

LIVING AND SERVING IN THE DIVINE DISPENSING OF THE DIVINE TRINITY

Message Four

The Divine Dispensing of the Divine Trinity as the Supply to the Believers in Their Daily Living

Scripture Reading: John 6:35, 51-57; Gal. 2:20; Eph. 3:16-17a; Phil. 1:19-21a

John 6:35 Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me shall by no means hunger, and he who believes into Me shall by no means ever thirst.

John 6:51-57 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. **52** The Jews then contended with one another, saying, How can this man give us His flesh to eat? **53** Jesus therefore said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you do not have life within yourselves. **54** He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up in the last day. **55** For My flesh is true food, and My blood is true drink. **56** He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me and I in him. **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.

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.

Eph. 3:16-17 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,

Phil. 1:19-21 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, **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. **21** For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

I. The divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity is the base of and the supply to the believers in their daily living—2 Cor. 13:14; Eph. 3:16-17a:

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. 3:16-17 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,

A. We need to receive the divine dispensing little by little, day by day, receiving this dispensing again and again in a slow, steady way—Matt. 6:11; Psa. 68:19.

Matt. 6:11 Give us today our daily bread.

Psa. 68:19 Blessed be the Lord, who day by day loads us *with good*; / God is our salvation. Selah

B. The processed and consummated Triune God is within us not in a spectacular way but in an ordinary way; for this reason, we need to live a steady and normal Christian life; the less special and the more normal we are, the better—Col. 1:27; 3:4; Eph. 3:16-17a.

Col. 1:27 To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,

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

Eph. 3:16-17 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,

C. All the things of life that the Triune God gives to us through the divine dispensing are quiet and calm, and our life as believers should also be quiet and calm—Rom. 8:6; 1 Thes. 5:23; 2 Thes. 3:16.

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

1 Thes. 5:23 And the God of peace Himself sanctify you wholly, and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Thes. 3:16 Now the Lord of peace Himself give you peace continually in every way. The Lord be with you all.

D. Our destiny is to live an ordinary life in the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity—Rom. 8:2, 6, 10-11:

Rom. 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life has freed me in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and of death.

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.

1. Our Father has destined that we live in an ordinary way under His continual dispensing—Matt. 6:11, 32-34.

Matt. 6:11 Give us today our daily bread.

Matt. 6:32-34 For all these things the Gentiles are anxiously seeking. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. **33** But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. **34** Therefore do not be anxious for tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself; sufficient for the day is its *own* evil.

2. We need to learn to be satisfied with ordinary days that are filled with regular and normal practices in the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity.

E. As believers, we experience the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity by faith; God wants us to do everything by depending on Him, by taking Him as life, and by allowing Him to dispense Himself into us—Eph. 3:17a; Heb. 11:1.

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

Heb. 11:1 Now faith is the substantiation of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

II. The way for the believers to experience the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity in their daily living is to eat, digest, and assimilate Jesus as food—John 6:35, 51-57:

John 6:35 Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me shall by no means hunger, and he who believes into Me shall by no means ever thirst.

John 6:51-57 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. **52** The Jews then contended with one another, saying, How can this man give us His flesh to eat? **53** Jesus therefore said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you do not have life within yourselves. **54** He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up in the last day. **55** For My flesh is true food, and My blood is true drink. **56** He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me and I in him. **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.

A. God's economy is that we eat, digest, and assimilate Christ to be constituted with Him—1 Tim. 1:4; John 6:35, 51, 57:

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.

John 6:35 Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me shall by no means hunger, and he who believes into Me shall by no means ever thirst.

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.

1. God's economy is not a matter of outward things but of Christ coming into us inwardly; for this we need to take Christ by eating, digesting, and assimilating Him—Eph. 3:17a; John 6:57b.

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

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.

2. God's eternal plan is to dispense Himself into us so that He becomes every fiber of our inward being; He wants to be eaten, digested, and assimilated by us so that He can become our constituent—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.

- B. The Triune God becomes our life and life supply by entering into us organically to be assimilated into the fibers of our spiritual being—Eph. 3:16-17a; 4:23.

Eph. 3:16-17 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,

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

- C. To eat the Lord Jesus is to receive Him into us so that He may be digested and assimilated by the regenerated new man in the way of life; we need to eat, digest, and assimilate Jesus as our spiritual food day by day—John 6:51-57.

John 6:51-57 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. **52** The Jews then contended with one another, saying, How can this man give us His flesh to eat? **53** Jesus therefore said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you do not have life within yourselves. **54** He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up in the last day. **55** For My flesh is true food, and My blood is true drink. **56** He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me and I in him. **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.

- D. We should not only believe into the Lord Jesus and receive Him but also eat Him, digest Him, and assimilate Him, allowing Him to become the content of our being—3:15-16; 6:51-57.

John 3:15-16 That everyone who believes into Him may have eternal life. **16** For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that everyone who believes into Him would not perish, but would have eternal life.

John 6:51-57 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. **52** The Jews then contended with one another, saying, How can this man give us His flesh to eat? **53** Jesus therefore said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you do not have life within yourselves. **54** He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up in the last day. **55** For My flesh is true food, and My blood is true drink. **56** He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me and I in him. **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.

- E. As we eat the Lord Jesus, we need to have proper spiritual digestion—Ezek. 2:8—3:3; Jer. 15:16; Rev. 10:9-10:

Ezek. 1:1-28 Now in the thirtieth year, in the fourth *month*, on the fifth of the month, while I was among the captives by the river Chebar, the heavens were opened and I saw visions of God. **2** On the fifth of the month (it was the fifth year of King Jehoiachin's captivity) **3** The word of Jehovah came expressly to Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of Jehovah was upon him there. **4** And I looked, and there came a storm wind from the north, a great cloud and a fire flashing incessantly; and there was a brightness around it, and from the midst of it there was *something* like the sight of electrum,

from the midst of the fire. **5** And from the midst of it *there came* the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance: They had the likeness of a man. **6** And every one had four faces, and every one of them had four wings. **7** And their feet were straight feet, and the sole of their feet was like the sole of a calf's foot; and they sparkled like the sight of burnished bronze. **8** And the hands of a man were under their wings on their four sides. And the four of them had their faces and their wings *thus*: **9** Their wings were joined one to another; they did not turn as they went; each went straight forward. **10** As for the likeness of their faces, *they had* the face of a man; and the four of them had the face of a lion on the right side, and the four of them had the face of an ox on the left side, and the four of them had the face of an eagle. **11** And thus their faces were. And their wings were spread out upward; two *wings* of each were joined one to another, and two covered their bodies. **12** And each went straight forward; wherever the Spirit was to go, they went; they did not turn as they went. **13** As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, like the appearance of torches; the fire went to and fro among the living creatures, and the fire was bright; and out of the fire went forth lightning. **14** And the living creatures ran to and fro like the appearance of a lightning bolt. **15** And as I watched the living creatures, I saw a wheel upon the earth beside the living creatures, for *each of* their four faces. **16** The appearance of the wheels and their workmanship were like the sight of beryl. And the four of them had one likeness; that is, their appearance and their workmanship were as it were a wheel within a wheel. **17** Whenever they went, they went in their four directions; they did not turn as they went. **18** As for their rims, they were high and they were awesome; and the rims of the four of them were full of eyes all around. **19** And whenever the living creatures went, the wheels went beside them; and whenever the living creatures were lifted up above the earth, the wheels were lifted up *also*. **20** Wherever the Spirit was to go, they went — wherever the Spirit was to go. And the wheels were lifted up alongside them, for the Spirit of the living creature was in the wheels. **21** Whenever those went, these went; and whenever those stood still, these stood still; and whenever those were lifted up above the earth, the wheels were lifted up alongside them; for the Spirit of the living creature was in the wheels. **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. **23** And under the expanse *one pair of* their wings went straight out, one toward the other; each had *another* pair covering their bodies on this side and on that side. **24** And I heard the sound of their wings, like the sound of great waters, like the voice of the Almighty, as they went; *it was* the sound of a tumult, like the sound of an army. Whenever they stood still, they dropped their wings. **25** And there was a voice from above the expanse that was over their heads. When they stood still, they dropped their wings. **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. **27** Then I saw *something* like the sight of electrum, like the appearance of fire encased all around, from the appearance of His loins and upward; and from the appearance of His loins and downward, I saw *something* like the appearance of fire. And there was brightness all around Him. **28** Like the appearance of the rainbow that is in the cloud on a day of rain, such was the appearance of the brightness all around. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of Jehovah. And when I saw *it*, I fell on my face and I heard the voice of someone speaking.

Jer. 15:16 Your words were found and I ate them, / And Your word became to me / The gladness and joy of my heart, / For I am called by Your name, / O Jehovah, God of hosts.

Rev. 10:9-10 And I went to the Angel and told Him to give me the little scroll. And He said to me, Take *it* and devour it, and it will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth it will be as sweet as honey. **10** And I took the little scroll out of the hand of the Angel and devoured it, and it was as sweet as honey in my mouth; and when I had eaten it, my stomach became bitter.

1. If we have good digestion, there will be a thoroughfare for the food to get into every part of our inward being—Eph. 3:16-17a.

Eph. 3:16-17 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. Indigestion means that there is no way for Christ as the spiritual food to get into our inward parts—Heb. 3:12-13, 15; 4:2.

Heb. 3:12-13 Beware, brothers, lest perhaps there be in any one of you an evil heart of unbelief in falling away from the living God. **13** But exhort one another each day, as long as it is called "today," lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin —

Heb. 3:15 While it is said, "Today if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the provocation."

Heb. 4:2 For indeed we have had the good news announced to us, even as they also; but the word heard did not profit them, not being mixed together with faith in those who heard.

3. We need to keep our whole being with all our inward parts open to the Lord so that the spiritual food will have a thoroughfare within us; if we do this, we will have proper digestion and assimilation, we will absorb Christ as spiritual nourishment, and Christ will become our constituent for the expression of God—Eph. 3:16-17a; Col. 3:4, 10-11.

Eph. 3:16-17 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,

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.

- F. Any believer who receives the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity by eating, digesting, and assimilating the Lord Jesus will live because of Him—John 6:57b.

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.

III. The believers' living is to live Christ and magnify Christ by the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ—Phil. 1:19-21a:

Phil. 1:19-21 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, **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. **21** For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

- A. The basic thought of the Bible is that the Triune God desires to work Himself in Christ into us so that we may take Him as life and live Him—Eph. 3:16-17a:

Eph. 3:16-17 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,

1. God's intention is to have a group of people who are one with Him in His life and nature; those who are one with God in the divine life and the divine nature are able to express Him—vv. 19b, 21.

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

Eph. 3:21 To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.

2. God's desire is that Christ would be life in us and be lived out of us—Col. 3:4; Phil. 1:21a.

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

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

3. God wants the "I" to be crucified in the death of Christ so that in His resurrection Christ may live in us and be the source of everything in our living—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* of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

4. Christ is not only our life but also our living—Col. 3:4; Gal. 2:20:

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

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.

- a. We live Christ because Christ lives in us—John 14:19-20.

John 14:19-20 Yet a little while and the world beholds Me no longer, but you behold Me; because I live, you also shall live. **20** In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.

- b. Christ lives in us to be our life, and we live Christ to be Christ's living—Gal. 2:20; Phil. 1:21a.

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.

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

5. To live Christ is to magnify Him in whatever circumstances we may be in, expressing His divine attributes in His human virtues—v. 20; 4:11-13.

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. 4:11-13 Not that I speak according to lack, for I have learned, in whatever circumstances I am, to be content. **12** I know also how to be abased, and I know how to abound; in everything and in all things I have learned the secret both to be filled and to hunger, both to abound and to lack. **13** I am able to do all things in Him who empowers me.

6. Paul's life was to live Christ; Christ and Paul lived together as one person with one life and one living—Col. 3:4; Gal. 2:20; Phil. 1:21a.

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

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.

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

- B. The believers live Christ by the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ; the Spirit of Jesus Christ is the Christ who is the life-dispensing Spirit—v. 19; 1 Cor. 15:45b; 2 Cor. 3:6:

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,

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.

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.

1. This bountiful supply includes divinity, humanity, crucifixion, resurrection, ascension, the divine attributes, and the human virtues—Acts 16:7; Rom. 8:9.

Acts 16:7 And when they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, yet the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them.

Rom. 8:9 But you are not in the flesh, but in the spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Yet if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not of Him.

2. Everything we do and all our living should come about by the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ—Phil. 1:19.

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,

3. Under the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity, we spontaneously receive the supply of Christ within and will live a life

that expresses Christ—vv. 20-21a.

Phil. 1:20-21 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. **21** For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.