

Monday 3/18

Related Verses

1 Cor. 1:2, 9, 24, 30

2 To the church of God which is in Corinth, to those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, the called saints, with all those who call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ in every place, who is theirs and ours:

9 God is faithful, through whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

24 But to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

30 But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became wisdom to us from God: both righteousness and sanctification and redemption,

Col. 1:12, 17-18

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

17 And He is before all things, and all things cohere in Him;

18 And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;

Matt. 25:21, 23

21 His master said to him, Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful over a few things; I will set you over many things. Enter into the joy of your master.

23 His master said to him, Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful over a few things; I will set you over many things. Enter into the joy of your master.

Related Reading

Into the fellowship [in 1 Corinthians 1:9] denotes to partake of the fellowship of the union with God's Son, Jesus Christ, and of the participation in Him. God has called us into such a fellowship that we may enjoy Christ as our God-given portion. This word, like the word in verse 2 concerning Christ's being theirs and ours stresses again the crucial fact that Christ is the unique center of the believers for the solving of the problems among them, especially the problem of division. (*Life-study of 1 Corinthians*, second edition, p. 23)

First Corinthians unveils to us that the very Christ, into whom we all have been called, is all-inclusive. He is the portion given to us by God (1:2). He is God's power and God's wisdom as righteousness, sanctification, and redemption to us (vv. 24, 30). He is the Lord of glory (2:8) for our glorification (v. 7; Rom. 8:30). He is the depths (deep things) of God (1 Cor. 2:10). He is the unique foundation of God's building (3:11). He is our Passover (5:7), the unleavened bread (v. 8), the spiritual food, the spiritual drink, and the spiritual rock (10:3-4). He is the Head (11:3) and the Body (12:12). He is the firstfruits (15:20, 23), the second man (v. 47), and the last Adam (v. 45); and as such He became the life-giving Spirit (v. 45) that we may receive Him into us as our everything. This all-inclusive One, with the riches of at least twenty items, God has given to us as our portion for our enjoyment. We should concentrate on Him, not on any persons, things, or matters other than Him...It is into the fellowship of such a One that we have been called by God. This fellowship of God's Son became the fellowship that the apostles shared with the believers (Acts 2:42; 1 John 1:3) in His Body, the church, and should be the fellowship that we enjoy in partaking of His blood and His body at His table (1 Cor. 10:16, 21). Such a fellowship, which is carried out by the Spirit (2 Cor. 13:14), must be unique, because He is unique; it forbids any division among the members of His unique Body.

Fellowship...means that we and Christ have become one. It also means that we enjoy Christ and all He is, and that He enjoys us and what we are. As a result, there is not only a mutual communication but a mutuality in every way. All that Christ is becomes ours, and all that we are becomes His...We have been called into a mutuality in which we enjoy what the Son of God is, and in which we are one with Him and He is one with us. Elsewhere in 1 Corinthians, in 6:17, Paul says, "He who is joined to the Lord is one spirit." We have been called into such a oneness. In this oneness we enjoy what Christ is, and He enjoys what we are. You may say, "I certainly believe that we have been called to enjoy Christ. But how can it be true that Christ enjoys us?"

You may say that this is true, but I find it hard to believe." Christ, however, would say, "Child, I enjoy you very much. You don't realize how much I enjoy you.

Even when you are weak and low, I still enjoy you, for I am one spirit with you."

In chapter 1, verse 9 is related to verse 2. In verse 2 Paul says, "With all those who call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ in every place, who is theirs and ours." Christ is ours, and He is also theirs. He belongs to us and to all the other believers...The very Lord Jesus Christ upon whose name we are calling in every place is our Lord and their Lord, our portion and their portion. This means that all the saints have the Lord as their unique portion. The reason for this is that we all have been called into the fellowship of God's Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. (*Life-study of 1 Corinthians*, 2nd edition, pp. 23-25)

Further Reading: *Life-study of 1 Corinthians*, msgs. 3-5, 16

Tuesday 3/19

Related Verses

Phil. 3:14

14 I pursue toward the goal for the prize to which God in Christ Jesus has called me upward.

Phil. 2:2

2 Make my joy full, that you think the same thing, having the same love, joined in soul, thinking the one thing,

1 Cor. 2:7-8, 10

7 But we speak God's wisdom in a mystery, the wisdom which has been hidden, which God predestined before the ages for our glory,

8 Which none of the rulers of this age have known; for if they had known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory;

10 But to us God has revealed them through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.

Rom. 8:30

30 And those whom He predestinated, these He also called; and those whom He called, these He also justified; and those whom He justified, these He also glorified.

Psa. 24:6-10

6 This is the generation of those who seek Him, Those who seek Your face, even Jacob.

7 Lift up your heads, O gates; And be lifted up, O long enduring doors; And the King of glory will come in.

8 Who is the King of glory? Jehovah strong and mighty! Jehovah mighty in battle!

9 Lift up your heads, O gates; And lift up, O long enduring doors; And the King of glory will come in.

10 Who is this King of glory? Jehovah of hosts - He is the King of glory!

Related Reading

The way the Philippians could make Paul's joy full was to think the same thing, even the one thing (Phil. 2:2). According to the context of the entire book, *the one thing* must refer to the subjective knowledge of Christ and experience of Christ (1:20-21; 2:5; 3:7-9; 4:13). Christ, and Christ alone, should be the centrality and universality of our entire being. Our thinking should be focused on the excellency of the knowledge of Christ and the experience of Christ. Focusing on anything else causes us to think differently, thus creating dissensions among us.

The saints in Philippi were good, and the church in that city had been well established. However, there was dissension among them. Although they were one in spirit, they were not striving together with one soul. Although they all loved the Lord, they were not thinking the same thing...Out of heaviness of heart, [Paul] appealed to the Philippians to make his joy full by being joined in soul and by thinking the same thing. (*Life-study of Philippians*, second edition, p. 75)

Paul was pursuing toward the goal for the prize [Phil. 3:14]. Christ is both the goal and the prize. The goal is the fullest enjoyment and gaining of Christ, and the prize is the uttermost enjoyment of Christ in the millennial kingdom as a reward to the victorious runners of the New Testament race...To reach the goal for the prize, Paul was exercised to forget the things which are behind and to stretch forward to the things which are before.

To be called upward is for the obtaining of the prize to which God has called us from above, from the

heavens. This heavenly calling (Heb. 3:1) corresponds with the heavenly commonwealth in Philippians 3:20...This upward calling is to take possession of Christ, whereas the earthly calling to the children of Israel was to take possession of the physical land.

We should see the fact that God has set up a goal and prepared a prize. We need to run a good race and to pursue Christ by forgetting the things which are behind and stretching forward to the things which are before, that is, the things concerning Christ and His Body, the church. Let us all forget the things behind and pay attention to the bright future ahead of us, a future of gaining Christ and experiencing Him to the uttermost in His Body. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, pp. 3512-3513)

In the church life we help all the saints to think one thing—the enjoyment of Christ for the church life. We all think of the experience of Christ for the Body life.

To think something other than the one thing is to rebel against God's economy. God's economy is that we think the one thing. Has a certain brother offended you? You should not think about that offense, for God's economy does not allow you to do so. If you think about the offense, you rebel against God. This is a serious matter. Murmuring is also rebellious. God's economy does not allow us to murmur. To do so is to be disobedient.

If we are enlightened concerning reasoning and murmuring, we will say, "Lord, forgive my rebellion...I want to be obedient, obeying Your economy to think the one thing. Although certain ones have offended me, I do not want to think about the offenses. Instead, I want to think only of the enjoyment and experience of Christ." To do this is to work out our salvation...To work out our own salvation is to work out [the] genuine oneness. When we are not in the genuine oneness, we are in some kind of hell. Thus, we need the salvation that is the genuine oneness. We need to be one not only in spirit but also in soul...We need to think the one thing. When we think the one thing, we are one not only in spirit but also in soul. (*CWWL*, 1978, vol. 1, "The Experience of Christ," p. 363)

Further Reading: *CWWL*, 1994-1997, vol. 4, "Crystallization-study of the Gospel of John," msg. 13

Wednesday 3/20

Related Verses**Jer. 2:13**

13 For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, The fountain of living waters, To hew out for themselves cisterns, Broken cisterns, Which hold no water.

John 4:14

14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water gushing up into eternal life.

Psa. 36:8-9

8 They are saturated with the fatness of Your house, And You cause them to drink of the river of Your pleasures.
9 For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light.

Isa. 12:3-6

3 Therefore you will draw water with rejoicing From the springs of salvation,
4 And you will say in that day, Give thanks to Jehovah; call upon His name! Make His deeds known among the peoples; Remind them that His name is exalted.
5 Sing psalms to Jehovah, for He has done something majestic! Let it be made known in all the earth!
6 Cry out and give a ringing shout, O inhabitant of Zion, For great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Related Reading

God is the fountain of living waters [Jer. 2:13]...God's purpose in wanting to be the fountain of living waters for His elect to drink is that He would be increased and enlarged.

God needs to be the fountain of living waters to His elect because He has an economy, and His economy is to produce a counterpart, a bride, for Himself. The purpose of God's economy is that God would no longer be alone but would have a wife to be His increase, His enlargement, and thus to match Him as the Husband...John the Baptist, speaking of Christ, says, "He

must increase” [John 3:30]. In the previous verse John had said, “He who has the bride is the bridegroom.” The increase in verse 30 is the bride in verse 29. The Bridegroom is Christ, and the bride is His increase, His enlargement. Just as Eve was the increase of Adam, being built from Adam’s rib, so God’s elect as the bride are the increase of Christ as the Bridegroom. (*Life-study of Jeremiah*, pp. 25, 27)

God’s economy is to have an expression of Himself. God does not want to express Himself by Himself alone; rather, He wants to express Himself through His counterpart.

Although we are unfaithful, God is faithful. Lamentations 3:23b says, “Great is Your faithfulness.” The chorus of a well-known hymn on God’s faithfulness (*Hymns*, #19) says, “Great is Thy faithfulness!.../ Morning by morning new mercies I see. / All I have needed Thy hand hath provided...” We may understand what the Bible says and what this hymn says about God’s faithfulness either in a natural way or in a spiritual way...When some say that God is faithful, they mean that He is faithful to take care of their material needs. However, in 1 Corinthians 1:9 Paul says, “God is faithful, through whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.” God is faithful in this matter, but He may not be faithful to provide you a large house or a well-paying job. I would not deny the fact that God is faithful in caring for our welfare. My point is that God’s faithfulness is not according to our natural understanding.

Consider the sufferings of the apostle Paul. He was called, commissioned, burdened, and sent by God, but wherever he went, he had troubles. For example, as soon as he began to preach Christ, he began to suffer persecution...Does this mean that God was not faithful to Paul? No, it means that God’s faithfulness is not according to our natural understanding.

When we believed in the Lord Jesus, we might have expected to have peace and blessing. But instead we might have had many troubles and might have lost our security, our health, or our possessions. When some Christians experience such things, they may question

God’s faithfulness and ask why He did not prevent hardships from happening to them.

We need to realize that in allowing us to have troubles, God is faithful in His purpose to turn us from idols and bring us back to Himself. Our peace, safety, health, and possessions may become idols to us, and God is faithful to take these things away so that we may drink of Him as the fountain of living waters...God’s faithfulness is a matter of dealing with these idols and causing us to drink of Him.

God is faithful in leading us into His economy, and His economy is for us to drink Christ, to eat Christ, to enjoy Christ, to absorb Christ, and to assimilate Christ that God may have His increase with us to fulfill His economy. This is God’s faithfulness. (*Life-study of Jeremiah*, pp. 26-29)

Further Reading: *Life-study of Jeremiah*, msgs. 4, 6; *CWWL, 1991-1992*, vol. 4, “The Overcomers,” chs. 2-3

Thursday 3/21

Related Verses

Lam. 3:22-24

22 It is Jehovah's lovingkindness that we are not consumed, For His compassions do not fail;

23 They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.

24 Jehovah is my portion, says my soul; Therefore I hope in Him.

Jer. 17:7-8

7 Blessed is the man who trusts in Jehovah And whose trust Jehovah is.

8 And he will be like a tree transplanted beside water, Which sends out its roots by a stream, And will not be afraid when heat comes; For its leaves remain flourishing, And it will not be anxious in the year of drought And will not cease to bear fruit.

2 Cor. 1:8-9

8 For we do not want you to be ignorant, brothers, of our affliction which befell us in Asia, that we were excessively burdened, beyond our power, so that we despaired even of living.

9 Indeed we ourselves had the response of death in ourselves, that we should not base our confidence on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead;

John 16:33

33 These things I have spoken to you that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have affliction, but take courage; I have overcome the world.

1 Cor. 10:3-4

3 And all ate the same spiritual food,

4 And all drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank of a spiritual rock which followed them, and the rock was Christ.

Related Reading

The evil condition of the wicked is that they do not come to the Lord to eat and enjoy the Lord (cf. Isa. 55:1-2). They do many things, but they do not come to contact the Lord, to take Him, to receive Him, to taste Him, and to enjoy Him. In the sight of God, nothing is more evil than this. (Isa. 57:20, footnote 1)

Instead of drinking of God as the fountain of living waters, Israel drank of their idols. Therefore, God used the Babylonians to deal with these idols and also to destroy Jerusalem and even the temple, which had become an idol to them. We need to see that we are not better than Israel. Anything can become an idol to us. But God is faithful in fulfilling His economy. In His faithfulness He deals with our idols that we may drink of Him. We all need to drink of God as the fountain of living waters, receiving Christ into us and assimilating Him, so that He may increase for the fulfillment of God’s economy to have His expression through His counterpart. (*Life-study of Jeremiah*, p. 29)

We may think that because of our failure, we are hopeless...Lamentations 3:22-25...[was] written after the Babylonians had destroyed Jerusalem, burned the temple, and carried away many into captivity...Surely, the people of Israel must have felt that God had given them up and that they were finished. On the one hand, Jeremiah was weeping; on the other hand, he was writing. In his writing he could say that it was of Jehovah’s lovingkindness that they were not consumed. He could

say that they were still there and that God had not given them up. The princes, the prophets, and the priests had failed, but God's compassions do not fail; rather, they are new every morning. Jeremiah could even declare that Jehovah was his portion and that he hoped in Him, for He is good to those who wait on Him. Why is there hope in Him? There is hope in God because with God there is no disappointment.

We need to see that Israel's failure opened the way for Christ to come in to be their righteousness. The situation is the same with us today. Our failure opens the way for Christ to come in.

According to the prophecy of Jeremiah, no matter how evil and wicked Israel may be and no matter how often they have forsaken God to hew out broken cisterns for themselves, Israel will be restored. In the restoration of Israel, Christ will be their righteousness, redemption, and life (Jer. 31:33-34), and Christ will be exalted to be their centrality and universality. God will come in to dispense Himself into His elect as the divine life to be their life and life law with its capacity to know God and to live God. Eventually, they, like Paul and the believers in Christ today, will be a new creation.

Whereas God is faithful, we are neither faithful nor chaste but go to many other husbands. After failing God, we may receive some mercy and grace and therefore repent and weep...While we are repenting and weeping, God is rejoicing...After repenting, we should begin to drink of the living waters, praising God, giving thanks to Him for everything, and enjoying Him. This is what God wants. God is not interested in anything other than our enjoyment of Christ.

If we fail God today, we should not be disappointed. God has a way to deal with us. He has a way to cause us to mature and then to bring us into the New Jerusalem.

God is patient, sympathetic, and compassionate, and He will take the time to make us mature. Every believer, whether presently weak or strong, will be in the New Jerusalem, and everyone there will be mature. Whether we seek God diligently or only a little, God has a way to make Christ our righteousness, our redemption, our life, our life law, and our life capacity so that we can be matured. (*Life-study of Jeremiah*, pp. 29-31, 29, 31)

Further Reading: *CWWL, 1973-1974*, vol. 1, "The Enjoyment of Christ for the Body in 1 Corinthians," ch. 3

Friday 3/22

Related Verses

1 Cor. 2:9-10

9 But as it is written, "Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard and which have not come up in man's heart; things which God has prepared for those who love Him."

10 But to us God has revealed them through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.

1 Cor. 16:22

22 If anyone does not love the Lord, let him be accursed! The Lord comes!

1 Cor. 13:1-8a

1 If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels but do not have love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal.

2 And if I have the gift of prophecy and know all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

3 And if I dole out all my possessions to feed others, and if I deliver up my body that I may boast, but do not have love, I profit nothing.

4 Love suffers long. Love is kind; it is not jealous. Love does not brag and is not puffed up;

5 It does not behave unbecomingly and does not seek its own things; it is not provoked and does not take account of evil;

6 It does not rejoice because of unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;

7 It covers all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

8a Love never falls away.

Related Reading

To realize and participate in the deep and hidden things God has ordained and prepared for us requires us not only to believe in Him but also to love Him. To fear God, to worship God, and to believe in God (that is, to receive God) are all inadequate; to love Him is the indispensable requirement. To love God means to set our entire being—spirit, soul, and body, with the heart, soul,

mind, and strength (Mark 12:30)—absolutely on Him, that is, to let our entire being be occupied by Him and lost in Him, so that He becomes everything to us and we are one with Him practically in our daily life. In this way we have the closest and most intimate fellowship with God, and we are able to enter into His heart and apprehend all its secrets (Psa. 73:25; 25:14). Thus, we not only realize but also experience, enjoy, and fully participate in these deep and hidden things of God. (1 Cor. 2:9, footnote 3)

Life is not knowledge, it is not gifts, neither is it power. Life is a wonderful, unique, and strong person.

Since Jesus as our life is a person, we must contact Him...You may have known Jesus for over twenty years and yet today miss His presence. Perhaps I came to know Him just five minutes ago, but I am in His presence. Thus, I get Him, and you miss Him. We must forget about our knowledge and past experiences. We even need to forget all that we know about Jesus. It means little. We need the present presence of Jesus. We need His presence at this very moment and day by day. We need the present person all the time, no matter how much we have known Him and experienced Him in the past. We need a new contact with Christ all day, moment by moment. He is a living person within us, so we must contact Him. We must tell Him, "Lord Jesus, I love You! O Lord Jesus, I love You! I hate and repudiate myself. I put myself aside so that I may take You as my life, moment by moment and day by day." (*CWWL, 1972*, vol. 1, "Life and Building as Portrayed in the Song of Songs," pp. 229-230)

In 2 Corinthians 5:14 Paul says that "the love of Christ constrains us." Because the love of Christ constrained him, Paul was a person who lived to the Lord (v. 15). Another item which equips us to be the ambassadors of Christ is the constraining love of Christ. We must be persons carried away by the love of Christ. In 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 Paul tells us that the dying love of Christ is like the rushing of great waters toward us, impelling us to live to Him beyond our own control...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 have to love the Lord because His love has constrained me. What can I do?” When the flood waters come, we do not have a choice as to whether we will receive them or not...We all have to be constrained by the love of Christ in such a way.

I must confess that I have prayed day by day for years that the Lord would show me His love so that I could be constrained by the love of Christ. I prayed in this way: “Lord, constrain me with Your love. O Lord, flood me with Your love.” All of us need to pray in this way. The young saints among us need to realize that although they love the Lord today, they are still at the crossroads of their Christian experience. There are many directions for them to choose, to take. They may have many choices, but once they are flooded by the love of Christ, they lose all the choices. (*CWWL, 1967*, vol. 2, “An Autobiography of a Person in the Spirit,” pp. 173-174)

Further Reading: *CWWL, 1972*, vol. 1, “Life and Building as Portrayed in the Song of Songs,” ch. 1; *CWWL, 1967*, vol. 2, “An Autobiography of a Person in the Spirit,” ch. 6

Saturday 3/23

Related Verses

1 Cor. 13:4

4 Love suffers long. Love is kind; it is not jealous. Love does not brag and is not puffed up;

2 Tim. 1:7

7 For God has not given us a spirit of cowardice, but of power and of love and of sobermindedness.

1 Cor. 12:31

31 But earnestly desire the greater gifts. And moreover I show to you a most excellent way.

1 John 4:7-12

7 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God, and everyone who loves has been begotten of God and knows God.

8 He who does not love has not known God, because God is love.

9 In this the love of God was manifested among us, that God sent His only begotten Son into the world that we might have life and live through Him.

10 Herein is love, not that we have loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son as a propitiation for our sins.

11 Beloved, if God has loved us in this way, we also ought to love one another.

12 No one has beheld God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us.

Related Reading

The end of 1 Corinthians 12 reveals that love is the most excellent way (v. 31b). How can one be an elder?...How can one be a co-worker?...How do we shepherd people? Love is the most excellent way. Love is the most excellent way for us to prophesy and to teach others. Love is the most excellent way for us to be anything or do anything. (*CWWL, 1994-1997*, vol. 5, “The Vital Groups,” p. 126)

The spirit that God has given us is our human spirit regenerated and indwelt by the Holy Spirit. This spirit is a spirit of love; hence, it is of power and of sobermindedness (2 Tim. 1:7). We may think that we are very powerful and sober, but our spirit is not of love. We talk to people in a way that is full of power and sobermindedness, but our talk threatens them.

Paul says that we need to fan our gift into flame (v. 6). The main gift that God has given us is our regenerated human spirit with His Spirit, His life, and His nature. We must fan this gift into flame. This means that we have to stir up our spirit so that our spirit will be burning. Romans 12:11 says that we should be burning in spirit...We must have a burning spirit of love, not a burning spirit of authority, which damages.

According to my observation..., most of the co-workers have a human spirit of “power” but not of love. We need a spirit of love to conquer the degradation of today’s church. We should not say or do anything to threaten people. Instead, we should always say and do things with a spirit of love, which has been fanned into flame. This is what the recovery needs.

Love prevails. We should love everybody, even our enemies. If the co-workers and elders do not love the bad ones, eventually, they will have nothing to do. We must be perfect as our Father is perfect (Matt. 5:48) by loving the evil ones and the good ones without any discrimination. We must be perfect as our Father because we are His sons, His species. This is most crucial. How can we be a co-worker and an elder? It is by love in every way. We must love any kind of person. The Lord Jesus said that He came to be a Physician, not for the healthy ones but for the sick ones. The Lord said, “Those who are strong have no need of a physician, but those who are ill” (9:12).

The church is not a police station to arrest people or a law court to judge people but a home to raise up the believers. Parents know that the worse their children are, the more they need their raising up...The church is a loving home to raise up the children. The church is also a hospital to heal and to recover the sick ones. Finally, the church is a school to teach and edify the unlearned ones who do not have much understanding. Because the church is a home, a hospital, and a school, the co-workers and elders should be one with the Lord to raise up, to heal, to recover, and to teach others in love.

Some of the churches, however, are police stations to arrest the sinful ones and law courts to judge them. Paul’s attitude was different. He said, “Who is weak, and I am not weak?” (2 Cor. 11:29a). When the scribes and Pharisees brought an adulterous woman to the Lord, He said to them, “He who is without sin among you, let him be the first to throw a stone at her” (John 8:7). After all of them left, the Lord asked the sinful woman, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” She said, “No one, Lord.” Then Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you” (vv. 10-11). Who is without sin? Who is perfect?...We should not consider that others are weak but we are not. That is not love. Love covers and builds up, so love is the most excellent way for us to be anything and to do anything for the building up of the Body of Christ. (*CWWL, 1994-1997*, vol. 5, “The Vital Groups,” pp. 124-127)

Further Reading: *CWWL, 1994-1997*, vol. 5, “The Vital Groups,” chs. 4, 8; Life-study of the Psalms, msgs. 11-12

Lord's Day 3/24

Related Verses

1 Cor. 1:10, 17-23, 31

10 Now I beseech you, brothers, through the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be attuned in the same mind and in the same opinion.

17 For Christ did not send me to baptize but to announce the gospel, not in wisdom of speech that the cross of Christ may not be made void.

18 For the word of the cross is to those who are perishing foolishness, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

19 For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the understanding of those who understand I will set aside."

20 Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made the wisdom of the world foolish?

21 For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know God, God was well pleased through the foolishness of the preaching to save those who believe.

22 For indeed Jews require signs and Greeks seek wisdom,

23 But we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block, and to Gentiles foolishness,

31 That as it is written, "He who boasts, let him boast in the Lord."

1 Cor. 2:1-2

1 And I, when I came to you, brothers, came not according to excellence of speech or of wisdom, announcing to you the mystery of God.

2 For I did not determine to know anything among you except Jesus Christ, and this One crucified.

Further Reading:

Further Reading: <i>Life-study of First Corinthians</i> , ch. 4

Hymn: #477

1 Though Christ a thousand times
 In Bethlehem be born,
 If He's not born in thee
 Thy soul is still forlorn.
 The Cross on Golgotha,
 Will never save thy soul;
 The Cross in thine own heart,
 Alone can make thee whole.

O, Cross of Christ, I take thee
 Into this heart of mine,
 That I to my own self may die
 And rise to thy life Divine.

2 What e'er thou lovest, man,
 That too become thou must;
 God, if thou lovest God,
 Dust, if thou lovest dust.
 Go out, God will come in;
 Die thou and let Him live;
 Be not and He will be;
 Wait and He'll all things give.

3 To bring thee to thy God,
 Love takes the shortest route;
 The way which knowledge leads,
 Is but a roundabout.
 Drive out from thee the world,
 And then thy heart shall be
 Filled with the love of God,
 And holy like as He.

Churchwide Truth Pursuit of Hebrews**Level 1—Hebrews Sequential Reading**

Scripture Reading and Copying: Heb. 2:5-10

Assigned Reading: *Life-study of Hebrews*, msgs. 7-8**Level 2—Hebrews Topical Study**

Crucial Point: How Great a Salvation

Scripture: Heb. 2:3-4

Assigned Reading: *Life-study of Hebrews*, msgs. 5-6

Supplemental Reading: None

Questions:

1. Why is salvation great to you?
2. How is salvation great, according to God's view?
3. What is the recompense for those who neglect so great a salvation?
4. Explain Heb. 2:4.