

## Message Three

### **The Recovery of Christ as Everything in the Church as the Corporate Emmanuel**

Scripture Reading: Matt. 1:20-23; 16:16, 18; 18:20; 28:20

- Matt. 1:20 But while he pondered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife, for that which has been begotten in her is of the Holy Spirit.
- Matt. 1:21 And she will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins.
- Matt. 1:22 Now all this has happened so that what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet might be fulfilled, saying,
- Matt. 1:23 "Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel" (which is translated, God with us).
- Matt. 16:16 And Simon Peter answered and said, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.
- Matt. 16:18 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.
- Matt. 18:20 For where there are two or three gathered into My name, there am I in their midst.
- Matt. 28:20 Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you all the days until the consummation of the age.

#### **I. It is a great blessing for us to see the revelation of the all-inclusive Christ in the Gospel of Matthew—1:1, 21, 23; 2:1-2; 3:11; 4:12-16; 8:20; 9:12, 15-17, 36, 38; 11:19, 28-30; 12:3, 6, 39-42; 15:26-27; 16:16; 21:5; 28:18-19.**

- Matt. 1:1 The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.
- Matt. 1:21, 23 See above.
- Matt. 2:1 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem,
- Matt. 2:2 Saying, Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star at its rising and have come to worship Him.
- Matt. 3:11 I baptize you in water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is stronger than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He Himself will baptize you in the Holy Spirit and fire.
- Matt. 4:12 Now when He heard that John was delivered up, He withdrew into Galilee.
- Matt. 4:13 And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is beside the sea in the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali,
- Matt. 4:14 In order that what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, saying,
- Matt. 4:15 "Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way to the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles:
- Matt. 4:16 The people sitting in darkness have seen a great light; and to those sitting in the region and shadow of death, to them light has risen."
- Matt. 8:20 And Jesus said to him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of heaven have roosts, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.
- Matt. 9:12 Now when He heard this, He said, Those who are strong have no need of a physician, but those who are ill.
- Matt. 9:15 And Jesus said to them, The sons of the bridechamber cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they? But days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast.
- Matt. 9:16 No one puts a patch of unfilled cloth on an old garment, for that which fills it up pulls away from the garment, and a worse tear is made.
- Matt. 9:17 Neither do they put new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the wineskins burst, and the wine pours out, and the wineskins are ruined; but they put new wine into fresh wineskins, and both are preserved.
- Matt. 9:36 And seeing the crowds, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were harassed and cast away like sheep not having a shepherd.
- Matt. 9:38 Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest that He would thrust out workers into His harvest.
- Matt. 11:19 The Son of Man came eating and drinking; and they say, Behold, a gluttonous man and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners. Yet wisdom is justified by her works.
- Matt. 11:28 Come to Me all who toil and are burdened, and I will give you rest.
- Matt. 11:29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Matt. 11:30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.  
 Matt. 12:3 But He said to them, Have you not read what David did when he became hungry, and those who were with him.  
 Matt. 12:6 But I say to you that something greater than the temple is here.  
 Matt. 12:39 But He answered and said to them, An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and a sign shall not be given to it except the sign of Jonah the prophet.  
 Matt. 12:40 For just as Jonah was in the belly of the great fish three days and three nights, so will the Son of Man be in the heart of the earth three days and three nights.  
 Matt. 12:41 Ninevite men will stand up in the judgment with this generation and will condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something more than Jonah is here.  
 Matt. 12:42 The queen of the south will rise up in the judgment with this generation and will condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, something more than Solomon is here.  
 Matt. 15:26 But He answered and said, It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs.  
 Matt. 15:27 And she said, Yes, Lord, for even the little dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.  
 Matt. 16:16 And Simon Peter answered and said, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.  
 Matt. 21:5 "Say to the daughter of Zion, Behold, your King is coming to you, meek and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, a foal of a beast of burden."  
 Matt. 28:18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.  
 Matt. 28:19 Go therefore and disciple all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

## **II. The Gospel of Matthew reveals that the all-inclusive Christ is everything in the church; we need to gain Christ in the church and for the church—1:21, 23; 9:6, 12, 15-17, 38; 12:3-8, 39-42; 16:16-18:**

Matt. 1:21 And she will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins.  
 Matt. 1:23 "Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel" (which is translated, God with us).  
 Matt. 9:6 But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins—then He said to the paralytic, Rise, take up your bed and go to your house.  
 Matt. 9:12 Now when He heard this, He said, Those who are strong have no need of a physician, but those who are ill.  
 Matt. 9:15 And Jesus said to them, The sons of the bridechamber cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they? But days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast.  
 Matt. 9:16 No one puts a patch of unfulled cloth on an old garment, for that which fills it up pulls away from the garment, and a worse tear is made.  
 Matt. 9:17 Neither do they put new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the wineskins burst, and the wine pours out, and the wineskins are ruined; but they put new wine into fresh wineskins, and both are preserved.  
 Matt. 9:38 Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest that He would thrust out workers into His harvest.  
 Matt. 12:3 But He said to them, Have you not read what David did when he became hungry, and those who were with him;  
 Matt. 12:4 How he entered into the house of God, and they ate the bread of the Presence, which was not lawful for him to eat, nor for those who were with him, except for the priests only?  
 Matt. 12:5 Or have you not read in the law that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple profane the Sabbath and are guiltless?  
 Matt. 12:6 But I say to you that something greater than the temple is here.  
 Matt. 12:7 But if you knew what this means, "I desire mercy and not sacrifice," you would not have condemned the guiltless.  
 Matt. 12:8 For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.  
 Matt. 12:39-42 See above.  
 Matt. 16:16 And Simon Peter answered and said, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.  
 Matt. 16:17 And Jesus answered and said to him, Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in the heavens.  
 Matt. 16:18 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.

### **A. Knowing, experiencing, and enjoying Christ are for the building up of the church—22:41-45; 16:18; 18:17-20.**

Matt. 22:41 Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus questioned them,

Matt. 22:42    Saying, What do you think concerning the Christ? Whose son is He? They said to Him, David's.

Matt. 22:43    He said to them, How then does David in spirit call Him Lord, saying,

Matt. 22:44    "The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at My right hand until I put Your enemies underneath Your feet"?

Matt. 22:45    If then David calls Him Lord, how is He his son?

Matt. 16:18    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.

Matt. 18:17    And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to hear the church also, let him be to you just like the Gentile and the tax collector.

Matt. 18:18    Truly I say to you, Whatever you bind on the earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on the earth shall have been loosed in heaven.

Matt. 18:19    Again, truly I say to you that if two of you are in harmony on earth concerning any matter for which they ask, it will be done for them from My Father who is in the heavens.

Matt. 18:20    For where there are two or three gathered into My name, there am I in their midst.

B. The Lord's word in Matthew 16:18 is the greatest prophecy in the Bible: "I will build My church":

Matt. 16:18    See above.

1. The rock in verse 18 refers both to Christ and to the revelation concerning Christ; this means that the church is built both upon Christ and upon the revelation concerning Christ—Eph. 2:19-20.

Matt. 16:18    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.

Eph. 2:19      So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,

Eph. 2:20      Being built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone.

2. The Gospel of Matthew is concerned with the kingdom of the heavens, which is a matter of authority; thus, the church in this book represents the kingdom to reign—16:18-19; 18:18.

Matt. 16:18    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.

Matt. 16:19    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. 18:18    Truly I say to you, Whatever you bind on the earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on the earth shall have been loosed in heaven.

3. The built-up church issues from the growth of Christ as the seed in the human heart as the soil; by the growth of Christ in us, we are transformed to become the hidden treasure and the pearl of great value for the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose and the satisfaction of His heart—13:3-8, 18-23, 44-46.

Matt. 13:3      And He spoke many things to them in parables, saying, Behold, the sower went out to sow.

Matt. 13:4      And as he sowed, some seeds fell beside the way, and the birds came and devoured them.

Matt. 13:5      And others fell on the rocky places, where they did not have much earth, and immediately they sprang up because they had no depth of earth.

Matt. 13:6      But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered.

Matt. 13:7      And others fell on the thorns, and the thorns came up and choked them.

Matt. 13:8      But others fell on the good earth and yielded fruit, one a hundredfold, and one sixtyfold, and one thirtyfold.

Matt. 13:18     You therefore hear the parable of the one who sowed.

Matt. 13:19     When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand, the evil one comes and snatches away that which has been sown in his heart. This is the one sown beside the way.

- Matt. 13:20 And the one sown on the rocky places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;
- Matt. 13:21 Yet he does not have root in himself but lasts only for a time, and when affliction or persecution occurs because of the word, immediately he is stumbled.
- Matt. 13:22 And the one sown in the thorns, this is he who hears the word, and the anxiety of the age and the deceitfulness of riches utterly choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.
- Matt. 13:23 But the one sown on the good earth, this is he who hears the word and understands, who by all means bears fruit and produces, one a hundredfold, and one sixtyfold, and one thirtyfold.
- Matt. 13:44 The kingdom of the heavens is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid, and in his joy goes and sells all that he has, and buys that field.
- Matt. 13:45 Again, the kingdom of the heavens is like a merchant seeking fine pearls;
- Matt. 13:46 And finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

### **III. The Lord's intention is to recover the church life as a corporate Emmanuel—1:23; 18:20; 28:20:**

- Matt. 1:23 “Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel” (which is translated, God with us).
- Matt. 18:20 For where there are two or three gathered into My name, there am I in their midst.
- Matt. 28:20 Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you all the days until the consummation of the age.

#### **A. We may experience and enjoy Christ as Emmanuel—1:23; 18:20; 28:20:**

Matt. 1:23, etc. See above.

##### **1. Emmanuel is God incarnated to be with us; incarnation was the bringing forth of Emmanuel—1:20-23.**

- Matt. 1:20 But while he pondered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife, for that which has been begotten in her is of the Holy Spirit.
- Matt. 1:21 And she will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins.
- Matt. 1:22 Now all this has happened so that what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet might be fulfilled, saying,
- Matt. 1:23 “Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel” (which is translated, God with us).

##### **2. In His humanity Jesus, God incarnate, is Emmanuel, God with us—v. 23.**

Matt. 1:23 See above.

##### **3. Emmanuel is God meeting our need in every way—v. 23:**

Matt. 1:23 See 1.

##### **a. Christ as Emmanuel is both the complete God and the perfect man, possessing genuine divinity and real humanity; He has the capacity in His divinity and in His humanity to fully meet our need—Heb. 7:25.**

Heb. 7:25 Hence also He is able to save to the uttermost those who come forward to God through Him, since He lives always to intercede for them.

##### **b. We need Christ in His divine capacity so that we may be divine as He is, and we need Him in His humanity so that we may be human as He is in the highest standard of humanity—Luke 1:35; 6:35:**

Luke 1:35 And the angel answered and said to her, The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore also the holy thing which is born will be called the Son of God.

Luke 6:35 But love your enemies, and do good and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He is kind to the unthankful and evil.

(1) By Him, with Him, and in Him we can be not only a proper and uplifted man but also a God-man, a divine man, as He is—Heb. 2:11.

Heb. 2:11 For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of One, for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brothers.

(2) Christ is divine becoming human so that we may be human becoming divine—Rom. 8:3; 1:3-4; John 1:14, 12-13.

Rom. 8:3 For that which the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending His own Son in the likeness of the flesh of sin and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh.

Rom. 1:3 Concerning His Son, who came out of the seed of David according to the flesh,

Rom. 1:4 Who was designated the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness out of the resurrection of the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord.

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

John 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the authority to become children of God, to those who believe into His name,

John 1:13 Who were begotten not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

(3) Christ is now humanly divine to make us divinely human; in this way He, as the all-inclusive One, meets our need adequately and sufficiently in the most superior way—Rom. 1:3-4; Heb. 2:10.

Rom. 1:3-4 See above.

Heb. 2:10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and through whom are all things, in leading many sons into glory, to make the Author of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

4. Today the practical Emmanuel is the Spirit of reality—John 14:16-20:

John 14:16 And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter, that He may be with you forever,

John 14:17 Even the Spirit of reality, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him; but you know Him, because He abides with you and shall be in you.

John 14:18 I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you.

John 14:19 Yet a little while and the world beholds Me no longer, but you behold Me; because I live, you also shall live.

John 14:20 In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.

a. Christ as the life-giving Spirit is Emmanuel, the presence of the Divine Trinity—1 Cor. 15:45b; 2 Cor. 13:14.

1 Cor. 15:45b The last Adam became a life-giving Spirit.

2 Cor. 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

b. In Matthew 28:20 the “I” is Emmanuel; in John 14 the “I” who will come in verse 18 is the Spirit of reality in verse 17; thus, the Spirit of reality is Emmanuel.

Matt. 28:20 Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you all the days until the consummation of the age.

John 14:18 I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you.

John 14:17 Even the Spirit of reality, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him; but you know Him, because He abides with you and shall be in you.

- c. The divine presence is the life-giving Spirit as the consummation of the Triune God; this presence is Emmanuel, who is the real, practical Jesus, the Triune God with the tripartite man—Rom. 8:11.

Rom. 8:11 And if the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.

- d. Emmanuel, the presence of the Divine Trinity, is always with us in our spirit; the One who is with our spirit is Emmanuel, God with us—2 Tim. 4:22; 1 Cor. 6:17.

2 Tim. 4:22 The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.  
1 Cor. 6:17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit.

5. Our spirit is the land of Emmanuel; thus, we ourselves are the land of Emmanuel—Isa. 8:7-8, 10:

Isa. 8:7 Now therefore the Lord is bringing up upon them / The mighty and abundant waters of the Euphrates, / The king of Assyria and all his glory; / And it will overflow all its channels, / And go over all its banks.

Isa. 8:8 It will sweep through Judah; it will overflow and rise / Until it reaches the neck; / And the spreading out of its wings / Will fill the breadth of Your land, O Immanuel.

Isa. 8:10 Take counsel, yet it will be frustrated; / Speak the word, yet it will not stand; / For God is with us.

- a. The enemy, Satan, with his army, will do everything he can to take over this land of Emmanuel, that is, to take over our spirit and our being.

- b. Isaiah 8:10 tells us that because God is with us, the enemy can never take over the land of Emmanuel, our regenerated spirit mingled with the life-giving Spirit, the reality of Emmanuel—1 Cor. 15:45b; 6:17.

Isa. 8:10 See 5.  
1 Cor. 15:45b The last Adam became a life-giving Spirit.  
1 Cor. 6:17 See d.

- B. God desires that, in His economy, the individual Emmanuel become the corporate Emmanuel—Matt. 1:23; 18:20; 28:20:

Matt. 1:23 “Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel” (which is translated, God with us).

Matt. 18:20 For where there are two or three gathered into My name, there am I in their midst.

Matt. 28:20 Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you all the days until the consummation of the age.

1. At the beginning of Matthew we have the individual Emmanuel, Jesus Christ; at the end of this book we have the corporate Emmanuel, the church life, in which the Lord is with us in a corporate way—1:20-23; 28:20:

Matt. 1:20 But while he pondered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife, for that which has been begotten in her is of the Holy Spirit.

Matt. 1:21 And she will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins.

Matt. 1:22 Now all this has happened so that what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet might be fulfilled, saying,

Matt. 1:23 “Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel” (which is translated, God with us).

Matt. 28:20 See above.

- a. From God’s point of view the name into which we are gathered is Jesus, but from our point of view the name into which we are gathered is Emmanuel; today in our experience the Jesus into whose name we are gathered is Emmanuel—1:21; 18:20.
    - Matt. 1:21 And she will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins.
    - Matt. 18:20 For where there are two or three gathered into My name, there am I in their midst.
  - b. In 28:20 Emmanuel promised that in His resurrection He will be with us all the days, with all authority, until the consummation of the age.
    - Matt. 28:20 Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you all the days until the consummation of the age.
2. The individual Emmanuel was conceived of the Holy Spirit in a human virgin; the corporate Emmanuel is a matter of “conceiving” by the Holy Spirit in a body of virgins—1:18, 20, 23; 25:1; Luke 1:26-33; 2 Cor. 11:2.
    - Matt. 1:18 Now the origin of Jesus Christ was in this way: His mother, Mary, after she had been engaged to Joseph, before they came together, was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit.
    - Matt. 1:20 But while he pondered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife, for that which has been begotten in her is of the Holy Spirit.
    - Matt. 1:23 “Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel” (which is translated, God with us).
    - Matt. 25:1 At that time the kingdom of the heavens will be likened to ten virgins, who took their lamps and went forth to meet the bridegroom.
    - Luke 1:26 And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth,
    - Luke 1:27 To a virgin engaged to a man named Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary.
    - Luke 1:28 And he came to her and said, Rejoice, you who have been graced! The Lord is with you.
    - Luke 1:29 And she was greatly troubled at this saying and began reasoning what kind of greeting this might be.
    - Luke 1:30 And the angel said to her, Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found grace with God.
    - Luke 1:31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus.
    - Luke 1:32 He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to Him the throne of David His father,
    - Luke 1:33 And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.
    - 2 Cor. 11:2 For I am jealous over you with a jealousy of God; for I betrothed you to one husband to present you as a pure virgin to Christ.
  3. The individual Emmanuel becomes the corporate Emmanuel by all the experiences revealed in the Gospel of Matthew, the book of Emmanuel.
  4. The content of the entire New Testament is an Emmanuel, and all the believers in Christ, as the members of Christ, are a part of the corporate Emmanuel, the corporate Christ—1 Cor. 12:12; Col. 3:10-11.
    - 1 Cor. 12:12 For even as the body is one and has many members, yet all the members of the body, being many, are one body, so also is the Christ.
    - Col. 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,
    - Col. 3:11 Where there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all and in all.

5. The corporate Emmanuel consummates in the New Jerusalem, which will be the aggregate of Emmanuel, the totality of the Triune God being with us—Rev. 21:2-3, 10.

Rev. 21:2      And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Rev. 21:3      And I heard a loud voice out of the throne, saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will tabernacle with them, and they will be His peoples, and God Himself will be with them and be their God.

Rev. 21:10     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.