

## Message Three

# God Building Himself in Christ into Our Being

MC Hymns: 538, 972

Scripture Reading: 2 Sam. 7:12-14a; 1 Cor. 3:9; Eph. 3:14-21;  
Matt. 13:3-9, 19-23; Rev. 21:3, 22

- 2 Sam 7:12 When your days are fulfilled and you sleep with your fathers, I will raise up your seed after you, which will come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.
- 2 Sam 7:13 It is he who will build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.
- 2 Sam 7:14a I will be his Father, and he will be My son. ...
- 1 Cor 3:9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's cultivated land, God's building.
- Eph 3:14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father,  
Eph 3:15 Of whom every family in the heavens and on earth is named,  
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.  
Eph 3:20 But to Him who is able to do superabundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power which operates in us,  
Eph 3:21 To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.
- Matt 13:3 And He spoke many things to them in parables, saying, Behold, the sower went out to sow.  
Matt 13:4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell beside the way, and the birds came and devoured them.  
Matt 13:5 And others fell on the rocky places, where they did not have much earth, and immediately they sprang up because they had no depth of earth.  
Matt 13:6 But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered.  
Matt 13:7 And others fell on the thorns, and the thorns came up and choked them.  
Matt 13:8 But others fell on the good earth and yielded fruit, one a hundredfold, and one sixtyfold, and one thirtyfold.
- Matt 13:9 He who has ears to hear, let him hear.
- Matt 13:19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand, the evil one comes and snatches away that which has been sown in his heart. This is the one sown beside the way.
- Matt 13:20 And the one sown on the rocky places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;  
Matt 13:21 Yet he does not have root in himself but lasts only for a time, and when affliction or persecution occurs because of the word, immediately he is stumbled.  
Matt 13:22 And the one sown in the thorns, this is he who hears the word, and the anxiety of the age and the deceitfulness of riches utterly choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.  
Matt 13:23 But the one sown on the good earth, this is he who hears the word and understands, who by all means bears fruit and produces, one a hundredfold, and one sixtyfold, and one thirtyfold.
- 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.

### **I. Second Samuel 7:12-14a is the unveiling of a prophecy through typology showing us that we need God to build up Christ into our intrinsic constitution so that our entire being will be reconstituted with Christ—Matt. 16:18; Eph. 3:17:**

- 2 Sam 7:12 When your days are fulfilled and you sleep with your fathers, I will raise up your seed after you, which will come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.
- 2 Sam 7:13 It is he who will build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

- 2 Sam 7:14a I will be his Father, and he will be My son. ...  
 Matt 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.  
 Eph 3:17 That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

A. The organic building up of the church as the Body of Christ through the process of spiritual metabolism is actually what Jehovah prophesied to David in the way of typology in 2 Samuel 7:12-14a; it is only through this process that human beings can be transformed into sons of God and that something human—the human seed—can become something divine—the sons of God.

2 Sam 7:12 When your days are fulfilled and you sleep with your fathers, I will raise up your seed after you, which will come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.

2 Sam 7:13 It is he who will build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

2 Sam 7:14a I will be his Father, and he will be My son. ...

B. In order for God's building to take place, we need to receive, digest, and assimilate the organic, pneumatic Christ, who is the life-giving Spirit, as our spiritual food, drink, and breath—John 6:51, 57; 7:37-39; 20:22:

John 6:51 I am the living bread which came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he shall live forever; and the bread which I will give is My flesh, given for the life of the world.

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 7:37 Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.

John 7:38 He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.

John 7:39 But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for the Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

John 20:22 And when He had said this, He breathed into them and said to them, Receive the Holy Spirit.

1. When we enjoy the “now” Christ by eating, drinking, and breathing Him, a metabolic process takes place within us, and Christ is constituted into our being—Gal. 2:20; 2 Cor. 2:15; Phil. 1:20-21.

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 Cor 2:15 For we are a fragrance of Christ to God in those who are being saved and in those who are perishing:

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.

2. God's economy is to work Himself into us that we may experience a metabolic process of spiritual digestion and assimilation that produces a gradual and intrinsic change in life—2 Cor. 3:18.

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.

3. This metabolic process is transformation, and transformation is the building—cf. Rev. 21:18; 4:3.

Rev 21:18 And the building work of its wall was jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.

Rev 4:3 And He who was sitting was like a jasper stone and a sardius in appearance, and there was a rainbow around the throne like an emerald in appearance.

## II. The believers, who have been regenerated in Christ with God's life, are God's cultivated land, a farm in God's new creation to grow Christ that precious materials may be produced for God's building—1 Cor. 3:9:

1 Cor 3:9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's cultivated land, God's building.

A. According to the Bible, growth equals building; this takes place by the growth of the divine seed of life within us—1 John 3:9; Col. 2:19; Eph. 4:15-16.

1 John 3:9 Everyone who has been begotten of God does not practice sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been begotten of God.

Col 2:19 And not holding the Head, out from whom all the Body, being richly supplied and knit together by means of the joints and sinews, grows with the growth of God.

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

Eph 4:16 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.

B. Ephesians 3:17 reveals that the Triune God has come into us to do a building work with Himself as the element and also with something from us as the material.

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

C. This is illustrated by the parable of the sower in Matthew 13:

Matt 13 be omitted.

1. The Lord sows Himself as the seed of life into men's hearts, the soil, that He might grow and live in them and be expressed from within them—v. 3.

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

2. The seed is sown into the soil to grow with the nutrients of the soil; as a result, the produce is a composition of elements from both the seed and the soil—v. 23.

Matt 13:23 But the one sown on the good earth, this is he who hears the word and understands, who by all means bears fruit and produces, one a hundredfold, and one sixtyfold, and one thirtyfold.

3. We have within us certain nutrients created by God as a preparation for His coming into us to grow in us; God has created the human spirit with the human nutrients along with the human heart as the soil for the divine seed—cf. 1 Pet. 3:4.

1 Pet 3:4 But the hidden man of the heart in the incorruptible adornment of a meek and quiet spirit, which is very costly in the sight of God.

4. The rate at which we grow in life depends not on the divine seed but on how many nutrients we afford this seed; the more nutrients we supply, the faster the seed will grow and the more it will flourish—Psa. 78:8; Matt. 5:3, 8:

Psa 78:8 That they might not be like their fathers, / A stubborn and rebellious generation, / A generation that did not set their heart right, / And whose spirit was not faithful to God.

Matt 5:3 Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of the heavens.

Matt 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

a. If we remain in our soul, in our natural man, there will not be any nutrients for the growth of the divine seed, but if we are strengthened into our inner man and if we pay attention to our spirit and exercise our spirit, the nutrients will be supplied, and Christ will make His home in our hearts—Eph. 3:16-17; Rom. 8:6; 1 Tim. 4:7; cf. Jude 19.

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,

Rom 8:6 For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace.

1 Tim 4:7 But the profane and old-womanish myths refuse, and exercise yourself unto godliness.

Jude 19 These are those who make divisions, soulish, having no spirit.

- b. If we are going to have the Lord as the seed of life grow within us to be our full enjoyment, we have to open to the Lord absolutely and cooperate with Him to deal thoroughly with our heart—Matt. 13:3-9, 19-23.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Matt 13:9 He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

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

Matt 13:20 And the one sown on the rocky places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;

Matt 13:21 Yet he does not have root in himself but lasts only for a time, and when affliction or persecution occurs because of the word, immediately he is stumbled.

Matt 13:22 And the one sown in the thorns, this is he who hears the word, and the anxiety of the age and the deceitfulness of riches utterly choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

Matt 13:23 But the one sown on the good earth, this is he who hears the word and understands, who by all means bears fruit and produces, one a hundredfold, and one sixtyfold, and one thirtyfold.

5. On the one hand, God strengthens us with Himself as the element, and on the other hand, we afford the nutrients; through these two God in Christ carries out His intrinsic building—the building of His home—in our entire being.

**III. The apostle's prayer in Ephesians 3 reveals that for the fulfillment of God's eternal economy, we need the Father, according to the riches of His glory, to strengthen us with power through His Spirit into the inner man, that Christ may build Himself into our hearts, occupying our entire being, that we might be filled unto all the fullness of God—vv. 14-19:**

Eph 3 be omitted.

Eph 3:14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father,

Eph 3:15 Of whom every family in the heavens and on earth is named,

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.

- A. To say that we need to be strengthened with power into the inner man indicates that we are not in the inner man, that we live mostly in the outer man—v. 16; 1:19-22; 3:20.

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 1:19 And what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the operation of the might of His strength,

- Eph 1:20 Which He caused to operate in Christ in raising Him from the dead and seating Him at His right hand in the heavenlies,  
 Eph 1:21 Far above all rule and authority and power and lordship and every name that is named not only in this age but also in that which is to come;  
 Eph 1:22 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him to be Head over all things to the church,  
 Eph 3:20 But to Him who is able to do superabundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power which operates in us,

B. Christ has the desire to occupy every room of our heart:

1. The phrase *make His home* is only one word in the Greek, *katoikeo*, which basically means to settle down in a dwelling, to make a dwelling place, and the prefix of this word, *kata*, means “down”—v. 17a.  
 Eph 3:17a That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, ...
2. As Christ makes His home deep down in our hearts, we are being rooted in love for God’s farm and grounded in love for God’s building—v. 17b.  
 Eph 3:17b ...that you, being rooted and grounded in love,
3. As Christ makes His home in our hearts, we become strong to apprehend with all the saints the immeasurable Christ, whose dimensions are the dimensions of the universe—v. 18:  
 Eph 3:18 May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are
  - a. Our experience of Christ in the church must be three- dimensional, like a cube (the breadth, length, height, and depth), and must not be one-dimensional, like a line.
  - b. Both in the tabernacle and the temple, the Holy of Holies was a cube—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. Eventually, the New Jerusalem, God’s building, will be an eternal cube, the Holy of Holies, 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.
4. Christ making His home in our hearts causes us to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ, that we may be filled unto all the fullness of the Triune God for His corporate expression, His glorification—Eph. 3:19-21; cf. Gen. 24:47, 53, 61-67.  
 Eph 3:19 And to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ, that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God.

Eph 3:20 But to Him who is able to do superabundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power which operates in us,  
 Eph 3:21 To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.  
 Gen 24:47 And I asked her and said, Whose daughter are you? And she said, The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him. And I put the nose-ring upon her nose and the bracelets upon her hands.  
 Gen 24:53 And the servant brought forth silver jewelry and gold jewelry and clothing and gave them to Rebekah. He also gave precious things to her brother and to her mother.  
 Gen 24:61 And Rebekah arose with her maids, and they rode on the camels and followed the man. And the servant took Rebekah and went away.  
 Gen 24:62 Now Isaac had come from going to Beer-lahai-roi, for he was dwelling in the region of the Negev.  
 Gen 24:63 And Isaac went out to meditate in the field toward evening. And he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, camels were coming.  
 Gen 24:64 And Rebekah lifted up her eyes; and when she saw Isaac, she sprang off the camel.  
 Gen 24:65 And she said to the servant, Who is this man who is walking in the field to meet us? And the servant said, It is my master. And she took her veil and covered herself.  
 Gen 24:66 And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done.  
 Gen 24:67 And Isaac brought her into the tent of Sarah his mother. And he took Rebekah, and she became his wife, and he loved her. And Isaac was comforted after the death of his mother.

**IV. If we realize that God desires to work Himself into His chosen people, then the goal of our work will be to minister the building and build God into others so that the Triune God may build Himself into their being—Eph. 3:17a:**

- Eph 3:17a That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, ...
- A. The crucial matter in our work in the Lord's recovery is to minister the building and build God—Matt. 16:18; Eph. 2:21-22; 3:17a.  
 Matt 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.  
 Eph 2:21 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.  
 Eph 3:17a That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, ...
- B. We should reconsider the work we are doing for the Lord and ask how much of Christ as the embodiment of the Triune God has been wrought into those whom we have brought to the Lord—Gal. 4:19; Col. 1:28.  
 Gal 4:19 My children, with whom I travail again in birth until Christ is formed in you,  
 Col 1:28 Whom we announce, admonishing every man and teaching every man in all wisdom that we may present every man full-grown in Christ;
- C. We need to practice one thing—to minister the processed and consummated Triune God into others so that He may build Himself into their inner man; we need to pray that the Lord will teach us to work in this way—2 Cor. 13:14; 1 Cor. 3:9a, 10, 12.  
 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 Cor 3:9a For we are God's fellow workers; ...  
 1 Cor 3:10 According to the grace of God given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid a foundation, and another builds upon it. But let each man take heed how he builds upon it.  
 1 Cor 3:12 But if anyone builds upon the foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, grass, stubble,
- D. When we build the church with the processed and consummated Triune God, it is not



actually we who are building; rather, God is building through us, using us as a means to dispense and transmit Himself into others—Acts 9:15; 1 Cor. 14:4b; 2 Cor. 3:3-6.

Acts 9:15 But the Lord said to him, Go, for this man is a chosen vessel to Me, to bear My name before both the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel;

1 Cor 14:4b ... but he who prophesies builds up the church.

2 Cor 3:3 Since you are being manifested that you are a letter of Christ ministered by us, inscribed not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tablets of stone but in tablets of hearts of flesh.

2 Cor 3:4 And such confidence we have through Christ toward God,

2 Cor 3:5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to account anything as from ourselves; but our sufficiency is from God,

2 Cor 3:6 Who has also made us sufficient as ministers of a new covenant, ministers not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

- E. As we work for God today, we should participate in God's building—the constitution of the divine element into the human element and of the human element into the divine element—John 14:20; 15:4a; 1 John 4:15.

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

John 15:4a Abide in Me and I in you. ...

1 John 4:15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him and he in God.

- F. As the divine element is constituted into our humanity, we become God in life and in nature but not in the Godhead, and as the human element is constituted into God, God becomes man; this is the building revealed in the New Testament—Eph. 2:21; 4:16.

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

Eph 4:16 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.

- G. In the Lord's recovery our work must be part of this mutual constitution:

1. If our work is not related to this mutual constitution, then in the eyes of God our work is like wood, grass, and stubble— 1 Cor. 3:12.

1 Cor 3:12 But if anyone builds upon the foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, grass, stubble,

2. If our work is part of this mutual constitution, God will regard our work as gold, silver, and precious stones, which will consummate in the New Jerusalem—Rev. 21:2, 10-11, 18-21.

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

Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

Rev 21:11 Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.

Rev 21:18 And the building work of its wall was jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.

Rev 21:19 The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with every precious stone: the first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, chalcedony; the fourth, emerald;

Rev 21:20 The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysoprase; the eleventh, jacinth; the twelfth, amethyst.

Rev 21:21 And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; each one of the gates was, respectively, of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

- H. As we endeavor to carry out the God-ordained way in the four steps of begetting, nourishing, perfecting, and building, our work must be based upon the processed and consummated Triune God, who is building Himself into His chosen people and building them into Him.

- I. If we minister the building and builded God to others for their growth in the divine life, we are building up the Body of Christ, which will consummate the New Jerusalem—Col. 2:19; Eph. 4:15-16; Rev. 21:10.

Col 2:19 And not holding the Head, out from whom all the Body, being richly supplied and knit together by means of the joints and sinews, grows with the growth of God.

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

Eph 4:16 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.

Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

**V. Eventually, the Triune God and redeemed humanity will be mingled, blended, and built up as one entity—the New Jerusalem—vv. 2, 10:**

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

Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

- A. The New Jerusalem is built by God's constituting of Himself into man to make man the same as God in life, in nature, and in constitution so that God and man may become a corporate entity— vv. 18-21.

Rev 21:18 And the building work of its wall was jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.

Rev 21:19 The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with every precious stone: the first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, chalcedony; the fourth, emerald;

Rev 21:20 The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysoptase; the eleventh, jacinth; the twelfth, amethyst.

Rev 21:21 And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; each one of the gates was, respectively, of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

- B. The New Jerusalem is a composition of divinity and humanity blended and mingled together as one entity; all the components have the same life, nature, and constitution and thus are a corporate person—vv. 3, 22:

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.

1. "God in man and man in God / Mutual dwelling thus possess; / God the content is to man, / And the man doth God express"—*Hymns*, #972, stanza 9.

2. God and man, man and God, are built up together and blended and mingled together; this is the consummation of God's building.

- C. The New Jerusalem is a constitution of God and man and man and God, who are constituted into one—Rev. 22:17a; 21:3, 22:

Rev 22:17a And the Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let him who hears say, Come! ...

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.

1. This is divinity expressed in humanity and humanity glorified in divinity, with the divine glory shining forth radiantly in humanity—v. 11.

Rev 21:11 Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.

2. The two—divinity and humanity—become a mutual dwelling place:

a. The One who is God yet man dwells in the one who is man yet God.



- b. The one who is man yet God dwells in the One who is God yet man.
- D. The mutual abode produced by the constitution of the divine element into the human element and of the human element into the divine element is the center and reality of the universe— vv. 1-2, 22; cf. Eccl. 1:2.
- Rev 21:1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and the sea is no more.
- Rev 21:2 And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
- Rev 21:22 And I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.
- Eccl 1:2 Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher; / Vanity of vanities; all is vanity.
- E. “The processed and consummated Triune God, according to the good pleasure of His desire and for the highest intention in His economy, is building Himself into His chosen people and His chosen people into Himself, that He may have a constitution in Christ as a mingling of divinity and humanity to be His organism and the Body of Christ, as His eternal expression and the mutual abode for the redeeming God and the redeemed man. The ultimate consummation of this miraculous structure of treasure will be the New Jerusalem for eternity”—Inscription on Witness Lee’s tomb.