

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE WORKING SAINTS AND THE NEW WAY IN THE LORD'S RECOVERY

Scripture Reading: 1 John 2:13-17; Phil. 1:19-21a; Eph. 4:12, 16; 2 Tim. 4:7-8, 18b

- I. God's need in His economy today:
 - A. The young and the middle-aged saints—1 John 2:13-17:
 - 1. Those believers who are grown-up in God's life.
 - 2. Having overcome the evil one.
 - 3. Being strong.
 - 4. Having the word of God abiding within.
 - 5. Loving not the world nor the things of the world.
 - 6. Practicing the will of God.
 - B. The saints who are the fathers—1 John 2:13-14:
 - 1. Those believers who are mature in God's life.
 - 2. Knowing the Christ who was before all things, who also is the Word of life who was there in the beginning—1 John 1:1.
 - 3. Continuing to know this eternal Christ by the inner life until maturity.
 - C. The Lord's achievement in grace:
 - 1. In time and place.
 - 2. In circumstances.
 - 3. In grace.
 - 4. In the church.
- II. In the past, there being many men and few opportunities, whereas now, there being many opportunities and few men:
 - A. The meetings and the service in the past not affording enough opportunity for the saints to serve:
 - 1. On the one hand, helping people to be regenerated and to grow.
 - 2. On the other hand, taking away peoples' opportunity to serve the Lord.
 - B. The meetings and the service today creating unlimited opportunities for the saints to serve:
 - 1. Opportunity abounding everywhere, from preaching the gospel by visitation, through the home meetings, to the small group meetings and the district meetings.
 - 2. Affording the saints the chance to let out a breath of life, which is their desire to serve the Lord.
- III. Meeting the Lord's present need:
 - A. By recalling the past experiences and vision.
 - B. By responding to the Lord's attraction and calling.
 - C. By renewing the former commitment and consecration.
 - D. By setting aside one's time and specifically budgeting one's daily life.
 - E. By fulfilling all the needs in the new way:
 - 1. Visiting people to preach the gospel and to gain new ones.
 - 2. Regularly and consistently helping the new ones in the home meetings.
 - 3. Diligently learning to help the small group meetings.
 - 4. Seriously pursuing functioning and prophesying in the district meetings.
- IV. A glorious living and a glorious goal:
 - A. Living—to live Christ—Phil. 1:19-21a.
 - B. Goal—to build up the Body of Christ—Eph. 4:12, 16.
 - C. Result—to receive the reward in the kingdom—2 Tim. 4:7-8, 18b.

(Outline taken from *Messages Given to the Working Saints*, ch. 6, p. 59-60)