

Crystallization-Study of Jeremiah and Lamentations

#2: The Kernel of the Book of Jeremiah (9/7-9/13)

OL Summary:

I. The kernel of the book of Jeremiah includes three matters—what God wants from us, what we are in our fallen condition, and what Christ is to us; in order to see these three things, we need to “crack” the shell of Jeremiah and concentrate on the kernel inside, which is the complete teaching of the entire Bible.

II. What God wants from us is mentioned mainly in Jeremiah 2:13, which reveals that our God is the fountain of living waters: **A.** God’s intention in His economy is to be the fountain, the source, of living waters to satisfy us for our enjoyment; He wants us to take Him as the source, the fountain, of our being; the only way to take God as the fountain of living waters is to drink of Him day by day: This requires us to call on the Lord continually (with thanking, rejoicing, praying, and praising) and draw water with rejoicing from Him as the fountain of living waters. /The way to draw water out of the springs of the divine salvation includes repenting, calling, singing, thanking, praising, and making God’s saving deeds known. **B.** When the living water enters into us, it permeates us, passes through our entire being, and is assimilated by us, causing us to be nourished, transformed, conformed, and glorified. **C.** “The water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into eternal life” (John 4:14b): The Triune God flows in the Divine Trinity in three stages: the Father is the fountain, the Son is the springs, and the Spirit is the river. /The New Jerusalem is the totality of the eternal life, and the word into means “to become”; thus, into eternal life means to become the totality of the eternal life, the New Jerusalem. **D.** God’s goal in being the fountain of living waters is to produce the church as His increase to be His fullness for His expression; this is the heart’s desire, the good pleasure, of God in His economy. **E.** Nothing apart from God as the fountain of living waters can quench our thirst and satisfy us; nothing apart from God dispensed into our being can make us His increase for His expression. **F.** We need to realize that whenever God’s people are short of the Spirit of life as the water of life, they will have problems; when God’s people have an abundance of the saving Spirit as the living water, their problems among themselves and with God are solved.

III. Another aspect of the kernel of the book of Jeremiah is the exposure of what we are in our fallen condition: **A.** “The heart is deceitful above all things, / And it is incurable; / Who can know it?” (Jeremiah 17:9): Even this word regarding the deceitful and incurable heart of man is related to God’s economy with His dispensing; although man’s heart is corrupt and deceitful and its condition is incurable, even such a heart can be a tablet upon which God writes His law of life. /This reveals that God has a way to impart Himself into man; once He has come into man, God will spread from man’s spirit into his heart; this is God’s way, according to His economy, to deal with the heart of fallen man. **B.** “Can the Cushite change his skin, / Or the leopard his spots? / Then you also may be able to do good, / Who are accustomed to do evil” (Jeremiah 13:23): Having forsaken God as the source, the fountain of living water, Israel became evil, having an unchangeable

and sinful nature, like the Cushite’s skin and the leopard’s spots, which cannot be changed; this exposes the true condition of fallen man. **C.** Everyone who truly sees a vision of the Lord in His glory is enlightened in his conscience regarding his uncleanness; how much we realize concerning ourselves depends on how much we see the Lord: The more we see the Lord and are exposed, the more we are cleansed; our fellowship with the Lord needs to be maintained by the constant cleansing of the Lord’s blood. /In our morning watch, even if only for fifteen or twenty minutes, we have time to be with the Lord, time to remain in the Spirit. /The more we see God, know God, and love God, the more we abhor ourselves and the more we deny ourselves.

IV. The third matter in the kernel of the book of Jeremiah is what Christ is to us: **A.** “Indeed, days are coming, / Declares Jehovah, / When I will raise up to David a righteous Shoot.../ And this is His name by which He will be called: / Jehovah our righteousness”: The name here, Jehovah our righteousness, indicates that Christ, as a descendant of David, is not merely a man but is also the very Jehovah who created the heavens and the earth, selected Abraham, established the race of Israel, and was the Lord of David, the One whom he called Lord. /Christ came as a Shoot of David (the son of David) who is Jehovah Himself (the Lord of David) to be the righteousness of God’s people. /With His redemption as the basis, we can believe into Christ to receive God’s forgiveness, and God can justify us and clothe us with Christ as the robe of righteousness. /This opens the way for Christ as the embodiment of the Triune God to enter into us as our life, our inner law of life, and our everything in order to dispense Himself into our entire being for the accomplishing of God’s eternal economy. **B.** Christ Himself is the new covenant, the new testament, of life given to us by God: A covenant and a testament are the same, but when the maker of the covenant is living, it is a covenant, and when he has died, it is a testament; a testament in today’s terms is a will. /A covenant is an agreement containing some promises to accomplish certain things for the covenanted people, while a testament is a will containing certain accomplished things that are bequeathed to the inheritor. /The old covenant of the law is a portrait of God, but the new covenant of grace is the person of God. /When we believe into Christ, the person of this portrait comes into us, and He fulfills in us the righteous requirements of the law as we walk according to the spirit and set our mind on the spirit. /Through His death Christ fulfilled the demands of God’s righteousness according to His law and enacted the new covenant, and in His resurrection He became the new covenant with all its bequests. /In His ascension Christ opened the scroll of the new covenant concerning God’s economy, and in His heavenly ministry as the Mediator, the Executor, He is carrying out its contents. /As the Lion of the tribe of Judah, Christ overcame and defeated Satan, as the redeeming Lamb, Christ took away the sin and sins of fallen man, and as the seven Spirits, Christ infuses us with Himself as the contents of the scroll of the new covenant. /Our spirit is the “bank account” of all the bequests of the new covenant; by the law of the Spirit of life, all these bequests are dispensed into us and made real to us. /The New

Testament teaching concerning the spreading of the divine life from the center of our being, which is our spirit, to the circumference, which is our heart; God writes His law on our heart by moving from our spirit into our heart to inscribe what He is into our being. /Through the spontaneous, automatic function of the divine life within us, we have the capacity to know God, to live God, and even to become God in His life and nature but not in His Godhead so that we may become His increase, His enlargement, to be His fullness for His eternal expression.

Church announcement and fellowship

September's Special Conference:

9/19(Sat): Mtg. ① 10-12, Mtg. ② 13:15-15:15

Place: Meeting Halls of Motoyama, Uozaki, Rokko, Sannomiya

9/20(LD): Mtg. ③ 10:30-12 (Lord's Table afterwards)

Mtg. ④ 13-14:30 (Lord's Table afterwards)

Place: Meeting Halls of Motoyama, Uozaki, Rokko, Sannomiya

9/21(Mon): Gospel Activity ① 10-12, Place: Motoyama, Rokko **OR**

Gospel blending 10:30-15:30, Place: Rejoice Garden at Mt. Rokko

9/22(Tue): Prayer Meeting 9:30-11

Place: Meeting Halls of Motoyama, Uozaki, Rokko, Sannomiya

Gospel Activity ② in the afternoon at each district.

CP1: Forsaking God as the source of living waters is the basic reason for every problem. It is critically important to come to God as the source and to drink and enjoy the living water every day

Jer. 2:13 For My people have...forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, to hew out for themselves cisterns, broken cisterns, which hold no water. Isa. 12:3-6 ...You will draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation...[and say], Give thanks to Jehovah; call upon His name! Make His deeds known among the peoples....Sing psalms to Jehovah....Cry out and give a ringing shout... John 4:10 Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water. 14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into eternal life. **OL1:** What God wants from us is mentioned mainly in Jeremiah 2:13, which reveals that our God is the fountain of living waters. **OL2:** God's goal in being the fountain of living waters is to produce the church as His increase to be His fullness for His expression; this is the heart's desire, the good pleasure, of God in His economy. **OL3:** We need to realize that whenever God's people are short of the Spirit of life as the water of life, they will have problems; when God's people have an abundance of the saving Spirit as the living water, their problems among themselves and with God are solved.

The most evil thing in the eyes of God is to forsake Him as the source, as the fountain of living waters, and to turn to some other source. All other sources are idols. In this verse the idols are likened to broken cisterns, which cannot hold water. People today are busy hewing out for themselves all kinds of cisterns. Actually, these cisterns are idols.

God's economy is to dispense Himself as the living

water to produce His increase, His enlargement, to be His expression. This thought is developed in the writings of John....In John 4 the Lord Jesus spoke to the Samaritan woman concerning living water. ...Revelation 22:1-2 show us that in the New Jerusalem the river of life flows and that in this river grows the tree of life as the life supply to support and sustain the entire city.

Application to new ones, Youth/College students

Calling upon the Lord's name and giving thanks to The Lord are to draw water from the springs of salvation.

1Thessalonians 5:16 Always rejoice, 17 Unceasingly pray, 18 In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 19 Do not quench the Spirit; 20 Do not despise prophecies,

God arranges environments for you and give you opportunities to move forward. Therefore you should learn to give thanks in everything and seize opportunities. Not seizing an opportunity means that you don't understand God arranged environment and you don't accept God who arranged that environment. This is actually forsaking God as the fountain of living water in the little things of daily life. There is not one day without God's arrangement for you.

For example, you've noticed voicemails from other brothers and sisters in prayer line Group etc., but you decided to stop listening, for you don't want to send it. In this way, you are losing your opportunities little by little every day, and forsaking God as the fountain of living water.

Brother's testimony: Hallelujah! Thank the Lord. I've been devoted to mobile games for two and a half years since entering the university. For that reason, I hardly went to school at the first year. And then I moved into Brother-House in Uozaki before becoming a sophomore. After that, the time of playing games decreased, but I still spent quite a lot of time on playing games. I was warned by brothers and sisters many times, but I didn't care very much and didn't change it. However, on Tuesday, Aug. 18th this year (when I'm junior), I suddenly lost a desire to play games within me. Even when I start playing a game, the feeling to play the game disappeared. After that I deleted Apps of mobile games bit by bit every day. Finally, all Apps of mobile games were removed. And I shared my testimony of this thing on a Lord's Day (Aug. 23rd). And I came to know for the first time that brothers and sisters always prayed for me. Thank the Lord! The reason why I was able to stop playing games is because brothers and sisters prayed behind for me and the Lord enlightened me within to change my concept. Now the demons of games inside of me has already been cast away. As I was so much into games, the school record was very bad, and I've lost the time and opportunities to pursue the Lord. Oh Lord! I repent. Please restore the years that locusts have eaten. In the church life from now on, I pursue the Lord more, be filled with the Lord, and work hard on study and the gospel!"

Prayer: "Oh Lord Jesus, not thanking environments arranged by God is to forsake God as the fountain of living water. Please save me from forsaking God in the daily little things.

Not coming to God as the fountain of living water is to open to the Satan who is the evil source and every problem comes from there. May I notice what God is arranging for me every day, seize an opportunity, thank the Lord, and learn to move forward in the Lord!"

CP2: The heart of fallen man is false over all things and is incurable. But God has a way to transform the heart of fallen man under divine dispensing.

OL1: "The heart is deceitful above all things, / And it is incurable; /Who can know it?" (Jer. 17:9) Even this word regarding the deceitful and incurable heart of man is related to God's economy with His dispensing; although man's heart is corrupt and deceitful and its condition is incurable, even such a heart can be a tablet upon which God writes His law of life. **OL2:** This reveals that God has a way to impart Himself into man; once He has come into man, God will spread from man's spirit into his heart; this is God's way, according to His economy, to deal with the heart of fallen man. **OL3:** "Can the Cushite change his skin, / Or the leopard his spots? /Then you also may be able to do good, / Who are accustomed to do evil" (Jer. 13:23) **OL4:** Having forsaken God as the source, the fountain of living waters, Israel became evil, having an unchangeable and sinful nature, like the Cushite's skin and the leopard's spots, which cannot be changed; this exposes the true condition of fallen man.

Isaiah responded to the vision of Christ in glory by saying, "Woe is me, for I am finished!" (v. 5a). As a result of seeing this vision, Isaiah was terminated, finished. Isaiah went on to say, "For I am a man of unclean lips, / And in the midst of a people of unclean lips I dwell" (v. 5b). By this we can see that we must pay attention to our lips, to our speaking. Every day we talk too much. A great percentage of the words we speak are evil, because most of our words are words of criticism....This is the reason that our lips are unclean. Unclean things such as gossip, murmuring, and reasoning make the church life taste like vinegar. If we eliminate gossip, murmuring, and reasoning, we may find that we have very little to talk about. Like Isaiah, we need to realize that our lips are unclean....According to our experience, the more we see God and love God, the more we abhor ourselves. The more we know God, the more we deny ourselves.

Application: Businessperson/ Graduate student

Please open your heart to the Lord and fellowship with the Lord honestly, beholding the Lord of glory with unveiled face. Because you cannot deceive The Lord, do not try to cheat or saying excuses but simply open your heart. Then the veil would be taken away and you can behold the Lord of glory.

2 Cor. 3:16 But whenever their heart turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. **18** But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.

For example, you may be suffering thinking that you are lightly esteemed by the company. In this case, there are

three possibilities. **(1)** You are too proud and esteem yourself too high and there is no such a fact of the company esteems you lightly, **(2)** Although you noticed that the reason exists in yourself, but you are trying to beautify yourself and deceive yourself and people around. **(3)** This is the environment of being treated lightly given by the Lord for you to grow (And in this case, the Lord is enhancing growth through your being treated lightly, so you should receive this environment with thanksgiving).

In any of these cases, the thought of "I am treated lightly" becomes your veil. If you cling to this thought, you are keeping the veil on your face, so you cannot behold the Lord of glory. Please call on the name of the Lord, drop your concept and open your heart to the Lord and behold the Lord and fellowship with the Lord. Then you can see the true situation of yours in the light and can confess your sins like pride and selfishness. May the Lord have mercy on you so that you can open your heart completely to the Lord.

1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from every sin.

In fact, the whole human being including you and me, is totally degraded and impossible to improve and hopeless. But the degraded men want to look good, so they try to deceive, tell a lie or pretend to be spiritual. Even when the light comes to enlighten you, you do not accept it trying to cover your sins. May the Lord have mercy on you so that you do not hide your sins in the light of the Lord and confess them and be blessed!

1 John 1:8 If we say that we do not have sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **9** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. **Psa. 32:5** I acknowledged my sin to You, And I did not cover my iniquity. I said, I will confess my transgressions to Jehovah. Then You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Prov. 28:13 He who covers his transgressions will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

Prayer: "Oh Lord Jesus, my heart is deceitful above all things, and it is incurable and the words which come out of my mouth are all dirty words. When my real situation get exposed by the Lord's enlightenment, let me accept it without any excuse and repent. With unveiled face, I behold the Lord of glory. With dispensing Yourself into my heart, You can heal my heart and transform even someone hopeless like me. Hallelujah!"

CP3: The law of the spirit of life has already been installed in the spirit. Switch on the law with the mind set on the spirit.

OL1: The third matter in the kernel of the book of Jeremiah is what Christ is to us. **OL2:** "Indeed, days are coming, / Declares Jehovah, / When I will raise up to David a righteous Shoot.../ And this is His name by which He will be called: / Jehovah our righteousness." (Jer. 23:5-6). **OL3:** With His redemption as the basis, we can believe into

Christ to receive God's forgiveness, and God can justify us and clothe us with Christ as the robe of righteousness. **OL4:** This opens the way for Christ as the embodiment of the Triune God to enter into us as our life, our inner law of life, and our everything in order to dispense Himself into our entire being for the accomplishing of God's eternal economy. **OL5:** Our spirit is the "bank account" of all the bequests of the new covenant; by the law of the Spirit of life, all these bequests are dispensed into us and made real to us. **Jer. 33:16** In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely; and this is the name by which she will be called: Jehovah our righteousness. **Jer. 31:31** ...I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. **33-34** ...I will put My law in their inward parts and write it upon their hearts; and I will be their God, and they will be My people. And...all of them will know Me..., for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.

"Jehovah our righteousness" (Jer. 23:6) refers to Christ in His divinity, and "a righteous Shoot" (23:5), to Christ in His humanity. The name here indicates that Christ, as a descendant of David, is not merely a man but is also the very Jehovah.

"Our" in Jeremiah 23:6 indicates that Christ becomes one with us to be our righteousness. Christ is made our righteousness based on His redemption. As the righteous Shoot, Christ came in the flesh as the descendant of David to die on the cross and shed His blood in order to wash away our sins and accomplish redemption. With His redemption as the basis, we can believe into Him to receive God's forgiveness, and God can justify us, make Christ our righteousness, and clothe us with the robe of righteousness. This opens the way for Christ as the embodiment of the Triune God to enter into us as our life, our inner law of life, and our everything, to dispense Himself into our entire being for the accomplishing of God's eternal economy.

The center, the centrality, of the new covenant is the inner law of life...In this law there is the divine capacity, and the divine capacity is almighty. This divine capacity can do everything in us for the fulfillment of God's purpose...This capacity can constitute us to be the members of the Body of Christ, including all kinds of functions: those of apostles, prophets, evangelists, and shepherds and teachers—the joints of the rich supply—and those of every part of the Body that functions in its measure. ...In function this law has the capacity to constitute us with God and to constitute us the members of the Body of Christ with all kinds of functions, all kinds of abilities.

Application to the serving ones

As a minister, please recognize that the purpose of the Lord's Recovery is to prepare the bride. In order to become an overcomer and be part of the bride, the Triune God went through the process of incarnation, human life, death, resurrection, and ascension, all of the person of Christ, the God and man, everything He has achieved will

be dispensed to you according to the law of the Spirit of Life. This natural law of the Spirit of Life is the center of the new covenant, so that Christ can be all of you. **Rom. 8:2** For the law of the Spirit of life has freed me in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and of death. **5** For those who are according to the flesh mind the things of the flesh; but those who are according to the spirit, the things of the Spirit. **6** For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace.

A testimony of the success and failure of setting mind to the spirit: I started learning to pray in the second half of my first year of college. At that time, I experienced a rich flow of spirit in prayer. After that, I started to preach the gospel from the second grade, and many students were saved. During the week before the gospel meeting, at my suggestion, I prayed exclusively for the gospel 30 minutes before the group prayer reading. At this time, I set my mind on the spirit, enjoyed the flow of the Spirit, be filled with the spirit of life and the spirit of authority, and took my gospel friends to the meeting. When I set my mind on the spirit, I naturally switched on the law of the spirit of life, and the gospel flowed freely. About 35-40 people were saved in 3 years.

But when I was studying, I switched off the laws of the spirit of life. I majored in pharmacy, but I had so much to learn, which I wasn't interested in, and I always thought, "Why should I remember this?" I later noticed that when I entered graduate school, this was a state in which my mind was set on the flesh and the law of spirit of life was switched off. When I was in college, I didn't set my mind on the spirit most of my studies, so there was no flow of the spirit, and I was filled with darkness, dissatisfaction, anxiety, death, and so on.

Mind is like a door, and when you set the mind on the flesh, the door is open to the flesh, so it will be filled with negative things such as darkness, dissatisfaction, anxiety, and death, and be led to Satan. However, when you set your mind on the spirit, you open the door to the spirit, so you will be filled with a positive feeling of life, joy, gratitude, peace, and so on, and be led to the Lord. When I was in college, I was blessed with a rich flow of spirit in the gospel, but in studying, I set my mind on the flesh, so I was filled with dark experiences of failure. However, this failure made me have a strong sense that I can't keep failing anymore, and it helped me greatly in subsequent graduate school, full-time training, business life, serving, and so on.

Prayer: "Oh Lord Jesus, the law of the spirit of life has already been installed in my spirit who believed in and accepted the Lord. If I set my mind on the spirit, I can switch on the law of the spirit of life, but if I set my mind on the flesh, I will switch off the law of life. When I switch on the law of the Spirit of Life, naturally the divine dispensation will spread from my spirit to my soul, and will also provide me with the function to preach the gospel, produce, nourish, teach and build. Hallelujah! Praise the Lord. Amen!"