

#1 The Spirit of Reality Being the Reality of the Body of Christ

(Thanksgiving Special Conference) 2019/1/7-1/13

I. The Writings of John reveal that the Spirit is the Spirit of reality:

A. In the whole universe only One is real—the Triune God; only the Triune God is the reality.

B. In God's New Testament economy the Spirit has the attribute of reality:

① Reality is the all-inclusive attribute of the Spirit of God, for it includes the Father, Christ the Son, and all the divine items and entities.

② The Spirit is the all-inclusive reality; reality, therefore, is one of the most marvelous attributes of the Spirit.

③ According to the context, *the reality* in John 16:13 refers to all that the Triune God is and has.

C. The Spirit of reality is the reality of the Triune God; He is the reality of all that the Triune God is, all that He has accomplished, and all that He has attained and obtained.

D. Apart from the Spirit of reality, in our experience we cannot have the Triune God or any of the divine attributes; the reality of the Triune God and of all His attributes is the Spirit of reality. [Mon]

II. The Spirit of reality guides us into all the reality:

A. Only that which is in the Spirit of reality is spiritual reality:

① All spiritual things must be in the Spirit of reality before they can be real, living, and organic.

② The Spirit of reality is the Executor of all spiritual things.

B. The Spirit of reality guides the believers into all the reality of the Triune God and of all divine matters.

C. In John 16:13 *the reality* refers to what the Father has, what the Son has, and what the Spirit receives of the Son and of what the Father has:

① What the Father has is reality, what the Son has is reality, and what the Spirit receives is also reality.

② What the Father has becomes the Son's, what the Son has is received by the Spirit, and what the Spirit receives is disclosed to us.

③ The Father is embodied in the Son, the Son is transfigured to be the Spirit, and the Spirit is the reaching of the Divine Trinity to us. [Tue]

D. Through the Spirit, the reality of the Triune God is transmitted into us; thus, the reality into which the Spirit guides us is the reality of the Triune God.

E. As the Spirit of reality guides us into the divine reality by transmitting this reality into us, the divine reality—the processed and consummated Triune God—becomes the constituent of our being.

F. The Spirit of reality—the full realization of the Son—guides us into all the reality of Christ, including all that He is and has and all that He has attained and obtained.

G. The Spirit of reality guides us into the reality of the Body of Christ.

III. The Spirit as the reality of the Triune God is also the reality of the Body of Christ:

A. The Body of Christ is the church, and all its reality is the Spirit of the reality of the processed and consummated Triune God; if there were no Spirit of reality, there would be no Body of Christ, no church. [Wed]

B. The reality of the Body of Christ is the Spirit whom we have received, experienced, and enjoyed in many aspects.

C. The Spirit of reality makes everything of the processed and consummated Triune God a reality in the Body of Christ.

D. The All-sufficient God, as the Spirit of reality dwelling in our spirit to be joined as one mingled spirit, is the secret to all that the processed and consummated Triune God is to the Body of Christ.

E. All that the processed and consummated Triune God experienced, including incarnation, crucifixion, and resurrection, is realized by the Spirit of reality to be the attributes and experiences of the Body of Christ in reality. [Thu]

F. Only when we touch reality through the Spirit of reality can we live out the Body life.

IV. If we would be in the reality of the Body of Christ, we need to have the Spirit of reality constituted into our being:

A. The Spirit of reality has come into the believers to be the reality of Christ within them.

B. The all-inclusive Christ, who is the embodiment of the Triune God, is fully realized as the Spirit of reality who dwells within us; the indwelling Spirit of reality is the reality of Christ.

C. To be in the reality of the Body of Christ is to have the Spirit of reality wrought into us and constituted into our being. [Fri]

V. The reality of the Body of Christ is "the reality ... in Jesus":

A. The reality in Jesus is the actual condition of the life of Jesus as recorded in the four Gospels.

B. The essence of the life of Jesus is reality.

C. "The reality" in Ephesians 4:24 is the personification of God:

① This reality was exhibited in the life of Jesus.

② The human living of Jesus was according to the reality, that is, according to God Himself.

③ God was with Him, and He was one with God and expressed God; this is the meaning of *the reality is in Jesus*.

D. The way that the Lord Jesus lived on earth is the way that the members of the Body of Christ should live today:

① Our standard of living must be according to the reality in Jesus, the reality lived out by the Lord Jesus when He was on earth.

② We need to learn Christ and be taught in Him to live a life of reality.

③ As members of the Body of Christ, we should live a life of reality, as the reality is in Jesus—a life of expressing God.

④ The reality in Jesus should be duplicated in His many members so that they may live corporately in the reality of the Body of Christ. [Sat]

Crucial Point ①: To practice the Body life, putting off the lie in daily life by the Spirit of reality

John16:13 But when He, the Spirit of reality, comes, He will guide you into all the reality;

Eph.4:4 One Body and one Spirit, even as also you were called in one hope of your calling; **5** One Lord, one faith, one baptism; **6** One God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

OL1:The Body of Christ is the church, and all its reality is the Spirit of the reality of the processed and consummated Triune God; if there were no Spirit of reality, there would be no Body of Christ, no church.

OL2:All that the processed and consummated Triune God experienced, including incarnation, crucifixion, and resurrection, is realized by the Spirit of reality to be the attributes and experiences of the Body of Christ in reality.

All that the Triune God experienced, including incarnation, crucifixion, and resurrection, are likewise realized by this Spirit of reality to be the real experiences of the Body of Christ. ...When the Spirit of reality came, He made these experiences of the Triune God real in us as our real experiences. Because of this we can live a normal human life on the earth today. ...We do not lose our temper, nor do we blame or rebuke others, because the death of Christ is realized in us through the Spirit of reality. Moreover, the Spirit with the resurrection of Christ works in us to enable us to love and forgive others. These are all examples of how the experiences of the Triune God Himself have been realized in the church by the Spirit of reality to be the real experiences of the church.

The Spirit is the inward essence and the expressed reality of the Body of Christ. The Spirit is the secret to all that the Triune God is to the Body of Christ. This Spirit now dwells in our regenerated spirit and is joined to our spirit as the mingled spirit. Therefore, we must turn our spirit, set our mind on the spirit, and walk according to our spirit. When we live in the mingled spirit, we will be able to live out the Body of Christ and become His corporate expression.

When one touches the spiritual reality, he touches the church, and his actions will be the move of the Body and not independent moves. Suppose you have to do something. Practicing the Body life does not mean that you invite all the brothers and sisters to discuss it and that you go through the procedure in a very proper way. It is when you fellowship with other brothers and sisters (irrespective of the number) and touch the reality that there is the Body life. If you have not touched the spiritual reality, even when there is unanimous consent by the whole congregation, you only have opinions of the flesh and not the Body life. Only those who have touched the spiritual reality can live the Body life.

Application : for Young Working/Graduate Student Saints

The Spirit of reality will guide you into all the reality. All the reality of Christ's incarnation, human living, death, resurrection, ascension will be realized in your life by the Spirit of reality.

Eph.4:25 Therefore having put off the lie, speak truth each

one with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

FN"lie":The lie refers to anything that is false in nature. Because we put off the old man, we also put off everything that is false in nature. Hence, we speak truth, that is, we speak the things that are true.

In order to practice the life of the Body of Christ, you should "put off the lie" and "speak truth" in your daily life. You should not talk irresponsibly or habitually any false and anything belong to lie. False belongs to the old man. The old man has a little sense of conscience against a lie with malicious concept, but against the other lie, he has almost no sense of conscience. However, in order that you as a Christian follow the Spirit of reality to live a life of the new man, first you need to train yourself not to speak a lie by dealing with lies coming out spontaneously from your mouth. As a young worker or a young researcher in the graduate school, you need to be able to identify the essence of the events. To do that, first, please train yourself to deal with the false words, the small lies, coming out from your mouth in your daily life. The Spirit of reality has an effect of death to put the old man onto the cross to terminate it. In each of detail things you face in your daily life, you should exercise your spirit to touch the Spirit of reality and deal with false. To do this, first you need to reveal that it is false.

For example, in the business meeting, when you are asked if you are for or against something, you can ask several questions to understand the situation correctly. However, after then you need to say clearly whether you are for or against it. Bible tells us, **"But as God is faithful, our word toward you is not yes and no. (2Cor.1:18)"**. According to this revelation in the Scripture, instead of looking at faces of others or your boss to care about their feeling, you should speak loudly your opinion, yes or no. If you do not have authority to make the final decision, of course you must obey the decision made even it is opposite of yours. The point here is that you need express your opinion clearly. Not expressing your opinion clearly by caring other's feeling, is ultimately the same as speaking false, not speaking truth.

As we see in this way, Japanese people in their culture speak a lie habitually by speaking ambiguously. Such kind of person can rarely reveal the essence of the events. Therefore, it is so crucial for you to see that any irresponsible words you speak daily in your life are actually false words, and so you should call on the Lord's name to train yourself not to speak them.

Prayer: "O Lord Jesus, I have spoken many ambiguous words as my habit. It has been my secret of life to avoid problems. But the Bible tells me to put off any false things from me. And also, speaking false habitually and not speaking truth leads me to lose the essence of the project. Lord Jesus, with the Spirit of reality, may I be able to put off the false and to speak truth. In my daily life, instead of relying on my "secret of life" that is following the Japanese culture, but may I be able to train myself to live by relying on the Spirit of reality."

Crucial Point ②: Details of the daily living that we learn from the reality in Jesus by touching the Spirit of reality

Eph. 4:17 This therefore I say and testify in the Lord, that you no longer walk as the Gentiles also walk in the vanity of their mind, **18** Being darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance which is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; **19** Who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lasciviousness to work all uncleanness in greediness. **20** But you did not so learn Christ, **21** If indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him as the reality is in Jesus, **22** That you put off, as regards your former manner of life, the old man, which is being corrupted according to the lusts of the deceit, **23** And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind **24** And put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.

OL: Our standard of living must be according to the reality in Jesus, the reality lived out by the Lord Jesus when He was on earth. We need to learn Christ and be taught in Him to live a life of reality. As members of the Body of Christ, we should live a life of reality, as the reality is in Jesus—a life of expressing God.

The life of Jesus according to reality is the pattern for the believers' life. In this pattern we have learned Christ as the reality is in Jesus. This means that we have learned Christ according to the reality shown in the Gospels, that is, according to the life of the Lord Jesus. This life is the shining of light. The shining of light is reality, and reality is the expression of God. Therefore, in the life of Jesus there is reality. The essence of the life of Jesus is reality. When the Lord Jesus lived on the earth, He always walked in reality, in the shining of the divine light, and in the expression of God.

The new man was created in righteousness and holiness of the reality. Righteousness is to be right with God and with man according to God's righteous way, and holiness is godliness and devoutness before God. Righteousness refers to the outward acts, whereas holiness refers to the inward nature. Outwardly, everything related to the new man is righteous; inwardly, everything related to the new man is holy. Righteousness is mainly toward men, and holiness is mainly toward God.

In **Ephesians 4:24** Paul says that **the new man was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality**. This reality no doubt is the very reality in Jesus. Our standard of living should not be according to the law or according to the standards of society; it must be according to the reality in Jesus, the reality lived out by Jesus when He was on earth. Hence, the life of Jesus should be our life today in the church. In other words, the living of the new man should be exactly the same as the living of Jesus. The way Jesus lived on earth is the way the new man should live today.

If we would live in such a way, we should not reason according to right or wrong. Instead, we should consider

the various aspects of our daily life according to the reality as it is in Jesus. For example, if we are about to go shopping, we should ask whether the Lord Jesus is going shopping. The life of the one new man must be that of the reality of Jesus. If we all live in a way that is heavenly, divine, righteous, holy, and glorious, we shall have a wonderful community life in the church. This is the corporate life of the new man.

Application: For New ones/Junior & High school students/College students

Eph. 4:26 Be angry, yet do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your indignation, **27** Neither give place to the devil.

FN26 "be angry": To be angry is not a sin, but with it there is the possibility of committing sin. We should not continue in anger but should relinquish it before the sun sets.

FN27 "give place to the devil": According to the context, to continue in anger is to give place to the devil. In nothing should we give any place to him.

28 He who steals should steal no more, but rather should labor, working with his own hands in that which is respectable, that he may have something to share with him who has need. **29** Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but only that which is good for building up, according to the need, that it may give grace to those who hear. **30** And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, in whom you were sealed unto the day of redemption.

Ephesians 4:17-24 tells us the basic principles of the believers' daily living for the living of the Body of Christ and **4:25-5:21** tells the details of this living. In the details, the matter of not speaking lies is mentioned first and then the matter of dealing the anger. Please learn how to deal with your anger in the relationship of your school and the anger toward your parents. The Bible tells that you should not let the sun go down on your indignation. And the Bible also tells us that **"let all bitterness and anger and wrath and clamor and evil speaking be removed from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ also forgave you (Ephesians 4:31-32)"**.

For you to deal with anger and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, you should learn from the reality in Jesus. And to learn from the reality in Jesus, you should exercise the mingled spirit and put your mind on the spirit and walk according to the spirit. Without dealing with your anger, your speaking contains bitterness and this will offend others and the situation will get worse. The important thing is that you would touch the Spirit of reality in the spirit and make this reality of "caring others and being kind and tenderhearted" real in your life.

Prayer: "Oh Lord Jesus, to express the reality of the Body of Christ, let me learn from the reality in Jesus in my daily living and let me experience the reality of "the effect of the cross that kills anger" and "caring others and being kind and tenderhearted". For this I need to touch the Spirit of reality in my spirit. Lord Jesus, let me call your name and touch the Spirit of reality and experience and enjoy the reality in Jesus in the various relationships. Let me grow in this matter!"

Series 1 : The High Gospel

Divine Life

Topic 4: The Bible(part 2)

2 Tim. 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for conviction, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

THE BIBLE BEING THE HOLY WORD OF GOD

The reason that the Bible is different from all other books is that its nature is divine. The Scripture is God-breathed. This tells us that the Scripture did not come out of man's thought, man's mind, but, rather, it was God's breathing His thought and His word through His Spirit into and out of the writers. Hence, the Bible contains God's element and carries His flavor. A Christian's greatest joy and blessing is to be able to contact God and taste Him daily through the word of His breath.

Since the Scripture is God's breathing His word out from men through His Spirit, no word of the Scripture can be of man's will; rather, men were borne by the Spirit and spoke from God. The word "men spoke from God while being borne by the Holy Spirit" has a twofold meaning: first, men were borne by the Spirit; second, men spoke from God. In the original Greek, being borne by the Holy Spirit refers to being carried along like a ship by the wind. The writers of the Bible received God's inspiration, and they were under the power of the Holy Spirit, being borne and carried along by Him to speak out God's word. Furthermore, when they spoke, they spoke from within God. It was the Spirit of God carrying men along to speak, and it was also men speaking from within God. In other words, it was God speaking His own word from within men through their mouth.

THE MAIN SUBJECTS OF THE BIBLE :

God with His plan

The God revealed in the Bible is a God of wisdom and purpose. Just as any person who is intelligent and purposeful is always full of plans, our God, who is most wise, has an eternal plan, which has much to do with man and the world.

Man and His Destiny

The Bible tells us where man came from, how he was made, and where he is going. It also tells of God's plan for man.

Christ

Christ is the central figure of the Bible. The Old Testament is a prophecy concerning Him, and the New Testament is the fulfillment of this prophecy. The Bible tells us how this Christ accomplished redemption and salvation for mankind.

Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit, who is the third person of God. He is mentioned very much in relation to man's experience of God.

The divine life, that is, the life of God, which a person receives when he believes in Christ. This divine life lives within those who believe in Christ and directs and transforms their living.

The Believers, who are in Christ

The New Testament tells us the meaning of being a believer in Christ and the way to live a proper Christian life.

Church

The church, which is God's community of believers on earth today. The Bible explains what the church is and how believers should meet as the church.

Kingdom of God

The kingdom of God, which is the sphere where God exercises His rule and authority in this age and in the coming ages.

New Heaven and New Earth

The new heaven and the new earth, which speaks of the things that will happen in eternity in the future.

MEETING JESUS CHRIST BY READING OF THE BIBLE

If you are a person who is seeking after the truth and would like to know the meaning of your life, you need to read the Bible, and you should call on the Christ who is presented to you in the Bible. God has given every person a spirit so that he can understand and receive the things of God. We hope that you will begin your reading of this wonderful book, the Bible, by reading the New Testament, and we also hope that you will begin a fruitful and abundant life today through meeting Jesus Christ in this book.

Hymn799 Study of the Word — The Function of the Word

- 1 All Scripture is the very breath of God,
And by His Spirit into words was breathed;
By godly men the words were written down,
With all God's fulness unto man bequeathed.
- 2 It is the breath of God as light to man,
With rays divine man to illuminate;
It shines in darkness and to man reveals.
What is his truest need and actual state.
- 3 It is the breath of God as life to man,
Nature divine to man it doth impart;
The dead it quickens and regenerates,
Transforms the soul-life and renews the heart.
- 4 It is the breath of God as wisdom too,
Knowledge divine to man it has to teach;
Th' eternal purpose of the Lord it shows,
And leadeth man God's final goal to reach.
- 5 It is the breath of God as strength to man,
Power divine to man it doth transmit,
Strength'ning the weak, empowering the faint,
Enabling man God's purpose full to fit.
- 6 It is the breath of God for us to breath,
That as our portion God we may enjoy;
Receiving it by spirits exercised,
Our need is met, His wealth we may employ.