jewish believers in Christ, who are the true sons of Abraham, who are the household of the faith, and who are those in the new creation—Rom. 9:6b; 2:28-29; Phil. 3:3; Gal. 6:15-16, 10; 3:7, 29.
- C. The real Israel, the spiritual Israel, is the church—6:16, 10; Matt. 16:18.
- D. In God's New Testament economy we have been made both the sons of God and the Israel of God—Gal. 3:26; 6:16:
 - 1. We are sons of God, members of God's family, for His expression—v. 10.
 - 2. We are kings-to-be, those destined to be kings; kingship is related to the Israel of God—Rev. 5:10.
 - 3. Our destiny is to be sons of God expressing God and also kings reigning in the kingdom of God—21:7; 22:5b; 12:5a:
 - a. As the sons of God, the new creation, we need to be loving, joyful, peaceful, faithful, and meek—Gal. 3:26; 5:22-23.
 - b. As the Israel of God, princes and victors, we need to walk according to the elementary rules of God's New Testament economy—v. 25; 6:16.
- E. As the Israel of God, we represent God, exercise His authority, and carry out His administration on earth for the fulfillment of His purpose—Gen. 1:26, 28; Luke 10:19; Rev. 12:5, 7-11:
 - 1. God wants His creature *man* to deal with His creature *Satan* in order to bring the earth back to God—Psa. 149:7-9.
 - 2. God needs man to do the work of God—to reign over His creation, to proclaim His triumph, and to cause Satan to suffer loss—Gen. 1:26.
- F. Today we need to be the Israel of God, a prince, to execute God's government on earth—Matt. 6:9-10.