

CONFERENCE IN FARMINGTON HILLS, MICHIGAN
May 12, 2007

Message Two

A History of the Lord's Recovery
(2)

- I. The Lord's recovery is the recovery of the divine truths as revealed in the Holy Scriptures, the holy Word of God—2 Tim. 3:16.**
- II. The progress of the divine revelation in the Lord's recovery:**
 - A. The word of God is the divine revelation, which had not been completed before the New Testament was written.
 - B. In the New Testament the apostles, especially the apostle Paul, completed the word of God in regard to the mystery of God, which is Christ, and the mystery of Christ, which is the church, to give us a full revelation of God's economy—Col. 1:25-26.
 - C. Standing on the shoulders of centuries of saints before them, Watchman Nee and Witness Lee ministered for almost a century to fully open up to God's children all that the apostles completed.
 - D. The truth in the Lord's recovery is the consummation of the truth of the past nineteen centuries—2 Tim. 2:2.
 - E. See the attachment for a list of the items of the truth, the riches of the divine revelation, unveiled through these two brothers' ministry.
- III. The crucial points of the truth in the Lord's up-to-date recovery:**
 - A. The apostles' teaching—the entire speaking of God in the New Testament concerning God's New Testament economy—Acts 2:42.
 - B. The New Testament ministry—the unique ministry according to the apostles' teaching—2 Cor. 4:1; 1 Tim. 1:12.
 - C. The eternal economy of God—the central line of the divine revelation—1 Tim. 1:4b; Eph. 1:10; 3:9.
 - D. The Divine Trinity—the three-one God for His divine dispensing to carry out His eternal economy—John 14:9-20; Matt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14; Rev. 1:4-5.
 - E. The all-inclusive Christ—the centrality and universality of God's New Testament economy—Eph. 1:23.
 - F. The full ministry of Christ in three stages—incarnation, inclusion, intensification—John 1:1, 14; 1 Cor. 15:45; Rev. 1:4.
 - G. The all-inclusive Spirit—the life-giving, compound, sevenfold intensified Spirit—1 Cor. 15:45b; John 7:39; Rev. 22:17.
 - H. The eternal life of God—the uncreated, indestructible, incorruptible life in which we are saved and in which we reign—John 3:15-16.
 - I. God's complete salvation—judicial redemption plus organic salvation—Rom. 5:10.
 - J. The Body of Christ—the organism of the Triune God—Eph. 1:22-23; 1 Cor. 10:32.

- K. The practical expression of the church—the Body of Christ expressed practically as many local churches—1 Cor. 1:2; Rev. 1:11.
- L. The New Jerusalem—the consummation of God’s eternal economy—Rev. 21:2.

IV. The steps our Lord has taken to give us the divine truths:

- A. Spoken by God—Heb. 1:1-2; 2 Sam. 23:2; Acts 3:21; 2 Pet. 1:21.
- B. Written down in Hebrew and Greek.
- C. Translated into many languages.
- D. Interpreted and expounded—Matt. 22:31-32; Luke 24:27, 45; Acts 8:30-35.
- E. Understood—the learning of the divine truths by studying the translated and interpreted holy writings.

V. We need to have the truth wrought into us and constituted into our being—2 John 1-2:

- A. To be constituted with the truth is to have the intrinsic element of the divine revelation wrought into us to become our constituent, our intrinsic being, our organic constitution.
- B. The kind of church we build up depends on the kind of truth we teach; thus, there is a desperate need of the living truth to produce the church, to help the church to exist, and to build up the church—1 Tim. 3:15; Rev. 3:8.
- C. The solid truth that is constituted into us becomes in us a constant and long term nourishment—1 Tim. 4:6.

VI. Our responsibility to spread the understood divine truths for the Lord’s recovery and restoration—Matt. 28:19-20; Psa. 147:15; 2 Thes. 3:1; Isa. 11:9.

VII. The spiritual and practical heritage for the saints to enjoy, experience, and practice in the Lord’s recovery:

- A. The Holy Bible Recovery Version (1974-2003).
- B. The *Life-study* of the entire Bible (1974-1995).
- C. The high peaks of the divine revelation (1994-1997).
- D. *The Collected Works of Watchman Nee* (62 volumes).
- E. *The Collected Works of Witness Lee* (in progress).
- F. Hymns.
- G. The seven annual “feasts” (international conferences and trainings).
- H. Full-time trainings around the world.
 - I. The local church life.
 - J. The God-ordained way and the vital groups.
 - K. The practice of blending for the reality of the Body of Christ.

A Chronology of the Progress of the Divine Revelation in the Lord's Recovery

1920 — 1932

• The Assurance of Salvation • The Distinction between Grace and Law • The Difference between Salvation and Victory • The Difference between Salvation and Reward • The Difference between the Kingdom of the Heavens and Eternal Life • The Kingdom Truths • Rapture • The Deviation of Christianity • The Church, the Ecclesia, the Body of Christ • The Two Aspects of the Church • Denominationalism • The Clergy System and Hierarchy • The Universal Priesthood • The Presbytery, the Proper Eldership • The Difference between Office and Gift • Baptism and the Lord's Table • Head Covering and the Laying On of Hands • Living by Faith in God • Divine Healing • The Death and Resurrection of Christ • The Ascension of Christ • The Coming of Christ • The Indwelling of the Holy Spirit • The Teaching of the Anointing • The Outpouring of the Holy Spirit • The Tripartite Man • Sanctification by Faith • Christ as Life • The Law of the Spirit of Life • The Law of Sin and Death • A Better Covenant • The Overcoming Life of Christ • The Calling of the Overcomers • Spiritual Warfare

1933 — 1937

• The Boundary of the Local Church • The Centrality and Universality of Christ • The Ground of the Local Church • Migration

1938 — 1942

• The Practicality of the Church Life • The Reality of the Church • The Oneness of the Church • Seeing the Body • The Authority of the Holy Spirit in the Body • The Reality of the Holy Spirit • The Authority of the Church • The Building of the Church • Coordination in the Church Life • The Body and the Spiritual Warfare

1942 — 1948

• The Discipline of the Holy Spirit • The Breaking of the Outer Man and the Release of the Spirit • Using the Spirit

1948 — 1950

• The Region of the Work • Handing Over All Things

1953 — 1968

• Enjoying the Lord By Eating and Drinking Him • Calling on the Lord • Pray-Reading the Word • Universal Prophesying

1969 — 1979

• The Sevenfold Intensified Spirit • Christ versus Religion • The Church as the New Man • Christ as the Person of the Church • The Abolishing of the Ordinances • The Body-Christ

1980 — 1993

• The Divine Trinity — The Processed and Consummated Triune God • The Dispensing of the Triune God • God's New Testament Economy • The New Jerusalem — the Totality of the Divine Revelation and the Ultimate Goal of God's Economy • The God-ordained Way to Meet and Serve in the New Testament — The New Testament Priesthood of the Gospel; Begetting, Nourishing, Teaching, and Building; the Vital Groups • The Intrinsic View of the Body of Christ— The Church as the Body of Christ Being the Organism of the Triune God; The Church as the Bride of Christ Being His Increase; The Organic Building of the Church; The Church Being the Issue of the Dispensing of the Processed Trinity and the Transmitting of the Transcending Christ

1994 ~

• God Became Man that Man May Become God in Life and in Nature, but Not in His Godhead • The Judicial and Organic Aspects of God's Complete Salvation • The Full Ministry of Christ in Three Stages • The Divine and Mystical Realm of the Consummated Spirit and the Pneumatic Christ • Blending Bringing In the Reality of the Body of Christ • The Local Churches Being the Procedure of God's Economy, and the Body of Christ Being the Goal • Experiencing God's Organic Salvation Equaling Reigning in Christ's Life • The New Jerusalem Being the Universal Incorporation of the Union and Mingling of Divinity with Humanity