

<p>I. In the Bible there is a mysterious thought concern in the relationship between God and man: <u>Genesis 1:26</u> And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.</p>	<p>A. The Bible reveals the resemblances between God and man in their images and likenesses.</p>	
	<p>B. Man was not created according to his own kind; God created man according to God's kind.</p>	
	<p>C. God became a man to produce God-man kind; as believers in Christ, we are God-man kind, God-men. <u>John 12:24</u> 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.</p>	
	<p>D. God's desire is to become the same as man is and to make man the same as He is:</p>	<p>1. God's intention is to work Himself in Christ into us, making Himself the same as we are and making us the same as He is.</p> <p>2. God's economy is to make Himself man and to make us, His created beings, God, so that He is God "man-ized" and we are man "God-ized."</p>
<p>II. In Ezekiel 1:26 the One on the throne has the appearance of a man: <u>Ezekiel 1:26</u> And above the expanse that was over their heads was the likeness of a throne, like the appearance of a sapphire stone; and upon the likeness of the throne was One in appearance like a man, above it.</p>	<p>A. The One sitting on the throne is not only God but also man; He is the God-man, the man-God, the mingling of God and man.</p>	
	<p>B. There is a twofold significance to the fact that the One sitting on the throne has the appearance of a man:</p>	<p>1. There is a connection between Ezekiel 1:26 and Genesis 1:26:</p>
		<p>a. God created man in His image to express Him and with His authority to represent Him; this was according to His purpose.</p> <p>b. God's purpose in creating man in His image and according to His likeness was that man would receive Him as life and express Him. <u>Genesis 2:9</u> And out of the ground Jehovah God caused to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, as well as the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.</p> <p>c. God's intention in giving man dominion is to subdue God's enemy, Satan, to recover the earth, and to bring the kingdom of God to the earth. <u>Genesis 1:28</u> And God blessed them; and God said to them, Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.</p>
		<p>2. Through incarnation God became a man; He lived, died, resurrected, and ascended as a man; and now as the One on the throne He is still a man (<u>John 6:62</u>; <u>Acts 7:56</u>). <u>Acts 7:56</u> And he said, Behold, I see the heavens opened up and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.</p>
<p>C. The appearance of the man on the throne has two aspects; His upper part, from the loins upward, looks like electrum, and His lower part, from the loins downward, looks like fire: <u>Ezekiel 1:27</u> Then I saw something like the sight of electrum, like the appearance of fire encased all around, from the appearance of His loins and upward; and from the appearance of His loins and downward, I saw something like the appearance of fire. And there was brightness all around Him.</p>	<p>1. The upper part signifies His nature and disposition; according to His nature and disposition, the One on the throne looks like electrum.</p> <p>2. The lower part is for moving; the appearance of fire from the loins downward signifies the Lord's appearance in His move.</p>	
<p>III. Through His crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension, the Lord Jesus was brought to the throne.</p>	<p>A. God has always been the Lord, but now a man is on the throne as the Lord <u>Revelation 4:2</u> Immediately I was in spirit; and behold, there was a throne set in heaven, and upon the throne there was One sitting.</p>	
	<p>B. After the Lord Jesus was crucified and buried, God resurrected Him and set Him at His right hand, making Him the Lord of all the universe: <u>Philippians 2:9</u> Therefore also God highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name,</p>	<p>1. As God, the Lord was the Lord all the time, but as man, He was made the Lord in His ascension after He brought His humanity into God in His resurrection; in His ascension He was made the Lord of all to possess all.</p> <p>2. The God-exalted Jesus, the Ruler of the kings of the earth, is the Ruler over all the ones who are in power; He is the chief Ruler in the divine government for the fulfillment of God's eternal plan.</p>
	<p>C. As the Pioneer and Forerunner, the Lord Jesus cut the path to the throne and led the way to the throne: <u>Hebrews 2:10</u> For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and through whom are all things, in leading many</p>	<p>1. He became a man, and as a man, He went to the throne. <u>Revelation 3:21</u> He who overcomes, to him I will give to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat with My Father on His throne.</p> <p>2. This indicates that He is not the only man destined for the throne; rather, He has cut the path so that we may follow.</p>

	sons into glory, to make the Author of their salvation perfect through sufferings.	3. God intends to bring us into glory and to set us on the throne. <u>Revelation 22:5</u> And night will be no more; and they have no need of the light of a lamp and of the light of the sun, for the Lord God will shine upon them; and they will reign forever and ever.		
<p><b>IV.</b> God's intention is to work on man in order that man can be on the throne: <u>Psalms 8:4</u> What is mortal man, that You remember him, And the son of man, that You visit him? <u>5</u> You have made him a little lower than angels And have crowned him with glory and honor. <u>6</u> For You have caused him to rule over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet:</p>	A. God's mind is on man; He wants man to express Him and to exercise His authority.			
	B. God desires to manifest Himself through man and to reign through man.			
	C. God's goal is to bring us to the throne; His desire is to make us people of the throne:	1. God will not be satisfied until we are on the throne; He cannot receive the full glory until we are brought to the throne.		
		2. God's kingdom cannot come in full until we are on the throne.		
	D. God desires to bring us to the throne because of the rebellion of Satan against God's throne:	3. God's enemy will not be subdued until we are on the throne.		
		1. The greatest difficulty God faces in the universe is that His throne has been opposed and attacked by rebel forces.		
2. In his rebellion against God's throne, Satan intended to exalt his throne and thereby to intrude upon God's authority.				
3. From the time of Satan's rebellion until now, there has been a dispute regarding authority; much of what is happening on earth today is an expression of Satan's resistance to God's throne.				
E. The overcomers will be on the throne with Christ as His co-kings:	4. God's intention is to cast Satan down and to redeem many of those taken captive by Satan and to bring them to His throne.			
	5. There needs to be a people who have been gained by God so that through them the authority of God can be executed and the kingdom of God can come to the earth.			
	6. We should desire to reign—to exercise authority for God—and to enjoy the blessing of reigning for God.			
	1. Christ is on the throne, and they also will be on the throne.			
		2. Christ has all the authority, and the overcomers will share in this authority to rule over the nations. <u>Revelation 2:26</u> And he who overcomes and he who keeps My works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations.		
<p><b>V.</b> In order to be brought to the throne, we need to experience the humanity of Jesus with its virtues and to reign in life: <u>Ephesians 4:1</u> I beseech you therefore, I, the prisoner in the Lord, to walk worthily of the calling with which you were called.</p>	A. If we would have the proper human virtues, we need the humanity of Jesus:	1. As believers, we have Christ with all His human virtues dwelling in us to be our humanity:	a. Every aspect of our daily walk should conform to the Lord's humanity in our spirit ( <u>Rom. 8:4</u> ).	
			b. As we live under the Lord's ruling and experience Christ's humanity, we will never be out of balance; rather, everything will be properly proportioned.	
			2. We need to eat Christ as the meal offering to become the reproduction of Christ and to live the life of a God-man.	
	B. God's complete salvation is for us to reign in life by the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness: <u>Romans 5:17</u> For if by the offense of the one death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.	1. We have been regenerated with a divine, spiritual, heavenly, kingly, and royal life; this life enables us to reign as kings.		
		2. In practice, to reign in life is to be under the ruling of the divine life:	a. Christ is a pattern of reigning in life by being under the ruling of the divine life of the Father. <u>Matthew 8:9</u> For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, Go, and he goes; and to another, Come, and he comes; and to my slave, Do this, and he does it.	
			b. When we are under the ruling of the divine life, we have the sense that we are enthroned as kings to reign over all things.	
3. To reign in life is to conquer, subdue, and rule over Satan, the world, sin, the flesh, ourselves, all kinds of insubordination, and all the environmental circumstances. <u>Romans 8:35</u> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or anguish or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? <u>37</u> But in all these things we more than conquer through Him who loved us.				
4. If we would reign in life, we need to continually receive the abundance of grace, the fullness of the enjoyment of God: <u>Romans 5:21</u> In order that just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness unto eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.	a. We need to come again and again to the divine source and open ourselves from the depths of our being to be filled with God as grace.			
	b. The more we receive the abundance of grace, the more we reign in life.			

### Experience:

#### ① God's economy is not to make us a good person but to make us a god man :

God's economy and plan is to make Himself man and to make us, His created beings, "God," so that He is "man-ized" and we are "God-ized." In the end, He and we, we and He, all become God-men. Hence, it is not enough for us to be good men, spiritual men, or holy men. These are not what God is after. What God wants today is God-men. God does not expect us to improve ourselves, because God is not after our being good men. He wants us to be God-men. He is our life and everything to us for the purpose that we would express Him and live Him out.

### Business life model:

People need to be brought up according to the standards of right and wrong, culture, and morality until their childhood. But after reaching adulthood, a Christian should not be in accordance with normality of right and wrong, culture, and morality, but should walk by the spirit and be a God man. Such a walk far transcends the path of right and wrong, and culture.

#### Galatians 5: 16 But I say, Walk by the Spirit.

You need to constantly utilize your spirit, deal with conscience, and train to walk according to the spirit. Japanese tend to be "generous to fault", therefore not easy to express their true feelings. They concentrate on avoiding external conflicts, and not able to say their true intention. For example, a new employee in the company works diligently, however he pays too much attention to the little details, his efficiency became extremely bad and had to start working overtime. In such a case, the boss or a colleague senior to him should grasp the overview of his work, ignore the non-critical details (consider it later if necessary), and instruct him to proceed efficiently before the work. However, in many cases, this new employee is working hard, so it may be difficult to convey such true intention. When thinking about this new employee empathically, do convey your true intention for the sake of his growth and instruct him as follows. "In the company, need not to get into business from details, carry out your work with an overview, by doing that you will grow and significantly improve the efficiency of your work. Also, diligence is your strong point and important, no need to deny it, keep up the good work. Be careful not to get too serious when you say this. Rather, you should say it in a bright atmosphere. If you do this, that new employee will be grateful for the guidance you provided. Actually, the walk of God man is full of virtue and light, people will be attracted to you, all the activities of darkness and any unbalanced actions will be driven out. If you take advantage of your spirit in the workplace and walk according to that spirit, you will express Jesus' exceptional personality, become a person who walks in the light, and hence become an outstanding person.

#### ② God's wish is to make us a people on the throne :

In Revelation 3:21 the Lord Jesus says, "He who overcomes, to him I will give to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat with My Father on His throne."...God's intention is to take us to the throne. His desire is to make us people of the throne. God's kingdom cannot come in full until we are on the throne. Furthermore, God's enemy will not be subdued until we are on the throne. God's goal, therefore, is not merely to deliver us out of hell but to bring us to the throne.

### Marriage life model:

The salvation of God brings you to the church life and the enjoyment of the life of God, which delivers you from the destruction of the burning fire. You were saved from perishing the day you got saved. Hallelujah! Thank the Lord for His salvation. But that is not the purpose of salvation. You will gradually grow in life from the day you got saved. Your marriage is under the same principle. The wedding day is such a wonderful day, but from that day on you will have to labor for the building of a healthy marriage. Under the guidance of the Lord you were able to get acquainted with your spouse, you came to love each other, and got married. However, the wedding ceremony is not the goal of marriage. If we do not build a healthy marriage life, there will be many problems in our marriage life, mutual love will end up getting cold, and eventually it can lead to an in-home separation. But, you as a Christian can overcome this problem, because there is the strong love of Christ, a love that is victorious.

Romans 8:35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or anguish or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword?

37 But in all these things we more than conquer through Him who loved us.

With this love, continue to love your spouse and survive all difficulties between the husband and wife together. Not only at the time of your wedding or while being the newlyweds, it may be difficult to stay on loving your spouse; but it is a very precious matter. God supports you in the building up of a healthy marriage. In the end God will make you the one who is on the throne. The one who is on the throne will rule over all things and all man in the Lord. You can continue to love one another and dominate the disagreement of personality in the marriage life; the discord that comes from the difference of the living environments you grew up from.

#### ③ Eat the transcendent personality of Jesus prophesied by the meal offering and have a normal everyday life :

We need all the human virtues in order to put Satan to shame... If the Lord's humanity does not agree with what we are doing, we must say, "Lord, I will never go against Your humanity within me in this matter. I will simply give it up." If we do this, we will all have a

proper daily life in the humanity of Jesus. Then we will have a proper church life, and this church life will be God's kingdom on the earth today. This will be a real shame to Satan and a real boast to God.

For God to have a kingdom on the earth among the younger generation, there is the need of a group of people to be redeemed and regenerated in order to take the humanity of Jesus. By this humanity they are balanced in all things. For example, not long ago the neckties were quite narrow. But today they are wider than ever. They look like a big fan. Do you not think that is rather extreme? Of course, outward adjustment will never work, but if we take the humanity of Jesus, I believe that we will not be that extreme. By taking the Lord's humanity, we will never be out of balance. We must be under God's heavenly ruling.

We must realize that the meal offering is mainly for us. Only a handful as a memorial is for God; all the remainder, the major part, is for the priests. "What is left of the meal offering shall be Aaron's and his sons'" (Leviticus 2:3). This is the diet of the priests. The priests feed on Christ as the meal offering day by day. We are the priests, so we must eat Christ as the meal offering for our priestly diet.

#### Campus life model:

You need to learn to enjoy and express Jesus' humanity in campus life. When you carefully observe the surroundings of your classmates, many actions and habits are off balanced and cannot be credited. For example, overnight research and party all night. Actually, this kind of behavior can only worsen the efficiency of the research work. Studying overnight will exhaust you and cannot come up with any good idea. Also, if you party all night, it leads to debauchery, which may bring prodigal to crime such as adultery. But they not only try not to change these habits and behaviors, but also blame those who do not participate. Alumni who grew up like this will go to the office and only work overtime. Japanese labor has the worst labor efficiency every year among developed countries. But the Japanese knows little about that fact. While you are a student, if you learn to enjoy and express Jesus' balanced humanity, you will have the ability to discern what is inherently correct, and you will be saved from fixed idea that is wrong. By doing this, you will become an outstanding employee in the future, especially in Japan.

#### ④At work, at school, in the car, continues to open to the Lord, filled with him as grace:

The only thing that works is to come to the divine source and open ourselves from the depths of our being to be filled with God as grace. In order to be filled, we must ask the Lord to remove all insulation and frustration. We need to pray, "Lord, I am willing for every hindrance to be removed. I want to keep myself directly open to You. Lord, fill me completely with Yourself as grace." Wherever you are, at work, at school, or in your car, stay open to the Lord to be filled with Him as grace. This is what it means to receive the abundance of grace. As you receive grace in this way, you will be filled with grace and

eventually grace will overflow from within you. Then you will reign in life by grace over sin, death, and Satan.

#### Junior/Senior high student model:

You need to open your heart and experience genuine fellowship with the Lord from the time you are in junior/senior high school. For example, you are not on good terms with your homeroom teacher and/or certain classmate. The Lord loves all the people in this world, but you are not able to fellowship with the Lord honestly about this, and just pray superficially. However, such kind of prayer is a religious prayer and will not please the Lord. In the prayer, your heart can be magnified by the Lord. The important thing is to open your heart. You can pray like this, "Lord Jesus, I cannot love this teacher or my classmate, the reason is ... but when I come to you I will open myself to you. I may be wrong, but I will tell you my feelings just like telling to my best friend. Please fill me with yourself and your love, Amen." This kind of prayer will have major difference from the previous religious and formal prayer.

#### BSG Circle of Kobe University is exhibiting at the Freshman Welcoming Festival:

Please pray that the BSG circle of Kobe University at the Freshmen Welcoming Festival be blessed by the Lord. Hymns will be sung and the truth of the Bible will be explained. The working OB · OG are to take the paid leave and participate.

Date and time: April 2 (Lord's day) – April 3 (Monday)

Place: International Cultural Ground of Kobe University

#### The testimony of Freshman Welcoming Festival at Kobe University:

Kobe University BSG Circle has applied for exhibition at the Freshman Welcoming Festival that is to be held in April this year. Soon after that, the Event Chairman, suspected that BSG could be a religious group/cult, and refused the application for exhibition. I thought it could not be helped, but sister Zhang (first year of doctor course of Kobe University) got angry and immediately protested as follows. "Our circle is for Bible learning, has nothing to do with religious group/cult." All first rate universities in the world has the Bible study group (Is Kobe University a third rate university?)" While protesting, he gave us the approval for the fear of refusing us. I was able to learn from sister Zhang that we need to have "the face of a lion" when fighting the spiritual battle, and not to be afraid, but to confront Satan bravely. A timid person can never be used by the Lord. Amen! (Brother T, a Junior at Kobe University)