

## International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones (October 2020)

### #8: Having Dispensational Value to God in the Last Days to Turn the Age 1/25-31

**OL Summary:** **I.** God's desire is to end this age and bring in the age of the kingdom; in order for God to accomplish this, He must have His dispensational instrument: **A.** All of us should look to the Lord and pray that we will have dispensational value to God; we need to ask ourselves what we are doing to close this dispensation and to bring in the next age, the kingdom age; this is a special time, so there is the need of special believers to do a special work. **B.** "Those who can only say, "Go," but not "Come," will have no effect; that is, they will have no dispensational value to God. /We need to come forward to three things: to the Holy of Holies, to the throne of grace, and to God Himself; do not shrink backward—Come forward. **C.** The rapture of the man-child to heaven, the casting of Satan to earth, and the declaration in heaven that the kingdom has come signify that God's gaining of the man-child is His greatest dispensational move because it brings an end to the church age and introduces the kingdom age. **D.** The rapture of the man-child to the throne of God will be before the one thousand two hundred and sixty days, which is the time of the great tribulation of three and a half years (forty-two months). **E.** We live in the most privileged time in which we can do the most for God; God as light will show us the way, but the indwelling Christ as our strength and power will enable us to walk the road; a great price must be paid in order to be used now.

**II.** Because the church has not attained to God's purpose, God will choose a group of overcomers who will attain to His purpose and fulfill His demand; this is the principle of the man-child: **A.** The universal bright woman represents the totality of God's people, and ultimately, the seed of the woman in Genesis 3:15 is enlarged to include the overcoming believers, the stronger part of God's people, signified by the man-child. **B.** The resurrected Christ as the life-giving Spirit is the transfigured descendant of the woman, the seed of the woman, dispensed into us to bruise the serpent's head in us and make us the corporate seed of the woman, the overcoming man-child, to carry out God's judgment on the ancient serpent and to be God's dispensational instrument to change the age and usher in the manifestation of God's kingdom. **C.** Psalm 2:8-9, Revelation 2:26-27, and Revelation 12:5 indicate that the Lord Jesus as God's Anointed, the overcomers in the churches, and the man-child will rule the nations with an iron rod, thus proving that the Lord Jesus, the overcomers, and the man-child are one; the Lord as the leading Overcomer is the Head, center, reality, life, and nature of the man-child, and the man-child as the following overcomers is the Lord's Body. **D.** Through the Lord's death on the cross, Satan, the old serpent, was judged, cast out; that judgment and sentence will ultimately be carried out and executed by the overcomers as the man-child, the corporate seed of the woman; the war waged by the overcoming believers against Satan is actually the executing of the Lord's judgment upon him for him to eventually be cast out of heaven. **E.** The man-child consists of the

overcomers who stand on behalf of the church, take the position that the whole church should take, and do the work for the church. **F.** The rapture of the man-child is a transaction that causes Satan to have no more position in heaven; we must be raptured to fulfill God's need by executing His judgment upon His enemy. **G.** Those who constitute the man-child overcome the devil (the accuser, the slanderer), who is Satan, the adversary of God, because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony and they love not their soul-life even unto death. **H.** The entire being of the man-child is saturated and permeated with the element of Christ because they are daily strengthened into their inner man so that Christ may build Himself into their hearts, they are being nourished with the unsearchable riches of Christ, and they put on Christ as the whole armor of God. **I.**

**III.** When Israel was taken into captivity for seventy years, God still had a dispensational move because of Nehemiah, who was a true overcomer; he is a pattern of someone who has dispensational value to God: **A.** The crucial point in the book of Nehemiah is that the rebuilding of the city of Jerusalem with its wall was both a continual recovery among His elect for His testimony as the accomplishment of God's economy and a safeguard and protection for the house of God within the city. **B.** When we realize and enjoy Christ as our life, we have the church as the house of God; if we go further and realize His headship, the house will be enlarged to be the city, the kingdom of God. **C.** Nehemiah shows the need for us to have the proper aggressiveness in the Lord's recovery today. /The leaders of the Moabites and Ammonites were greatly displeased about Nehemiah's seeking the good of the children of Israel; these descendants of the impure increase of Lot hated and despised the children of Israel. /In relation to the mocking, despising, and reproach of these opposers, Nehemiah was very pure and aggressive, not cowardly. /The aggressive ones receive help from God. **D.** Nehemiah did not live in his natural man but in resurrection; he was aggressive, but his aggressiveness was accompanied by other characteristics. /As a person who loved God, Nehemiah prayed to God to contact Him in fellowship; for the rebuilding of the wall, Nehemiah stood on God's word and prayed according to it. **E.** Nehemiah, as the governor, in the position of a king, was a man with a pure heart for the rebuilding of Jerusalem's wall in carrying out God's economy; he was a pattern of what a leader among God's people should be. /Unlike many of the kings of Israel and Judah, Nehemiah was not selfish, did not seek his own interests, and was not indulgent in sexual lust. **F.** Although Nehemiah was the ruler, he was altogether not ambitious; this is indicated by the fact that in reconstituting the nation, he recognized his need of Ezra for the reconstitution of the people of God with the word of God. **G.** Nehemiah was the perfect leader, the best leader in human history and the best example of what an elder should be; it is surely worthwhile for us, especially the leading ones in the churches, to consider his example so that we may be a pattern of gaining God and flowing out God to others in order to turn the age.

**CP1:** Take helmet of salvation, withstand Satan's accusation, come forward to the throne of grace to receive grace as timely help

**OL1:** All of us should look to the Lord and pray that we will have dispensational value to God; we need to ask ourselves what we are doing to close this dispensation and to bring in the next age, the kingdom age; this is a special time, so there is the need of special believers to do a special work.

Rev. 12:5 And she brought forth a son, a man-child, who is to shepherd all the nations with an iron rod; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne.

**OL2:** We need to come forward to the Holy of Holies, to the throne of grace, and to God Himself; do not shrink backward—come forward. Heb. 10:22 Let us come forward to the Holy of Holies with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

**OL3:** The rapture of the man-child to heaven, the casting of Satan to earth, and the declaration in heaven that the kingdom has come signify that God's gaining of the man-child is His greatest dispensational move because it brings an end to the church age and introduces the kingdom age.

When God changes His attitude toward a certain matter, He makes a dispensational move. Every dispensational move brings in God's new way. His most important dispensational move is in Revelation 12. He wants to end this age and bring in the age of the kingdom.

The rapture of the man-child brings an end to the church age and introduces the kingdom age. The man-child enables God to move.

It is God's desire that created beings would deal with fallen created beings. According to His purpose, the whole church should deal with Satan; however, the church has failed. Therefore, there is the need for the overcomers to rise up. God's purpose is fulfilled in the overcomers because they work with Him. We can see the principle of the overcomers throughout the Word of God.

The writer of Hebrews tells us to "come forward." ...This phrase... is used several times in Hebrews: "come forward... to the throne of grace" (4:16); "come forward to the Holy of Holies" (10:22); "come forward to God" (7:25; 11:6). We need to come forward to three things: to the Holy of Holies, to the throne of grace, and to God Himself. Do not shrink backward—come forward.

Being an overcomer is not primarily for escaping the tribulation. We need to see of what value the rapture is to the Lord, not to ourselves. Of all the dispensational moves, the man-child is the greatest because it removes man's power and the devil's power, and it brings in the kingdom. We live in the most privileged time; we can do the most for God. Light will show us the way, but strength and power will enable us to walk the road. A great price must be paid in order to be used now.

Application: New ones and Youth/College students

New ones and young people, please become "people of value in the age" in the eyes of God. It is someone that God can use as a means to turn the age when He turns the age. How amazing to have the opportunity to turn the age in your life! No matter what you do in your life, make being an overcomer as a central part of your life plan.

The overcomer is the one who is able to resist Satan's appeals. At all times, day and night, Satan injects negative thoughts such as threats, worries, and anxiety into your thoughts, but you must be strengthened in the Lord, take up the helmet of salvation, and protect your mind from Satan's attacks. Satan will work on both sides to lose trust on each other among classmates, between students and teachers, between colleagues and bosses, between husband and wife, between parents and children. For example, with one classmate with whom you are discordant, Satan says to you "he is trying to bully you at this group." and says to that classmate "he has such intense enmity toward you and you must attack him." As a result, the hostility between you two is intensified.

Eph. 6:17 And receive the helmet of salvation. FN[the helmet of salvation]: Receiving the helmet of salvation is for covering our mind, our mentality, against the negative thoughts shot in by the evil one. Satan injects threats, worries, anxieties, and other weakening thoughts into our mind. God's salvation is the covering that we take up against all these. You should be more willing to come forward to the Holy of Holies, to the throne of grace, to God Himself, and to fellowship with the Lord. Satan is the father of lies, so everything he says is false. You should never be deceived by false words. But the Word of God is truth. You should use the Word of God to come forward to the throne of grace to fellowship with the Lord. Heb. 4:15 For we do not have a High Priest who cannot be touched with the feeling of our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all respects like us, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come forward with boldness to the throne of grace that we may receive mercy and find grace for timely help.

If you come forward to the throne of grace, you may receive mercy and find grace for timely help. For example, when brothers argue and become contentious, compassion and sympathy for others will be supplied as timely help to save them from discord. And when sisters become emotional and stray from the original path, wisdom to understand the true nature of things will be supplied as timely help. You must never be discouraged and shrink backward. Be encouraged and come forward with boldness to Holy of Holies and keep moving forward. Prayer: "Lord Jesus, I am often disappointed by many failures and weaknesses. But I will not be discouraged, I take Your blood and come forward with boldness to the throne of grace. As I come forward, You give me grace for timely help. This grace is Yourself as the reality of my every need. Lord, make me one who does not retreat but always comes forward. "

CP2: Have a good appetite on the Word and deal with the Lord moment-by-moment and become the man-child in the woman (the church)

**OL1:** Through the Lord's death on the cross, Satan, the old serpent, was judged, cast out; that judgment and sentence will ultimately be carried out and executed by the overcomers as the man-child, the corporate seed of the woman. Rev. 12:7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels went to war with the dragon. And the dragon warred and his angels. 8 And they did not prevail, neither was their place found any longer in heaven. 9 And the great dragon was cast down, the ancient serpent, he who is called the Devil and Satan, he who deceives the whole inhabited earth; he was cast to the earth... **OL2:** The man-child consists of the overcomers who stand on behalf of the church, take the position that the whole church should take, and do the work for the church. **OL3:** The rapture of the man-child is a transaction that causes Satan to have no more position in heaven; we must be raptured to fulfill God's need by executing His judgment upon His enemy. **OL4:** Those who constitute the man-child overcome the devil (the accuser, the slanderer), who is Satan, the adversary of God, because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they love not their soul-life even unto death. 10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven saying, Now has come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ, for the accuser of our brothers has been cast down, who accuses them before our God day and night. 11 And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they loved not their soul-life even unto death.

If you would be part of the man-child, you must eat more, grow more, and become stronger. To put it into practical terms, you must pray more, spend more time with the Lord, eat more of the Word, experience the Lord more, grow in life more, and have more dealings with the negative things. If others would gossip, you would not gossip. If others would not pray, you would pray more. Although you should not be separate from the woman, you should be somewhat different from others. The woman (church) is too general. Those who are part of the man-child are somewhat particular. Many of the dear ones in the Lord's recovery are indifferent. They have little appetite and do not like to eat very much. But if you would be in the man-child, you should not be indifferent. You must be particular, sober, and serious. You must have a good appetite and have a personal, direct, moment-by-moment dealing with the Lord... Whether or not you will be in the man-child depends upon how you react to God's desire, God's move, and God's eternal economy. If, day and night, you cannot go on until you have given yourself wholly and thoroughly to God's economy, then it is likely that you are a part of the man-child.

The rapture of the man-child is not just a matter of some individuals being caught up, but more than that, it is to bring to an end the warfare which has been going on for ages and generations... Once the man-child is caught up, not only is the

dragon unable to be enlarged any further, but he is cast down from heaven.

Application to business person/graduate student

At the last of this age, Lord is calling overcomers. When the man-child (a group of overcomers) is raptured to heaven, Satan cannot stay in heaven and is cast down from heaven. The group of overcomers will end the warfare which continues throughout generations. They are the vessel used by God to turn the age.

If you want to be a part of this group of overcomers, the man-child, you should read the Bible more, fellowship with Him more, preach the gospel of the kingdom more and serve more. In the negative aspect, please put on the helmet of salvation and reject every threat, anxiety, worry and suggestion from Satan. Because Japanese people are serious natured, they tend to accept the suggestion and threat from Satan in a serious way. But you don't need to consider Satan's suggestion at all. You just need to reject.

Testimony of a brother: Before I was saved, I kept listening to Satan's negative suggestions and threats and they made me weak. After I got saved, I came to know they were Satan's accusation. Before I was in the Japanese culture of seriousness and received Satan's threats and worries in a direct way causing me to be always weak, negative and very nervous.

For example, Satan whispered to me "nobody expect you on anything, you need to spend a lazy life since it is waste if you try anything", or "he complimented but his word was not true. He speak ill of you at the back". I used to accept these words and they weakened me. But when I read the Bible, although there are the words of warning, but at the same time it was filled with many positive words, encouraging words and the words of blessing. By reading the Bible, I noticed that my feeling is separated from the Bible. And noticed that the negative feelings within were not from myself but from Satan. Later I started to listen to God's desire, God's move, God's eternal economy through the word of the Bible and ministry messages and responded to them positively. Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and take courage; do not be afraid or dismayed. For Jehovah your God is with you wherever you go. Before the full time training in Taiwan from 1986, there were many meetings to encourage saints to join the training throughout Taiwan. In one of the meetings, I heard testimonies from many students from Taiwan University and the saints who were medical doctors. At that time Satan told me "their testimonies are great but you don't have anything wonderful to give to the Lord". But I rejected Satan's suggestion by saying "Satan the Devil, although I don't have anything, I can give my body and my heart and spirit to please God. Get out from me, Satan!" and I was saved out from inferiority.

Prayer: "Lord, in this last age, Lord is calling the overcomers. To respond to Lord's call and be the strong part of the woman, the man-child, I will put on the helmet of salvation. Not listening Satan's accusation according to Japanese cultural seriousness, I reject all his talks. Rather I will spend more time with the Lord, eat the Word more experience the Lord more, grow in the life more. Let me be a part of the man-child."

**CP3:** Nehemiah was very pure and aggressive, not cowardly. The aggressive ones receive help from God.

**OL1:** When Israel was taken into captivity for seventy years, God still had a dispensational move because of Nehemiah, who was a true overcomer; he is a pattern of someone who has dispensational value to God. **OL2:** Nehemiah shows the need for us to have the proper aggressiveness in the Lord's recovery today. The leaders of the Moabites and Ammonites were greatly displeased about Nehemiah's seeking the good of the children of Israel; these descendants of the impure increase of Lot hated and despised the children of Israel. In relation to the mocking, despising, and reproach of these opposers, Nehemiah was very pure and aggressive, not cowardly. The aggressive ones receive help from God.

Nehemiah answered them by saying, "The God of heaven Himself will make us prosper; therefore we His servants will rise up and build. But you have no portion nor right nor memorial in Jerusalem" (2:20). This answer indicates that Nehemiah was very aggressive. He surely was not cowardly. Anyone who is cowardly cannot be a servant of God.

The enemies became angry and greatly enraged, and again they mocked the Jews and despised their building. Nehemiah trusted in God by praying that God would return their reproach to themselves. Thus the Jews built the wall, and all the wall was joined together to half its height, for they had a heart to work. Today, no matter how much we may be mocked and despised, we should have a heart to build and should be aggressive.

**OL3:** Nehemiah did not live in his natural man but in resurrection; he was aggressive, but his aggressiveness was accompanied by other characteristics. As a person who loved God, Nehemiah prayed to God to contact Him in fellowship; for the rebuilding of the wall, Nehemiah stood on God's word and prayed according to it. 1 Kings 8:48 ...if they return to You with all their heart and with all their soul..., and they pray to You toward their land..., the city that You have chosen, and the house that I have built for Your name. **OL4:** Nehemiah, as the governor, in the position of a king, was a man with a pure heart for the rebuilding of Jerusalem's wall in carrying out God's economy; he was a pattern of what a leader among God's people should be. Unlike many of the kings of Israel and Judah, Nehemiah was not selfish, did not seek his own interests, and was not indulgent in sexual lust. **OL5:** Although Nehemiah was the ruler, he was altogether not ambitious; this is indicated by the fact that in reconstituting the nation, he recognized his need of Ezra for the reconstitution of the people of God with the word of God. **OL6:** Nehemiah was the perfect leader, the best leader in human history and the best example of what an elder should be.

### Application to the serving ones

As a serving one of the church, please learn from the aggressive nature of Nehemiah. Neh.2:17 Then I said to them, You see the bad state we are in, that Jerusalem lies in waste and its gates are burned with fire. Come and let us build up the wall of Jerusalem so that we will no longer be a reproach. 18 And I told them about the hand of my God, which was good upon me, and also about the king's words, which he had spoken to me. And they said, Let us rise up and build; and they strengthened their hands for the good work. 19 But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite servant and

Geshem the Arabian heard of it, they mocked us and despised us; and they said, What is this thing that you will do? Will you rebel against the king? 20 (See at the left.)

Testimony of buying the meeting halls (Part 1): We have been aggressively buying meeting halls to meet the Lord's needs. There was great help from God in every purchase of the meeting hall. In the summer of 1999, we purchased the land for Motoyama Meeting Hall, and the meeting hall was completed in April 2000. At that time, the number of people in the church was about 15, so it was very difficult to build a meeting hall. However, when my wife and I were aggressively working on the construction of the meeting hall, my father-in-law supported us with about half the amount. Thank God. Then Uozaki meeting hall was purchased in November 2004. This Uozaki meeting hall was started by a foreign student from Taiwan. He borrowed money from his parents to buy and dedicate an apartment room for future foreign students. I was so impressed by this that I was urged by the Lord to look for a meeting hall, and a real estate agent with whom I do business introduced me to a property before it went on the market. The next day, on Saturday, I took the brothers and sisters to see the property and decided to buy it on the spot. This property was built at a cost of 250 to 300 million yen, but I was able to purchase it for 70 million yen, as it was a property for disposing of bad loans of banks, which was strongly promoted by the Koizumi administration at that time. God helped us through a foreign student, the Koizumi administration, and the real estate agent. The student center in Rokko cost 160 million yen. At the time of Uozaki, we borrowed 70 million yen from the bank, but after we acquired a religious corporation in 2005, we could no longer borrow from the bank. We were in trouble, but finally managed to borrow funds from a Taiwanese bank in the name of my two brothers-in-law in Taiwan. We purchased the land in 2004 for 63 million yen. At the time of repayment to Taiwan, due to the appreciation of the yen, we were able to earn foreign exchange gains and repay the 50 million yen with 40 million yen. Also, with the help of brother Ouyang, I joined one Taiwanese co-workers' meeting and fellowshiped the need for a student center. After this, we received much support from the church in Taiwan. There was also support from JGW and other localities of Japan. Furthermore, when the construction started in 2009, a buried cultural heritage of jars were found, which delayed the completion by half a year. As a result, we were able to afford to raise funds. I thank God for His great help. Next week, we will fellowship the second part. Matt.6:19 Do not store up for yourselves treasures on the earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves dig through and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not dig through nor steal. Prayer: "Lord Jesus, the reason why there is a meeting hall in each district in church in Kobe, and we can enjoy rich church life here now, is because of the brothers and sisters like Nehemiah who built the meeting halls in an aggressive way and offered for them. I also aggressively offer my materials for the need with a heart for building. Those who are pure and aggressive will receive help from God. The God of Heaven Himself will prosper us. Therefore, we, His servants, will rise up and build!"