Laboring on the All-inclusive Christ Typified by the Good Land for the Building Up of the Church as the Body of Christ,

for the Reality and the Manifestation of the Kingdom, and for the Bride to Make Herself Ready for the Lord's Coming –Week 3 May 13- May 19, 2024

A Land of Wheat and Barley

Monday 5/13

<u>Related Verses</u>

Deut. 8:8

8 A land of wheat and barley and vines and fig trees and pomegranates; a land of olive trees with oil and of honey;

John 12:24

24 Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless the grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it abides alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

Matt. 14:19

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

Mark 6:2-3

2 And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue; and many hearing were astounded, saying, Where did this man get these things? And what is this wisdom given to this man, and how is it that such works of power take place through His hands?
3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us? And they were stumbled in Him.

Luke 2:40, 52

40 And the little child grew and became strong, being filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon Him.52 And Jesus advanced in wisdom and stature and in the grace manifested in Him before God and men.

John 6:57a

57a As the living Father has sent Me and I live because of the Father,

Related Reading

We must worship the Lord for His Word. [In Deuteronomy 8:8] He put wheat first, not the barley or the vine. What aspect of Christ does wheat represent? From John 12:24 we can see that the Lord is a grain of wheat falling into the earth to die and to be buried. The wheat represents Christ incarnated. Christ is God incarnated as man to fall into the earth—to die and to be buried. This is the wheat. It typifies the Christ who was incarnated, the Christ who died, and the Christ who was buried. (*CWWL*, 1961-1962, vol. 4, "The All-inclusive Christ," pp. 232-233)

Let us consider the experience of wheat...Whenever you are put into a situation by the Lord's sovereignty in which you are limited, in which you are pressed, you may experience the Lord as wheat. When in the midst of that limiting and pressing situation you contact the Lord, He is just as a grain of wheat to you. Immediately upon contacting Him, you can be completely satisfied with your situation and your limitation. That life which is Christ Himself within you is a grain of wheat. It is the life of the little carpenter, the incarnated One, the limited One. When you are in a certain environment in which you are restricted and suppressed, if you have a living touch with Christ, you will say, "O Lord, You are the infinite God, but You did become a finite man. There is power in You to suffer any kind of limitation." You will experience Christ as the wheat.

One day a very good and spiritual sister came to see me. She had come from a rich family and had married a brother who had to take care of his mother. The mother was amiable to the son, but to the daughter-in-law it was another story. This young sister came to me, seeking some fellowship to see whether her experience was right or not. Then she told me how much she suffered day by day from her mother-in-law. She told me how she went to the Lord and asked the Lord to do something. Of course, she dared not ask the Lord to get rid of her mother-in-law, but she asked the Lord to deliver her from that situation. She said then that when she besought the Lord, the Lord immediately began to show her what kind of person He was on the earth. He showed her how much He was limited as a carpenter in that little family for more than thirty years. When she saw such a vision, she cried with tears, "Lord, I praise You, I praise You! Your life is in me. I am satisfied, Lord, with my present situation. I do not ask You to change anything. I just praise You!" She asked me if her experience was right, and I told her that it was most right. This sister

experienced Christ as a grain of wheat. She was really a spiritual sister.

Some time later, this sister came to me again. This time she said, "Brother, praise the Lord, I am not only satisfied with the limitation of my family, but I have seen something more of the Lord Jesus. He was not only limited, but He was also put to death and buried. When the Lord revealed this to me, I told Him that I would not only be content to stay with the situation in my family, but I would even die and be buried in this family for His sake." This was a further experience of Christ as a grain of wheat.

To many of us in many circumstances, the Lord Jesus is just as a grain of wheat. The more we experience Him, the more we realize that He is such a One. He lives in us. He is our life to make us willing to be limited, willing to die, willing to be buried, willing to be nothing. This is the experience of Christ as wheat. (*CWWL*, 1961-1962, vol. 4, "The All-inclusive Christ," pp. 234-235)

Further Reading: *CWWL*, 1961-1962, vol. 4, "The All-inclusive Christ," ch. 5

Tuesday 5/14

Related Verses

John 1:1,<u>14</u>

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

<u>14</u> 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.

Luke 12:50

50 But I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how I am pressed until it is accomplished!

John 7:6,10

6 Jesus therefore said to them, My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready.

10 But when His brothers had gone up to the feast, then He Himself also went up, not openly, but as it were in secret.

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Phil. 4:11-13

11 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.

Related Reading

The Lord was constrained in His flesh, which He put upon Himself in His incarnation. He needed to undergo physical death, to be baptized, that His unlimited and infinite divine being with His divine life might be released from His flesh. His divine life, after being released through His physical death, became the impulse of His believers' spiritual life in resurrection. (Luke 12:50, footnote 2)

In John 12:24 the Lord Jesus indicated clearly that He was a grain of wheat...Wheat signifies Christ in His incarnation and crucifixion...Although in eternity Christ was the unlimited God, unlimited both in space and in time, one day He was incarnated and became limited. Oh, the unlimited God was limited in Jesus, a little carpenter from Nazareth! Although the Lord is the eternal, infinite, unlimited God, He lived as a man, limited even in the matter of time. When His brothers in the flesh encouraged Him to go into Judea, Jesus said, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready" (7:6)...The Lord Jesus was not only limited in time but also in space. It is difficult to believe that the unlimited God lived in the house of a carpenter for thirty years. This is Jesus as our life, the One by whom we may live. Thus, wheat signifies the limited Jesus.

We all know what it means to be limited. Married life, for example, is a limitation and a restriction...Although you may be as free as a bird today, you will find yourself in a cage after you get married. Every wife is a cage to her husband, and every husband is a cage to his wife. Before I was married, I kept my bedroom window open at night because I enjoyed the fresh air. But my wife would close all the windows and A Land of Wheat and Barley turn the bedroom into a cage...For us Christians there is no divorce or separation. We cannot flee the cage of married life. After a period of time, some little birds are born into this cage. What a further restriction this is! As the years went by and children were born, I experienced many more limitations. I cried out to the Lord and said, "O Lord Jesus! What should I do?" The Lord seemed to say, "Simply be limited and restricted. Look at Me. Although I am the unlimited God, I was incarnated and

limited for thirty years. I can promise you that after thirty

years you will be released."

One day, thirty years later, I said to the Lord, "Lord, You told me that I would be released after thirty years, but now I am more limited than ever. I have not only sons and daughters but daughters-in-law, sons-in-law, and grandchildren. I also have the limitation of so many churches and elders. Lord, what shall I do now?" Then the Lord said, "Look at Me again. Although I was released after thirty years, don't you know that I am still being limited by you and all the other believers?" Eventually, I saw the vision of Christ as the wheat. The very Christ who indwells me is the incarnated One. In a sense, He is still incarnated today, for the indwelling Christ is willing to be limited, caged, in us. When I saw this vision of the limited Christ, I began to worship Him, saying, "O Lord, thank You for my wife, for all my children, for all the churches, and for all the elders. How I thank You, Lord, for my cage." Such a prayer causes wheat to begin to grow immediately. I can testify that I have a wheat field in my Christian life. How I thank the Lord for my wife, my children, my in-laws, my grandchildren, the churches, and the elders. All of these produce the environment that enables me to grow wheat...This wheat is the incarnated Jesus growing in the midst of our limitations. (CWWL, 1977, vol. 1, "The Kernel of the Bible," pp. 218-220)

Further Reading: CWWL, 1977, vol. 1, "The Kernel of the Bible," ch. 6

Wednesday 5/15

Related Verses

John 12:23-24

23 And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

24 Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless the grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it abides alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

John 3:5

5 Jesus answered, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

John 7:38-39

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. 15:45

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

2 Cor. 4:11

11 For we who are alive are always being delivered unto death for Jesus' sake that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

1 Pet. 1:3

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has regenerated us unto a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

Related Reading

For Jesus as the Son of Man to be glorified was for Him to be resurrected, that is, to have His divine element, His divine life, released from within the shell of His humanity to produce many believers in resurrection (1 Pet. 1:3), just as a grain of wheat (John 12:24) has its life element released when it falls into the ground and grows up out of the ground to bear much fruit, that is, to bring forth many grains. (John 12:23, footnote 1)

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A Land of Wheat and Barley

Limitation always leads to crucifixion. Husbands and wives not only limit each other; they also crucify each other. Without exception, every husband crucifies his wife. If you are honest, you will admit that you have crucified your wife many times. But how good it is to be crucified! The more we are crucified, the more the wheat grows within us. The way to eat Christ as wheat is to be limited and crucified. If you are not willing to be limited and crucified, you will not have any wheat. There will be no need for you to talk about how to eat the wheat because there will not be any wheat to eat. You must grow the wheat before you can eat it, and in order to grow wheat you must be limited and crucified. Hallelujah for this limitation and crucifixion!

Paul said, "We who are alive are always being delivered unto death for Jesus' sake" (2 Cor. 4:11). Day after day the wives and the husbands deliver one another to death. Although your honeymoon may have been very sweet, I am sure that it did not last very long...It seems that the honeymoon often becomes a "vinegarmoon."...During the first few days of your honeymoon you may say, "Dear, I love you." But after those days you will feel like saying, "I will nail you to the cross and put you to death." This kind of crucifixion does not take place once for all; it is continual. My wife has crucified me many times. Whenever I think that this crucifixion will be over once and for all, I am crucified again a few days later. This is the experience of the incarnated and crucified Jesus. When we experience Jesus as the limited One and as the crucified One, He grows in us as wheat. (CWWL, 1977, vol. 1, "The Kernel of the Bible," pp. 220-221)

The New Testament uses the wheat of life to symbolize the believers. Matthew 3:12 tells us that the Lord Jesus will separate the wheat from the chaff and gather the wheat into His barn: "He will thoroughly cleanse His threshing floor and will gather His wheat into the barn, but the chaff He will burn up with unquenchable fire." Those symbolized by wheat have life within; they are the living children of God. The Lord Jesus will baptize them in the Holy Spirit (v. 11) and gather them into His barn in heaven by rapture. In order to become children of God, we must be baptized through water into the Spirit. We need to be born of water and of the Spirit (John 3:5). First, we are baptized through water; then we are baptized in the Spirit. In this way we are regenerated to become children of God, the believers symbolized by the wheat of life, which will be gathered into the Lord's barn. Those symbolized by chaff, like the tares in Matthew 13:24-30, are without life. The Lord will baptize them in fire, putting them into the lake of fire. Chaff in 3:12 refers to unrepentant Jews, whereas the tares in Matthew 13 refer to nominal Christians. The eternal destiny of both will be the same—perdition in the lake of fire (vv. 40-42).

What does it mean to be real wheat? If we realize that we are sinful, fallen, and lost and if we truly believe in the Lord Jesus Christ—that He is the Son of God incarnated to be a man, that He died on the cross for our sins, that He was resurrected physically and spiritually, and that He is now the life-giving Spirit dwelling in us as our life and everything, we are certainly the wheat of life. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, pp. 1151-1153)

Further Reading: The Conclusion of the New Testament, msg. 107

Thursday 5/16

Related Verses

<u>John 6:9-10</u>

9 There is a little boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what are these for so many?10 Jesus said, Have the people recline. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men reclined, in number about five thousand.

John 6:48

48 I am the bread of life.

1 Cor. 15:20

20 But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

John 11:25

25 Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes into Me, even if he should die, shall live;

Eph. 1:20

20 Which He caused to operate in Christ in raising Him from the dead and seating Him at His right hand in the heavenlies,

<u>Related Reading</u>

Wheat points to [Christ's] incarnation, death, and burial, and following this the barley points to His resurrection, the resurrected Christ. How can we prove it? In the land of Canaan the barley always ripens first; among all the grains the barley is first. In Leviticus 23:10 the Lord said, "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them, When you come into the land which I am giving you, and reap its harvest, then you shall bring the sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest to the priest." When the harvest time came, the firstfruits of the harvest had to be offered to the Lord, and the firstfruits were clearly the barley. Now we must read 1 Corinthians 15:20: "Now Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep." All students of the Scriptures recognize that the firstfruits of the harvest typify Christ as the firstfruits of resurrection. We can prove by this that barley represents the resurrected Christ. (CWWL, 1961-1962, vol. 4, "The All-inclusive Christ," p. 233)

[Wheat and barley] represent two aspects of Christ, His coming and His going. They represent the Christ coming down to be the wheat and the Christ going up to be the barley...Have you experienced Christ as wheat? And have you ever experienced Christ as barley? What kind of experience of Christ is wheat? And what kind of experience of Christ is barley?

When Jesus fed the five thousand, he fed them with five loaves made of barley...If they were loaves of wheat, something would be wrong. But they were not wheat; they were loaves of barley. As barley loaves, they could feed five thousand people with twelve baskets of broken pieces left over. This is resurrection. Christ can only be rich to us in His resurrection. In His incarnation He is exceedingly limited, but in His resurrection He is so very rich. There is no limit to Him as the resurrected Christ. As Christ incarnated, He was just one grain, a little

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Nazarene, a humble carpenter. But when He came into resurrection, He was unlimited. Time and space and material things could limit Him no longer. There were five loaves, but in effect there were countless loaves. There was enough to feed five thousand, not counting the women and children, and the remains alone—twelve baskets full—were more than the original five loaves. This is barley. This is Christ in His resurrection. Christ in His resurrection can never be limited. (*CWWL*, 1961-1962, vol. 4, "The All-inclusive Christ," pp. 233-234)

As the barley, Christ is unlimited. According to John 6, Christ fed more than five thousand people with five loaves of barley (vv. 9-10), and the fragments left over from these five loaves filled twelve baskets! This proves that barley is unlimited. On the one hand, we are growing the limited Jesus; on the other hand, we are growing the unlimited Christ. The riches of this Christ are unsearchable, and His power is profound. Like Paul, we can say, "I am able to do all things in Him who empowers me" (Phil. 4:13). By this unlimited Christ I am able to bear my wife, my children, and all the elders.

The sisters who live by the resurrected Christ can bear their husbands and all their children. Every husband gives his wife a difficult time. Sisters, do not expect to marry an angel. Every husband is troublesome. We husbands simply do not know how to sympathize with our wives. What then shall the sisters do? They must say, "We wives are more than conquerors because we have an unlimited Christ. The resurrected Christ is now in us, and He can bear anything." Learn to grow the limited Jesus and the unlimited Christ. I can testify that I have Christ as both wheat and barley. I have an abundance of both wheat and barley on which to feed and with which to feed others. (*CWWL*, 1977, vol. 1, "The Kernel of the Bible," p. 221)

Further Reading: *CWWL*, 1961-1962, vol. 4, "The All-inclusive Christ," ch. 5

Friday 5/17

Related Verses

Heb. 13:12-13

12 Therefore also Jesus, that He might sanctify the people through His own blood, suffered outside the gate.13 Let us therefore go forth unto Him outside the camp, bearing His reproach.

Heb. 11:26

26 Considering the reproach of the Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he looked away to the reward.

Rom. 15:3

3 For Christ also did not please Himself, but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached You fell upon Me."

2 Cor. 12:10

10 Therefore I am well pleased in weaknesses, in insults, in necessities, in persecutions and distresses, on behalf of Christ; for when I am weak, then I am powerful.

John 6:9, 13

9 There is a little boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what are these for so many?13 So they gathered them and filled twelve handbaskets with broken pieces from the five barley loaves which were left over among those who had eaten.

Related Reading

Praise the Lord, following the wheat is the barley. The tomb was not the end of the Lord. He was resurrected...Wheat is the valley of death, but barley is the mountain of resurrection. Whenever you experience Christ as the wheat, be assured that an experience of Christ as the barley will follow.

Actually, in order to experience Christ as the grain of wheat, the limited Jesus, we must apply Him as the barley, as the resurrected Christ. It is the resurrected Christ who is living in us. This resurrected Christ possesses a life that has passed through incarnation, crucifixion, and burial, but He Himself today is the resurrected One. Christ in the flesh is always limited, but Christ in resurrection is unlimited and released. It is this unlimited Christ living in us that causes us to follow the limited Jesus. Today we are following the limited Jesus, but we do it in the power of the unlimited Christ. (*CWWL*, 1961-1962, vol. 4, "The All-inclusive Christ," pp. 235-236)

Let me ask you, when you are in your home or at your job, do you act as the resurrected Christ or as the limited Jesus? If you are a follower of Jesus, you have to be limited. When Jesus was on earth, He was always limited, limited by His flesh, limited by His family, limited by His mother in the flesh, and even by His brothers in the flesh. He was always limited. He was limited by space and limited by time; He was limited by everything. If we would live out the life of Jesus, we must also be limited. If we follow His steps, we will have no freedom, no liberty. What a blessing it is that we can be limited for the sake of Jesus.

But what is the energy for us to be limited? The strength enabling us to be limited must indeed be great. It is easy to be angry, but patience requires strength. It is easy to lose our temper, but long-suffering demands the energy of heaven. The power that enables us to be limited is the power of His resurrection. I need the resurrected Christ living in me in order to be strengthened for just a little patience. To apply the resurrected Christ as my patience is to experience Christ as the barley.

Perhaps you will say to me, "Brother, I know I have to be limited all the time. I must be limited by my wife, by my children, by my boss, by the brothers, and especially by a certain brother. I am limited by this, and I am limited by that; all day I am limited. And I expect tomorrow and the next day to be worse. How can I meet the situation? I realize that the resurrected Christ is living in me, but I have so little of Him. I don't even have five loaves; I have just one loaf." Yes, you may have only one loaf, but remember, it is a barley loaf; it is a loaf of the resurrected Christ who can never be limited. It seems that you just have a little, but it does not matter, because He has no limitation. A little is more than adequate to meet the situation. You say that you cannot meet the situation. This is right. You surely cannot. But there is

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One who can—the One who is the barley. A barley loaf is within you; a little bit of the resurrected Christ is in you—that is good enough. The resurrected Christ is unlimited. Apply Him to the situation. He can never be exhausted. By the power of the resurrected Christ you can follow the steps of the incarnated Jesus. With the life of the resurrected Christ, you can live out the life of the limited Jesus.

Sometimes a brother says, "I feel burdened to give a testimony, but I am so weak." It seems that the need is for five thousand people to be fed, but the supply is only five loaves of barley. Nevertheless, you have to go ahead by faith. Although your portion is seemingly so small and the demand is so great, you must realize that what you have is nothing less than the resurrected Christ. You can do all things in Him who empowers you, because He is resurrected and knows no limit. Apply Him. (*CWWL*, 1961-1962, vol. 4, "The All-inclusive Christ," pp. 236-237)

Further Reading: *CWWL*, 1961-1962, vol. 4, "The All-inclusive Christ," ch. 6

Saturday 5/18

Related Verses

John 11:25

25 Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes into Me, even if he should die, shall live;

Phil. 4:13

13 I am able to do all things in Him who empowers me.

Matt 14:14-21

14 And going forth, He saw a great crowd, and He was moved with compassion for them and healed their sick. 15 Now when evening fell, the disciples came to Him, saying, This place is deserted and the hour is already late. Send the crowds away that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.

16 But Jesus said to them, They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.

17 And they said to Him, We do not have anything here except five loaves and two fish.

18 And He said, Bring them here to Me.

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

20 And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve handbaskets full.

21 And those who ate were about five thousand men, apart from women and children.

Related Reading

When a brother comes to see you, remember that Christ is within you as the barley. You have to apply Him in your fellowship with this brother. Sometimes you just forget this. When you meet the brother, you talk about...the world situation or about the weather...When he leaves, you feel hungry and...sick from not applying Christ. You have to grasp every situation as an opportunity to apply Christ...Then when you come to the meeting, it will be very easy for you to give praise or a testimony; you will have many loaves of barley to offer to the Lord.

When some young co-workers come to a meeting, they look around to see if any senior brothers are there. If not, if all the attendants are new believers, they have the boldness to pray and exhibit what they have. But if they see some senior brothers there, they shrink back with fear...If you have the resurrected Christ, even if the apostle Paul were there, you will say, "Praise the Lord, my brother has the resurrected Christ, and I have Him too. He may have five hundred loaves, but I have at least one loaf. Hallelujah!" As long as you have a little bit of the resurrected Christ, you have more than enough to meet every situation. He is the loaf of barley; He is the resurrected One. Nothing can hinder Him; nothing can limit Him. (*CWWL*, 1961-1962, vol. 4, "The All-inclusive Christ," p. 237)

When you come to the meeting with the brothers and sisters, you must realize your responsibility. You must share in the meeting with others. You must give some thanks and praise; you must offer some prayer. This is your responsibility. You say, "Oh, I am too weak!" In yourself you are weak, but in Christ you are not weak. You say, "I have nothing." Yes, you have nothing, but in Christ you have everything...Remember that Christ is the barley in you. When you come to the meeting, apply Him as the one loaf of barley to feed all the others by your prayer or by your testimony. Try it...You will be enriched by practice. Never say that the meetings are not your business...You must learn to apply Christ; you must make use of the Christ you have.

Jesus said to His disciples, "You give them something to eat" (Matt. 14:16). The disciples said, "There is a little boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what are these for so many?" (John 6:9)...As long as they are barley loaves, as long as they are something of the resurrected Christ, that is good enough; that will meet the situation, and there will be a surplus. Brothers and sisters, if you will take my word, believe in the resurrected Christ, and apply Him, you will find that the remainder abiding in you is more than that with which you started. This is the barley. This is not just a teaching but something for us to experience and apply every day in every situation. Apply the resurrected Christ, the unlimited, inexhaustible One. Tell Him, "Lord, I cannot meet the need; I cannot face the situation. But how I praise You, You can. I go ahead trusting wholly in You, counting wholly upon You."

The sister who experienced Christ as a grain of wheat in her family testified of another experience. This time it was Christ as the barley. She testified that her mother-inlaw and many of her relatives were brought to the Lord through her. She had become a barley loaf to feed many people. She had experienced Christ in resurrection. This kind of experience not only causes you to know Christ inwardly as the wheat and as the barley, but by this experience you become a grain of wheat; you become a loaf of barley. Then you are food for others. You are able to feed others by what you have experienced. (*CWWL*, *1961-1962*, vol. 4, "The All-inclusive Christ," pp. 237-238)

Further Reading: *CWWL*, 1961-1962, vol. 4, "The All-inclusive Christ," ch. 7

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Lord's Day 5/19

Related Verses

1 Cor. 15:42-45, 47-49, 53-54

42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption;

43 It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power;

44 It is sown a soulish body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a soulish body, there is also a spiritual one.

45 So also it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living soul"; the last Adam became a life-giving Spirit.47 The first man is out of the earth, earthy; the second man is out of heaven.

48 As the earthy is, such are they also that are earthy; and as the heavenly is, such are they also that are heavenly.

49 And even as we have borne the image of the earthy, we will also bear the image of the heavenly.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

54 And when this corruptible will put on incorruption and this mortal will put on immortality, then the word which is written will come to pass, "Death has been swallowed up unto victory."

Further Reading: Further Reading: Conclusion of the New Testament, msg. 107

Hymn: #899

1 The work is Thine, O Christ our Lord, The cause for which we stand;And being Thine, 'twill overcome Its foes on every hand.Yet grains of wheat, before they grow,Are buried in the earth below;All that is old doth perish thereTo form a life both new and fair:So too are we from self and sin made free.

2 Through suff'ring Thou, O Christ, didst go Unto Thy throne above, And leadest now the selfsame way Those true in faith and love; So lead us, then, though suff'rings wait, To share Thy kingdom's heav'nly state; Thy death has broken Satan's might, And leads the faithful to the light; Eternal light, from darkness into light.

3 Thou hast, O Savior, led the way Through agony and death;
O give, we pray, yet more and more Thy Spirit's living breath!
Send messengers o'er land and sea
To bring Thy children all to Thee;
Thy name can save, Thy name makes free;
We consecrate ourselves to Thee
As servants true, as warriors brave and true. Churchwide Truth Pursuit of Hebrews (Week 13)

Level 1—Hebrews Sequential Reading Scripture Reading and Copying: Heb. 5:1-6 Assigned Reading: *Life-study of Hebrews*, msgs. 22-23

Level 2—Hebrews Topical Study

Crucial Point: Knowing God's Ways
Scripture: Heb. 3:7-4:11
Assigned Reading: *CWWN, vol. 46,* "Conferences, Messages, and Fellowship (6): Miscellaneous Messages and Fellowship," ch. 186; *CWWN, vol. 58,* "Spiritual Judgment and Examples of Judgment," ch. 26
Supplemental Reading: None Questions:

What are God's ways?
Are God's acts the same as God's ways? If they are not the same, how might they differ?
Which ways of God did the children of Israel not know?
Which ways of God have you come to know in your Christian life?