

**Monday 12/8****Related Verses****Col. 1:12-13**

12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;

13 Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

**Col. 2:6-7**

6 As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,

7 Having been rooted and being built up in Him, and being established in the faith even as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

**Eph. 2:21-22**

21 In whom all the building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord;

22 In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.

**Deut. 8:7-10**

7 For Jehovah your God is bringing you to a good land, a land of waterbrooks, of springs and of fountains, flowing forth in valleys and in mountains;

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

9 A land in which you will eat bread without scarcity; you will not lack anything in it; a land whose stones are iron, and from whose mountains you can mine copper.

10 And you shall eat and be satisfied, and you shall bless Jehovah your God for the good land which He has given you.

**Gal. 3:14**

14 In order that the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

**Related Reading**

As Paul was writing Colossians 1, he was considering the picture of the good land in the Old Testament as a type of the all-inclusive Christ. There is a suggestion of this in verse 12, where Paul says that Christ is the allotted portion of the saints. Then in 2:6 Paul tells us to walk in Christ. This implies that Christ is the land, the territory, the realm, in which we may walk. Furthermore,

his reference to being rooted in Christ in 2:7 also indicates that he was thinking of the good land. In order to be rooted in Christ, He must be our land, our soil. All of these are indications that the Christ revealed in Colossians is our good land. (*Life-study of Colossians*, p. 162)

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Paul...was aware that God's chosen people in Old Testament times enjoyed the good land as their portion. Furthermore, he realized that the good land was everything to them. It was through the good land that they could worship God and build the temple for God's testimony and for His unique dwelling place. It was through the good land that God's purpose could be fulfilled through the children of Israel. Fully realizing what the good land meant to God's chosen people, Paul composed the Epistle to the Colossians with the portrait of the good land in mind. Therefore, if we would experience the all-inclusive Christ as revealed in this book, we need to realize that such a Christ is typified by the land of Canaan. The Christ who is typified by the good land is the processed Triune God as the life-giving Spirit.

In Joshua 5:11 and 12 we see a hint that the good land typifies Christ as the continuation of the manna. Verse 11 says that the children of Israel ate of the produce of the land. Verse 12 is especially clear: "And the manna ceased on that day, when they ate of the produce of the land; and there was no longer manna for the children of Israel, but they ate of the yield of the land of Canaan that year." Manna was a type of Christ as the life supply for God's people. As these verses in Joshua point out, the produce of the good land was the continuation of the manna. Therefore, if the manna typifies Christ, the produce of the good land must also typify Him. By means of the supply of manna in the wilderness, God's people were able to build the tabernacle as God's dwelling place. In the same principle, through the supply of the rich produce of the land, they were able to build the temple as a more solid dwelling place for God. No doubt, the good land enjoyed by the children of Israel is a significant type of Christ, for through the enjoyment of it, the temple was built.

The land is the crucial focus of the Old Testament...[God] called out Abraham and told him that He would bring him into a certain land, which was the land of Canaan. Consider how many times from Genesis 12 to the end of the Old Testament the Lord referred to the land. Actually, the center of the Old Testament is the temple within the city built in the good land...The land is the figure of the all-inclusive Christ, a type of Christ as everything to us. (*Life-study of Colossians*, pp. 162-165)

The experience of the children of Israel in the good land typifies our enjoyment of Christ today. Christ is our good land, and the various aspects of the riches of Christ are typified by the produce of the land. If we enjoy the rich supply of Christ, we will be able to live Christ. We will also be empowered to defeat the enemies. The enemies are always defeated when we enjoy Christ. Furthermore, through the enjoyment of the riches of Christ, the kingdom of God is established in the church, and the temple is built for God's dwelling place. All these matters—living the Christian life, defeating the enemies, establishing the kingdom of God, and building the house of God—issue out from the enjoyment of the riches of Christ. (*Life-study of 1 Corinthians*, p. 449)

Further Reading: *Life-study of Colossians*, msgs. 6, 20—21; *CWWL*, 1966, vol. 1, "Christ Our Portion," ch. 1

**Tuesday 12/9****Related Verses****Exo. 3:8**

8 And I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites.

**John 1:29, 12:24****John 1:29**

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

**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.

**Psa. 119:105, 130**

105 Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.

130 The opening of Your words gives light, Imparting understanding to the simple.

**John 1:4**

4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

**John 8:12**

12 Again therefore Jesus spoke to them, saying, I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall by no means walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

**John 9:5**

5 While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

**Phil. 2:15**

15 That you may be blameless and guileless, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverted generation, among whom you shine as luminaries in the world,

**1 Peter 2:9**

9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people acquired for a possession, so that you may tell out the virtues of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

**Rev. 1:20**

20 The mystery of the seven stars which you saw upon My right hand and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the messengers of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

**Related Reading**

Milk is produced by cattle that feed on grass, and honey is made by bees from the nectar of flowers. Therefore, milk and honey signify the riches of Christ which come from the two aspects of His life: His redeeming life, typified by the animal life (John 1:29), and His generating life, typified by the vegetable life (12:24). The all-inclusive Christ is exceedingly rich for our enjoyment. (*CWWL*, 1969, vol. 3, p. 426)

Whenever we come to the Lord's table to enjoy Christ as the all-inclusive One, in our experience we are in the good land enjoying the riches of the land. This means that the good land has become a table, a feast, for our enjoyment. At this table, this feast, we are satisfied, and God is satisfied also. If we see this, we will realize that to enter into the good land is to come to the Lord's table.

The table is a feast for our enjoyment...It is crucial for us to understand that to come to the table is to enjoy Christ as the good land. (*Life-study of 1 Corinthians*, pp. 448-449)

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In Colossians 1:12 Paul says that the Father has qualified us "for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light." Many may read this verse without paying attention to the phrase *in the light*. Christ, our portion, is to be enjoyed by us in the light.

In John 8:12 the Lord Jesus said that He is the light of the world and that whoever follows Him will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life...First John 1:5 says that God is light. He alone is the source of light. The Word of God, Christ, the life of Christ, the believers, and the church can all be light because they have God as their source.

Psalms 119:105 says that the Word of God is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path, and 119:130 says that the opening of God's words gives light. The Word of God is light because it contains God. If the Bible did not contain God, the words of the Bible could not enlighten us. The source of the Bible is God, and God is light. Therefore, the words of the Bible are the shining of light.

In John 9:5 the Lord Jesus said, "While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." God and Christ are one. Since God is light, Christ also is light. Christ is the light of the world in a very definite way. *The world* in John 9:5 denotes society, mankind. Thus, Christ is the light not just in a general way but in a definite way as the light of society, of mankind.

The life of Christ is also light [cf. 1:4]...When we receive Christ as life, this life becomes light in us, shining upon us and enlightening us from within.

Those who believe in Christ are also the light. Speaking of the believers, the Lord Jesus said, "You are the light of the world" (Matt. 5:14). In Philippians 2:15 Paul says that the believers "shine as luminaries in the world." A luminary does not have light in itself; it reflects light that comes from another source. The believers are luminaries. In ourselves we have no light. The light comes from the oil, the Spirit, burning within us. The source of our light is not ourselves but Christ as the Spirit.

In Revelation 1:20 we see that the church is a lampstand, a stand that holds and supports a burning lamp. The lamp is Christ with God in Him as light (21:23). In the universe there is one light, God Himself. The Triune God is the unique light. (*Life-study of Colossians*, pp. 55-57)

Further Reading: *Life-study of 1 Corinthians*, msg. 50; *Life-study of Colossians*, msg. 7

**Wednesday 12/10****Related Verses****1 Pet. 2:2**

2 As newborn babes, long for the guileless milk of the word in order that by it you may grow unto salvation,

**Psa. 119:103**

103 How sweet are Your words to my taste! Sweeter than honey to my mouth!

**S. S. 4:11a**

11 Your lips drip fresh honey, my bride; Honey and milk are under your tongue;

**Isa. 50:4**

4 The Lord Jehovah has given me The tongue of the instructed, That I should know how to sustain the weary with a word. He awakens me morning by morning; He awakens my ear To hear as an instructed one.

**Ezek. 3:3**

3 And He said to me, Son of man, feed your stomach and fill your inward parts with this scroll that I am giving you. And I ate it, and it was like honey in my mouth in its sweetness.

**Matt. 12:35-36**

**35** The good man, out of his good treasure, brings forth good things, and the evil man, out of his evil treasure, brings forth evil things.

**36** And I say to you that every idle word which men shall speak, they will render an account concerning it in the day of judgment.

**Luke 4:22**

**22** And all bore witness to Him and marveled at the words of grace proceeding out of His mouth, and they said, Is not this Joseph's son?

**John 6:57, 63**

**57** As the living Father has sent Me and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also shall live because of Me.

**63** It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words which I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.

**Eph. 4:29**

**29** Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but only that which is good for building up, according to the need, that it may give grace to those who hear.

**Related Reading**

The barley loaves of the plant life signify the generating aspect of Christ's life, and the fishes signify the redeeming aspect of His life. As the generating life, Christ grew on the land, on the God-created earth. As the redeeming life, He lived in the sea, the Satan-corrupted world. In order to regenerate us He grew on the God-created earth for producing life, but in order to redeem us He lived in the satanic and sinful world. Just as fish can live in salty water without being salty, so Christ could live in the sinful world without being sinful and without being affected by the world...It is significant, therefore, that He fed the people with barley loaves and fishes. This indicates that He fed them with the generating life and the redeeming life, the life that overcomes death.

The Lord is signified by both the barley loaves and the fishes, for He is the plant life to generate us and the animal life to redeem us. Eventually, the feeding with Christ's resurrection life results in eternal life. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, pp. 696-697)

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Born through regeneration (1 Pet. 1:3, 23), the believers become babes who can grow in life...for God's building by being nourished with the spiritual milk...The milk of the word is not milk for the body but milk for the soul, the inner being. It is conveyed in the word of God to nourish our inner man through the understanding of our rational mind, and it is assimilated by our mental faculties. (*Life-study of 1 Peter*, pp. 125-126)

Song of Songs 4:11 says, "Thy lips, O my spouse, drop as the honeycomb: honey and milk are under thy tongue; and the smell of thy garments is like the smell of Lebanon." (*Smell* in this verse is different from the word *fragrance* in the previous verse.) No human or natural smell can be compared to the fragrance that emanates from the maiden. This naturally makes her lips drop as the honeycomb. Honey is sweet, and it restores the stricken ones. But this sweetness is not produced overnight. It comes from a long period of gathering, inward activity, and careful storage. This is the unique possession of one who is taught by God. From the mouth of the maiden issue forth sweet and refreshing words, not gossip, jokes, or rash words. Her words are not outbursts of torrents, but drops of honey from the honeycomb. This is the slowest kind of dripping. Some people have the urge to speak; their words are like the babbling of brooks. Even when they speak about spiritual things, the way they speak shows that they have not passed through the deeper work of grace. In this verse we can notice not only her lips slowly dropping sweet honey, but the things that are stored within her. "Honey and milk are under thy tongue." The top of the tongue is where man takes in food, whereas under the tongue is where man stores food. This means that she has stored up these things; there are riches within her. She has more than enough food. Honey restores the weak ones, whereas milk feeds the immature ones. She has stored so many riches within her that food seems to be under her tongue, and she can dispense to the needy ones at any time. However, she does not reveal all that she has. She is not like many people who exhibit on the outside all that they have inside. Honey and milk are under her tongue; they are not on her lips. (CWWN, vol. 23, "The Song of Songs," pp. 71-72)

He enjoys her word as fresh honey (for restoring the weak), which comes from her lips, and her word as

honey and milk (for restoring the weak and feeding the immature ones), which are under her tongue, and the fragrance of her conduct as the fragrance of ascension. (*Life-study of Song of Songs*, p. 32)

Further Reading: CWWN, vol. 23, "The Song of Songs," sec. 3; Life-study of Song of Songs, msg. 4

**Thursday 12/11****Related Verses****Col. 2:6-7, 9-10**

**6** As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,

**7** Having been rooted and being built up in Him, and being established in the faith even as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

**9** For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily,

**10** And you have been made full in Him, who is the Head of all rule and authority.

**Isa. 37:31**

**31** And the remnant of those who have escaped of the house of Judah will again take root downward and bear fruit upward.

**Col. 2:19**

**19** And not holding the Head, out from whom all the Body, being richly supplied and knit together by means of the joints and sinews, grows with the growth of God.

**Eph. 3:8, 19**

**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

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

**1 Cor. 3:6, 9**

**6** I planted, Apollos watered, but God caused the growth.  
**9** For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's cultivated land, God's building.

**Related Reading**

The section of Colossians that includes 2:8-15...contains a number of important points. Many...are related to Christ as the good land, as the rich soil in

which we have been rooted. The expression *having been rooted* in verse 7 implies that there is soil...Having been rooted in the soil, we grow with the elements that we absorb from the soil. We know that Christ as the soil is in our spirit. Now we must go on to see, from verses 8 through 15, a description of the very soil in which we have been rooted. These verses present a full description and definition of the soil. (*Life-study of Colossians*, pp. 453-454)

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The first aspect of this very special soil is found in Colossians 2:9: "In Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily." We have been rooted in the One in whom all the fullness of the Godhead dwells bodily. We should not allow anyone to carry us away from such a soil. To be carried away from this soil is to be uprooted from it...The believers had been rooted in Christ as the good land, as the One in whom all the fullness of the Godhead dwells. Instead of allowing anyone to carry us away from this soil, we must stay rooted in it.

[In verse 10] we see more concerning the substance of Christ as the soil. One aspect of the soil is that of the fullness of the Godhead; another aspect is that Christ is the Head of all rule and authority. In Christ as the good land, we have a number of different elements. The first element is all the fullness of the Godhead, and the second is the Head of all rule and authority.

When we are rooted in Christ as the soil, the first thing to take place is that we are made full in Him (v. 10)...The Greek word [for *made full*] implies completion, perfection, satisfaction, and full accomplishment. In Christ as the soil, we are filled, completed, perfected, satisfied, and thoroughly supplied...The first element of the soil is the fullness of the Godhead. As we absorb into our being the rich nourishment from the soil, we enjoy this fullness. Then this fullness makes us full, completes us, perfects us, satisfies us, accomplishes everything for us, and thoroughly supplies our every need.

This fullness is inexhaustible...God has planted us into a rich land. The first aspect of this land is the fullness of the Godhead, the expression of God in the old creation and in the new creation...Having been planted into such rich soil, we absorb nourishment from the soil. The first element of the riches of the soil is the fullness.

In this fullness we have been made full. Thus, we are short of nothing.

Paul wanted the Colossian believers to realize that since they had been made full in Christ, they had no need to worship angels. Christ is the Head of all rule and authority, and angels are just one item of God's creation. In the fullness we are made full, complete, and perfect. Everything necessary is accomplished, and we are supplied and satisfied. Oh, this fullness is all-inclusive. It includes righteousness, justification, holiness, sanctification, and whatever we may need. Having been planted into this fullness, we should simply absorb nourishment from it. As we do so, we will find that we have no lack. The experiences of crucifixion and resurrection are in the fullness. Praise the Lord that we may enjoy the universal, eternal, extensive, all-inclusive fullness! This fullness dwells in Christ bodily. Since Christ is the good land in which we have been rooted, we have been rooted in this fullness; in it we have been made full, complete, and perfect. We have no need whatever. (*Life-study of Colossians*, pp. 454-457)

Further Reading: *Life-study of Colossians*, msgs. 44, 46, 51

**Friday 12/12**

### **Related Verses**

#### **Col. 2:11-14**

**11** In Him also you were circumcised with a circumcision not made with hands, in the putting off of the body of the flesh, in the circumcision of Christ,

**12** Buried together with Him in baptism, in which also you were raised together with Him through the faith of the operation of God, who raised Him from the dead.

**13** And you, though dead in your offenses and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our offenses;

**14** Wiping out the handwriting in ordinances, which was against us, which was contrary to us; and He has taken it out of the way, nailing it to the cross.

#### **Rom. 2:29**

**29** But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is of the heart, in spirit, not in letter, whose praise is not from men, but from God.

#### **Rom. 6:4**

**4** We have been buried therefore with Him through baptism into His death, in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so also we might walk in newness of life.

#### **Rom. 8:11**

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

#### **Eph. 2:1, 5, 15**

**1** And you, though dead in your offenses and sins,

**5** Even when we were dead in offenses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)

**15** Abolishing in His flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances, that He might create the two in Himself into one new man, so making peace,

### **Related Reading**

In Colossians 2:11 through 15 we find more elements. Verse 11 says, "In Him also you were circumcised with a circumcision not made with hands, in the putting off of the body of the flesh, in the circumcision of Christ." The soil also includes the circumcision of Christ, which denotes cutting and killing...Verse 12, which says that we were buried together with Christ in baptism, indicates that the soil also contains the element of burial...After burial we are raised up. In verse 12 Paul speaks of God, who raised Christ from the dead. This expression indicates that in Christ as the soil there is an element that causes us to be raised up. According to verse 13, we also are made alive. There is an element in the soil that gives us life, enlivens us. In 1 Corinthians 15:45 Paul speaks of the life-giving Spirit. In Colossians 2:13 he uses the same Greek term for life-giving, only in the past tense. As the soil, Christ has made us alive; He has given us life. (*Life-study of Colossians*, pp. 454-455)

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In Colossians 2:14 and 15...we have more elements that are found in Christ as the soil. The wiping out of the handwriting in ordinances is an element in the soil. The same is true of the stripping off of the rulers and the authorities, the making of a display of them openly, and

the triumphing over them in the cross...Praise Him that He is such a rich soil! We have been rooted in this soil. Day by day our roots need to sink deeper into Christ as the unique soil.

On the negative side, however, as 2:11-15 indicates, we have the flesh, the ordinances, and the rulers and authorities. Young and old, male and female, cultured and uncultured—we all are troubled by these three categories of negative things. We all have the flesh, we all have some type of ordinances, and we all are subject to the evil authorities in the atmosphere. Sin, worldliness, and offenses have their source in these negative things. Praise the Lord that in Christ as the soil we have the element of circumcision, which puts the flesh to death! In Christ as the soil, there is killing power...In the soil of the good land in which we are rooted is the “salt” of circumcision. This element does not cause anything to grow, but it is effective in killing germs. It cuts the flesh and kills it.

After the killing, we have burial. In Christ as the soil, there is an element that causes us to be buried. Furthermore, there is another element that raises us up...In Christ as the soil, we are put to death, buried, raised up, and given life. The killing and the burial take the negative things away from us, whereas being raised takes us away from the negative things. Then the element in the soil that gives life makes us living. Therefore, in Christ as the soil, there are elements that kill us, bury us, raise us up, and make us living.

According to 2:14, the handwriting in ordinances, which was against us and contrary to us, has been wiped out. It has been nailed to the cross. In the soil there is also the element of the wiping out of the ordinances.

We all have certain kinds of ordinances concerning the way we conduct our daily life. These ordinances may not be in writing, but they are inscribed in our mentality. Perhaps you have never realized this, but ordinances hinder your growth in life. In order for you to grow properly, they need to be wiped out, nailed to the cross. I can testify that as I absorb nourishment from Christ as the soil, my ordinances are wiped out. Today we do not need ordinances. We simply need to assimilate the riches from the soil that we may grow and be built up. (*Life-study of Colossians*, pp. 455, 457-458)

Further Reading: *Life-study of Colossians*, msgs. 52—53

**Saturday 12/13**

### Related Verses

#### Col. 2:7, 15

7 Having been rooted and being built up in Him, and being established in the faith even as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

15 Stripping off the rulers and the authorities, He made a display of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

#### Col. 4:2

2 Persevere in prayer, watching in it with thanksgiving,

#### Matt. 12:22-23

22 Then there was brought to Him one possessed by a demon, blind and dumb, and He healed him, so that the dumb man spoke and saw.

23 And all the crowds were amazed and said, Is this not the Son of David?

#### Matt. 6:6

6 But you, when you pray, enter into your private room, and shut your door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

#### Acts 1:14

14 These all continued steadfastly with one accord in prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.

#### Rom. 12:12

12 Rejoice in hope; endure in tribulation; persevere in prayer.

#### Eph. 6:17-18

17 And receive the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which Spirit is the word of God,

18 By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints,

### Related Reading

In the soil there is also an element that strips off the rulers and authorities and triumphs over them (Col. 2:15). This element is victorious over the evil spirits in the atmosphere. Both believers and unbelievers realize

that there is something evil surrounding them. People try to be good, but something causes them to do evil...If we try in ourselves to combat the power of darkness in the atmosphere, we will be defeated. But there is an element in Christ as the soil that defeats the evil spirits. As we stay rooted in the soil and absorb its rich elements, the rulers and authorities in the heavenlies will be stripped off. There is an element in the soil that strips off the power of darkness. We have been planted into this soil, and now we must enjoy all its riches. (*Life-study of Colossians*, p. 458)

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We are rooted in Christ, who is the rich, fertile soil. Having been rooted in Him, we should go on to absorb His riches. As a tree absorbs nourishing elements from the soil through its roots, we also should absorb the riches of Christ into us...A tree's growth depends upon the nourishment it absorbs through its roots. Since we have been rooted into Christ, we should remain in Him in a practical way day by day. In our experience we need to stay rooted in Christ. However, if we forget Christ in matters such as eating and drinking, we are not rooted in Him in our experience. When we eat our food, we may not remember Christ. After our meal we may spend some time in prayer. But even at the beginning of our prayer, we may not actually and experientially be rooted in Christ, for we may pray many unnecessary things. But in His mercy and patience, the Lord waits until we begin to pray in a genuine way. Then in our experience we absorb Christ's riches. However, when our time of prayer is finished, it may happen that we do not go on to assimilate what we have absorbed of Him. According to the Lord's words in John 15, it could be that we do not abide in Him.

In the morning many saints spend time with the Lord. However, even though they spend a certain amount of time with Him, they may not absorb much of His riches. The reason is that they are in too much of a hurry. If we would absorb the riches of Christ into us as our nourishment, we should not be rushed.

If we would absorb the riches of Christ as the soil, we need to have tender, new roots. Do not let yourself get old, but be fresh and renewed day by day. Pray to the Lord, “Lord, I want my consecration to be fresh, and I

want to open to You anew. I want my roots to be tender that I may absorb Your riches. Lord, don't let my roots get old." If our roots are tender and new to absorb the riches of Christ, we will grow automatically with the riches we assimilate. This is to enjoy Christ and to experience Him subjectively, daily, and hourly.

If you see that we have been rooted in Christ as the rich soil, you will be comforted and encouraged. Do not be troubled by your weaknesses...In this soil do you not have the fullness, the circumcision, the burial, the raising up, the giving of life, the wiping out of the ordinances, and the stripping off of the powers of darkness?...Take time to absorb Him, to assimilate the rich elements from Him as the soil. If you take time to absorb the Lord, you will be able to testify that in Christ you have no lack.

Every morning we need to take an adequate amount of time to absorb the Lord. Although even ten minutes is good,...if you spend thirty minutes to absorb the Lord and to enjoy Him in the morning, you will not be bothered by negative things during the day. The "flies" and "scorpions" will not pester you, for the elements in the soil will repel them. (*Life-study of Colossians*, pp. 477-479, 459-460)

Further Reading: *Life-study of Colossians*, msgs. 47—48, 55

### **Churchwide Truth Pursuit of Genesis**

#### **Level 1—Sequential Life-study Reading**

Scripture Reading and Copying: Gen. 31:17-55

Assigned Reading: *Life-study of Genesis*, msg(s). 75-76

#### **Level 2—Topical Study**

Crucial Point: The Purpose of God According to

Selection with Esau and Jacob

Scripture: Gen. 25:19-28

Assigned Reading: *Life-study of Genesis*, msg(s). 66-67

Supplemental Reading: *The God of Abraham, Isaac, and*

*Jacob*, ch. 9; *CWWN, Set 1, Vol. 9, "The Present*

*Testimony (2)"*, Issue 21 "The Principle of Being the

Second"; *Truth Lessons, Level Two, Vol. 2*, ch. 23;

*Revelations in Genesis: Seeing God's Calling in the*

*Experiences of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob*, ch. 15

Study Questions: See the church website at

[churchinnyc.org/bible-study](http://churchinnyc.org/bible-study)

### **Lord's Day 12/14**

#### **Related Verses**

#### **Deut. 8:6-10**

**6** Therefore keep the commandments of Jehovah your God, walking in His ways and fearing Him.

**7** For Jehovah your God is bringing you to a good land, a land of waterbrooks, of springs and of fountains, flowing forth in valleys and in mountains;

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

**9** A land in which you will eat bread without scarcity; you will not lack anything in it; a land whose stones are iron, and from whose mountains you can mine copper.

**10** And you shall eat and be satisfied, and you shall bless Jehovah your God for the good land which He has given you.

#### **Eph. 3:14-15, 16-21**

**14** 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.

#### **Further Reading:**

Further Reading: *Life-study of Colossians*, msg 52

#### **Hymn: #643**

**1** Take time to behold Him,  
Speak oft with Thy Lord,  
Abide in Him always,  
And feed on His Word.  
Wait thou in His presence,  
Submissive and meek,  
Forgetting in nothing  
His blessing to seek.

**2** Take time to behold Him,  
The world rushes on;  
Spend much time in secret  
With Jesus alone.  
By looking to Jesus  
Like Him thou shalt be;  
Thy friends, in thy conduct,  
His likeness shall see.

**3** Take time to behold Him,  
Let Him be thy guide;  
And run not before Him  
Whatever betide;  
In joy or in sorrow  
Still follow thy Lord,  
And, looking to Jesus,  
Still trust in His Word.

**4** Take time to behold Him,  
Be calm in thy soul,  
Each thought and each temper  
Beneath His control.  
Thus led by His Spirit  
To fountains of love,  
Thou then shalt be fitted  
His mercy to prove.