

Message Two

The One New Man and the Lord's Recovery

Scripture Reading: Col. 1:15-18, 27; 2:2-3, 8-9, 17; 3:1, 3-4, 10-11

- I. God's goal in His recovery is to recover Christ as everything to us—1 Cor. 1:9, 30; 2:2; 3:11; 12:12; Col 2:2-3, 8-9, 17; 3:4, 10-11:**
 - A. God's intention is to make Christ His Son the center of His economy and also to make Him everything to all the believers—1:18; 2:17.
 - B. God has determined that in His economy one person—His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ—must be everything—Matt. 17:5.
 - C. In the recovery the Lord is recovering Christ Himself in our experience—Gal. 1:15a, 16a; 2:20; 4:19; Eph. 3:17a; Phil. 1:20-21a.
 - D. In His recovery the Lord is seeking to recover the all-inclusive Christ as the life-giving Spirit who imparts Himself into the believers and makes them His living Body, the one new man—1 Cor. 15:45b; 2 Tim. 4:22a; Rom. 12:4-5; Eph. 2:15.

- II. What is being recovered today is God's economy, which is centered on God's unique work—to work Himself in Christ into His chosen people, making Himself one with them—3:16-17a:**
 - A. We must have a clear vision of God's economy and be governed, controlled, and directed by this vision—Prov. 29:18a; Acts 26:19.
 - B. We are here to carry out God's economy in His recovery, which is absolutely different from today's religion and which cannot be reconciled with Christianity.

- III. The goal of the Lord's recovery is to bring forth the one new man—Eph. 2:15; 4:22-24; Col. 3:10-11:**
 - A. What the Lord has been doing, and what He is now doing, in His recovery is bringing forth the one new man with Himself as the life and the person for God's expression—Eph. 3:17a; Col. 3:4, 10-11.
 - B. The one new man will usher in the kingdom of God and will bring Christ, the King, back to this earth—Rev. 11:15.

- IV. What was divided and scattered in the old man was fully recovered in the new man—Gen. 11:5-9; Acts 2:5-12; Col. 3:10-11:**
 - A. In the old man, man was divided and scattered, but in the new man, man is gathered and made one.
 - B. In the world the more different and individualistic a person is, the better; this is contrary to God's economy, which is to gather, to unite, and to make one.
 - C. To put off the old man is to put off the divided and scattered man; to put on the new man is to put on the gathered and one new man—Eph. 4:22, 24.
 - D. In the one new man all of us are one man; the requirement that everyone be only one man is exceedingly high—2:15:
 1. For the existence of the one new man, we need to rise up together to take Christ as our person—Gal. 2:20; Eph. 3:17a.

2. Those who are gifted should take this as their goal and perfect the saints in taking Christ as their person—4:11-13.

V. Now is the time for God to accomplish His purpose to perfect the new man, who will come into full existence on earth—v. 24:

- A. The world situation has been raised up for the goal of the one new man:
 1. Everything that the Lord is doing in the present age is to usher in the practical existence of the one new man.
 2. The advances of civilization and technology are not merely for the world but are for the one new man.
 3. Now there is the possibility that the saints in all the localities in their environmental circumstances will become the one new man.
- B. In the last days of this age, before the Lord will be able to return, we must see the one Body and the one new man—1 Cor. 12:12; Eph. 4:4; 2:15; 4:24.
- C. When the one new man is perfected, that will be the time of the Lord's coming, and the perfected new man will be His bride—Rev. 19:7.