

Message 6

The Increase of Christ for God's Building

Scripture Reading: John 3:29-30; Matt. 16:18; 28:19-20; Eph. 2:21-22; 4:13, 15-16

OUTLINE

<< DAY 1 >>

I. The universe is for the human race, the human race is for the church, and the church is the increase of Christ (Zech. 12:1; Gen. 1:26-28; Eph. 3:9-11; John 3:29-30).

II. The greatest prophecy in the Bible is in Matthew 16:18: "I will build My church":

- A. The fulfillment of this prophecy has not been fully realized, so even today the greatest prophecy remains unfulfilled (Eph. 2:21-22; 4:13-16).
- B. The central and divine thought of the Scriptures is that God desires a building that is the mingling of Himself with humanity; such a building is God's house, His dwelling place (Exo. 25:8; 1 Tim. 3:15; Eph. 2:21-22).

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- C. Preaching the gospel, establishing churches, and edifying the saints are all part of God's main work—the work of building (Matt. 16:18).
- D. God's building is the corporate expression of the Triune God (1 Tim. 3:15-16; John 17:22; Eph. 3:19b, 21):
 - 1. God's intention is to have a group of people built up as a spiritual building to express God and represent God by dealing with His enemy and recovering the earth (Gen. 1:26-28; 1 Pet. 2:5, 9).
 - 2. God's desire to be expressed and represented by man on earth can be fulfilled only when we are built up together (Eph. 2:21-22).
- E. The principle of God's building is that God builds Himself in Christ into man and builds man into Himself; God's mingling Himself with man is God building Himself into man, and man's mingling with God is man being built into God (3:17a).

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- F. For the sake of His coming back, the Lord needs the church to be built up; only the church built up according to the Lord's desire can be the steppingstone into the age of the kingdom (Matt. 16:18, 27-28).

III. For the building up of the church as the house of God and the Body of Christ, we need to “disciple all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” and to teach them to observe all that the Lord has commanded (28:19-20):

- A. To baptize someone into the name of the Triune God is to immerse him into all that the Triune God is, into the sum total of the Divine Being.
- B. The baptism ordained by the Lord baptizes people into the Body life for the kingdom of the heavens (1 Cor. 12:13; Matt. 5:3; 6:33).
- C. All those who are transferred into Christ are the increase of Christ (Acts 5:14).
- D. In order to have the increase of Christ for God’s building, we must take four steps in our practice: preaching the gospel to gain an increase, having home meetings to keep the increase, having group meetings to teach and perfect the increase, and having church meetings in which all the saints function by prophesying for the building up of the Body of Christ (v. 14; 1 Cor. 14:3-4).

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IV. Since the church is the Body of Christ, His embodiment, the growth of the church is the growth of Christ (Eph. 4:15-16):

- A. Only the growth of Christ is the growth of the church (Col. 2:19; 1:18):
 - 1. The growth of the church is not determined by an increase in its strengths or merits but by the increase of Christ (John 3:30).
 - 2. The measure of the growth of the church is not determined by an increase in numbers but by the increase of Christ (Acts 5:14).
 - 3. Only the increase of Christ is the growth of the church (John 3:29-30).
- B. God’s desire is for Christ to increase and grow in the church and for Christ to become the content and element of the church so that the church would arrive “at a full-grown man, at the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ” (Eph. 4:13):
 - 1. God’s work is to cause the measure of the stature of Christ to increase in the church (3:16-21; 4:13).
 - 2. God is expecting the church to grow to the full measure of the stature of Christ, because God’s desire is for the church to be the Body of Christ, His fullness (1:22-23; 4:16).

V. The building up of the church as the Body of Christ is the increase of Christ in the believers, and this increase is their growth in life (vv. 15-16):

- A. The church as the Body of Christ is an organism, and the building up of the

church as an organism is its organic growth (Col. 2:19).

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- B. Growth, increase, and building up are not three different things; they are synonyms in relation to the organic Body of Christ (Eph. 4:13, 15-16).
- C. The building up of the Body of Christ is the growth of the Body through the members growing up into Christ, the Head, in all things; the Body grows to build up the Body (vv. 15-16).

VI. In His resurrection the Lord Jesus is building the temple, the Father's house, in a larger way, making it a corporate temple, the mystical Body of Christ (John 2:19-22):

- A. Since the day of His resurrection, the Lord Jesus has been enlarging His Body in His resurrection life; He is still working for the building of His Body under the process of resurrection, working on us through the process of resurrection.

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- B. Christ, who is resurrection and life, changes death into life for the building of the house of God; our living as Christians is a life of changing death into life for the building up of the mystical Body of Christ (11:25; 2:1-21).
- C. The Father's house is a matter of the Triune God—through incarnation, crucifixion, and resurrection—working Himself into the believers in order to be fully mingled with them so that He may build them up as an organism for His dwelling and expression (14:2-3, 23).
- D. By the Spirit and through His death and resurrection, the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ, is building an organism, the church, which is His Body and the Father's house, produced by the mingling of the Triune God with His chosen and redeemed people for His corporate expression; this is the increase of Christ for the building up of the church (vv. 7-24; 3:29-30).

Morning Nourishment

Eph. 3:10 "In order that now to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenlies the multifarious wisdom of God might be made known through the church."

Matt. 16:18 "...Upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it."

The entire universe was made and arranged by God for the purpose that the human race may exist so that Christ may come to be incarnated, to become a man, to impart Himself to the human race, to make a part of the human race a bride for Himself as His increase. Now we can see the central position that the church has in this universe. The universe is for the human race, the human race is for the church, and the church is the increase of Christ. (Basic Principles for the Practice of the Church Life, p. 14)

Today's Reading

It is hard to find anyone who has pointed out that the building up of the church is a great prophecy...In Matthew 16:18 the Lord Jesus said, "I will build My church." You may say that this is a promise, yet we still have to realize that this is a prophecy. Probably none of the disciples, including Peter, had ever realized that there was such a thing in the universe. Suddenly the Lord Jesus told Peter, "I will build My church." At the time the Lord spoke this word, this was a great prophecy concerning the church, and it still is a great prophecy. This is because nearly twenty centuries have passed since the Lord spoke this word, yet we still cannot see that the church is fully built up. The fulfillment of this prophecy in Matthew 16:18 has not been fully realized, so even today this prophecy still remains unfulfilled. (The Greatest Prophecy in the Bible and Its Fulfillment, p. 7)

The divine thought in the entire Scriptures is not that God is seeking a physical habitation. A physical habitation can never satisfy God. The central and divine thought of the Scriptures is that God is seeking a divine building as the mingling of Himself with humanity. He is seeking a living composition of living persons redeemed by and mingled with Himself.

After His creation, God began and is still carrying out the work of the divine building. Even today God is doing the work of the divine building, which is to mingle Himself with man. We preach the gospel not merely to win souls or save souls from hell but to minister God Himself through the Spirit to man so that God can be mingled with man. In this way we gain the materials for the divine building. Likewise, we minister Christ to the saints so that they can be mingled and built up together with Christ. This is the basic and central thought behind what we do.

If through my ministry I have not been able to help anyone to be mingled with Christ more and more, my ministry is a complete failure. The success of a ministry is in ministering Christ into people and helping them to mingle with Christ. Before we come under such a ministry, we may have only a little of Christ, but after we come, we gain much Christ. This ministry ministers Christ to us, helps us to grow in Christ, and mingles us with Christ all the time. This carries out the building, which is the divine mingling of God Himself with man. To be mingled with God day by day is a deep, basic, and central matter.

Remember well that after His work of creation, God's work of building is to mingle Himself with man. In every spiritual experience, God must be mingled with us as the divine building. It is not sufficient to be humble or to love and submit. There must be the divine building, which is the mingling of God within. By this word we can now understand what the building of God, the house of God, and the dwelling of God are. The dwelling place of God is the mingling of God with man. This is also the building of the church. By the grace of God, may we more and more see the mingling of God with man as the real, divine building. (CWWL, 1963, vol. 3, "The Building of God," pp. 176-177)

Further Reading: CWWL, 1963, vol. 3, "Basic Principles for the Practice of the Church Life," ch. 1; vol. 2, "The Living That Fulfills God's Eternal Purpose," ch. 5; CWWL, 1972, vol. 3, "The Greatest Prophecy in the Bible and its Fulfillment," ch. 1

<< WEEK 6 — DAY 2 >>

Morning Nourishment

1 Pet. 2:5 "You yourselves also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house into a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."

9 "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people acquired for a possession, so that you may tell out the virtues of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."

For the fulfillment of His plan to have an eternal building,...creation was a work of preparation. God's main work is the work of building. When we read the Bible, we may pay attention to God's creation, but not to God's work for His building. God's selection, predestination, calling, redemption, and salvation are all for the building. Even regeneration is for God's building. Whatever God is doing today—in preaching the gospel, edifying the saints, or establishing churches—is part of His building work. In other words, these activities are part of God's main work, the work of building. God has a goal, and this goal is to build a universal dwelling place for Himself. (Life-study of Exodus, pp. 1275-1276)

Today's Reading

Life and building are the two key words in the entire Bible. Life is God in Christ as the living content, and building is the corporate expression of the Triune God. What a pity that both life and building are almost altogether neglected by today's Christianity! For the proper church life, both must be fully recovered.

God's intention is to have a group of people built up as a spiritual building to express God and to represent God by dealing with His enemy and recovering this lost earth. (CWWL, 1964, vol. 4, "The Vision of God's Building," pp. 154, 181)

The principle of God's building is that God builds Himself into us and builds us into Him; that is, God mingles Himself with us, divinity with humanity, as one building. To create is to bring something into existence out of nothing. Building, on the other hand, means that two things that are already here are put together. God is here, and man is here, but now there is the need of some work to bring God together with man as one and to bring so many persons together as one in God and with God. This is the work of building.

What God always has been doing, and what He still is doing, is working Himself into us, working us into God, and bringing all of us together as one in God and through God.

God first carried out His building work by coming as the divine person to be incarnated into humanity to build a man with God, that is, to build a God-man. In the four thousand years from the time of Adam to the time of Christ, there were many millions of people, but not one of them was a building of God with man. Before the incarnation, God was God, and man was man. God and man, man and God, were never mingled as one until the day that God Himself was incarnated to be born in a manger as a man. This man was a unique man, God mingled with man, a man with God, a God-man. What God did to work Himself into man and work man into Himself was the beginning of the divine building. (CWWL, 1963, vol. 3, "The Building of God," pp. 197-198)

The building work of God is the mingling of God and man....In God's creation heaven was heaven, earth was earth, God was God, and man was man. The two sides were never mingled together. In God's work of building, however, God wants to build Himself into man and to build man into Himself. When these two are mingled and built together, they become a building in the universe, which may be called the universal house. This building, or we may say this house, is constituted through the mingling of God and man. It is the house of God, and it is also the house of man. It is God taking man as His dwelling place, and it is also man taking God as his habitation. In other words, it is the mutual abode of God and man. (The Building Work of God, pp. 19-20)

Further Reading: CWWL, 1964, vol. 4, "The Vision of God's Building," chs. 1-2, 4; CWWL, 1963, vol. 3, "The Building of God," chs. 1, 3-4

<< WEEK 6 — DAY 3 >>

Morning Nourishment

Matt. 28:19-20 "Go therefore and disciple all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 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."

Some say that it is impossible to have the recovery of the church life today. However, if the recovery of the church life is not possible, then the Lord Jesus has no way to come back...Only the church built up according to the Lord's desire can be the stepping-stone into the age of the kingdom. In Matthew 16:18 the Lord said, "I will build My church." Therefore, we believe that it is altogether possible to have the recovery of the proper church life today. We have the Lord's promise and His word of assurance.

What we are doing in the recovery today is not according to our plan; it is according to the Lord's covenant and His word of assurance. The Lord Jesus said that He would build His church. This is taking place today, not according to our plan but according to the Lord's word. (Life-study of Exodus, p. 176)

Today's Reading

The Lord charged us to baptize the nations "into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matt. 28:19). There is one name for the Divine Trinity. The name is the sum total of the Divine Being, equivalent to His person. To baptize people into the name of the Triune God is to immerse them into all that the Triune God is. Once we believe into Christ and are baptized into the person of the Divine Trinity, we should daily enjoy the Triune God by participating in the love of God the Father, in the grace of Christ the Son, and in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit (2 Cor. 13:14). Eventually, we will enjoy the Divine Trinity in His divine dispensing to the fullest in eternity. (The Crucial Points of the Major Items of the Lord's Recovery Today, pp. 12-13)

The disciples baptized the new converts (Acts 2:38), not only visibly into water, but also invisibly into the death of Christ (Rom. 6:3-4), into Christ Himself (Gal. 3:27), into the Triune God (Matt. 28:19), and into the Body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:13). The water, signifying the death of Christ with His burial, may be considered as a tomb to terminate the old history of the baptized ones. Since the death of Christ is included in Christ, since Christ is the very embodiment of the Triune God, and since the Triune God is one with the Body of Christ, so to baptize new believers into the death of Christ, into Christ Himself, into the Triune God, and into the Body of Christ is to do just one thing: on the negative side to terminate their old life, and on the positive side to germinate them with a new life, the eternal life of the Triune God, for the Body of Christ. Hence, the baptism ordained by the Lord here is to baptize people out of their life into the Body life for the kingdom of the heavens. (Life-study of Matthew, pp. 828-829)

All of the unbelieving sinners are in Adam. When we preach the gospel to them and they receive the Lord, they are transferred out of Adam into Christ. When someone believes into Christ, he becomes a part of Christ. The unbelievers who are transferred into Christ are the increase of Christ. (The Advance of the Lord's Recovery Today, pp. 30-31)

The term the God-ordained way was invented by us, and we saw that this God-ordained way revealed in the Scriptures is of four steps: begetting, feeding, perfecting, and building. We need to beget, to produce, new believers. Then we need to feed them that they may grow. Then we need to perfect them, not by one teacher but through the mutual teaching in the groups. In the groups everyone is a teacher, and every teacher is a student. Through the mutual teaching in the groups the new ones are perfected unto the work of the ministry as pointed out in Ephesians 4:12. This makes them qualified to prophesy, to speak for the Lord, for the building up of the church. (Fellowship concerning the Urgent Need of the Vital Groups, p. 227)

Further Reading: CWWL, 1963, vol. 2, "God's Intention concerning Christ and the Church, ch. 8; CWWL, 1978, vol. 2, "Crucial Principles for the Christian Life and the Church Life," ch. 4

<< WEEK 6 — DAY 4 >>

Morning Nourishment

Eph. 4:15-16 "But holding to truth in love, we may grow up into Him in all things, who is the Head, Christ, 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."

Since the church is the Body of Christ, His embodiment, the growth of the church should be the growth of Christ. The growth of the church is not determined by an increase in its strengths or merits but by the increase of Christ. The measure of the growth of the church is not determined by an increase in numbers but by the increase of Christ. God does not measure the church by any criterion or ruler other than Christ. His desire is for Christ to increase and grow in the church and for Christ to become the content and element of the church so that the church would arrive "at a full-grown man, at the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ" (Eph. 4:13)....Only the increase of the measure of the stature of Christ is the growth of the church. (Christ and the Cross, p. 56)

Today's Reading

I would ask the saints in all the localities to consider whether they have had an increase of the element of Christ in the past two years. Has there been an increase of the measure of the stature of Christ? I am not asking whether we have had an increase in love, whether our zeal has been intensified, or whether we have had an increase in numbers. My question is, "Has the element of Christ increased among us? Has the measure of the stature of Christ increased?" This is what God is after. This is His focus. God's work has been to cause the measure of the stature of Christ to increase in the church. God is expecting the church to grow to the full measure of the stature of Christ, because God's desire is for the church to be the Body of Christ, His fullness. Only the element of Christ can be the element of the church, and only the growth of Christ is the growth of the church. Only Christ is the reality of the church. Everything related to the church should be Christ. (Christ and the Cross, p. 56)

Just as our physical body needs the circulation of the blood, the Body of Christ also needs the circulation of the divine life. Our body is organic, so its building up is organic according to the circulation of life by the growth in life. When Christians talk about the building up of the church, not many think of this building in an organic way. They do not think about the building up of the church in the organic sense but in the organizational sense. The Lord desires to build up the church organically because the church is the organic Body of Christ.

The Body of Christ, as the church of God, is an organism of the Triune God, not an organization of human beings (John 15:1-5). This is strongly proven by the vine tree in John 15. The Lord Jesus said that He is the vine tree and that His Father is the husbandman (v. 1). A tree is not an organization but an organism. The vine tree is the organism of the Triune God. The vine tree is not something organized but something of life that grows up as an organism. Nothing inorganic can be added to an organism like a tree.

A branch can be grafted into a tree if it is of the same family as the tree into which it is grafted. Grafting is altogether an organic matter. According to Genesis 1, all the different kinds of life are after their kind. The human life, however, is after God's kind. Man was made in the image and likeness of God, so man is in the category of God. Because we were made in God's image and likeness, we can be grafted into God (Rom. 11:24; 6:4-5). This grafting brings us into an organic union with God (1 Cor. 6:17). The organism of the Triune God is in this organic union. The church as the Body of Christ is an organism, and the building up of the church as an organism is its organic growth. (The Advance of the Lord's Recovery Today, p. 47)

Further Reading: Christ and the Cross, ch. 4; The Organic Union in God's Relationship with Man, ch. 5; Service for the Building Up of the Church, ch. 6

<< WEEK 6 — DAY 5 >>

Morning Nourishment

John 2:19 "Jesus answered and said to them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

21-22 "But He spoke of the temple of His body. When therefore He was raised from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had spoken."

We should not have the concept that growth, increase, and building up are three different things. With organic matters such as a tree or a person, growth, increase, and building up are synonyms. They are also synonyms in relation to the organic Body of Christ. They are different terms referring to the same thing. The organic building up of the Body of Christ is the increase of the Triune God in the believers, and this increase is the believers' growth in Christ. (The Advance of the Lord's Recovery Today, p. 51)

Today's Reading

On the one hand, we are members of the organic Body of Christ, and on the other hand, we are the builders of this Body (Eph. 4:16). We, the members of the Body, are the builders of the Body. The growth of all the members of a man is the building up of this man. If the members of a child's physical body do not grow, he is not being built up. The growing members are the building members. The members of a person's physical body are the builders of his body by their growth. Ephesians 4:16 says that all the Body causes the growth of the Body unto the building up of itself...A little boy builds himself up by growing. The feeding of the mother helps the growth of this boy, and his growth builds him up. Thus, the boy builds himself up by his growth. When his growth stops, there is no more building. This is an illustration of the organic building up of the church, which is a great lack among today's Christians. If there is no growth in life, there is no building up.

The organic building up of the Body of Christ is the growth of the Body through the members of the Body growing into Christ, the Head, in all things (Eph. 4:15-16). The growth in life is the organic building, and the growth in life is our getting into Christ more and more. (The Advance of the Lord's Recovery Today, pp. 51-52)

When Jesus arose, He Himself raised up His dead and buried body. The body of Jesus that was destroyed on the cross was small and weak; the Body of Christ in resurrection is vast and powerful. Which do you prefer to have—the body of Jesus or the Body of Christ? After the Lord's resurrection, His Body, that is, the temple, was reared up on a much larger scale. The body the enemy destroyed by crucifixion was merely the body of Jesus; what was raised by the Lord in resurrection was not only His own body, but everyone who is joined to Him by faith (1 Pet. 1:3; Eph. 2:6).

Since the day of His physical resurrection, the Lord Jesus has been enlarging His Body in resurrection life. What an immense Body Christ has today in His resurrection! Can you measure the size of the Body of Christ? Although it once was possible to measure the size of the physical body of Jesus, it is impossible to measure the immensity of the Body of Christ. The Lord continues to build His Body in resurrection, and Satan keeps on helping this. The house of God is still increasing in resurrection with the Body of Christ (1 Tim. 3:15; 1 Pet. 2:5; 1 Cor. 3:9; Eph. 2:21-22). Today, we are still within "the three days," because the Lord is still working for the building of His Body under the process of resurrection. A great part of the Lord's Body has already been raised, but there are still some members of His Body who are not yet raised. Therefore, the Lord's Body is still in the process of resurrection. Even with yourself, only a part has been transformed, which means that only a part has been resurrected. The Lord continues to work on you through the process of transformation. You are still in the process of resurrection. The church today is still in the three days' process of resurrection. (Life-study of John, pp. 85, 87)

Further Reading: The Advance of the Lord's Recovery Today, chs. 3-4; CWWL, 1969, vol. 1, "The Experience of Christ as Life for the Building Up of the Church," chs. 1-4

<< WEEK 6 — DAY 6 >>

Morning Nourishment

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."

14:2 "In My Father's house are many abodes; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you."

In the dealing with the temple [in John 2], the purpose of life is shown. The principle of life is to change death into life. The purpose of life is to build the house of God. The principle of life is for the purpose of life. The changing of death into life is for life's building, the building of God's house. (Life-study of John, p. 88)

Today's Reading

Let us now consider...the sign of building up the mystical Body of Christ [in John 2]. We need to realize that the rebuilding of the destroyed temple has already been accomplished. In Christ's resurrection we all have been resurrected. Peter tells us that we have been regenerated through the resurrection of Christ (1 Pet. 1:3). This means that in God's view, according to His accomplishment in His economy, the Body of Christ has already been built.

The tense of the verbs in the book of Revelation indicates this. For example, the apostle John does not say that the New Jerusalem will come; he tells us that he saw the New Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. Approximately nineteen hundred years ago, John saw the New Jerusalem. This shows us that, according to God's way of seeing, the Body of Christ has already been built up.

Our living as Christians is simply a matter of the changing of death into life for the building up of the mystical Body of Christ. The entire Christian life consists of two matters: changing death into life and building up the mystical Body of Christ. This is the proper, genuine, and complete Christian life. There is no third item in our Christian life. Now we are in this building by our daily living, and our daily living is a matter of changing water into wine.

We may summarize our Christian life by saying that the Christian life is the changing of death into life, water into wine, for the building up of the Body of Christ. What is our living? Our living is the changing of death into life. What are we doing here? We are carrying out the work of building up the church, the Body of Christ. This is our living, and this is our goal. Our living is the changing of death into life. Our goal is the building up of the church. We have a living of the eternal life, the eternal zoe, for the purpose of building up the mystical Body of Christ.

The first stage of [the Father's] house was God incarnate, God manifested in the flesh. The second stage is Christ resurrected with all His believers, the many sons built up together to be the church. Eventually, this church, the second stage of the Father's house, will consummate in the coming New Jerusalem.

It is of vital importance that we see what the Father's house is. The Father's house is a matter of the Triune God—through incarnation, crucifixion, and resurrection—working Himself into His believers in order to be fully mingled with them that He may build them up as an organism for His dwelling place and expression. This is also for their dwelling place. Therefore, the sign of the Father's house points to the mingling of the Triune God with His redeemed people to produce a mutual dwelling place, a dwelling place for both God and His chosen and redeemed people.

The Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ, is not building a heavenly mansion. On the contrary, by the Spirit and through His death and resurrection, He is building an organism, the church, which is His Body and the Father's house. This house is composed of the mingling of the Triune God with His chosen and redeemed people. May we all be nourished with the truth concerning the mingling of God with us to produce a mutual dwelling place. (The Fulfillment of the Tabernacle and the Offerings in the Writings of John, pp. 54-55, 347-348, 344)

Further Reading: Life-study of John, msgs. 1, 7; CWWL, 1982, vol. 2, "The Fulfillment of the Tabernacle and the Offerings in the Writings of John," ch. 38; CWWL, 1969, vol. 2, "The Crucial Revelation of Life in the Scriptures," ch. 10

WEEK 6 — HYMN

Freed from self and Adam's nature

The Church — Her Building

840

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (D major) and a 3/4 time signature. It consists of four staves of music. Above the first staff are the chords D, G, F#m, Bm, Em, and A7. Above the second staff are the chords D, G/D, D, G, F#m, Bm, G, and A7. Above the third staff are the chords D, D7, G, A7/G, D/F#, D, E7, and E7/G#. Above the fourth staff are the chords A, A7/G, D/F#, G, F#m, Bm, Em, A7, G/D, and D. The lyrics are: 1. Freed from self and A - dam's na - ture, Lord, I would be built by Thee With the saints in - to Thy tem - ple, Where Thy glo - ry we shall see. From pe - cu - liar traits de - liv - er, From my in - de - pen - dent ways, That a dwell - ing place for Thee, Lord, We will be thru all our days.

2. By Thy life and by its flowing

I can grow and be transformed,
With the saints coordinated,
Builded up, to Thee conformed;
Keep the order in the Body,
There to function in Thy will,
Ever serving, helping others,
All Thy purpose to fulfill.

3. In my knowledge and experience

I would not exalted be,
But submitting and accepting
Let the Body balance me;
Holding fast the Head, and growing
With His increase, in His way,
By the joints and bands supplying,
Knit together day by day.

4. By Thy Spirit daily strengthened

In the inner man with might,
I would know Thy love surpassing,
Know Thy breadth and length and height;
Ever of Thy riches taking,
Unto all Thy fulness filled,
Ever growing into manhood,
That Thy Body Thou may build.

5. In God's house and in Thy Body

Builded up I long to be,
That within this corporate vessel
All shall then Thy glory see;
That Thy Bride, the glorious city,
May appear upon the earth,
As a lampstand brightly beaming
To express to all Thy worth.