

LIVING AND SERVING IN THE DIVINE DISPENSING OF THE DIVINE TRINITY

Message One

The Divine Intention, the Divine Economy, and the Divine Dispensing of the Divine Trinity

Scripture Reading: Eph. 1:5, 9-11; 3:9-11, 14-21; 2 Cor. 13:14; Rev. 4:11; 21:2, 10-11

Eph. 1:5 Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

Eph. 1:9-11 Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself, **10** Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him; **11** In whom also we were designated as an inheritance, having been predestinated according to the purpose of the One who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

Eph. 3:9-11 And to enlighten all *that they may see* what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things, **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, **11** According to the eternal purpose which He made in Christ Jesus our Lord,

Eph. 3:14-21 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father, **15** Of whom every family in the heavens and on earth is named, **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, **17** That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love, **18** May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are **19** And to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ, that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God. **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, **21** To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.

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.

Rev. 4:11 You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power, for You have created all things, and because of Your will they were, and were created.

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. 21:10-11 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, **11** Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.

I. The most crucial and mysterious matter revealed in the Bible is that God's ultimate intention is to work Himself in Christ into His chosen and redeemed people to make them His corporate expression—Eph. 3:14-21:

Eph. 3:14-21 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father, **15** Of whom every family in the heavens and on earth is named, **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, **17** That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love, **18** May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are **19** And to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ, that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God. **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, **21** To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.

A. God's eternal intention is to have Christ wrought into our being to make us Christ-men, who are filled, possessed, and saturated with Christ and by Christ; there is nothing more important or basic in the whole universe than this matter—Rev. 4:11; Gal. 2:20; 4:19; Col. 3:4, 10-11:

Rev. 4:11 You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power, for You have created all things, and because of Your will they were, and were created.

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* of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

Gal. 4:19 My children, with whom I travail again in birth until Christ is formed in you,

Col. 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.

Col. 3:10-11 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, **11** Where there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all and in all.

1. God's desire to work Himself in Christ into our being is the focal point of the divine revelation in the Scriptures—Gal. 1:15-16; 2:20.

Gal. 1:15-16 But when it pleased God, who set me apart from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, **16** To reveal His Son in me that I might announce Him as the gospel among the Gentiles, immediately I did not confer with flesh and blood,

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* of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

2. The life factor in the Bible is God's intention to work Himself into us—4:19.

Gal. 4:19 My children, with whom I travail again in birth until Christ is formed in you,

- B. God's eternal intention is to work Christ into our being; for the accomplishment of this intention, God created man as a vessel to contain Him, He gave man a spiritual organ to receive Him, and Christ became the life-giving Spirit to enter into our spirit—Eph. 3:14-17a; Gen. 2:7; 1 Cor. 15:45b.

Eph. 3:14-17 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father, **15** Of whom every family in the heavens and on earth is named, **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, **17** That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

Gen. 2:7 Jehovah God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul.

1 Cor. 15:45 So also it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living soul"; the last Adam *became* a life-giving Spirit.

- C. God wants to work His entire being into us to the extent that He becomes our constitution—Col. 3:10-11:

Col. 3:10-11 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, **11** Where there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all and in all.

1. God's intention is to dispense Himself in His Divine Trinity into us so that He becomes every fiber of our tripartite being—Rom. 8:11; Eph. 3:14-17a.

Rom. 8:11 And if the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.

Eph. 3:14-17 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father, **15** Of whom every family in the heavens and on earth is named, **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, **17** That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

2. God's intention is to dispense Himself into us and work Himself into us as our life, our nature, and our everything until eventually He and we, we and He, are mingled together, and we become His expression—4:4-6.

Eph. 4:4-6 One Body and one Spirit, even as also you were called in one hope of your calling; **5** One Lord, one faith, one baptism; **6** One God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

- D. The divine intention is to make us, the believers in Christ, the same as God in life and in nature but not in the Godhead—John 1:12-14; 1 John 3:1-2:

John 1:12-14 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the authority to become children of God, to those who believe into His name, **13** Who were begotten not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. **14** And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

1 John 3:1-2 Behold what manner of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and we are. Because of this the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. **2** Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not yet been manifested what we will be. We know that if He is manifested, we will be like Him because we will see Him even as He is.

1. God's intention is to make us like Him in His divine life, in His divine nature, and in His image as His expression but not in the Godhead; for God to make us like Him in this way actually means to make us God—Col. 3:4; 2 Pet. 1:4; 2 Cor. 3:18.

Col. 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.

2 Pet. 1:4 Through which He has granted to us precious and exceedingly great promises that through these you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption which is in the world by lust.

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. God has imparted Himself in Christ as the Spirit into us to make us the same as He is in life and in nature but not in the Godhead; this is the divine intention—Rom. 8:11; 2 Cor. 13:14; 2 Pet. 1:4.

Rom. 8:11 And if the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells 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 Pet. 1:4 Through which He has granted to us precious and exceedingly great promises that through these you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption which is in the world by lust.

II. The divine economy is that God became man so that man may become God in life and nature but not in the Godhead to produce the organism of the Triune God, the Body of Christ, which consummates in the New Jerusalem—Rom. 1:3-4; 8:3, 6, 10-11, 16; 12:4-5; Rev. 21:2, 10-11:

Rom. 1:3-4 Concerning His Son, who came out of the seed of David according to the flesh, **4** Who was designated the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness out of the resurrection of the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord;

Rom. 8:3 For that which the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending His own Son in the likeness of the flesh of sin and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh,

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

Rom. 8:10-11 But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is life because of righteousness. **11** And if the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.

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

Rom. 12:4-5 For just as in one body we have many members, and all the members do not have the same function, **5** So we who are many are one Body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

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. 21:10-11 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, **11** Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.

- A. The divine economy is the issue of God's will, purpose, good pleasure, and counsel—Eph. 1:5, 9-11; 3:9-11:

Eph. 1:5 Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

Eph. 1:9-11 Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself, **10** Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him; **11** In whom also we were designated as an inheritance, having been predestinated according to the purpose of the One who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

Eph. 3:9-11 And to enlighten all *that they may see* what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things, **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, **11** According to the eternal purpose which He made in Christ Jesus our Lord,

1. God's will is God's wish, God's desire; God's will is what He wishes to do and wants to do—Rev. 4:11; Eph. 1:5.

Rev. 4:11 You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power, for You have created all things, and because of Your will they were, and were created.

Eph. 1:5 Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

2. God's purpose is God's intent set beforehand; God's eternal purpose is His eternal plan made in eternity past—v. 9; 3:11.

Eph. 1:9 Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself,

Eph. 3:11 According to the eternal purpose which He made in Christ Jesus our Lord,

3. God's good pleasure is what makes God happy; it is what God likes and what pleases Him—1:5, 9; Phil. 2:13.

Eph. 1:5 Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

Eph. 1:9 Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself,

Phil. 2:13 For it is God who operates in you both the willing and the working for *His* good pleasure.

4. God's counsel is God's resolution consummated in the council of the Divine Trinity—Eph. 1:9; Acts 2:23; 1 Pet. 1:20.

Eph. 1:9 Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself,

Acts 2:23 This man, delivered up by the determined counsel and foreknowledge of God, you, through the hand of lawless men, nailed to *a cross* and killed;

1 Pet. 1:20 Who was foreknown before the foundation of the world but has been manifested in the last of times for your sake,

5. After God's will, purpose, good pleasure, and counsel, there is God's economy—God's household administration, God's plan and arrangement—1 Tim. 1:4; Eph. 1:10; 3:9.

1 Tim. 1:4 Nor to give heed to myths and unending genealogies, which produce questionings rather than God's economy, which is in faith.

Eph. 1:10 Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him;

Eph. 3:9 And to enlighten all *that they may see* what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things,

- B. The intention of God's economy is to dispense Himself into His chosen people, making them one with Him; to dispense Christ with all His riches into His believers chosen by God for the constitution of the Body of Christ, the church, in order to express the processed and consummated Triune God; and to head up all things in Christ in the new heaven and new earth—5:32; 3:8-10; 1:10.

Eph. 5:32 This mystery is great, but I speak with regard to Christ and the church.

Eph. 3:8-10 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 **9** And to enlighten all *that they may see* what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things, **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,

Eph. 1:10 Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him;

- C. The divine economy is that God became flesh, passed through human living, died, resurrected, and became the life-giving Spirit to enter into us as life and dispense God into us so that we may be transformed for the producing of the church, which is the Body of Christ, the house of God, the kingdom of God, and the counterpart of Christ, the ultimate aggregate of which is the New Jerusalem—John 1:14, 29; Acts 2:24; 1 Cor. 12:12-13; 15:45b; 1 Tim. 3:15; Rev. 5:10; 21:2.

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

John 1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

Acts 2:24 Whom God has raised up, having loosed the pangs of death, since it was not possible for Him to be held by it.

1 Cor. 12:12-13 For even as the body is one and has many members, yet all the members of the body, being many, are one body, so also is the Christ. **13** For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.

1 Cor. 15:45 So also it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living soul"; the last Adam *became* a life-giving Spirit.

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.

Rev. 5:10 And have made them a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign on the earth.

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.

III. The accomplishment of the divine economy is by the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity—2 Cor. 13:14; Eph. 1:3-23; 3:14-21:

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.

Eph. 1:3-23 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies in Christ, **4** Even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blemish before Him in love, **5** Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, **6** To the praise of the glory of His grace, with which He graced us in the Beloved; **7** In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of offenses, according to the riches of His grace, **8** Which He caused to abound to us in all wisdom and prudence, **9** Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself, **10** Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him; **11** In whom also we were designated as an inheritance, having been predestinated according to the purpose of the One who works all things according to the counsel of His will, **12** That we would be to the praise of His glory who have first hoped in Christ. **13** In whom you also, having heard the word of the truth, the gospel of your salvation, in Him also believing, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of the promise, **14** Who is the pledge of our inheritance unto the redemption of the acquired possession, to the praise of His glory. **15** Therefore I also, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which is among you and your love to all the saints, **16** Do not cease giving thanks for you, making mention *of you* in my prayers, **17** That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the full knowledge of Him, **18** The eyes of your heart having been enlightened, that you may know what is the hope of His calling, and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, **19** And what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the operation of the might of His strength, **20** Which He caused to operate in Christ in raising Him from the dead and seating Him at His right hand in the heavenlies, **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; **22** And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him *to be* Head over all things to the church, **23** Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

Eph. 3:14-21 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father, **15** Of whom every family in the heavens and on earth is named, **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, **17** That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love, **18** May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are **19** And to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ,

that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God. **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, **21** To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.

- A. The divine economy is God's plan and arrangement out of His desire and purpose; the divine dispensing is God's dispensing and distributing according to this plan and arrangement—1:5, 9-11; 3:14-17a.

Eph. 1:5 Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

Eph. 1:9-11 Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself, **10** Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him; **11** In whom also we were designated as an inheritance, having been predestinated according to the purpose of the One who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

Eph. 3:14-17 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father, **15** Of whom every family in the heavens and on earth is named, **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, **17** That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

- B. Everything that is mentioned in the New Testament concerning God is related to the divine dispensing for the divine economy—Rom. 8:3, 11; Eph. 1:3-23:

Rom. 8:3 For that which the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending His own Son in the likeness of the flesh of sin and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh,

Rom. 8:11 And if the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.

Eph. 1:3-23 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies in Christ, **4** Even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blemish before Him in love, **5** Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, **6** To the praise of the glory of His grace, with which He graced us in the Beloved; **7** In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of offenses, according to the riches of His grace, **8** Which He caused to abound to us in all wisdom and prudence, **9** Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself, **10** Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him; **11** In whom also we were designated as an inheritance, having been predestinated according to the purpose of the One who works all things according to the counsel of His will, **12** That we would be to the praise of His glory who have first hoped in Christ. **13** In whom you also, having heard the word of the truth, the gospel of your salvation, in Him also believing, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of the promise, **14** Who is the pledge of our inheritance unto the redemption of the acquired possession, to the praise of His glory. **15** Therefore I also, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which is among you and your love to all the saints, **16** Do not cease giving thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers, **17** That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the full knowledge of Him, **18** The eyes of your heart having been enlightened, that you may know what is the hope of His calling, and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, **19** And what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the operation of the might of His strength, **20** Which He caused to operate in Christ in raising Him from the dead and seating Him at His right hand in the heavenlies, **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; **22** And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him to be Head over all things to the church, **23** Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

1. The revelation concerning the Triune God in the holy Word is not for doctrinal understanding but for the dispensing of God in His Divine Trinity into His chosen and redeemed people for their experience and enjoyment—2 Cor. 13:14.

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. The Triune God—the Father, the Son, and the Spirit—has been processed to become the life-giving Spirit so that we can drink of Him and that He can become our enjoyment; this is the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity—John 1:14; 4:14; 7:37-39; 1 Cor. 12:13; 15:45b.

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

John 4:14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into eternal life.

John 7:37-39 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. **38** He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water. **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.

1 Cor. 12:13 For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.

1 Cor. 15:45 So also it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living soul"; the last Adam *became* a life-giving Spirit.

3. The Divine Trinity is for the divine dispensing, that is, for the distribution of God into the believers in Christ; the Father as the origin is the fountain, the Son as the expression is the spring, and the Spirit as the transmission is the flow—John 4:14; 7:37-39.

John 4:14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into eternal life.

John 7:37-39 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. **38** He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water. **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.

- C. The divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity is the unique way to build up the church, which is the Body of Christ and the dwelling place of God—Eph. 4:16; 2:21-22; 1 Tim. 3:15.

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.

Eph. 2:21-22 In whom all the building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord; **22** In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.

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.

IV. We need a vision of the central matter in the Bible—the divine intention, the divine economy, and the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity into the believers in Christ for the building up of the church as the Body of Christ, which will consummate in the New Jerusalem as the eternal corporate expression of the Triune God—Eph. 1:5, 9-11, 22-23; 3:14-21; 4:16; Rev. 21:2, 10-11.

Eph. 1:5 Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

Eph. 1:9-11 Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself, **10** Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him; **11** In whom also we were designated as an inheritance, having been predestinated according to the purpose of the One who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

Eph. 1:22-23 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him *to be* Head over all things to the church, **23** Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

Eph. 3:14-21 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father, **15** Of whom every family in the heavens and on earth is named, **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, **17** That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love, **18** May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are **19** And to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ, that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God. **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, **21** To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.

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

Rev. 21:10-11 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, **11** Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.