

Christ as the Emancipator and as the One Who Makes Us More Than Conquerors**Monday 7/28****Related Verses****Rom. 8:2, 16**

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

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

1 Thes. 5:17

17 Unceasingly pray,

Gal. 2:20

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. 2:13

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

Phil. 4:12-13

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.

Ezek. 36:26-27

26 I will also give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will take away the heart of stone out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh.

27 And I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and My ordinances you shall keep and do.

Related Reading

Romans 7:22—8:4 reveals Christ as the Emancipator who by the law of the Spirit of life delivers the wretched man from the law of sin and of death. In 7:24, Paul cries pitifully, “Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from the body of this death?” The answer to Paul’s question is presented in 7:25 and chapter 8...Paul had no condemnation because he experienced freedom from the law of sin and of death by the law of the Spirit of life.

With the Spirit of life, there is a living law. This living law is a living person, the Triune God processed in Christ and dwelling within us. The law of the Spirit of life is the Triune God in Christ who has passed through the process of incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension and who has entered into us and become not only our life but also our law (vv. 2-3, 10-11, 34). This living person as the law of the Spirit of life frees us from the law of sin and of death in Christ Jesus. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, pp. 3067-3068)

Since God as the processed God who became the indwelling Spirit has been installed into our being, He works within us not by activities but by law. You must realize that this is one of the biggest discoveries, even recoveries, in God’s economy...Through all the centuries few Christians have seen that God is working in His chosen and redeemed people not by activity but by law. Nearly all Christians pray that God would do something in them by activity. If they have a bad temper, they pray that the Lord would help them to overcome it.

We all have to contact the Lord, to fellowship with Him, to touch Him. Sometimes in the past we may have touched Him in an accidental way. Still we touched Him, and something happened. Through the centuries Christians who have experienced these things have encouraged us to have a time with God. But the problem is this: when we get in touch with God and with this law by spending some time with God, right away we make up our mind to do things, and then we are out of the touch with the Lord. In our prayer time we are in, but out of our prayer time we are out. The more you are in touch with the Lord without asking Him to do something for you, without deciding to do something for Him, without attempting to please Him, there will be a kind of automatic working within you to eliminate the sinful flesh. The negative things within you will be reduced and eliminated. It is not that you overcome something or that you kill something, but there is an automatic killing. While you remain in the touch with the Lord, the law of the Spirit of life works.

The genuine help, the real help, is just to get the saints into the touch with the Lord that will let the automatic law work. As the law of the Spirit of life

works in such a one, it will reduce his problem and solve his problem and kill some of his germs. This is the genuine help...The real help is to get into this touch with the Lord that will cause the automatic law of the Spirit of life to operate within us. Actually, you cannot help others. Paul planted, but he could not give life. Apollos watered, but Apollos could not give growth. Only God could give growth...Only the automatic working law can kill...the real germ.

We need to pray, “Lord, I just come to touch You. I have nothing to ask of You. I do not even like to ask You to do anything for me. I just like to remain in the touch with You...” Your experience will confirm that if you practice this, you will experience a lot of killing, a lot of reducing, a lot of strengthening, a lot of resurrecting, a lot of rising up...This is the law working in you scientifically. (*CWWL*, 1980, vol. 1, “Perfecting Training,” pp. 360, 338-340)

Further Reading: *The Conclusion of the New Testament*, msg. 301

Tuesday 7/29**Related Verses****Rom. 8:29**

29 Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers;

Eph. 4:11-12, 16

11 And He Himself gave some as apostles and some as prophets and some as evangelists and some as shepherds and teachers,

12 For the perfecting of the saints unto the work of the ministry, unto the building up of the Body of Christ,
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.

1 Cor. 12:13

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.

Christ as the Emancipator and as the One Who Makes Us More Than Conquerors**Eph. 5:30****30** Because we are members of His Body.**Jer. 31:33-34****33** But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares Jehovah: I will put My law within them and write it upon their hearts; and I will be their God, and they will be My people.**34** And they will no longer teach, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, Know Jehovah; for all of them will know Me, from the little one among them even to the great one among them, declares Jehovah, for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.**Related Reading**

The center, the centrality, of the new covenant is the inner law of life [Jer. 31:33a, cf. Rom. 8:2]...This law is not an outward law but an inward law. In its essence, this law refers to the divine life, and the divine life is nothing less than the life-giving Spirit, the all-inclusive Christ, and the processed and consummated God. These three are one. The life-giving Spirit is the reality and realization of the all-inclusive Christ, and the all-inclusive Christ is the embodiment of the consummated God. Thus, this inner law, remaining in our being all the time, reminds us that the very processed and consummated Triune God—the Spirit, the Son, and the Father—is with us all the time...This law is the divine life, and the divine life is the processed and consummated Triune God...This is the center, the content, and the reality of the new covenant. (*Life-study of Jeremiah*, pp. 183-184)

This law functions. The function of the inner law refers to the divine capacity. In this law there is the divine capacity, and the divine capacity is almighty. This divine capacity can do everything in us for the fulfillment of God's purpose...According to its life, the law of the new covenant is the Triune God, and according to its function, it is the divine capacity.

The divine capacity of the inner law of life can live God. This capacity can also cause the believers in Christ to be constituted with God. Because the believers are constituted with God, they as a corporate people are

God's expression. Although the believers are constituted with God, there is still a distinction between them and God. God remains God with the Godhead, and we, the believers, are made the same as God in life and in nature but not in the Godhead. This means that except for the Godhead, we are exactly the same as God. Since we are the same as God in life and in nature, we become His increase, His enlargement, as His fullness to express Him. This is the highest aspect of the capacity of the inner law of life.

Another aspect of this capacity is related to the Body of Christ. In addition to causing us to be constituted with God, the capacity of the inner law constitutes us to be the Body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 5:30). This means that the divine life has the capacity to make us the Body of Christ. Furthermore, this capacity has all the abilities of all the functions of the Body. I hope that we all will be deeply impressed with the centrality and function of the inner law of life.

The central line of the divine revelation is to unveil God's economy with His dispensing. God's dispensing is simply to put Himself into us as the inner law of life. On the one hand, we have the divine life, which is the Triune God. On the other hand, we have the divine capacity. By this capacity we have the ability not only to know God but also to live God and even to be constituted with God. What a capacity! Furthermore, this capacity can constitute us to be the members of the Body of Christ, including all kinds of functions: those of apostles, prophets, evangelists, and shepherds and teachers—the joints of the rich supply—and those of every part of the Body that functions in its measure (4:11, 16). In essence the inner law of life is God in Christ as the Spirit, and in function this law has the capacity to constitute us with God and to constitute us the members of the Body of Christ with all kinds of functions, all kinds of abilities. I am happy, and even excited, to see this law operating in the saints in the Lord's recovery. Hallelujah for this wonderful law of life! (*Life-study of Jeremiah*, pp. 184-185)

Further Reading: *Life-study of Jeremiah*, msg. 26

Wednesday 7/30**Related Verses****Rom. 8:4-6, 9-10****4** That the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the spirit.**5** For those who are according to the flesh mind the things of the flesh; but those who are according to the spirit, the things of the Spirit.**6** For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace.**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.**10** But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is life because of righteousness.**Psa. 23:3-4****3** He restores my soul; He guides me on the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.**4** Even though I walk Through the valley of the shadow of death, I do not fear evil, For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, They comfort me.**Gen. 5:24****24** And Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him.**Related Reading**

In [a physical] building, many systems [e.g., heat, light, sound, video, etc.]...have been installed. Now they simply need our switching on...This illustrates the law of the Spirit of life...There is a spiritual law by nature. When we fulfill the requirement, this law works. What are the requirements? Walk according to the spirit; set your mind on the spiritual things; put to death all the practices of the body; be led and cry; witness and groan. When we would do all these [seven] things, the indwelling works. And that is the working of the law of the Spirit of life. Now you can see that when Romans 8:2 says, "The law of the Spirit of life has freed me in Christ Jesus," it is not an ordinary "me" but a "me" under the switching. (*CWWL*, 1980, vol. 1, "Perfecting Training," p. 318)

Christ as the Emancipator and as the One Who Makes Us More Than Conquerors

I am so thankful to Paul for putting these seven things [in Romans 8] in a very good sequence. First, he mentions walking [v. 4]. Walking is all-inclusive. It means to live, to have your being, to move, to act, to walk. This is your daily life. This is your living every hour. Walk according to the spirit...Most Christians simply use the Bible as a kind of religious book...God's economy has no intention to make us religious persons. God's intention is to make all His chosen people His sons. He makes them His sons so they can be members of the Body of Christ.

As we walk according to the spirit, surely we would spontaneously set our mind on the spirit [vv. 5-6]. We would think about Him. We would meditate, we would muse, upon the spiritual things. We have the best help to set our mind on the spirit, that is, the Bible. And the best means is to pray-read. Whenever we pray-read the Bible, our mind is set on the spirit.

It will then be so spontaneous for you to put to death every practice of your body [v. 13]. When you walk according to the spirit and you set your mind on the spirit, minding the spiritual things, every time the practice of the body comes up, you will spontaneously kill it...When you kill it, life is imparted.

Spontaneously, you would be led by the Spirit [v. 14]. When you walk according to the spirit, set your mind on the spirit, and put to death the practices of the body, you are led. You are under the leading of the Spirit. The Spirit's indwelling works.

Then all the time you would cry either, "Lord Jesus!" or "Abba, Father!" [v. 15]. It would be a kind of spontaneous thing. Then you would witness [v. 16]. Whenever you would open your mouth to say something about the Spirit, the Spirit would witness with you. Whenever you witness, He cooperates with you and confirms your witnessing.

Then we would come to the seventh item, groaning [v. 23]...Today is the groaning time. We do not know what to say, but we have a certain kind of sensation within us concerning God's interest on the earth today. Oh, the kingdom of God! Oh, God's interest! God's testimony! The Lord's recovery! You do not know what to say concerning these matters. So you groan. Your groaning then is exactly the indwelling Spirit's

interceding. It is not by a human word or a clear utterance. It is just a kind of unutterable groaning. Yet this unutterable groaning is the excellent interceding of the Spirit. This is the best intercession. This is the best prayer to carry out God's economy on the earth today. If we are such persons experiencing all these seven items, surely the law of the Spirit of life is setting us free. If we practice all these seven items, the law of the Spirit of life truly works in us. (*CWWL, 1980*, vol. 1, "Perfecting Training," pp. 318-320)

Further Reading: *CWWL, 1980*, vol. 1, "Perfecting Training," chs. 26, 31—32

Thursday 7/31

Related Verses**Rom. 8:13-16, 23, 26-28**

13 For if you live according to the flesh, you must die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the practices of the body, you will live.

14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

15 For you have not received a spirit of slavery bringing you into fear again, but you have received a spirit of sonship in which we cry, Abba, Father!

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

23 And not only so, but we ourselves also, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan in ourselves, eagerly awaiting sonship, the redemption of our body.

26 Moreover, in like manner the Spirit also joins in to help us in our weakness, for we do not know for what we should pray as is fitting, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

27 But He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to God.

28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

Related Reading

The subject of Romans 8 is the freeing of the law of the Spirit of life. But just by verse 2, you do not know how the law of the Spirit of life works. So from verse 3

onward, nearly the entire chapter is a definition of how the law of the Spirit of life operates. The law of the Spirit of life does not free everyone. Many Christians today have not been freed. The law of the Spirit of life only frees the believers who fulfill all the doings in this chapter. (*CWWL, 1980*, vol. 1, "Perfecting Training," p. 315)

The first point [of the doings on our side in Romans 8] is that we have to walk according to the spirit [v. 4]. This walking according to the spirit is on our side; actually, this is our switching on. When we walk according to the spirit, we switch on, and the law works. The law of the Spirit of life never works until we walk according to the spirit. The second point [is] that we need to mind the things of the Spirit [v. 5]. The third item of our doing in this chapter is to put to death the practices of our mortal body (v. 13). The fourth item is to be led by the Spirit of God (v. 14). According to our natural concept, we always consider that this is a verse concerning the spiritual leading. Actually, this is not a verse concerning the spiritual leading; it is a verse concerning our being led. It does not say, "As many as the Spirit leads."...It is not the Spirit leading you; it is you being led by Him.

In verse 15 is the fifth item; that is, you have to cry. That is your doing. You have to learn to cry. We have the spirit of sonship in which we cry, "Abba, Father!" To cry is to switch on. Whenever you cry, "O Father! Abba, Father!" that is to switch on. Learn to cry. This is not a bad cry; this is a good cry. This is a benign cry...Learn to cry, "O Lord Jesus! O Father! O Abba, Father!" Today's Christians are dead because they are too silent...We all have to learn to cry. Have you ever considered that to cry is to switch on? Are you in darkness? Cry! Are you weak? Are you short of power? Cry!...Simply to think about the situation never helps you; you need to cry.

When verse 16 says that the Spirit witnesses with our spirit, it indicates that our spirit is witnessing already. When our spirit is witnessing, the Spirit witnesses with our spirit. In other words, if your spirit does not witness, neither does the Spirit witness...The main stress here is that our spirit has to work. Our spirit has to take the initiative.

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Verse 23 gives the next item. Have you ever realized that to groan is to switch on? Do you practice this? We all have to learn to groan. These are the seven items of the doings that could be found from Romans 8. We have to walk according to the spirit, to mind the things of the Spirit, to put to death the practices of the mortal body, to be led, to cry, to witness, and finally, to groan. You have to do these seven things. Try to practice these every day. If you are afraid of offending someone, you had better close your doors and windows and then do the crying and the groaning. You will see what a switching on you will experience.

We ourselves also, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan in ourselves, eagerly awaiting sonship, the redemption of our body" (v. 23). Once you realize that your body is a body of sin and death, you would groan, and you would earnestly expect for your body to be redeemed. Once you realize that you have a body that can do nothing to please God, you would groan, and you would expect to be redeemed. You can do nothing to help your body; your body needs redemption. (*CWWL*, 1980, vol. 1, "Perfecting Training," pp. 315-316, 275-276)

Further Reading: *CWWL*, 1980, vol. 1, "Perfecting Training," chs. 33—34, 36

Friday 8/1

Related Verses**Rom. 8:31-32, 34**

31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

32 Indeed, He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not also with Him freely give us all things?

34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ Jesus who died and, rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.

2 Cor. 5:14-15

14 For the love of Christ constrains us because we have judged this, that One died for all, therefore all died;

15 And He died for all that those who live may no longer live to themselves but to Him who died for them and has been raised.

Heb. 8:10

10 For this is the covenant which I will covenant with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will impart My laws into their mind, and on their hearts I will inscribe them; and I will be God to them, and they will be a people to Me.

Jer. 32:40-41

40 And I will make an eternal covenant with them that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; and I will put My fear into their hearts, so that they will not turn away from Me.

41 And I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will plant them in this land in faithfulness with all My heart and with all My soul.

Related Reading

In Jeremiah 32:40-44 Jehovah said that He would make an eternal covenant with them that He will not turn away from them. He will do them good. He will plant them in the holy land, and fields will be bought there.

This eternal covenant is the new covenant (31:31-34). It is by this covenant that God will not turn away from us and will plant us in Christ, our good land, and Christ in all His aspects will be bought by us. To buy Christ is to pay a price to gain Christ by forgetting the things that are behind and pursuing Christ (Phil. 3:13-14). (*Life-study of Jeremiah*, p. 190)

The constraining love of Christ in 2 Corinthians 5:14 is the love which was manifested on the cross through His death for us. The Greek word rendered "constrains" means "to press on...from all sides, to hold...to one end, to forcibly limit, to confine to one object within certain bounds, to shut up to one line and purpose" (as in a narrow, walled road)...In such a way the apostles were constrained by the love of Christ to live to Him.

Today we also are constrained by Christ's love toward us. This love surely limits us, confines us to a narrow way, toward the unique goal—Christ Himself...When we are thus constrained, we are limited, as if walking on a narrow, walled road, and we are forced to go in a certain direction. Although we love the Lord, we are not always willing to take His way. Had we not

been walled in by Him, we probably would have escaped from Him. But the love of Christ constrains us; it presses us from every side and holds us to one goal.

We must be persons carried away by the love of Christ. In 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 Paul indicates that Christ's loving death is like the rushing of great waters toward us, impelling us to live to Him beyond our own control. To be constrained is similar to being carried away by a tide of water. The love of Christ is as strong as a tide of water which overcomes us and carries us away. We need to be flooded by the love of Christ. We need to be constrained by His love so that we have no choice. We should be able to say, "I have no other way to go. I must love the Lord because His love has constrained me."

Romans 8:32-39 presents Christ as the One who makes us more than conquerors.

Verse 32 says, "Indeed, He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not also with Him freely give us all things?" This verse shows that God freely gives us all things with Christ.

Verse 34 goes on to say, "Who is he who condemns? It is Christ Jesus who died and, rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us..." Christ died for us and...after being raised, He is interceding for us at the right hand of God. This verse states that Christ today is at the right hand of God in the heavens; verse 10, however, states that He is now in us, in our spirit (2 Tim. 4:22). As the Spirit (2 Cor. 3:17), He is omnipresent, being both at the right hand of God and in our spirit, both in heaven and on earth.

In Romans 8:34 it is Christ who intercedes for us, yet in verse 26 it is the Spirit who intercedes for us. These are not two Intercessors but one, the Lord Spirit (2 Cor. 3:18). He is interceding for us at two ends. At one end it is the Spirit in us, probably initiating the intercession for us; at the other end it is the Lord Christ at the right hand of God, probably completing the intercession for us, which must be mainly that we will be conformed to His image and brought into His glory. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, pp. 3214-3215, 3082-3083)

Further Reading: *Life-study of Romans*, msgs. 21, 67

Christ as the Emancipator and as the One Who Makes Us More Than Conquerors**Saturday 8/2****Related Verses****Rom. 8:35,37-39**

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or anguish or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword?

37 But in all these things we more than conquer through Him who loved us.

38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life nor angels nor principalities nor things present nor things to come nor powers

39 Nor height nor depth nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Rom. 5:5

5 And hope does not put us to shame, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Jer. 31:3

3 Jehovah appeared to me from afar, saying, Indeed I have loved you with an eternal love, Therefore I have drawn you with lovingkindness.

Hos. 11:4

4 I drew them with cords of a man, With bands of love; And I was to them like those Who lift off the yoke on their jaws; And I gently caused them to eat.

Psa. 23:5-6

5 You spread a table before me In the presence of my adversaries; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

6 Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me All the days of my life, And I will dwell in the house of Jehovah For the length of my days.

Related Reading

In Romans 8:37 Paul tells us that in all the sufferings we more than conquer through Christ who loved us. Because of God's unchanging love for us and the fact that Christ has accomplished everything on our behalf, neither tribulation nor persecution can suppress or defeat us; rather, in all these things we more than overcome and conquer through Him who loved us. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, pp. 3083-3084)

The love of God is the source of His eternal salvation. This love is in Christ and has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit (Rom. 5:5). Nothing can separate us from this love of God. In God's salvation this love to us has become the love of Christ, which does many marvelous things for us through the grace of Christ until God's complete salvation is accomplished in us. These marvelous things provoke God's enemy to attack us with all kinds of sufferings and calamities (8:35-36). However, because of our response to the love of God in Christ, these attacks have become benefits to us (v. 28). Hence, we more than conquer in all our afflictions and calamities (v. 37).

We are God's beloved ones, and nothing can separate us from His love. Once God loves us, He loves us forever with an eternal, inseparable love. Therefore, God's salvation is secured by His love. This means that our eternal security is the love of God. We may be assured that nothing will separate us from the love of God, because this love does not derive from us or depend on us but is derived from God and depends on Him. This love was initiated by God in eternity.

In Romans 8:39 Paul points out that the inseparable love of God is in Christ Jesus our Lord. If the love of God were shown apart from Christ, there would be problems, for apart from Christ, even a sin such as losing our temper would separate us from the love of God. However, the love of God is not only the love of God itself but the love of God which is in Christ Jesus. Because the love of God is in Christ Jesus, we may be assured that nothing can separate us from it.

God's salvation in Christ has saved us to the extent that, on the one hand, we are in God's acceptance enjoying the source of this salvation, which is God's love in Christ, from which we cannot be separated by any person, matter, or thing; and, on the other hand, we are in God's life being conformed by the Lord Spirit to reach the ultimate goal of this salvation, that is, to enter into the incomparable divine glory and be glorified together with God (vv. 18, 30).

The first eight chapters of Romans reveal that Christ has divinity and eternal deity and that the divine person of Christ is in the Godhead. These chapters also show

that this Christ who has the Godhead became a man as the seed of David, that He passed through the processes of human living, death, and resurrection, thereby accomplishing God's redemption and entering into God's glory, and that through these processes He was eventually consummated to become the Spirit of Christ, who is the Spirit of God, the Spirit of life, and the reality, the essence, of this wonderful Christ. It is as the Spirit of Christ that He can, and does, enter into His believers to be their life, their life supply, and their everything. In summary, Christ as God was incarnated to be a man, and Christ in His humanity with flesh passed through the processes of death and resurrection to become the life-giving Spirit in order to be one spirit with us that we might be a part of His being as members of His wonderful Body. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, pp. 3084-3085)

Further Reading: *The Conclusion of the New Testament*, msg. 302

Christ as the Emancipator and as the One Who Makes Us More Than Conquerors**Lord's Day 8/3****Related Verses****Isaiah 61:1-11**

1 The Spirit of the Lord Jehovah is upon Me, Because Jehovah has anointed Me To bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent Me to bind up the wounds of the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the eyes to those who are bound;

2 To proclaim the acceptable year of Jehovah And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn;

3 To grant to those who mourn in Zion, To give to them a headdress instead of ashes, The oil of gladness instead of mourning, The mantle of praise instead of a spirit of heaviness; That they may be called the terebinths of righteousness, The planting of Jehovah, that He may be glorified.

4 And they will rebuild the ancient ruins; They will raise up the former desolations; And they will repair the cities of waste, The desolations of generation upon generation.

5 And strangers will stand and feed your flocks, And the sons of the foreigner will be your plowmen and vinedressers.

6 But you will be called the priests of Jehovah; People will speak of you as the ministers of our God. You will eat the wealth of nations, And you will boast in their glory.

7 Instead of your shame there will be a double portion, And instead of humiliation they will give a ringing shout for their portion. Therefore in their land they will possess double; Eternal joy will be theirs.

8 For I, Jehovah, love justice; I hate robbery with wrong; And I will faithfully give them their recompense, And I will make an eternal covenant with them.

9 Then their seed will be known among the nations, And their offspring in the midst of the peoples; All who see them will acknowledge them, That they are the seed whom Jehovah has blessed.

10 I will rejoice greatly in Jehovah, My soul will exult in my God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has wrapped me with the robe of righteousness; I am like a bridegroom who wears the headdress of the priest, And like a bride who adorns herself with her jewels.

11 For as the earth brings forth its sprout, And as the garden causes the things sown in it to spring up, So will the Lord Jehovah cause righteousness and praise To spring up before all the nations.

Further Reading:

Life-study of Romans, msg 67
Life-Study of Jeremiah, msg 26

Hymn: #540

1 What release the Savior gave me!
 Christ indeed has set me free!
 All the pow'r of sin is broken,
 All death's sting is passed from me!

Christ has made me more than conqueror,
 By His mighty victory,
 Now His resurrection power
 From my spirit strengthens me!

2 From the law Christ has delivered,
 To its claims I'm ever dead;
 Nevermore the law shall bind me,
 But by grace I'll live instead.

3 Christ has sin condemned at Calv'ry
 And its power done away;
 Now it has no ground within me,
 I am freed from all its sway.

4 Death by Him has been abolished,
 Incorrupted life is shown;
 Death's enthralling bonds are broken,
 Resurrection life is known.

5 Christ through death has crushed the devil,
 World and demons by His might,
 From the pow'r of darkness brought me
 To the realm of life and light.

6 All-sufficient grace He giveth,
 With His pow'r He covers me,
 Makes me glory in my weakness
 And in weakness strengthens me.

Churchwide Truth Pursuit of Genesis**Level 1—Sequential Life-study Reading**

We are taking a brief pause and will resume in August.

Level 2—Topical Study

We are taking a brief pause and will resume in August.