

Crystallization-Study Outlines

GENESIS (2)

Message Four

The Land for the Fulfillment of God's Purpose

AY Hymns 1164

Scripture Reading: Gen. 12:7; 15:7-21; Gal. 3:14; Col. 1:12; 2:6

- Gen 12:7 And Jehovah appeared to Abram and said, To your seed I will give this land. And there he built an altar to Jehovah who had appeared to him.
- Gen 15:7 Then He said to him, I am Jehovah who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to inherit it.
- Gen 15:8 And he said, O Lord Jehovah, how will I know that I will inherit it?
- Gen 15:9 And He said to him, Bring Me a three-year-old heifer and a three-year-old female goat and a three-year-old ram and a turtledove and a young pigeon.
- Gen 15:10 And he brought Him all these and cut them in two in the middle and laid the half of each opposite the other, but the birds he did not cut in two.
- Gen 15:11 And the birds of prey came down upon the carcasses, and Abram drove them away.
- Gen 15:12 And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, behold, a terror and great darkness fell upon him.
- Gen 15:13 And He said to Abram, Know assuredly that your seed will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs, and they will serve them; and they will afflict them four hundred years.
- Gen 15:14 But I will also judge that nation, whom they will serve, and afterward they will come out with great possessions.
- Gen 15:15 But as for you, you will go to your fathers in peace; you will be buried in a good old age.
- Gen 15:16 And in the fourth generation they will come here again, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.
- Gen 15:17 And when the sun went down and it was dark, there came a smoking furnace and a torch of fire which passed between these pieces.
- Gen 15:18 On that day Jehovah made a covenant with Abram, saying, To your seed do I give this land, / From the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates:
- Gen 15:19 The land of the Kenites and the Kenizzites and the Kadmonites
- Gen 15:20 And the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Rephaim
- Gen 15:21 And the Amorites and the Canaanites and the Girgashites and the Jebusites.
- Gal 3:14 In order that the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.
- Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;
- Col 2:6 As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,

I. For the fulfillment of God's purpose two things are required—the seed and the land; both the seed and the land typify Christ, who is the centrality and universality of God's economy—Gen. 12:7; Col. 1:18; 3:10-11.

- Gen 12:7 And Jehovah appeared to Abram and said, To your seed I will give this land. And there he built an altar to Jehovah who had appeared to him.
- Col 1:18 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;
- 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.

II. The Lord spoke to Abraham repeatedly concerning the land, saying, "Now lift up your eyes, and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward; for all the land that you see I will give

to you and to your seed forever...Rise up; walk through the land according to its length and its breadth, for I will give it to you”—Gen. 13:14-15, 17; cf. 12:7; 15:7:

- Gen 13:14 And Jehovah said to Abram after Lot had separated from him, Now lift up your eyes, and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward;
- Gen 13:15 For all the land that you see I will give to you and to your seed forever.
- Gen 13:17 Rise up; walk through the land according to its length and its breadth, for I will give it to you.
- Gen 12:7 And Jehovah appeared to Abram and said, To your seed I will give this land. And there he built an altar to Jehovah who had appeared to him.
- Gen 15:7 Then He said to him, I am Jehovah who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to inherit it.
- A. The land was a place for Abraham to live in and live on—vv. 7-8.
- Gen 15:7 Then He said to him, I am Jehovah who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to inherit it.
- Gen 15:8 And he said, O Lord Jehovah, how will I know that I will inherit it?
- B. The land was a place in which Abraham could defeat all his enemies in order that God might have a kingdom on earth—14:13-20.
- Gen 14:13 And one who had escaped came and told Abram the Hebrew. Now he was dwelling by the oaks of Mamre the Amorite, the brother of Eshcol and the brother of Aner; and these were allies of Abram.
- Gen 14:14 And when Abram heard that his brother had been taken captive, he led out his trained men, born in his house, three hundred eighteen of them, and pursued as far as Dan.
- Gen 14:15 And he divided his forces against them by night, he and his servants, and struck them and pursued them to Hobah, which is north of Damascus.
- Gen 14:16 And he brought back all the possessions and also brought back Lot his brother and his possessions as well as the women and the people.
- Gen 14:17 And after his return from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley).
- Gen 14:18 And Melchizedek the king of Salem brought out bread and wine. Now he was priest of God the Most High.
- Gen 14:19 And he blessed him and said, Blessed be Abram of God the Most High, / Possessor of heaven and earth;
- Gen 14:20 And blessed be God the Most High, / Who has delivered your enemies into your hand. And Abram gave him a tenth of all.
- C. The land was the place where God could have a habitation as the expression of Himself—Deut. 12:5, 11; 16:2.
- Deut 12:5 But to the place which Jehovah your God will choose out of all your tribes to put His name, to His habitation, shall you seek, and there shall you go.
- Deut 12:11 Then to the place where Jehovah your God will choose to cause His name to dwell, there you shall bring all that I am commanding you, your burnt offerings and your sacrifices, your tithes and the heave offering of your hand and all your choice vows which you vow to Jehovah.
- Deut 16:2 And you shall sacrifice the passover to Jehovah your God, from the flock and from the herd, in the place where Jehovah will choose to cause His name to dwell.
- D. For us today the land is Christ, who is living in us and in whom we are living; we should live in Christ and on Christ— Col. 1:27; 2:6.
- Col 1:27 To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,
- Col 2:6 As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,

III. As typified by the good land, the land of Canaan, Christ is “the allotted portion of the saints”—1:12:

- Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;
- A. *The allotted portion* refers to the lot of the inheritance, as illustrated by the allotment of the

good land of Canaan given to the children of Israel for their inheritance — Josh. 14:1:

Josh 14:1 And these are what the children of Israel received as inheritances in the land of Canaan, which Eleazar the priest and Joshua the son of Nun and the heads of the fathers' houses of the tribes of the children of Israel gave to them as inheritances,

1. The New Testament believers' inheritance, their allotted portion, is the all-inclusive Christ— cf. Deut. 8:7-10.

Deut 8:7 For Jehovah your God is bringing you to a good land, a land of waterbrooks, of springs and of fountains, flowing forth in valleys and in mountains;

Deut 8:8 A land of wheat and barley and vines and fig trees and pomegranates; a land of olive trees with oil and of honey;

Deut 8:9 A land in which you will eat bread without scarcity; you will not lack anything in it; a land whose stones are iron, and from whose mountains you can mine copper.

Deut 8:10 And you shall eat and be satisfied, and you shall bless Jehovah your God for the good land which He has given you.

2. Christ is the allotted portion of the saints as their divine inheritance for their enjoyment—Eph. 3:8.

Eph 3:8 To me, less than the least of all saints, was this grace given to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel

- B. Since we have received Christ as our allotted portion, we should walk in Him— Col. 2:6:

Col 2:6 As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,

1. To walk is to live, to act, to behave, and to have our being.

2. We should walk, live, and act in Christ so that we may enjoy His riches, just as the children of Israel lived in the good land, enjoying all its rich produce —Deut. 8:7-10.

Deut 8:7 For Jehovah your God is bringing you to a good land, a land of waterbrooks, of springs and of fountains, flowing forth in valleys and in mountains;

Deut 8:8 A land of wheat and barley and vines and fig trees and pomegranates; a land of olive trees with oil and of honey;

Deut 8:9 A land in which you will eat bread without scarcity; you will not lack anything in it; a land whose stones are iron, and from whose mountains you can mine copper.

Deut 8:10 And you shall eat and be satisfied, and you shall bless Jehovah your God for the good land which He has given you.

3. The good land today is Christ as the all-inclusive Spirit, who dwells in our spirit to be our enjoyment; to walk according to this Spirit is the central and crucial point of the New Testament— Gal. 3:14; 5:16; 2 Tim. 4:22; Rom. 8:4, 16.

Gal 3:14 In order that the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Gal 5:16 But I say, Walk by the Spirit and you shall by no means fulfill the lust of the flesh.

2 Tim 4:22 The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.

Rom 8:4 That the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the spirit.

Rom 8:16 The Spirit Himself witnesses with our spirit that we are children of God.

IV. The physical aspect of the blessing that God promised to Abraham was the good land, which is a type of the all-inclusive Christ—Gen. 12:7; 13:15; 17:8; 26:3-4:

Gen 12:7 And Jehovah appeared to Abram and said, To your seed I will give this land. And there he built an altar to Jehovah who had appeared to him.

Gen 13:15 For all the land that you see I will give to you and to your seed forever.

Gen 17:8 And I will give to you and to your seed after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.

Gen 26:3 Sojourn in this land, and I will be with you and will bless you; for to you and to your seed I will give all these lands, and I will establish the oath which I swore to Abraham your father.

Gen 26:4 And I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven and will give to your seed all these lands; and in your seed all the nations of the earth will be blessed,

- A. Since Christ is eventually realized as the all-inclusive life-giving Spirit, the blessing of the promised Spirit corresponds with the blessing of the land promised to Abraham— Gal. 3:14; 1 Cor. 15:45; 2 Cor. 3:17.
- Gal 3:14 In order that the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.
- 1 Cor 15:45 So also it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living soul"; the last Adam became a life-giving Spirit.
- 2 Cor 3:17 And the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.
- B. 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— Gen. 12:7; Deut. 8:7; Gal. 3:14.
- Gen 12:7 And Jehovah appeared to Abram and said, To your seed I will give this land. And there he built an altar to Jehovah who had appeared to him.
- Deut 8:7 For Jehovah your God is bringing you to a good land, a land of waterbrooks, of springs and of fountains, flowing forth in valleys and in mountains;
- Gal 3:14 In order that the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

V. The land is Christ as the all-inclusive Spirit, and it is also the church, the Body of Christ, as the enlargement, the expansion, of Christ—1 Cor. 12:12-13:

- 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.
- 1 Cor 12:13 For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.
- A. In the church we live in Christ and on Christ— Col. 2:6; 3:4, 10-11.
- Col 2:6 As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,
- Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.
- 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.
- B. In the church we defeat the enemies, and we have the kingdom of God with the dwelling place of God—Eph. 6:10-12; 2:22; Rom. 14:17.
- Eph 6:10 Finally, be empowered in the Lord and in the might of His strength.
- Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil,
- Eph 6:12 For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.
- Eph 2:22 In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.
- Rom 14:17 For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.
- C. In order to fulfill God's purpose, we need to receive God's grace so that Christ can be wrought into us as the seed and lived out of us as the land to be our church life, that we may enjoy God's rest, defeat God's enemies, and establish God's kingdom with His dwelling place for His expression and representation— Gen. 1:26; Gal. 6:18; 3:16; 4:19; Col. 1:12; 2:6; Heb. 4:9; Eph. 6:10-12; 2:22; Matt. 6:33.
- Gen 1:26 And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.
- Gal 6:18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.
- Gal 3:16 But to Abraham were the promises spoken and to his seed. He does not say, And to the seeds, as concerning many, but as concerning one: "And to your seed," who is Christ.
- Gal 4:19 My children, with whom I travail again in birth until Christ is formed in you,
- Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;

Col 2:6 As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,
 Heb 4:9 So then there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God.
 Eph 6:10 Finally, be empowered in the Lord and in the might of His strength.
 Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil,
 Eph 6:12 For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.
 Eph 2:22 In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.
 Matt 6:33 But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

D. At a certain time, after we have truly become nothing, God will work Himself in Christ into us, and that which He has worked into us will bring forth Christ as the seed and will also bring us into Christ as our land—Eph. 3:17, 8; Col. 1:12, 27; 2:6.

Eph 3:17 That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,
 Eph 3:8 To me, less than the least of all saints, was this grace given to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel
 Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;
 Col 1:27 To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,
 Col 2:6 As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,

VI. In Genesis 15:7-21 God made a covenant with Abraham concerning the land:

Gen 15:7 Then He said to him, I am Jehovah who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to inherit it.
 Gen 15:8 And he said, O Lord Jehovah, how will I know that I will inherit it?
 Gen 15:9 And He said to him, Bring Me a three-year-old heifer and a three-year-old female goat and a three-year-old ram and a turtledove and a young pigeon.
 Gen 15:10 And he brought Him all these and cut them in two in the middle and laid the half of each opposite the other, but the birds he did not cut in two.
 Gen 15:11 And the birds of prey came down upon the carcasses, and Abram drove them away.
 Gen 15:12 And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, behold, a terror and great darkness fell upon him.
 Gen 15:13 And He said to Abram, Know assuredly that your seed will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs, and they will serve them; and they will afflict them four hundred years.
 Gen 15:14 But I will also judge that nation, whom they will serve, and afterward they will come out with great possessions.
 Gen 15:15 But as for you, you will go to your fathers in peace; you will be buried in a good old age.
 Gen 15:16 And in the fourth generation they will come here again, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.
 Gen 15:17 And when the sun went down and it was dark, there came a smoking furnace and a torch of fire which passed between these pieces.
 Gen 15:18 On that day Jehovah made a covenant with Abram, saying, To your seed do I give this land, / From the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates:
 Gen 15:19 The land of the Kenites and the Kenizzites and the Kadmonites
 Gen 15:20 And the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Rephaim
 Gen 15:21 And the Amorites and the Canaanites and the Girgashites and the Jebusites.

A. Because Abraham lacked faith to believe God for the promise concerning the land, God confirmed His promise to Abraham concerning the land by making a covenant with him—vv. 8-21.

Gen 15:8-21 (be omitted.)

B. The extraordinary way in which God enacted this covenant implies the way in which Abraham could fulfill God's eternal purpose —vv. 10-18:

Gen 15:10-18 (be omitted.)

1. The covenant God made with Abraham was a covenant of promise that would be

fulfilled through God's power in His grace, not through Abraham's effort in his flesh; the new testament is a continuation of this covenant— Gal. 3:17-18.

Gal 3:17 And I say this: A covenant previously ratified by God, the law, having come four hundred and thirty years after, does not annul so as to make the promise of none effect.

Gal 3:18 For if the inheritance is of law, it is no longer of promise; but to Abraham God has graciously given it through promise.

2. God made His covenant with Abraham through the crucified and resurrected Christ— Gen. 15:9-10:

Gen 15:9 And He said to him, Bring Me a three-year-old heifer and a three-year-old female goat and a three-year-old ram and a turtledove and a young pigeon.

Gen 15:10 And he brought Him all these and cut them in two in the middle and laid the half of each opposite the other, but the birds he did not cut in two.

a. The three kinds of slain cattle signify Christ in His humanity being crucified for us, and the two living birds signify Christ in His divinity being the living, resurrected One — John 11:25.

John 11:25 Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes into Me, even if he should die, shall live;

b. Christ was killed in His humanity, but He lives in His divinity—14:19; 1 Pet. 3:18.

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.

1 Pet 3:18 For Christ also has suffered once for sins, the Righteous on behalf of the unrighteous, that He might bring you to God, on the one hand being put to death in the flesh, but on the other, made alive in the spirit;

3. God's asking Abraham to offer the cattle and the birds to Him implies that Abraham had to identify himself with and be one with all the things that he offered— Gen. 15:9-10:

Gen 15:9 And He said to him, Bring Me a three-year-old heifer and a three-year-old female goat and a three-year-old ram and a turtledove and a young pigeon.

Gen 15:10 And he brought Him all these and cut them in two in the middle and laid the half of each opposite the other, but the birds he did not cut in two.

a. This indicates that in order to fulfill God's eternal purpose, we must be crucified in Christ's crucifixion and resurrected in Christ's resurrection—Rom. 6:5, 8; Gal. 2:20.

Rom 6:5 For if we have grown together with Him in the likeness of His death, indeed we will also be in the likeness of His resurrection,

Rom 6:8 Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him,

Gal 2:20 I am crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

b. Only in this way can we practice the church life in Christ as the promised land— Col. 1:12; 2:6; 3:10-13.

Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;

Col 2:6 As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,

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.

Col 3:12 Put on therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, inward parts of compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, long-suffering;

Col 3:13 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.

4. In His covenant with Abraham God set the boundaries of the good land, the land of Immanuel, the territory of Israel, from the Nile to the Euphrates; this is the land that Christ, the unique seed of Abraham, will inherit for the establishing of His millennial kingdom— Gen. 15:18; 12:7; Isa. 8:8; Gal. 3:16; cf. Exo. 23:31; Deut. 11:24 and footnote 1; Josh. 1:3-4; Matt. 25:34 and footnote 1.
- Gen 15:18 On that day Jehovah made a covenant with Abram, saying, To your seed do I give this land, / From the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates:
- Gen 12:7 And Jehovah appeared to Abram and said, To your seed I will give this land. And there he built an altar to Jehovah who had appeared to him.
- 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.
- Gal 3:16 But to Abraham were the promises spoken and to his seed. He does not say, And to the seeds, as concerning many, but as concerning one: "And to your seed," who is Christ.
- Exo 23:31 And I will set your border from the Red Sea even to the sea of the Philistines, and from the wilderness to the River; for I will deliver the inhabitants of the land into your hand, and you shall drive them out from before you.
- Deut 11:24 Every place on which the sole of your foot treads will be yours; from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even to the ¹farthest sea will be your territory.
- note 1 I.e., the Mediterranean Sea. In this verse the boundaries of the land of Israel are set by God, from the Mediterranean Sea to the Euphrates in today's Iraq (cf. Gen. 15:18; Exo. 23:31). This will be fulfilled in the restoration of Israel, after the second coming of Christ (Matt. 17:11; 19:28; Acts 1:6; 3:21; 15:16).
- Josh 1:3 Every place on which the sole of your foot treads I have given to you, as I promised Moses.
- Josh 1:4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon even to the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and to the Great Sea toward the setting of the sun will be your territory.
- Matt 25:34 Then the King will say to those on His right hand, Come, you who are blessed of My Father, ¹inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.
- note 1 After the judgment at Christ's throne of glory, the "sheep" will be transferred into the millennium to be the people living under the kingly ruling of Christ and the overcoming believers (Rev. 2:26-27; 12:5; 20:4-6) and under the priestly ministry of the saved Jews (Zech. 8:20-23). In this way the "sheep" will inherit the (coming) kingdom. In the millennium there will be three sections: (1) the earth, where the blessing of God's creation will be, as mentioned in Gen. 1:28-30; (2) the nation of Israel in Canaan, from the Nile to the Euphrates, from which the saved Jews will rule over the whole earth (Isa. 60:10-12; Zech. 14:16-18); and (3) the heavenly and spiritual section (1 Cor. 15:50-52), the manifestation of the kingdom of the heavens, where the overcoming believers will enjoy the kingdom reward (5:20; 7:21). The kingdom that the "sheep" will inherit consists of the first section.