

Message Five

Living the Life of the One New Man instead of Our Culture by Learning Christ as the Reality Is in Jesus

RA, Hymn 750

Scripture Reading: Eph. 4:20-21; Matt. 11:28-30; 14:19; John 5:19, 30; 7:18; 10:30

- Eph. 4:20 But you did not so learn Christ,
Eph. 4:21 If indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him as the reality is in Jesus,
Matt. 11:28 Come to Me all who toil and are burdened, and I will give you rest.
Matt. 11:29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
Matt. 11:30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.
Matt. 14:19 And after commanding the crowds to recline on the grass, He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed them and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples to the crowds.
John 5:19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, The Son can do nothing from Himself except what He sees the Father doing, for whatever that One does, these things the Son also does in like manner.
John 5:30 I can do nothing from Myself; as I hear, I judge, and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.
John 7:18 He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of Him who sent Him, this One is true, and unrighteousness is not in Him.
John 10:30 I and the Father are one.

I. Our standard of living must not be according to our culture but according to the reality in Jesus, the reality lived out by the Lord Jesus when He was on earth—Eph. 4:20-21:

- Eph. 4:20 But you did not so learn Christ,
Eph. 4:21 If indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him as the reality is in Jesus,
A. The way the Lord Jesus lived on earth is the way the one new man should live today—Matt. 11:28-30; John 6:57; 4:34; 5:17, 19, 30; 6:38; 17:4.
Matt. 11:28 Come to Me all who toil and are burdened, and I will give you rest.
Matt. 11:29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
Matt. 11:30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.
John 6:57 As the living Father has sent Me and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also shall live because of Me.
John 4:34 Jesus said to them, My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work.
John 5:17 But Jesus answered them, My Father is working until now, and I also am working.
John 5:19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, The Son can do nothing from Himself except what He sees the Father doing, for whatever that One does, these things the Son also does in like manner.
John 5:30 I can do nothing from Myself; as I hear, I judge, and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.

John 6:38 For I have come down from heaven not to do My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.

John 17:4 I have glorified You on earth, finishing the work which You have given Me to do.

- B. The reality is in Jesus (Eph. 4:21) refers to the actual condition of the life of Jesus as recorded in the four Gospels; Jesus lived a life in which He did everything in God, with God, and for God; God was in His living, and He was one with God.

Eph. 4:21 If indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him as the reality is in Jesus,

- C. Jesus lived in a way that always corresponded to God's righteousness and holiness; in the life of Jesus the righteousness and holiness of the reality were always exhibited—v. 24:

Eph. 4:24 And put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.

1. The human living of Jesus was according to the reality, that is, according to God Himself, full of righteousness and holiness.

2. It was in the righteousness and holiness of this reality—God glorified and expressed—that the new man was created.

- D. We need to learn Christ and be taught in Him to live a life of reality; to learn Christ is simply to be molded into the pattern of Christ, that is, to be conformed to the image of Christ—vv. 20-21; Rom. 8:28-29; 2 John 1; John 4:23-24.

Eph. 4:20 But you did not so learn Christ,

Eph. 4:21 If indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him as the reality is in Jesus,

Rom. 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

Rom. 8:29 Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers;

2 John 1 The elder to the chosen lady and to her children, whom I love in truthfulness, and not only I but also all those who know the truth,

John 4:23 But an hour is coming, and it is now, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truthfulness, for the Father also seeks such to worship Him.

John 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.

- E. As a corporate person, the new man should live a life of reality, as the reality is in Jesus—a life of expressing God.

- F. If we live according to the spirit of our mind, we shall have the daily living of the corporate new man—a living that corresponds to the reality in Jesus—Eph. 4:23.

Eph. 4:23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind

II. The living of the one new man should be exactly the same as the living of Jesus; for the one new man as the corporate God-man, we need to live the life of a God-man—Phil. 1:19-21a; 3:10; Eph. 4:20-21; cf. 1 John 4:17 and footnote 5:

Phil. 1:19 For I know that for me this will turn out to salvation through your petition and the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

Phil. 1:20 According to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I will be put to shame, but with all boldness, as always, even now Christ will be magnified in my body, whether through life or through death.

Phil. 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

Phil. 3:10 To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

Eph. 4:20 But you did not so learn Christ,
 Eph. 4:21 If indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him as the reality is in Jesus,
 1 John 4:17 In this has love been perfected with us, that we have boldness in the day of the judgment because even as ⁵He is, so also are we in this world.
 John 4:17, footnote 5: As in 3:3, 7, this refers to Christ, who lived in this world a life of God as love and who is now our life that we may live the same life of love in this world and be the same as He is.

A. Christ's human living was man living God to express the attributes of God in the human virtues; His human virtues were filled, mingled, and saturated with the divine attributes—
 Luke 1:26-35; 7:11-17; 10:25-37; 19:1-10:

Luke 1:26 And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth,
 Luke 1:27 To a virgin engaged to a man named Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.
 Luke 1:28 And he came to her and said, Rejoice, you who have been graced! The Lord is with you.
 Luke 1:29 And she was greatly troubled at this saying and began reasoning what kind of greeting this might be.
 Luke 1:30 And the angel said to her, Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found grace with God.
 Luke 1:31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus.
 Luke 1:32 He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to Him the throne of David His father,
 Luke 1:33 And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.
 Luke 1:34 But Mary said to the angel, How will this be, since I have not known a man?
 Luke 1:35 And the angel answered and said to her, The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore also the holy thing which is born will be called the Son of God.
 Luke 7:11 And soon afterward He went into a city called Nain, and His disciples went with Him, as well as a large crowd.
 Luke 7:12 And as He came near the gate of the city, behold, one who had died was being carried out, an only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a considerable crowd from the city was with her.
 Luke 7:13 And when the Lord saw her, He was moved with compassion for her and said to her, Do not weep.
 Luke 7:14 And He came near and touched the bier, and those carrying it stood still. And He said, Young man, to you I say, Arise.
 Luke 7:15 And the dead man sat up and began to speak. And He gave him to his mother.
 Luke 7:16 And fear took hold of all, and they glorified God, saying, A great prophet has been raised up among us, and, God has visited His people!
 Luke 7:17 And this report concerning Him went out in the whole of Judea and in all the surrounding region.
 Luke 10:25 And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?
 Luke 10:26 And He said to him, What is written in the law? How do you read it?
 Luke 10:27 And he answered and said, "You shall love the Lord your God from your whole heart and with your whole soul and with your whole strength and with your whole mind, and your neighbor as yourself."
 Luke 10:28 And He said to him, You have answered correctly; do this, and you shall have life.
 Luke 10:29 But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, And who is my neighbor?

- Luke 10:30 Jesus, taking up the question, said, A certain man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who having both stripped him and beat him, went away, leaving him half dead.
- Luke 10:31 And by coincidence a certain priest was going down on that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side.
- Luke 10:32 And likewise also a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the opposite side.
- Luke 10:33 But a certain Samaritan, who was journeying, came upon him; and when he saw him, he was moved with compassion;
- Luke 10:34 And he came to him and bound up his wounds and poured oil and wine on them. And placing him on his own beast, he brought him to an inn and took care of him.
- Luke 10:35 And on the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, Take care of him; and whatever you spend in addition to this, when I return, I will repay you.
- Luke 10:36 Which of these three, does it seem to you, has become a neighbor to him who fell into the hands of the robbers?
- Luke 10:37 And he said, The one who showed mercy to him. And Jesus said to him, Go, and you do likewise.
- Luke 19:1 And He entered and was passing through Jericho.
- Luke 19:2 And behold, there was a man whose name was called Zaccheus; and he was a chief tax collector, and he was rich.
- Luke 19:3 And he was seeking to see Jesus, who He was, and could not because of the crowd, for he was small in stature.
- Luke 19:4 And he ran on ahead and climbed up in a sycamore tree in order to see Him, for He was about to pass through that way.
- Luke 19:5 And as He came to the place, Jesus looked up and said to him, Zaccheus, hurry and come down, for today I must stay in your house.
- Luke 19:6 And he hurried and came down, and received Him, rejoicing.
- Luke 19:7 And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, He has gone in to lodge with a sinful man.
- Luke 19:8 And Zaccheus stood and said to the Lord, Behold, the half of my possessions, Lord, I give to the poor, and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore four times as much.
- Luke 19:9 And Jesus said to him, Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham.
- Luke 19:10 For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which is lost.

1. When the Lord Jesus was on earth, though He was a man, He lived by God—John 6:57; 5:19, 30; 6:38; 8:28; 7:16-17.

- John 6:57 As the living Father has sent Me and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also shall live because of Me.
- John 5:19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, The Son can do nothing from Himself except what He sees the Father doing, for whatever that One does, these things the Son also does in like manner.
- John 5:30 I can do nothing from Myself; as I hear, I judge, and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.
- John 6:38 For I have come down from heaven not to do My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.
- John 8:28 Jesus therefore said to them, When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am, and that I do nothing from Myself, but as My Father has taught Me, I speak these things.
- John 7:16 Jesus therefore answered them and said, My teaching is not Mine, but His who sent Me.

John 7:17 If anyone resolves to do His will, he will know concerning the teaching, whether it is of God or whether I speak from Myself.

2. The Lord Jesus lived God and expressed God in everything; whatever He did was God's doing from within Him and through Him—14:10.

John 14:10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak from Myself, but the Father who abides in Me does His works.

3. The Gospel of Mark reveals that the life the Lord Jesus lived was absolutely according to and for God's New Testament economy.

- B. As the expansion, increase, reproduction, and continuation of the first God-man, we should live the same kind of life He lived—1 John 2:6:

1 John 2:6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk even as He walked.

1. The Lord's God-man living set up a model for our God-man living—being crucified to live that God might be expressed in humanity—Gal. 2:20.

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.

2. We need to deny ourselves, be conformed to Christ's death, and magnify Him by the bountiful supply of His Spirit—Matt. 16:24; Phil. 3:10; 1:19-21a.

Matt. 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, If anyone wants to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.

Phil. 3:10 To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

Phil. 1:19 For I know that for me this will turn out to salvation through your petition and the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

Phil. 1:20 According to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I will be put to shame, but with all boldness, as always, even now Christ will be magnified in my body, whether through life or through death.

Phil. 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

3. We must reject self-cultivation and condemn the building up of the natural man; we need to realize that the Christian virtues are related essentially to the divine life, to the divine nature, and to God Himself—Gal. 5:22-23.

Gal. 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Gal. 5:23 Meekness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

4. The One who lived the life of a God-man is now the Spirit living in us and through us; we should not allow anything other than this One to fill us and occupy us—2 Cor. 3:17; 13:5; Eph. 3:16-19.

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

2 Cor. 13:5 Test yourselves whether you are in the faith; prove yourselves. Or do you not realize about yourselves that Jesus Christ is in you, unless you are disapproved?

Eph. 3:16 That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man,

Eph. 3:17 That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

- 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. 3:19 And to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ, that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God.

5. We need to open our entire being to the Lord to receive (in a spirit and atmosphere of prayer) His charge to us in Luke 6:36: “Be full of compassion, even as your Father also is full of compassion”; we need to contact the Lord as the compassionate One every morning—Lam. 3:22-23; Rom. 9:15 and footnote 2; Exo. 34:6; Psa. 103:8; Luke 1:78-79; 10:25-37; Rom. 12:1.

- Luke 6:36 Be full of compassion, even as your Father also is full of compassion.
- Lam. 3:22 It is Jehovah’s lovingkindness that we are not consumed, / For His compassions do not fail;
- Lam. 3:23 They are new every morning; / Great is Your faithfulness.
- Rom. 9:15 For to Moses He says, “I will have ²mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have ²compassion on whomever I will have compassion.”
- Rom. 9:15, footnote 2: Mercy refers mainly to an action taken in response to man’s wretched condition; hence, God’s showing mercy to man is outward. Compassion, however, refers mainly to an inward feeling that is expressed by groanings and tears; hence, God’s having compassion on man is inward. Therefore, compassion is deeper than mercy.
- Exo. 34:6 Then Jehovah passed by before him and proclaimed, Jehovah, Jehovah, God compassionate and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in lovingkindness and truth,
- Psa. 103:8 Jehovah is compassionate and gracious, / Long-suffering and abundant in lovingkindness.
- Luke 1:78 Because of the merciful compassions of our God, in which the rising sun will visit us from on high,
- Luke 1:79 To shine upon those sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.
- Luke 10:25 And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?
- Luke 10:26 And He said to him, What is written in the law? How do you read it?
- Luke 10:27 And he answered and said, “You shall love the Lord your God from your whole heart and with your whole soul and with your whole strength and with your whole mind, and your neighbor as yourself.”
- Luke 10:28 And He said to him, You have answered correctly; do this, and you shall have life.
- Luke 10:29 But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, And who is my neighbor?
- Luke 10:30 Jesus, taking up the question, said, A certain man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who having both stripped him and beat him, went away, leaving him half dead.
- Luke 10:31 And by coincidence a certain priest was going down on that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side.
- Luke 10:32 And likewise also a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the opposite side.
- Luke 10:33 But a certain Samaritan, who was journeying, came upon him; and when he saw him, he was moved with compassion;
- Luke 10:34 And he came to him and bound up his wounds and poured oil and wine on them. And placing him on his own beast, he brought him to an inn and took care of him.

- Luke 10:35 And on the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, Take care of him; and whatever you spend in addition to this, when I return, I will repay you.
- Luke 10:36 Which of these three, does it seem to you, has become a neighbor to him who fell into the hands of the robbers?
- Luke 10:37 And he said, The one who showed mercy to him. And Jesus said to him, Go, and you do likewise.
- Rom. 12:1 I exhort you therefore, brothers, through the compassions of God to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable service.

III. In the performing of the miracle of feeding five thousand people with five loaves and two fish, the Lord trained His disciples to learn from Him—Matt. 14:14-21; 11:28-30:

- Matt. 14:14 And going forth, He saw a great crowd, and He was moved with compassion for them and healed their sick.
- Matt. 14:15 Now when evening fell, the disciples came to Him, saying, This place is deserted and the hour is already late. Send the crowds away that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.
- Matt. 14:16 But Jesus said to them, They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.
- Matt. 14:17 And they said to Him, We do not have anything here except five loaves and two fish.
- Matt. 14:18 And He said, Bring them here to Me.
- Matt. 14:19 And after commanding the crowds to recline on the grass, He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed them and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples to the crowds.
- Matt. 14:20 And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve handbaskets full.
- Matt. 14:21 And those who ate were about five thousand men, apart from women and children.
- Matt. 11:28 Come to Me all who toil and are burdened, and I will give you rest.
- Matt. 11:29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
- Matt. 11:30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.

A. Matthew 14:19 says that He took the five loaves and the two fish, and when He was going to bless them, He looked up to heaven:

- Matt. 14:19 And after commanding the crowds to recline on the grass, He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed them and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples to the crowds.

1. Looking up to heaven indicates that He was looking up to His source, His Father in heaven:

a. This indicates that He realized the source of the blessing was not Him; the Father as the sending One, not the sent One, should be the source of blessing—cf. Rom. 11:36.

Rom. 11:36 Because out from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.

b. Regardless of how much we can do or how much we know what to do, we must realize that we need the Sender's blessing upon our doing so that we can be channels of supply by trusting in Him, not in ourselves—cf. Matt. 14:19b; Num. 6:22-27.

Matt. 14:19 And after commanding the crowds to recline on the grass, He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed them and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples to the crowds.

Num. 6:22 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying,

Num. 6:23 Speak to Aaron and to his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the children of Israel; you shall say to them,

Num. 6:24 Jehovah bless you and keep you;

Num. 6:25 Jehovah make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you;

Num. 6:26 Jehovah lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

Num. 6:27 So shall they put My name upon the children of Israel, that I Myself may bless them.

2. His looking up to the Father in heaven indicated that as the Son on earth sent by the Father in heaven, He was one with the Father, trusting in the Father—John 10:30:

John 10:30 I and the Father are one.

a. What we know and what we can do mean nothing; being one with the Lord and trusting in Him mean everything in our ministry—cf. 1 Cor. 2:3-4.

1 Cor. 2:3 And I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling;

1 Cor. 2:4 And my speech and my proclamation were not in persuasive words of wisdom but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,

b. The blessing comes only by our being one with the Lord and trusting in Him—cf. 2 Cor. 1:8-9.

2 Cor. 1:8 For we do not want you to be ignorant, brothers, of our affliction which befell us in Asia, that we were excessively burdened, beyond our power, so that we despaired even of living.

2 Cor. 1:9 Indeed we ourselves had the response of death in ourselves, that we should not base our confidence on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead;

3. The Lord did not do anything from Himself—John 5:19; cf. Matt. 16:24:

John 5:19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, The Son can do nothing from Himself except what He sees the Father doing, for whatever that One does, these things the Son also does in like manner.

Matt. 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, If anyone wants to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.

a. We should deny ourselves and not have the intention of doing anything from ourselves but have the intention of doing everything from Him.

b. We need to continually exercise our spirit to reject the self and live by another life by the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ—Phil. 1:19-21a.

Phil. 1:19 For I know that for me this will turn out to salvation through your petition and the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

Phil. 1:20 According to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I will be put to shame, but with all boldness, as always, even now Christ will be magnified in my body, whether through life or through death.

Phil. 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

4. The Lord did not seek His own will but the will of Him who sent Him—John 5:30b; 6:38; Matt. 26:39, 42:

John 5:30 I can do nothing from Myself; as I hear, I judge, and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.

John 6:38 For I have come down from heaven not to do My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.

Matt. 26:39 And going forward a little, He fell on His face and prayed, saying, My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will.

Matt. 26:42 Again, going away a second time, He prayed, saying, My Father, if this cannot pass away unless I drink it, Your will be done.

a. He rejected His idea, His intention, and His purpose.

b. All of us should be on the alert for this one thing—when we are sent to do some work, we should not take that chance to seek our own goal; we should just go seeking the idea, purpose, aim, goal, and intention of our sending Lord—cf. 1 Tim. 5:2b.

1 Tim. 5:2 Elderly women as mothers, younger women as sisters, in all purity.

5. The Lord did not seek His own glory but the glory of the Father who sent Him—John 7:18; 5:41; cf. 12:43:

John 7:18 He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of Him who sent Him, this One is true, and unrighteousness is not in Him.

John 5:41 I do not receive glory from men.

John 12:43 For they loved the glory of men more than the glory of God.

a. To be ambitious is to seek your own glory—cf. 3 John 9.

3 John 9 I wrote something to the church; but Diotrephes, who loves to be first among them, does not receive us.

b. We need to see that our self, our purpose, and our ambition are three big destroying “worms” in our work; we must learn to hate them.

B. If we are going to be used for the Lord always in His recovery, our self has to be denied, our purpose has to be rejected, and our ambition must be given up for the sake of the one new man—Matt. 16:24.

Matt. 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, If anyone wants to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.