

**MAINTAINING THE NATURE OF THE LORD'S RECOVERY
AS SEEN IN THE NEW JERUSALEM**

Message One

**The Goal of the Lord's Recovery Being
the Consummation of the New Jerusalem**

Scripture Reading: Eph. 3:8; 4:3-6; Rev. 1:4a; 21:2, Gen. 1:1; 9-10; 22:17; John 3:6; Heb. 2:11;
Rom. 12:2; 8:29-30

I. We need to realize what the Lord's recovery is—Eph. 3:8; 4:3-6:

- A. The Lord's recovery is the recovery of mainly two items: Christ as life and the genuine oneness—Col. 3:4; Psa. 133:1:
 - 1. Christ as life is the nature of the Lord's recovery, and oneness is the standing, the ground, of the Lord's recovery.
 - 2. Everything in the universe has a nature and a standing; nothing exists without a nature and a standing; the Lord's recovery exists by its nature and by its standing.
 - 3. The church is nothing but Christ; thus, Christ as life is the content, the nature, of the church in the Lord's recovery, and the genuine oneness is the standing of the church in the Lord's recovery—Col. 3:3, 10-11; Eph. 4:3-6.
- B. The church today is the miniature of the New Jerusalem in the future, and the Lord's recovery on earth represents His church—1:4a; 21:2:
 - 1. We must see that God's eternal heart's desire is to have the New Jerusalem, the Body of Christ.
 - 2. Then we must see that God's way to gain the New Jerusalem is by building up the local churches in time in each locality to be miniatures and representatives of the New Jerusalem, living out, in principle and in nature, the living of the Body of Christ.
 - 3. Through this Body life the churches can manifest the life of Christ to be the testimony of Christ; these two points cover God's eternal intention and what God wants to do today.

II. The New Jerusalem is not a physical city or heavenly mansion where all the redeemed saints dwell; instead, it is a living composition of all the saints redeemed by God throughout all the generations—Heb. 12:22a; Rev. 21:2, 9, 12, 14, and notes 2¹, 2³, 12⁴, and 14²:

- A. The New Jerusalem is the ultimate consummation—vv. 1-2, 9-11:
 - 1. Our God is a God of purpose; we need to see and realize what the ultimate consummation of His purpose is; the answer to this question is the New Jerusalem—Rom. 8:28; Eph. 1:9, 11; 3:11; 2 Tim. 1:9; Rev. 21:2, 9-11.
 - 2. The New Jerusalem is the ultimate consummation of God, of God's salvation, of Christ's redemption, of the Spirit's transformation, and of every positive thing.
- B. The New Jerusalem, a marvelous, wonderful, and amazing entity, is the aggregate of all the visions and revelations in the Holy Scripture; the total accomplishment of the types, figures, and shadows; the total fulfillment of the prophecies of the Holy Scripture; and the final conclusion of the sixty-six books of the Holy Scripture.
- C. The New Jerusalem, as the organism of God, is the good pleasure of His heart's desire, His ultimate goal, and the complete fulfillment of the eternal economy of God—Eph. 1:5, 9-10; 3:9.

- D. The New Jerusalem is a composition of God's chosen, redeemed, regenerated, sanctified, renewed, transformed, conformed, and glorified people who have been deified—John 3:6; Heb. 2:11; Rom. 12:2; 8:29-30:
 - 1. For us to be deified means that we are being constituted with the processed and consummated Triune God so that we may be made God in life and in nature to be His corporate expression for eternity—Rev. 21:11.
 - 2. The New Jerusalem is built by God's constituting Himself into man to make man the same as God in life, nature, and constitution so that God and man may become a corporate entity.
 - 3. The New Jerusalem is God Himself enlarged with His redeemed by the way of constituting, uniting, and mingling; thus, the deification of the believers is a process that will consummate in the New Jerusalem—John 3:29a, 30a; 14:20; 15:4a; 1 Cor. 6:17.
 - 4. On God's side, the Triune God has been incarnated to be a man; on our side, we are being deified, constituted with the processed and consummated Triune God so that we may be made God in life and in nature to be His corporate expression for eternity; this is the highest truth and the highest gospel—Rev. 3:12.
- E. The New Jerusalem is a universal couple—"a loving pair eternally"—the consummation of the divine romance—22:17:
 - 1. Revelation 22:17 indicates that Christ and the New Jerusalem as His wife will be a universal couple for eternity; the Spirit, who is the totality of the processed and consummated Triune God, becomes one with the believers, who are now fully matured to be the bride—21:2, 9-10.
 - 2. The consummation of the processed and consummated Triune God and the consummation of His regenerated, transformed, and glorified people will be a universal couple expressing the Triune God for eternity—vv. 11, 23.
 - 3. Revelation 21:2 says, "I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

III. In the Lord's recovery, our goal is for the consummation of the New Jerusalem—Rev. 21:9-10:

- A. According to the entire revelation of the New Testament, the unique goal of the Christian work should be the New Jerusalem, which is the ultimate goal of God's eternal economy.
- B. Today we establish the churches, edify the saints, practice the vital groups, and visit people by door-knocking, but our aim, our goal, is for the consummation of the New Jerusalem.
- C. The degradation of the church is mainly due to the fact that nearly all Christian workers have been distracted to take many things other than the New Jerusalem as their goal.
- D. Hence, under the degradation of the church, to be overcomers answering the Lord's call, we need to overcome not only the negative things but even more the positive things that replace the New Jerusalem as the goal.
- E. To be overcomers we should take the goal of God's eternal economy, the New Jerusalem, as our unique and ultimate goal; we need to remember this goal.
- F. We are leading people toward the New Jerusalem to consummate the New Jerusalem by drinking the Spirit and eating Christ for us to receive His rich and fresh supply.