

Message Six
**Life in the Land and the Issue of the Land—
the Church as the Temple, the Dwelling Place of God,
and as the City, the Kingdom of God**

EM Hymns: 864

Scripture Reading: Deut. 12:11; 14:22-23; 16:15-17; 1 Cor. 14:26; Eph. 3:8, 18;
1:22-23; 2:21-22; 2 Cor. 2:10; Exo. 33:14; Psa. 27:4; 46:4-5

- 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 14:22 You must give a tenth of all the produce of your seed, which the field brings forth, year by year.
- Deut 14:23 And you shall eat before Jehovah your God, in the place where He will choose to cause His name to dwell, the tithe of your grain, of your new wine, and of your fresh oil and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear Jehovah your God always.
- Deut 16:15 You shall keep the feast to Jehovah your God for seven days in the place which Jehovah will choose, for Jehovah your God will bless you in all your produce and in all your undertakings; therefore you shall be nothing but joyful.
- Deut 16:16 Three times a year all your males shall appear before Jehovah your God in the place which He will choose: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Tabernacles. And they shall not appear before Jehovah empty-handed;
- Deut 16:17 Each man shall give as he is able to give, according to the blessing of Jehovah your God, which He has given you.
- 1 Cor 14:26 What then, brothers? Whenever you come together, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up.
- 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
- Eph 3:18 May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are
- Eph 1:22 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him to be Head over all things to the church,
- Eph 1:23 Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.
- Eph 2:21 In whom all the building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord;
- Eph 2:22 In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.
- 2 Cor 2:10 But whom you forgive anything, I also forgive; for also what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, it is for your sake in the person of Christ;
- Exo 33:14 And He said, My presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest.
- Psa 27:4 One thing I have asked from Jehovah; / That do I seek: / To dwell in the house of Jehovah / All the days of my life, / To behold the beauty of Jehovah, / And to inquire in His temple.
- Psa 46:4 There is a river whose streams gladden the city of God, / The holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High.
- Psa 46:5 God is in the midst of her; she will not be moved; / God helps her at the dawn of the morning.

I. We need to see how to live a life in the eyes of God that will enable us to enjoy the all-inclusive Christ typified by the good land—Col. 1:12; 2:6-7a.

- 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 2:7a Having been rooted and being built up in Him, ...

II. We need to live a life of laboring upon Christ, a life of enjoying Christ personally so that we may enjoy Him together collectively for the building up of the Body of Christ as the temple, the house, of the living God—1 Cor. 3:16; 1 Tim. 3:15:

- 1 Cor 3:16 Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?
- 1 Tim 3:15 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.

- A. God's will is for us to enjoy Christ—Heb. 10:5-10; 1 Cor. 1:9.
- Heb 10:5 Therefore, coming into the world, He says, "Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but a body You have prepared for Me.
- Heb 10:6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You did not delight.
- Heb 10:7 Then I said, Behold, I have come (in the roll of the book it is written concerning Me) to do Your will, O God."
- Heb 10:8 Saying above, "Sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You did not desire nor delight in" (which are offered according to the law),
- Heb 10:9 He then has said, "Behold, I have come to do Your will." He takes away the first that He may establish the second,
- Heb 10:10 By which will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.
- 1 Cor 1:9 God is faithful, through whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- B. We must seek to enjoy Christ and experience Him in every situation—Phil. 3:7-14.
- Phil 3:7 But what things were gains to me, these I have counted as loss on account of Christ.
- Phil 3:8 But moreover I also count all things to be loss on account of the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, on account of whom I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as refuse that I may gain Christ
- Phil 3:9 And be found in Him, not having my own righteousness which is out of the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is out of God and based on faith,
- Phil 3:10 To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,
- Phil 3:11 If perhaps I may attain to the out-resurrection from the dead.
- Phil 3:12 Not that I have already obtained or am already perfected, but I pursue, if even I may lay hold of that for which I also have been laid hold of by Christ Jesus.
- Phil 3:13 Brothers, I do not account of myself to have laid hold; but one thing I do: Forgetting the things which are behind and stretching forward to the things which are before,
- Phil 3:14 I pursue toward the goal for the prize to which God in Christ Jesus has called me upward.
- C. Whenever we come to the meetings to worship the Lord, we should not come with our hands empty; we must come with our hands full of the produce of Christ—Deut. 16:15-17:
- Deut 16:15 You shall keep the feast to Jehovah your God for seven days in the place which Jehovah will choose, for Jehovah your God will bless you in all your produce and in all your undertakings; therefore you shall be nothing but joyful.
- Deut 16:16 Three times a year all your males shall appear before Jehovah your God in the place which He will choose: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Tabernacles. And they shall not appear before Jehovah empty-handed;
- Deut 16:17 Each man shall give as he is able to give, according to the blessing of Jehovah your God, which He has given you.
1. We must produce enough of Him so that there will be a surplus remaining for the poor and the needy, for the priests and the Levites, and with the best for the Lord Himself—15:11; 18:3-4; 12:11.
- Deut 15:11 For the needy will not cease being in the land; therefore I am commanding you, saying, You must open your hand to your brother, to the poor one with you and to the needy one with you in your land.
- Deut 18:3 And this shall be the priests' rightful due from the people, from those who offer a sacrifice, whether an ox or a sheep: They shall give the priest the shoulder, the two cheeks, and the stomach.
- Deut 18:4 You shall give him the firstfruits of your grain, of your new wine, and of your fresh oil, and the first shearing of your sheep;
- 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.

2. To worship God with Christ is to worship Him collectively with all the children of God by enjoying Christ with one another and with God—1 Cor. 14:26.
 1 Cor 14:26 What then, brothers? Whenever you come together, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up.

III. If we want to be overcomers, we need to labor on Christ as our good land, to gain Christ as our enjoyment:

- A. Every morning we must consecrate ourselves sincerely to the Lord for the simple purpose of enjoying and experiencing Him—cf. Phil. 3:13-14.
 Phil 3:13 Brothers, I do not account of myself to have laid hold; but one thing I do: Forgetting the things which are behind and stretching forward to the things which are before,
 Phil 3:14 I pursue toward the goal for the prize to which God in Christ Jesus has called me upward.
- B. Every day we need to spend time to be with the Lord privately and secretly to have intimate fellowship with Him—Matt. 14:22-23; 6:6; Exo. 33:11a.
 Matt 14:22 And immediately He compelled the disciples to step into the boat and to go before Him to the other side, while He sent the crowds away.
 Matt 14:23 And after He sent the crowds away, He went up to the mountain privately to pray. And when night fell, He was there alone.
 Matt 6:6 But you, when you pray, enter into your private room, and shut your door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.
 Exo 33:11a And Jehovah would speak to Moses face to face, just as a man speaks to his companion. ...
- C. We need to enjoy the Lord in the Word every day early in the morning to have a new start of each day—Psa. 119:147-148.
 Psa 119:147 I anticipated the dawn and cried out; / I hoped in Your words.
 Psa 119:148 My eyes anticipated the night watches, / That I might muse upon Your word.
- D. We need to deal with sins thoroughly so that there is nothing between us and the Lord—1 John 1:7, 9; cf. Ezek. 1:22, 26.
 1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from every sin.
 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
 Ezek 1:22 And over the heads of the living creature there was the likeness of an expanse, like the sight of awesome crystal, stretched forth over their heads above.
 Ezek 1:26 And above the expanse that was over their heads was the likeness of a throne, like the appearance of a sapphire stone; and upon the likeness of the throne was One in appearance like a man, above it.
- E. We need to maintain our fellowship with the Lord moment by moment, living a life of prayer—2 Cor. 13:14; Phil. 4:6-7; Lam. 3:55-56; cf. Matt. 11:25-26.
 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.
 Phil 4:6 In nothing be anxious, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;
 Phil 4:7 And the peace of God, which surpasses every man's understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.
 Lam 3:55 I called upon Your name, O Jehovah, / From the lowest pit.
 Lam 3:56 You have heard my voice; do not hide / Your ear at my breathing, at my cry.
 Matt 11:25 At that time Jesus answered and said, I extol You, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, because You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and have revealed them to infants.
 Matt 11:26 Yes, Father, for thus it has been well-pleasing in Your sight.
- F. We need to redeem our time and spend our energy to be saturated and soaked with God's holy Word—2 Tim. 3:16-17; Col. 3:16.
 2 Tim 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for conviction, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

2 Tim 3:17 That the man of God may be complete, fully equipped for every good work.
Col 3:16 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.

G. We should redeem the time to be filled in spirit by rejoicing always, praying unceasingly, and giving thanks in everything—Eph. 5:18; 1 Thes. 5:16-19.

Eph 5:18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissoluteness, but be filled in spirit,

1 Thes 5:16 Always rejoice,

1 Thes 5:17 Unceasingly pray,

1 Thes 5:18 In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thes 5:19 Do not quench the Spirit;

IV. We meet together to have an exhibition of the Christ upon whom we have labored, the Christ whom we have enjoyed and experienced—Deut. 14:22-23:

Deut 14:22 You must give a tenth of all the produce of your seed, which the field brings forth, year by year.

Deut 14:23 And you shall eat before Jehovah your God, in the place where He will choose to cause His name to dwell, the tithe of your grain, of your new wine, and of your fresh oil and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear Jehovah your God always.

A. The true worship of God by His people is when everyone is full of Christ, radiant with Christ, and exhibiting the Christ upon whom they have labored.

B. We should always have something to speak in all the meetings as a freewill offering to God and to the attendants—1 Cor. 14:26:

1 Cor 14:26 What then, brothers? Whenever you come together, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up.

1. Before coming to the meeting, we should prepare ourselves for the meeting with something of the Lord, either through our experience of Him or through our enjoyment of His word and our fellowship with Him in prayer—cf. Rev. 1:20.

Rev 1:20 The mystery of the seven stars which you saw upon My right hand and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the messengers of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

2. After coming into the meeting, we need not wait, and should not wait, for inspiration; we should exercise our spirit and use our trained mind to function in presenting what we have prepared to the Lord for His glory and satisfaction and to the attendants for their benefit—their enlightenment, nourishment, and building up—1 Cor. 14:31-32.

1 Cor 14:31 For you can all prophesy one by one that all may learn and all may be encouraged.

1 Cor 14:32 And the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets;

V. Day by day and hour by hour we need to enjoy the marvelous, wonderful, immeasurable, unlimited, and all-inclusive riches of Christ as the good land—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

A. In 2 Corinthians the good land flowing with milk and honey is Christ Himself as the embodiment of the processed Triune God, given to us as the divine grace for our enjoyment—1 Cor. 5:7; 10:3-4; 2:14-15; 3:1; cf. 2 Cor. 1:12; 12:9; 13:14:

1 Cor 5:7 Purge out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, even as you are unleavened; for our Passover, Christ, also has been sacrificed.

1 Cor 10:3 And all ate the same spiritual food,

1 Cor 10:4 And all drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank of a spiritual rock which followed them, and the rock was Christ.

1 Cor 2:14 But a soulish man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him and he is not able to know them because they are discerned spiritually.

- 1 Cor 2:15 But the spiritual man discerns all things, but he himself is discerned by no one.
- 1 Cor 3:1 And I, brothers, was not able to speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to fleshly, as to infants in Christ.
- 2 Cor 1:12 For our boasting is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in singleness and sincerity of God, not in fleshly wisdom but in the grace of God, we have conducted ourselves in the world, and more abundantly toward you.
- 2 Cor 12:9 And He has said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is perfected in weakness. Most gladly therefore I will rather boast in my weaknesses that the power of Christ might tabernacle over me.
- 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.
1. In order to experience the riches of Christ as the good land, we must be dominated, governed, directed, moved, and led by our spirit—2:13.

2 Cor 2:13 I had no rest in my spirit, for I did not find Titus my brother; but taking leave of them, I went forth into Macedonia.
 2. In order to experience the riches of Christ as the good land, we must live in the person, the presence, the face, of Christ—v. 10; 4:6-7; 3:16-18; 12:2a:

2 Cor 2:10 But whom you forgive anything, I also forgive; for also what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, it is for your sake in the person of Christ;

2 Cor 4:6 Because the God who said, Out of darkness light shall shine, is the One who shined in our hearts to illuminate the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Cor 4:7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels that the excellency of the power may be of God and not out of us.

2 Cor 3:16 But whenever their heart turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

2 Cor 3:17 And the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

2 Cor 3:18 But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.

2 Cor 12:2a I know a man in Christ, ...

 - a. In order to possess Christ as the all-inclusive land, we must be governed by His person, His presence—Exo. 33:14.

Exo 33:14 And He said, My presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest.
 - b. Because Paul lived in the person of Christ, he experienced Christ as changelessness (2 Cor. 1:17-20), as meekness and gentleness (10:1), as truthfulness (11:10), as power (12:10; 13:4), as grace (v. 14), and as the One speaking in him (v. 3; cf. 2:17).

2 Cor 1:17 This therefore intending, did I then use fickleness? Or the things which I purpose, do I purpose according to the flesh, so that with me there should be Yes, yes and No, no?

2 Cor 1:18 But as God is faithful, our word toward you is not yes and no.

2 Cor 1:19 For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you through us, through me and Silvanus and Timothy, did not become yes and no, but our word has become yes in Him.

2 Cor 1:20 For as many promises of God as there are, in Him is the Yes; therefore also through Him is the Amen to God, for glory through us to God.

2 Cor 10:1 But I myself, Paul, entreat you through the meekness and gentleness of Christ, who (as you say) in person am base among you, but while absent am bold toward you,

2 Cor 11:10 The truthfulness of Christ is in me, that this boasting shall not be stopped as it regards me in the regions of Achaia.

2 Cor 12:10 Therefore I am well pleased in weaknesses, in insults, in necessities, in persecutions and distresses, on behalf of Christ; for when I am weak, then I am powerful.

2 Cor 13:4 For indeed He was crucified out of weakness, but He lives by the power of God. For indeed we are weak in Him, but we will live together with Him by the power of God directed toward you.

- 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.
- 2 Cor 13:3 Since you seek a proof of the Christ who is speaking in me, who is not weak unto you but is powerful in you.
- 2 Cor 2:17 For we are not like the many, adulterating the word of God for profit; but as out of sincerity, but as out of God, before God we speak in Christ.
3. We receive Christ as grace, the reality of the good land, through the breaking and constituting work of the Holy Spirit, whereby our inner being is rebuilt with the Divine Trinity—12:7-10; 13:14.
- 2 Cor 12:7 And because of the transcendence of the revelations, in order that I might not be exceedingly lifted up, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, that he might buffet me, in order that I might not be exceedingly lifted up.
- 2 Cor 12:8 Concerning this I entreated the Lord three times that it might depart from me.
- 2 Cor 12:9 And He has said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is perfected in weakness. Most gladly therefore I will rather boast in my weaknesses that the power of Christ might tabernacle over me.
- 2 Cor 12:10 Therefore I am well pleased in weaknesses, in insults, in necessities, in persecutions and distresses, on behalf of Christ; for when I am weak, then I am powerful.
- 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. At the stage of our experience in which we are enjoying Christ as the all-inclusive land, Christ is unlimitedly great to us; He is a good and spacious land, whose dimensions are the breadth, the length, the height, and the depth—Exo. 3:8; Eph. 3:18:
- Exo 3:8 And I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites.
- Eph 3:18 May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are
1. Christ's dimensions are the dimensions of the universe—cf. Col. 1:16-17.
- Col 1:16 Because in Him all things were created, in the heavens and on the earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or lordships or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and unto Him.
- Col 1:17 And He is before all things, and all things cohere in Him;
2. To apprehend the dimensions of Christ, we need all the saints.
3. Our experience of Christ must become three-dimensional, like a cube:
- a. In our experience of Christ we must go back and forth and up and down so that eventually our experience of Him may be a solid "cube"; when our experience is like this, we cannot fall or be broken.
- b. Both in the tabernacle and in the temple, the Holy of Holies was a cube of ten and twenty cubits respectively—Exo. 26:2-8; 1 Kings 6:20.
- Exo 26:2 The length of each curtain shall be twenty-eight cubits, and the width of each curtain, four cubits; all the curtains shall have the same measurement.
- Exo 26:3 Five curtains shall be joined to one another; and the other five curtains shall be joined to one another.
- Exo 26:4 And you shall make loops of blue strands on the edge of the one curtain at the end in the set; and likewise you shall make them in the edge of the outermost curtain in the second set.
- Exo 26:5 You shall make fifty loops on the one curtain, and you shall make fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that is in the second set; the loops shall be opposite one another.
- Exo 26:6 And you shall make fifty clasps of gold, and join the curtains to one another with the clasps, so that the tabernacle may become one.

- Exo 26:7 And you shall make curtains of goats' hair for a tent over the tabernacle; eleven curtains you shall make in all.
- Exo 26:8 The length of each curtain shall be thirty cubits, and the width of each curtain, four cubits; the eleven curtains shall have the same measurement.
- 1 Kings 6:20 And the interior of the innermost sanctuary was twenty cubits long and twenty cubits wide and twenty cubits high; and he overlaid it with pure gold, and he overlaid the cedar altar.
- c. Christ is the universal cube, and the church life today is also a cube.
- d. Eventually, the entire New Jerusalem will be the Holy of Holies as an eternal cube, twelve thousand stadia in three dimensions—Rev. 21:16.
- Rev 21:16 And the city lies square, and its length is as great as the breadth. And he measured the city with the reed to a length of twelve thousand stadia; the length and the breadth and the height of it are equal.

VI. The issue of our enjoyment of the all-inclusive riches of Christ as the good land is the church as the temple, the dwelling place of God, and as the city, the kingdom of God—Eph. 2:21-22:

Eph 2:21 In whom all the building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord;

Eph 2:22 In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.

A. The land with its temple and city is the center of God's plan:

1. The land is Christ Himself, and the temple and the city are the fullness of Christ, the church, which is His Body—1:22-23; 2:21-22.

Eph 1:22 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him to be Head over all things to the church,

Eph 1:23 Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

Eph 2:21 In whom all the building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord;

Eph 2:22 In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.

2. The temple is for the expression of God, and the city is for the dominion of God; this fulfills God's eternal purpose—Gen. 1:26.

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.

B. When we enjoy Christ personally in our daily life for our collective enjoyment of Him in our meeting life, God is among us, and we are His dwelling place and His kingdom:

1. When we enjoy Christ to such an extent, the church meeting will be filled with God, and all its activities will convey and transmit God to people that they may be infused with God—1 Cor. 14:25.

1 Cor 14:25 The secrets of his heart become manifest; and so falling on his face, he will worship God, declaring that indeed God is among you.

2. When we enjoy Christ to such an extent, we will submit to one another, and the authority of Christ will be among us—Eph. 5:18, 21; 1 Pet. 5:5.

Eph 5:18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissoluteness, but be filled in spirit,

Eph 5:21 Being subject to one another in the fear of Christ:

1 Pet 5:5 In like manner, younger men, be subject to elders; and all of you gird yourselves with humility toward one another, because God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble.

C. The main aspects of God's house, His dwelling place for His expression, speak of God's presence (God's house signifies Christ, the church, the New Jerusalem, and our spirit):

1. God's house is the place of God's presence, which is God's glory (Psa. 26:8; 29:9), God's beauty (27:4, 8), and God's riches (36:8-9).

Psa 26:8 O Jehovah, I love the habitation of Your house, / And the place where Your glory abides.

- Psa 29:9 The voice of Jehovah causes the hinds to calve / And strips the forests bare; / And in His temple all say, Glory!
- Psa 27:4 One thing I have asked from Jehovah; / That do I seek: / To dwell in the house of Jehovah / All the days of my life, / To behold the beauty of Jehovah, / And to inquire in His temple.
- Psa 27:8 When You say, Seek My face, / To You my heart says, Your face, O Jehovah, will I seek.
- Psa 36:8 They are saturated with the fatness of Your house, / And You cause them to drink of the river of Your pleasures.
- Psa 36:9 For with You is the fountain of life; / In Your light we see light.
2. God's house is the place of revelation and God's answer—73:16-17; 3:4; 18:6.
- Psa 73:16 When I considered this in order to understand it, / It was a troublesome task in my sight,
- Psa 73:17 Until I went into the sanctuary of God; / Then I perceived their end.
- Psa 3:4 With my voice I call out to Jehovah, / And He answers me from His holy mountain. Selah.
- Psa 18:6 In my distress I called upon Jehovah / And cried out to my God. / He heard my voice from His temple, / And my cry before Him came to His ears.
3. God's house is our hiding place—27:5; cf. 31:20; 84:3.
- Psa 27:5 For He will conceal me in His shelter / In the day of trouble; / He will hide me in the hiding place of His tent; / He will raise me up upon a rock.
- Psa 31:20 You hide them in the hiding place of Your presence / Apart from the conspiracies of men; / You lay them away secretly in a shelter / Apart from the contention of tongues.
- Psa 84:3 At Your two altars even the sparrow has found a home; / And the swallow, a nest for herself, / Where she may lay her young, / O Jehovah of hosts, my King and my God.
4. God's house is the place where we may be planted, flourish, and bear fruit—92:13-14.
- Psa 92:13 Planted in the house of Jehovah, / They will flourish in the courts of our God.
- Psa 92:14 They will still bring forth fruit in old age; / They will be full of sap and green;
5. God's house is the place of springs—87:7.
- Psa 87:7 Then singing as well as dancing, they will say, / All my springs are in you.
6. God's house is the place where we are strengthened—68:35; 96:6.
- Psa 68:35 You are awesome, O God, from Your sanctuaries. / The God of Israel, He gives strength and power to the people. / Blessed be God!
- Psa 96:6 Majesty and splendor are before Him; / Strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.
7. God's house is the place where we are mingled with God—92:10.
- Psa 92:10 But You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox; / I am anointed with fresh oil.
8. God's house is the place where God is our portion—73:26.
- Psa 73:26 My flesh and my heart fail, / But God is the rock of my heart and my portion forever.
- D. The main aspects of God's city, His kingdom for His dominion, speak of God's authority:
1. God's city is a strong city, the city of the great King—31:21; 48:2.
- Psa 31:21 Blessed be Jehovah, / For He displayed His lovingkindness wondrously / To me in a fortified city.
- Psa 48:2 Beautiful in elevation, / The joy of the whole earth, / Is Mount Zion, the sides of the north, / The city of the great King.
2. There is a river with gladdening streams in God's city—46:4-5.
- Psa 46:4 There is a river whose streams gladden the city of God, / The holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High.
- Psa 46:5 God is in the midst of her; she will not be moved; / God helps her at the dawn of the morning.
3. God is known in her and is a high retreat in her—48:3.
- Psa 48:3 God has made Himself known / In her palaces as a high retreat.

4. She is a terror to the enemy—vv. 3-6; 76:2-3.
 - Psa 48:3 God has made Himself known / In her palaces as a high retreat.
 - Psa 48:4 For, behold, the kings have assembled themselves; / They passed by together.
 - Psa 48:5 They saw; therefore they were astounded. / They were dismayed; they hurried off in alarm.
 - Psa 48:6 Trembling seized them there; / Writhing, like that of a woman in labor;
 - Psa 76:2 And in Salem is His tabernacle, / And His dwelling place, in Zion.
 - Psa 76:3 There He broke the flashing arrows of the bow, / The shield and the sword and the battle. Selah.
 5. She is the perfection of beauty—50:2.
 - Psa 50:2 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, / God shines forth.
 6. She is the goal of God's good pleasure—51:18.
 - Psa 51:18 Do good in Your good pleasure unto Zion; / Build the walls of Jerusalem.
 7. The thrones of judgment are set in God's city—122:5.
 - Psa 122:5 For there thrones are set for judgment, / Thrones of the house of David.
 8. The Lord blesses others out of her and is blessed out of her—134:3; 135:21.
 - Psa 134:3 May Jehovah, who made heaven and earth, / Bless you from Zion.
 - Psa 135:21 Blessed be Jehovah from Zion, / Who dwells in Jerusalem. / Hallelujah.
- E. The ultimate issue of our enjoyment of Christ as the land is the divine-human incorporation of the processed Triune God with His regenerated, transformed, and glorified tripartite people as the eternal dwelling place and kingdom of God—Rev. 21:3, 22; 22:5.
- 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 21:22 And I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.
 - Rev 22:5 And night will be no more; and they have no need of the light of a lamp and of the light of the sun, for the Lord God will shine upon them; and they will reign forever and ever.

Study Questions

1. What kind of life should we live in the land?
2. How can we gain Christ as our enjoyment?
3. What is the purpose of our meeting together?
4. Day by day and hour by hour, how can we enjoy the marvelous, wonderful, immeasurable, unlimited, and all-inclusive riches of Christ as the good land?
5. What is the issue of our enjoyment of the all-inclusive riches of Christ as the good land, and what is the ultimate issue of our enjoyment of Christ as the land?