GENERAL SUBJECT: KNOWING AND EXPERIENCING THE RESURRECTION LIFE OF CHRIST

Message One

Knowing the Meaning of Resurrection and Drinking the Water of Life in Resurrection

Scripture Reading: Phil. 3:10; John 11:25; 20:22; Exo. 17:6; 1 Cor. 10:4; 15:45b

- I. We need to know the meaning of resurrection—Phil. 3:10; John 11:25; 1 Cor. 15:45b; 2 Cor. 1:9:
 - A. A life that passes through death and remains is resurrection—John 11:25:
 - 1. Resurrection overcomes death—Acts 2:24.
 - 2. Resurrection is life that has come out from death and is beyond the natural realm—2 Cor. 1:9.
 - B. The Lord Jesus cannot be held by death; He "became dead and lived again"—Rev. 2:8; 1:18.
 - C. The power of Christ's resurrection is the resurrection power that resurrected Him from among the dead—Acts 2:24; Eph. 1:19-22.
 - D. The reality of resurrection is Christ as the life-giving Spirit—John 11:25; 20:22; 1 Cor. 15:45b:
 - 1. The highest definition of resurrection is that it is the process by which Christ, the last Adam, became the life-giving Spirit—v. 45b; 2 Cor. 3:17.
 - 2. In resurrection Christ comes into us as the pneumatic Christ, as the spiritual breath—John 20:22.
 - E. To be in resurrection means that our natural life is crucified, and then the God-created part of our being is uplifted in resurrection to be one with Christ in resurrection—Phil. 3:10; 2 Cor. 1:9.
 - F. The golden lampstand, typifying the church as the Body of Christ, portrays Christ as the resurrection life, growing, branching, budding, and blossoming to shine the light—Exo. 25:31-40; Num. 17:8; Rev. 1:11-12.
 - G. When we do not live by our natural life but live by the divine life within us, we are in resurrection; the issue of this is the Body of Christ—Phil. 3:10-11.
 - H. We need to know, experience, and gain the God of resurrection—2 Cor. 1:8-9:
 - 1. God is working through the cross to terminate us, to bring us to an end, so that we will no longer trust in ourselves but in the God of resurrection—v.
 - 2. When the God of resurrection works, His life and nature are wrought into man—4:16.
- II. As believers in Christ, we need to drink of the water of life in resurrection—Exo. 17:6; 1 Cor. 10:4:

- A. The spiritual drink in 1 Corinthians 10:4 refers to the living water that flowed out of the cleft rock; this water typifies the Spirit as our all-inclusive drink—Exo. 17:6; John 7:37-39; 1 Cor. 12:13.
- B. In Exodus 17:6 the rock is a type of Christ, Moses signifies the law, the staff represents the power and authority of the law, the smiting of the rock signifies that Christ was smitten by the authority of God's law, and the water flowing out of the smitten rock typifies the Spirit—John 7:37-39; 19:34:
 - 1. Through incarnation Christ came to earth as the rock—1:14; 1 Cor. 10:4.
 - 2. At Calvary He was crucified, smitten by God's law with its power and authority; His side was cleft, and living water flowed out for us to drink—John 19:34:
 - a. This living water is the Spirit, the ultimate issue of the Triune God—7:39.
 - b. This spiritual drink quenches our thirst and fully satisfies our being—4:13-14; 7:37-38.
- C. The spiritual drink, the living water, is the water of life in resurrection—1 Cor. 10:4; John 4:10; Exo. 17:6:
 - 1. Resurrection denotes something that has been put to death and is alive again; resurrection also denotes life that springs forth from something that has passed through death—John 11:25; Acts 2:24; Rev. 1:18.
 - 2. Because the water of life is in resurrection, it is victorious and transcends every negative thing—Eph. 1:19-22; 2:5-6.
 - 3. When we drink the water of life in resurrection, we become persons in resurrection and of resurrection—1 Cor. 10:4; 2 Cor. 1:9; 4:14.
- D. According to the biblical record, drinking is more important than eating—John 4:10, 13-14; 7:37-39; Rev. 22:1-2a, 17b:
 - 1. If we are enlightened by the Lord, we will realize that we need drinking even more than eating; for this reason, in 1 Corinthians Paul emphasizes drinking more than eating—10:4; 12:13.
 - 2. Actually, drinking includes eating because the spiritual food is included in the water of life—Rev. 22:1-2a:
 - a. Without the water of life, we cannot have spiritual food; thus, if we fail to drink, we will not be able to eat—John 4:14; 7:37; 6:57b; 1 Cor. 12:13.
 - b. In Revelation 22:1-2a the tree of life grows in the river of water of life; wherever the water of life flows, there the tree of life grows:
 - (1) The fact that the river flows from the throne and that the tree grows in the river indicates that the spiritual drink is even more crucial than the spiritual food—vv. 1-2a.
 - (2) Since the tree of life is in the water of life, the way to enjoy the tree is to drink the water—vv. 14, 17b.