

LIVING AND SERVING IN THE DIVINE DISPENSING OF THE DIVINE TRINITY

Message Six

The Divine Dispensing of the Divine Trinity as the Supply to the Believers in Their Meetings and in Their Worship of the Father

Scripture Reading: 1 Cor. 14:26; Eph. 1:3-6; 3:14, 21; Heb. 2:10-12; John 4:14, 23-24

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

Eph. 1:3-6 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;

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

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

Heb. 2:10-12 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and through whom are all things, in leading many sons into glory, to make the Author of their salvation perfect through sufferings. **11** For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of One, for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brothers, **12** Saying, "I will declare Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the church I will sing hymns of praise to You."

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 4:23-24 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. **24** God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.

I. The divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity is the supply to the believers in their meetings—2 Cor. 13:14; 1 Cor. 14:26; Eph. 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.

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

Eph. 3:14-21 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. We should meet in the God-ordained way as revealed in the holy Word—Matt. 18:20; Heb. 2:11-12; 1 Cor. 14:26:

Matt. 18:20 For where there are two or three gathered into My name, there am I in their midst.

Heb. 2:11-12 For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of One, for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brothers, **12** Saying, "I will declare Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the church I will sing hymns of praise to You."

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

1. The meetings of the believers should always be linked to God's New Testament economy to have the Body of Christ for the corporate expression of the processed and consummated Triune God—1 Tim. 1:4; Eph. 1:22-23:

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. 1:22-23 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.

- a. Our meeting is linked to the processed and consummated Triune God, and we are in the meeting as a corporate expression of the processed and consummated Triune God, according to His economy—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.

- b. Our meeting is a model, a miniature, of that day when all the created things in the universe are headed up in Christ for the believers' universal meeting in the new heaven and new earth—1:10.

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;

2. The Christian meetings are to make God's economy in His fatherhood known to the believers for the praise of the Father—vv. 3-6, 17; 2:18; 3:14-16; 4:6:

Eph. 1:3-6 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;

Eph. 1:17 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,

Eph. 2:18 For through Him we both have access in one Spirit unto the Father.

Eph. 3:14-16 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,

Eph. 4:6 One God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

- a. The term fatherhood denotes the very being of the Father with all His intentions, desires, purposes, and wishes—1:3-6.

Eph. 1:3-6 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;

- b. The fatherhood includes all that our Father God has done, is doing, and will do for us—vv. 9, 11; 2:18; 3:9-11.

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

Eph. 1:11 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. 2:18 For through Him we both have access in one Spirit unto the Father.

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,

- c. Our big Brother, the firstborn Son, makes the Father and His economy in His fatherhood known to us—Heb. 2:11-12.

Heb. 2:11-12 For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of One, for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brothers, **12** Saying, "I will declare Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the church I will sing hymns of praise to You."

- d. In our meeting we are the divine sons to express the Father, the begetting source, to manifest Him, and to magnify Him, which is a divine praise rendered to Him—Eph. 1:6, 12, 14; 3:14, 21.

Eph. 1:6 To the praise of the glory of His grace, with which He graced us in the Beloved;

Eph. 1:12 That we would be to the praise of His glory who have first hoped in Christ.

Eph. 1:14 Who is the pledge of our inheritance unto the redemption of the acquired possession, to the praise of His glory.

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

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

- e. We meet in this fatherhood and in the Son's name to declare the Father's name—Matt. 18:20:

Matt. 18:20 For where there are two or three gathered into My name, there am I in their midst.

- (1) Whatever we do and say in the meetings should declare the Father so that the Father may be praised—1 Cor. 10:31; Col. 3:17.

1 Cor. 10:31 Therefore whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

Col. 3:17 And whatever you do in word or in deed, *do* all things in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

- (2) Our meeting is for the praise of the Father, and our praise is our magnification, our glorification, our expression, of Him to the uttermost—Eph. 1:6, 12, 14; 3:14, 21.

Eph. 1:6 To the praise of the glory of His grace, with which He graced us in the Beloved;

Eph. 1:12 That we would be to the praise of His glory who have first hoped in Christ.

Eph. 1:14 Who is the pledge of our inheritance unto the redemption of the acquired possession, to the praise of His glory.

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

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

3. Whenever we come together, we must be gathered by the Lord out of all kinds of occupations and frustrations into the living person of the Lord, signified by His name—Matt. 18:20.

Matt. 18:20 For where there are two or three gathered into My name, there am I in their midst.

4. The Christian meetings should be full of mutuality in speaking—Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; Heb. 10:24-25.

Eph. 5:19 Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and psalming with your heart to the Lord,

Col. 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns

and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to God.

Heb. 10:24-25 And let us consider one another so as to incite *one another* to love and good works, **25** Not abandoning our own assembling together, as the custom with some is, but exhorting *one another*; and so much the more as you see the day drawing near.

5. The church meetings should be an exhibition of the riches of Christ that we have experienced and enjoyed—Eph. 3:8; Hymns, #864.

Eph. 3:8 To me, less than the least of all saints, was this grace given to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel

6. We need to know the relationship between the enjoyment of Christ and the church meetings and realize that our enjoyment of Christ is for the meetings—1 Cor. 14:26.

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

- B. Our meeting, which is according to God's ordained way, is a service, and this service is the stewardship of God assigned to us—Eph. 3:2, 9:

Eph. 3:2 If indeed you have heard of the stewardship of the grace of God which was given to me for you,

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,

1. The stewardship of grace is to carry out God's New Testament economy by God's grace, which is the Triune God processed and consummated to be our life and energy—v. 2; 2 Cor. 12:9; 13:14; 1 Cor. 15:10.

Eph. 3:2 If indeed you have heard of the stewardship of the grace of God which was given to me for you,

2 Cor. 12:9 And He has said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is perfected in weakness. Most gladly therefore I will rather boast in my weaknesses that the power of Christ might tabernacle over me.

2 Cor. 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

1 Cor. 15:10 But by the grace of God I am what I am; and His grace unto me did not turn out to be in vain, but, on the contrary, I labored more abundantly than all of them, yet not I but the grace of God which is with me.

2. The economy of God has become our stewardship, and our stewardship is to carry out God's economy in a corporate way by meeting—4:1-2:

1 Cor. 4:1-2 A man should account us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. **2** Here, furthermore, it is sought in stewards that one be found faithful.

- a. We need to be brought into the high realization that our Christian meeting is a stewardship, a service, to carry out God's economy—Eph. 3:2.

Eph. 3:2 If indeed you have heard of the stewardship of the grace of God which was given to me for you,

- b. We carry out our stewardship by meeting; whenever we meet, we should serve and fulfill our stewardship to carry out God's New Testament economy—1 Cor. 4:1-2.

1 Cor. 4:1-2 A man should account us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. **2** Here, furthermore, it is sought in stewards that one be found faithful.

- c. Whenever we as the attendants in a meeting dispense the processed and consummated Triune God into others, our meeting

dispenses the riches of Christ into the attendants—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.

- d. We must endeavor to build up the meeting life until every meeting is a stewardship of God's economy to dispense the riches of Christ into His chosen, redeemed, and regenerated people; one day the Lord will fully recover this kind of meeting, and this will be a glory to the Triune God—Eph. 3:21.

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

II. The divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity is the supply to the believers in their worship of the Father in the dispensing of God—John 4:14, 23-24:

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 4:23-24 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. **24** God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.

- A. "For more than forty years [spoken in 1982], I have been fighting the battle concerning the genuine worship of God. This battle has not yet been won" (The Fulfillment of the Tabernacle and the Offerings in the Writings of John, p. 147).
- B. The genuine worship of God the Father is in spirit and in truthfulness; the divine reality, experienced and enjoyed by us and constituted into us, becomes the truthfulness in which we worship God with the worship that He seeks—23-24.
- C. The Lord's word in John 4 shows us the worship of the Father in the dispensing of God:

John 4:1-54 When therefore the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John **2** (Although Jesus Himself did not baptize, but *rather* His disciples), **3** He left Judea and went away again into Galilee. **4** And He had to pass through Samaria. **5** So He came to a city of Samaria called Sychar, near the piece of land that Jacob gave to Joseph his son; **6** And Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from the journey, sat thus by the well; it was about the sixth hour. **7** There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, Give Me *something* to drink. **8** For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. **9** The Samaritan woman then said to Him, How *is it that* You, being a Jew, ask for a drink from me, who am a Samaritan woman? (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) **10** Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water. **11** The woman said to Him, Sir, You have no bucket, and the well is deep; where then do You get this living water? **12** Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank of it himself, as well as his sons and his cattle? **13** Jesus answered and said to her, Everyone who drinks of this water shall thirst again, **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. **15** The woman said to Him, Sir, give me this water so that I will not thirst nor come here to draw. **16** He said to her, Go, call your husband and come here. **17** The woman answered and said, I do not have a husband. Jesus said to her, You have well said, I do not have a husband, **18** For you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband; this you have said truly. **19** The woman said to Him, Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. **20** Our fathers worshipped in this mountain, yet you say that in Jerusalem is the place where *men* must worship. **21** Jesus said to her, Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. **22** You worship that which you do not know; we worship that which we know, for salvation is of the Jews. **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. **24** God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness. **25** The woman said to Him, I know that Messiah is coming (He who is called Christ); when He comes, He will declare all things to us. **26** Jesus said to her, I, who speak to you, am *He*. **27** And at this *point* His disciples came, and they marveled that He was speaking with a woman; yet no one said, What are You seeking? or, Why are You speaking with her? **28** Then the woman left her waterpot and went away into the city, and said to the people, **29** Come, see a man who told me all that I have done. Is this not the Christ? **30** They went out of the city and came to Him. **31** In the meantime, the disciples urged Him, saying, Rabbi, eat. **32** But He said to them, I have food to eat that you do not know about. **33** The disciples therefore said to one another, Has anyone brought Him *anything* to eat? **34** Jesus said to them, My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work. **35** Do you not say that there are yet four months and then the harvest comes? Behold, I tell you, Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are already white for harvest. **36** He who reaps receives wages and gathers fruit unto eternal life, in order that he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. **37** For in this the saying is true, One sows and another reaps. **38** I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labor. **39** And many of the Samaritans from that city believed into Him because of the word of the woman who testified, He told me all that I have done. **40** So when the Samaritans came to Him, they asked Him to remain with them, and He remained there two days. **41** And many more believed because of His word. **42** And they said to the woman, It is no longer because of your speaking *that* we believe, for we ourselves have heard and know that this One is truly the Savior of the world. **43** And after the two days He went forth from there into Galilee, **44** For

Jesus Himself testified that a prophet has no honor in his own country. **45** Then when He came into Galilee, the Galileans received Him, having seen all that He did in Jerusalem at the feast, for they also went to the feast. **46** He then came again to Cana of Galilee, where He had made the water wine.

And there was a certain royal official, whose son was sick in Capernaum. **47** When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and asked *Him* to come down and heal his son, for he was about to die. **48** Jesus therefore said to him, Unless you see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe. **49** The royal official said to Him, Sir, come down before my little child dies. **50** Jesus said to him, Go, your son lives. The man believed the word which Jesus said to him and went his way. **51** And as he was now going down, his slaves met him and said that his child was living. **52** So he asked them the hour in which he got better. They said then to him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him. **53** Then the father knew that *it was* in that hour in which Jesus said to him, Your son lives; and he believed, he and his whole house. **54** Again, this second sign Jesus performed when He came out of Judea into Galilee.

1. The worship that the Lord spoke of is the worship of the Father in the Son and in the Spirit; this is a worship in God's dispensing, the worship by the divine dispensing—Eph. 2:18; 3:14-21.

Eph. 2:18 For through Him we both have access in one Spirit unto the Father.

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. If we would have true worship, we need God in His Divine Trinity to be dispensed into our being—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.

3. The worship of the Father in the dispensing of God is related to drinking the living water—John 4:10, 14:

John 4:10 Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.

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.

- a. To contact God the Spirit with our spirit is to drink of the living water, and to drink of the living water is to render real worship to God—v. 24.

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

- b. In order to worship the Father in the dispensing of God, we need to drink of the Spirit so that God may dispense Himself into our being—v. 14; 1 Cor. 10:3-4; 12:13.

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.

1 Cor. 10:3-4 And all ate the same spiritual food, **4** And all drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank of a spiritual rock which followed *them*, and the rock was Christ.

1 Cor. 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.

4. We practice this kind of worship mainly in the Lord's table meeting, where, after we partake of the bread and the cup, the Lord brings us to the Father in the Spirit, and we worship the Father in the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity—Matt. 26:30; Heb. 2:11-12; Eph. 2:18.

Matt. 26:30 And after singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Heb. 2:11-12 For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of One, for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brothers, **12** Saying, "I will declare Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the church I will sing hymns of praise to You."

Eph. 2:18 For through Him we both have access in one Spirit unto the Father.

5. The worship in the dispensing of God is the worship of the Father by His many sons with the firstborn Son, who, as the Spirit, mingles Himself with their spirit as the unique place of worship—Heb. 2:10-12.

Heb. 2:10-12 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and through whom are all things, in leading many sons into glory, to make the Author of their salvation perfect through sufferings. **11** For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of One, for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brothers, **12** Saying, "I will declare Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the church I will sing hymns of praise to You."

6. The more we experience the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity, the more we will be the kind of worshippers and have the kind of worship the Father is seeking—worship in the dispensing of God—John 4:10, 23-24.

John 4:10 Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.

John 4:23-24 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. **24** God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.