

***Building the Wall of the City for the Protection of the Church as the House of God*****Monday 5/22****Related Verses****Neh. 2:17**

17 Then I said to them, You see the bad state we are in, that Jerusalem lies in waste and its gates are burned with fire. Come and let us build up the wall of Jerusalem so that we will no longer be a reproach.

**Matt. 16:19**

19 I will give to you the keys of the kingdom of the heavens, and whatever you bind on the earth shall have been bound in the heavens, and whatever you loose on the earth shall have been loosed in the heavens.

**Matt. 16:18**

18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

**Neh. 2:18, 20**

18 And I told them about the hand of my God, which was good upon me, and also about the king's words, which he had spoken to me. And they said, Let us rise up and build; and they strengthened their hands for the good work.

20 And I answered them and said to them, The God of heaven Himself will make us prosper; therefore we His servants will rise up and build. But you have no portion nor right nor memorial in Jerusalem.

**Psa. 51:18**

18 Do good in Your good pleasure unto Zion; Build the walls of Jerusalem.

**Rev. 21:12, 18**

12 It had a great and high wall and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names inscribed, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel:

18 And the building work of its wall was jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.

**Related Reading**

The building of the house and the city is the center of God's eternal purpose. This building is simply the mingling of God with man. When Christ comes into us, that is the mingling...Therefore, the church is a mingling of divinity with humanity...When this mingling is

enlarged and consummated to the fullest extent, that is the city. So the city eventually becomes the mutual building, the mutual habitation, of God and man. God dwells in us, and we in God...This is the universal, eternal mingling of God with man. We are His dwelling place, and He is ours. On a small scale, this is the house, and on a large scale, this is the city.

The New Testament first tells us that Christ is our life, but eventually it says that Christ is our Head...If we only experience Christ as life, yet do not realize Him much as our Head, we only have the church as the house. There is not the city yet. When we realize that Christ is not only our life but also our Head, then Christ will have the second step of enlargement. Then the church will not only be the house, but also the city. The house is mainly with the life, and the city is mainly with the Head. (CWWL, 1969, vol. 2, "The Recovery of God's House and God's City," pp. 380-381)

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After recovering the building of the temple, there is still the need to build up the city. Without the city there is no protection for the temple. The temple is complete; it is the place of the Lord's presence, where we meet and serve the Lord; but it needs protection. The wall of the city is the defense to the temple. Without the wall of the city, there is no protection.

This is a type that we must apply in the New Testament. In the New Testament the building of the church is first mentioned in the Gospels. After Peter declared that Christ was the Son of God, he was told that the church would be built. The church comes after the knowing of Christ; after we experience Christ, the church comes into existence. At the same time the Lord told Peter that He would give him the keys of the kingdom. Therefore, the kingdom follows the church. These three things are necessary: Christ as the rock, the church, and the kingdom. Christ must be experienced, the church must be built up, and then the kingdom will be brought in.

In the Epistles the church is the house of God [cf. Eph. 2:19; 1 Tim. 3:15]...But in the last two chapters of Revelation, there is a city. In that city there is no temple (21:22), because the city has become the enlargement of the temple.

Christ is the divine and eternal center. When He comes into me, into you, and into so many others, there is the increase of Christ. This increase of Christ is the church (John 3:29-30)...The church is the enlargement of Christ and the increase of Christ. We all are parts of Christ and members of Christ.

The church is the fullness of Christ, because Christ has been increased and enlarged into so many members...The city is a further enlargement of Christ. The first step of the enlargement of Christ is the church as the house. The second step of this enlargement is also the church, not as the house but as the city. The church as the house must be enlarged to be the church as the city. The city is something larger and safer than the house. Eventually, the whole house becomes the city. Revelation 21:22 says that there is no more temple in the city because the temple has become the city. The city is the tabernacle, the dwelling place (vv. 2-3). The city is the enlargement of the temple, the development of the house to the uttermost. (CWWL, 1969, vol. 2, "The Recovery of God's House and God's City," pp. 379-380)

Further Reading: CWWL, 1969, vol. 2, "The Recovery of God's House and God's City," ch. 8; CWWL, 1994-1997, vol. 3, "Crystallization-study of Song of Songs," chs. 5-6

**Tuesday 5/23****Related Verses****Neh. 4:6, 19**

6 So we built the wall; and all the wall was joined together to half its height, for the people had a heart to work.

19 And I said to the nobles, the rulers, and the rest of the people, The work is great and large, and we are separated on the wall, each far from the other.

**Col. 2:19**

19 And not holding the Head, out from whom all the Body, being richly supplied and knit together by means of the joints and sinews, grows with the growth of God.

**Eph. 2:19-22**

19 So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,

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**20** Being built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone;  
**21** In whom all the building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord;  
**22** In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.

**Eph. 4:15-16**

**15** But holding to truth in love, we may grow up into Him in all things, who is the Head, Christ,

**16** Out from whom all the Body, being joined together and being knit together through every joint of the rich supply and through the operation in the measure of each one part, causes the growth of the Body unto the building up of itself in love.

**Related Reading**

In many of the local churches there is the real enjoyment of life in the house, but as far as the city is concerned, there are still some breaches in the wall...This is why after Zerubbabel, Joshua, and Ezra, there is the need of Nehemiah for the building up of the wall of the city. The enemy hates this even more than the building of the temple...The enemy knows that the building of the house can be destroyed, but once the building of the city is completed, there is the safeguard of the wall as a defense to protect the house. So what we need for the long run is the building up of the wall. (CWWL, 1969, vol. 2, "The Recovery of God's House and God's City," pp. 382-383)

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[Christ] must not only be our life but also our Head; not only our enjoyment but also our authority...There are so many divorces in America today simply because people want the enjoyment of marriage without recognizing the headship. If a couple feels happy, they enjoy marriage, but when they feel unhappy with each other, they get a divorce. If they realized that they are not only in the marriage life but also under the headship, there would be no divorce. Brothers and sisters, under the headship we have no choice. We are under the divine authority. We must all see the life and the headship. Then we will not only have a house, but also a city with a strong and high wall.

If I have realized the headship of my Lord, whether I am happy with the other saints or not, I am simply one with them; I have no choice. I am not only in His life but also under His headship. I see the headship, and I am under it. The real building of the city is to help all the brothers and sisters to realize the headship of Christ.

If we are only in the life of Christ but know nothing of the headship of Christ, there may be breaches in the wall. We may build up the church as the house in the life of Christ, but to have the church as the city, we must realize the headship of Christ. To have a church not only as a house but as a city for protection, we must go further to take the headship of Christ.

We all need to have our will exercised, renewed, and transformed so that it will be under the headship of Christ. Our will must be in submission to the Head. Then we will be settled. As members of the Body, which is expressed by the local church, we must be willing to be under the headship of Christ. Then we will build up our part of the wall, and there will be no breach.

The book of Nehemiah tells us that each one must build up his part of the wall. I cannot build for you, and you cannot build for me. Everyone must build up his own part. With the building up of the wall, the work is mainly with the stronger ones because this is a matter of fighting. This is not a matter of the emotion but a matter of the will. Whether I like it or not, I still must build the wall. Whether it is easy or hard, I still must do it. There is no choice. I must submit myself to the headship of Christ so that the wall can be built up.

All the local churches need the building up of the wall. If we have seen the local church as the expression of the Body, then we must see that the Body is under the headship of Christ. We as members are under this headship. There is no choice; we must all be under the authority of Christ. Then the wall will be built. The wall constitutes the city, and the city in typology signifies the kingdom, the government. The Lord is in the house, but the King is in the city for the kingdom. (CWWL, 1969, vol. 2, "The Recovery of God's House and God's City," pp. 383-384)

Further Reading: CWWL, 1994-1997, vol. 1, "The Practical Points concerning Blending," chs. 2-4; CWWL, 1991-1992, vol. 2, "The Christian Life," chs. 7, 10

Wednesday 5/24
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**Related Verses****Col. 3:4**

**4** When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.

**Col. 1:18**

**18** And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;

**Rev. 21:2**

**2** And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

**1 Cor. 11:3**

**3** But I want you to know that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of the woman, and God is the head of Christ.

**1 Tim. 3:15**

**15** But if I delay, I write that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and base of the truth.

**Rev. 21:10-11**

**10** And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

**11** Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.

**Rev. 11:15**

**15** And the seventh angel trumpeted; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign forever and ever.

***Building the Wall of the City for the Protection of the Church as the House of God*****Related Reading**

In the last two chapters of the Bible, there is a city with a throne. Out of the throne proceeds the river of life with the tree of life growing on either side. Out of the throne proceeds life...We know what the life is, but what is the throne? This is the headship, the authority, the kingship, and the lordship of Christ. It is easy for us to realize Christ as life, but it is not so easy for us to realize Christ as the Head...There are some who know a little of Christ as life, but they know nothing of the headship of Christ. The New Testament tells us clearly that Christ is both our life and our Head. The Gospel of John speaks of Christ as life, and the Epistles, especially Colossians, tell us that Christ is also our Head. (*CWWL, 1969*, vol. 2, "The Recovery of God's House and God's City," pp. 381-382)

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We must keep in mind that Christ is these two main items to us: our life and our Head. When we realize and enjoy Christ as our life, we have the church as the house. But if we go further and realize His headship, the church will be enlarged to the city. Then the church will be safeguarded...It is easy to break into a house, but it is not easy to get through the walls of a city. The city is the safeguard of the house.

We are all enjoying Christ now as life. Many are having a local church honeymoon...Now everyone feels so happy, but sooner or later this honeymoon will be over. Then you will not feel so happy with some of the brothers, and the local church will not be such a joyful place to you. It is at this time that we need Christ not only as our life but also as our Head. We need not only the enjoyment but also the headship. If we realize the headship of Christ, then the wall of the city will be built up.

The wall of a city is not only for protection but also for separation. The wall is a separating line...In Genesis 2 there was a garden without a wall, so it was easy for the enemy, the creeping one, to creep in...But at the end of the Bible, there is a city with a wall one hundred forty-four cubits high. That is twelve times twelve, the number of eternal perfection. There is a perfect wall to separate

what is holy from what is common. Anything that is common has no entrance into the city.

The separation of the wall is not built up with regulations, but with transformed precious stones. The New Jerusalem is a city built up with transformed stones, not pieces of clay. There is not one brick made of clay. The separation of the wall is the building up of the transformed stones. The more we are transformed, the more we are separated, and the transformation eventually becomes the separating line...Our trust is in the growth in life and transformation. Transformation is the separating line. We do not have regulations, but we do have the transforming life. Praise the Lord! This transforming life will bring forth much separation.

In the wall of the New Jerusalem, there is nothing of regulation, but there is the building of the transformed precious stones. If we would pray-read all the verses in Revelation 21 and 22, we would see so much related to life: the flow of life, the feeding on life, the drinking of life, and the transforming of life. This is the church with the wall built up by transformation.

This is why the enemy hates the building up of the wall. Until the wall is raised up in the local churches, there is no safety, safeguard, or defense. We need the building up of the wall—to have every man realize the headship of Christ. (*CWWL, 1969*, vol. 2, "The Recovery of God's House and God's City," pp. 382, 384-385)

Further Reading: *CWWL, 1979*, vol. 2, "Basic Lessons on Service," ch. 20; *CWWL, 1984*, vol. 2, "Elders' Training, Book 2: "The Vision of the Lord's Recovery," ch. 3

<b>Thursday 5/25</b>
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**Related Verses****Acts 2:42**

42 And they continued steadfastly in the teaching and the fellowship of the apostles, in the breaking of bread and the prayers.

**1 Tim. 1:3-4**

3 Even as I exhorted you, when I was going into Macedonia, to remain in Ephesus in order that you might charge certain ones not to teach different things

4 Nor to give heed to myths and unending genealogies, which produce questionings rather than God's economy, which is in faith.

**Titus 1:9**

9 Holding to the faithful word, which is according to the teaching of the apostles, that he may be able both to exhort by the healthy teaching and to convict those who oppose.

**Eph. 3:9**

9 And to enlighten all that they may see what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things,

**Eph. 5:32**

32 This mystery is great, but I speak with regard to Christ and the church.

**Col. 1:23**

23 If indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast and not being moved away from the hope of the gospel, which you heard, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, of which I Paul became a minister.

**Eph. 2:20**

20 Being built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone;

**Related Reading**

The New Testament revelation, the teaching of the apostles, is concerned with God's economy. According to 1 Timothy 1:3-4, we may say that God's economy is the general term for God's New Testament revelation. Paul says that he left Timothy in Ephesus in order that he might charge certain ones not to teach different things. According to the context, different teachings refer to teachings that are not in line with the economy of God. What certain ones taught, though somewhat based on the New Testament revelation, were genealogies and the law. These were different from God's economy in faith...God's economy is the New Testament revelation, the teaching of the apostles. It is uniquely one, perfect, and complete. Nothing can be added to it or taken away from it...Anything less than this is inadequate, and anything more than this is man's teaching, not the words of God's economy. (*CWWL, 1994-1997*, vol. 2, "The Governing and Controlling Vision in the Bible," p. 276)

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Paul wrote 1 Timothy in the midst of a confusing environment and after many years of his work with his co-workers. This Epistle is altogether an inoculation...In the opening word of this Epistle, however, Paul did not write in a way that we would think to be so serious...This phrase not to teach different things [1:3] seems so simple...We may not think that this is serious, but actually it is more than serious. It kills people to teach differently. To teach differently tears down God's building and annuls God's entire economy. We all must realize that even a small amount of teaching in a different way destroys the recovery. There is a proverb that says, "One sentence can build up the nation, and one sentence can destroy the entire nation." You do not need to give an entire message. Just speaking one sentence that conveys your kind of concept tears down everything. We must realize that such a ministry is "terrible"...It is possible that your speaking destroys, kills, and annuls.

What then, we may ask, is the unique thing that all the Christian teachers should teach? Christian teachers today teach many things, such as the presbytery, baptism by immersion, the episcopalian way, holiness, how to preach the gospel, and the way to teach the Bible. We would all agree that to teach the way of Judaism is surely wrong, but...we must realize that even the teaching to preach the gospel creates division...There is only one ministry that always builds up, edifies, and perfects with no destruction at all. There is only one unique ministry that is justified, promoted, uplifted, and even glorified in the New Testament. In 1 Timothy 1:4 Paul went on to tell Timothy what those ones who were teaching different things should be occupied with—God's economy...There is only one ministry that ever builds up and that never destroys—this is God's economy.

Please do not have the peace and assurance that as long as you teach things scripturally, it is all right. It is not all right, because your teaching creates division.

We should be on the alert and watchful. We do not simply want the right teaching. We want the teaching that teaches God's economy. Now we can understand Paul's charge in 1 Corinthians to speak the same thing (1:10).

Whatever you teach should not be measured by whether it is wrong or right. It must be measured by whether it is divisive or not. Only one kind of ministry builds up and never divides—this is the unique ministry of God's economy. (*CWWL, 1984*, vol. 2, "Elders' Training, Book 3: The Way to Carry Out the Vision," pp. 268-271)

Further Reading: *Satan's Strategy against the Church* (booklet); *CWWL, 1990*, vol. 3, "The Basic Principles for the Practice of the God-ordained Way," pp. 258-265

**Friday 5/26****Related Verses****Rom. 16:17**

17 Now I exhort you, brothers, to mark those who make divisions and causes of stumbling contrary to the teaching which you have learned, and turn away from them.

**Titus 3:10**

10 A factious man, after a first and second admonition, refuse,

**2 John 9**

9 Everyone who goes beyond and does not abide in the teaching of Christ does not have God; he who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son.

**Eph. 4:14**

14 That we may be no longer little children tossed by waves and carried about by every wind of teaching in the sleight of men, in craftiness with a view to a system of error,

**Rom. 12:3, 16**

3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to every one who is among you, not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think, but to think so as to be sober-minded, as God has apportioned to each a measure of faith.

16 Be of the same mind toward one another, not setting your mind on the high things but going along with the lowly; do not be wise in yourselves.

**Matt. 5:8**

8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

**Related Reading**

[Concerning the building] there is one category of negative persons—the destroyers of the divine building. According to the New Testament, there are seven kinds of destroyers:

[First], those who blow the wind of divisive teachings by stressing things other than the central teaching concerning God's economy (Eph. 4:14; 1 Tim. 1:4). [Second], those who preach and teach heresies (2 Pet. 2:1; 2 John 7-11). [Third], those who are factious, sectarian (Titus 3:10). [Fourth], those who make divisions (Rom. 16:17). [Fifth], those who are ambitious for position (3 John 9). [Sixth], those who are wolves, not sparing the flock (Acts 20:29). [Seventh], those who speak perverted things to draw away the believers after them (v. 30).

Many are stirred up by the enemy and try their best to destroy the building of the church. (*CWWL, 1994–1997*, vol. 4, "The Secret of God's Organic Salvation—the Spirit Himself with Our Spirit," pp. 269-270)

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To turn away from those who make divisions [cf. Rom. 16:17] is to conquer the destructive chaos. This preserves the oneness of the Body of Christ that we may have a normal church life...If we open to these ones to listen to their divisive talk, we might be poisoned. This poison will cause us to doubt about the recovery and will weaken our morale for the recovery. We will be cold about attending the church meetings and about reading the Recovery Version with the Life-study messages...At the very least, these dissenting ones will make us lukewarm...The subject of 2 Timothy is the inoculation against the decline of the church. We need such an inoculation to preserve us against the germs of the satanic chaos of rebellion and division. (*CWWL, 1991–1992*, vol. 3, "The Satanic Chaos in the Old Creation and the Divine Economy for the New Creation," p. 256)

We need to beware of ambition. Ambition is something terrible. Of course, everyone has ambition. Anyone who is not ambitious is not human. However, when you come to serve as a co-worker or an elder, you must not come with your ambition...Even from the time our children are still young, we raise them to have ambition. Without ambition our children will not study

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well and will not be able to graduate...However, to fulfill the obligations of the co-workers and elders, you must not bring in your ambition. Ambition nullifies your obligations as co-workers and elders. Once you have ambition, you are finished.

To fulfill the obligations of a co-worker or an elder, you need to have a pure heart, purified from any form of subtle ambition in intention, purpose, motive, and action in the Lord's recovery...Some brothers who may be useful in the church behave outwardly in a humble way, but in their heart they are lifted up. That is subtle ambition, and that is a little fox that prevents them from making progress. The Lord will not give anything more to such a one, because if more is given to him, he will be lifted up. Only those who are humble without ambition can be used by the Lord, can receive gifts from the Lord, and can be entrusted with the Lord's ministry.

In the church, sometimes we need to arrange for certain ones to bear certain responsibilities. Those who are not assigned may act outwardly as if they do not care, revealing nothing either in their tone or in their expression, yet inwardly they are depressed and unhappy. This is the insidious work of hidden ambition to compete with others to be the first. (*CWWL, 1994-1997, vol. 5, "How to Be a Co-worker and an Elder and How to Fulfill Their Obligations," pp. 269-270*)

Further Reading: *CWWL, 1991-1992, vol. 3, "The Satanic Chaos in the Old Creation and the Divine Economy for the New Creation," chs. 1-4*

**Saturday 5/27**

**Related Verses****Matt. 16:18**

18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

**Rev. 1:17-18**

17 And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead; and He placed His right hand on me, saying, Do not fear; I am the First and the Last

18 And the living One; and I became dead, and behold, I am living forever and ever; and I have the keys of death and of Hades.

**Num. 6:6-7**

6 All the days that he separates himself to Jehovah he shall not come near a dead person.

7 He shall not make himself unclean for his father or for his mother, for his brother or for his sister, when they die, because his separation to God is upon his head.

**John 10:10**

10 The thief does not come except to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life and may have it abundantly.

**1 Pet. 1:3**

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has regenerated us unto a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

**Eph. 2:21-22**

21 In whom all the building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord;

22 In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.

**Related Reading**

Sin and death are "co-workers" of Satan. A man who spreads death is one who collaborates with Satan. Satan's goal is not only to cause man to sin and fall but also to bring man into the bondage of death. Death is the characteristic of Satan's work. The ultimate goal of his work is to saturate man with death. Today our meeting does not depend on numbers...The important thing is that we have to overcome death in our meetings. We have to swallow up death and release life...A Christian must realize that there is nothing more evil than death. At the same time, there is nothing better than life. In God's eyes death is the most ugly thing, while life is the most precious thing...Life is not a doctrine...Life is not excitement or good feelings. Life is just Christ Himself. (*CWWN, vol. 44, p. 876*)

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The riches of God are in Christ...Since the church is the testimony of the riches of God, its characteristics must be the characteristics of Christ...The characteristics of Christ are encapsulated in the words..., "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25)...Since the church is the vessel of Christ on earth, it should express this life and resurrection...The church must be full of life. In the church everything that issues from God is life, and everything that issues from Satan is death.

The main goal of the Lord coming to earth is for man to have life (John 10:10), that is, for man to receive God's life...God's Christ is life, and God's Christ is resurrection, and the church is the vessel of this life and resurrection...Through the church—the vessel of Christ—God dispenses His life and riches to men.

Since God's goal today is the church, Satan's attacks are directed specifically against the church. Satan does not necessarily stumble Christians or the church with the enticement of sin or the world, because these things are too obvious. While we may be free from sin and not love the world, we can still be under Satan's attacks. A bottle with a five-inch mouth cannot be stopped with a one-inch cork. Dealing with sin and the world alone is not enough to stop the attacks of Satan. The ultimate weapon Satan uses to attack the church is death. Death is not easily identifiable; it can creep secretly into the church. This does not mean that Satan will not use the world and sin to attack the church. It means that Satan can use refined and moral things, not just filthy and treacherous sins to attack Christians...Satan can easily utilize these deadly things to attack the church.

Matthew 16:18 says that the foundation of the Lord's church is Christ the Rock, and the gates of Hades cannot prevail against this church. Hades is death...The only reason that death cannot prevail over the church is that the church is built upon Christ the Rock...If the church is built on Christ the Rock, it will distinguish between death and life, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.

The church does not need good doctrines, good theology, or wonderful expositions. The church needs life, the resurrection life of Christ. No doctrine, idea, theology, or exposition can replace the life of Christ. Only the life of Christ and that which issues from it will

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prevail against the gates of Hades. Everything else is just disguised forms of death and cannot withstand the attacks of Satan. May the Lord be merciful to us, and may He keep us from touching death or bringing death into the church. May God fill the church with life, and may Satan find no opening to attack the church. (*CWWN*, vol. 44, pp. 881-885)

Further Reading: *CWWN*, vol. 44, chs. 113-114; *CWWN*, vol. 42, chs. 37, 39; *CWWN*, vol. 47, "The Orthodoxy of the Church," ch. 3; *CWWN*, vol. 47, "Authority and Submission," ch. 15

**Lord's Day 5/28****Related Verses****Col. 3:1-3, 12-17**

**1** If therefore you were raised together with Christ, seek the things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

**2** Set your mind on the things which are above, not on the things which are on the earth.

**3** For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

**12** Put on therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, inward parts of compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, long-suffering;

**13** Bearing one another and forgiving one another, if anyone should have a complaint against anyone; even as the Lord forgave you, so also should you forgive.

**14** And over all these things put on love, which is the uniting bond of perfectness.

**15** And let the peace of Christ arbitrate in your hearts, to which also you were called in one Body; and be thankful.

**16** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to God.

**17** And whatever you do in word or in deed, do all things in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

**Further Reading:**

Further Reading: *CWWL*, 1958, vol. 2, *The Building Work of God*, ch. 9

**Hymns, #639**

- 1** Death cannot hold the resurrection life,  
The life of God eternal manifest;  
'Tis uncreated, indestructible,  
'Tis Christ Himself, unconqu'erable, expressed.
- 2** Death cannot hold the resurrection life,  
Though all its force against it may combine;  
Death only gives it opportunity  
To show the boundless pow'r of life divine.
- 3** Death cannot hold the resurrection life,  
The more interred, the more it multiplies;  
All kinds of suffering only help it grow  
And fruits of life abundant realize.
- 4** Death cannot hold the resurrection life,  
Thru every block and barrier it breaks;  
Conqu'ring the pow'r of darkness and of hell,  
It swallows death and victory partakes.
- 5** Death cannot hold the resurrection life,  
All of God's fulness it will manifest;  
God's righteousness and holiness it yields,  
His glorious image by it is expressed.
- 6** Oh, may I know this resurrection life,  
In every kind of death its pow'r outpoured,  
In my experience ever realize  
This life is nought but Christ my living Lord.

**Churchwide Truth Pursuit of Romans****Level 1—Romans Sequential Study**

Scripture: Rom. 1:4, 17; 5:10, 17, 21; 6:4, 11, 19, 22-23; 8:2, 6, 10, 13, 29

Assigned Reading: *Life-study of Romans*, msg. 17

**Level 2—Romans Topical Study**

Crucial Point: Two Men—Adam versus Christ

Scripture: Rom. 5:12-21

Assigned Reading: *Life-study of Romans*, msg. 10, 33; *Crystallization-study of the Complete Salvation of God in Romans*, ch. 2

Supplemental Reading: *Crystallization-study of the Epistle to the Romans*, ch. 12

Hymn: 593

For study questions and additional materials, please visit the church website at [churchinnyc.org/bible-study](http://churchinnyc.org/bible-study)