

Crystallization-Study of Jeremiah and Lamentations

#6 The Principle of Being One with God as Revealed in the

Book of Jeremiah (10/12-18) **OL Summary:**

I. God's desire to be one with man and for man to be one with Him can be seen in the resemblance of God and man in their images and likenesses: **A.** There was no "mankind" created by God in His creation; rather, what God created was after His own kind, that is, God-kind; God created man with the breath of life for a spirit that man may contact Him and receive Him. **B.** In Genesis 18:2-13 three men appeared to Abraham; one of these men was Christ—Jehovah—and the other two were angels; this means that two thousand years before His incarnation, God appeared as a man when He visited His friend Abraham. **C.** The Angel of God (God, Jehovah, a man of God—Christ) appeared to Manoah and his wife before Christ's incarnation. **D.** Daniel saw a vision of Christ as the Son of Man before Christ's incarnation; according to Daniel 7:13-14, Daniel saw the Son of Man coming with the clouds of heaven, and He came even to the Ancient of Days—the God of eternity—and they brought Him near before Him; there was given Him dominion, glory, and a kingdom that all the peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him; His dominion is an eternal dominion, which will not pass away, and His kingdom is one that will not be destroyed. **E.** Adam was a type, a prefigure, of Christ. **F.** Christ is the image of the invisible God. **G.** The Word (God) became flesh, coming in the likeness of the flesh of sin and not having the sin of flesh. **H.** Christ, who exists in the form of God, took the form of a slave, becoming in the likeness of men and being found in fashion as a man, in His incarnation. **I.** Stephen saw the heavens opened up and the Son of Man—Christ—at the right hand of God; this indicates that after Christ's ascension to the heavens, He is still the Son of Man. **J.** In Matthew 26:64 the Lord Jesus said, "You will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of Power [God] and coming on the clouds of heaven"; this shows that when the Lord Jesus comes back, He will still be the Son of Man. **K.** In Romans 8:29 Paul tells us that "Because those whom God foreknew (we believers), He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers"; by His resurrecting to make us His many brothers, we became a new kind, "God-man kind." **L.** Second Corinthians 3:18 says, "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"; Romans 12:2a speaks of our being "transformed by the renewing of the mind". **M.** Philippians 2:15 speaks of our being "blameless and guileless, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverted generation, among whom we shine as luminaries in the world". **N.** The Lord Jesus Christ will transfigure the body of our humiliation to be conformed to the body of His glory, according to His operation by which He is able even to subject all things to Himself. **O.** When Christ is manifested, we will be like Him wholly, perfectly, and absolutely, because we will see Him even as He is. **P.** Revelation 4:3 says, "He [God] who was sitting was like a jasper stone". **Q.** According to Revelation 21, the New Jerusalem's light is like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone; the building work of its wall is jasper, and the first foundation of the wall is also jasper: We are teaching and preaching the truth that God became man in

order to make man God, the same as He is in life and in nature but not in the Godhead; it is a great blessing to hear this truth. /Having a God-man living in all the details of our daily life will bring in a new revival that has never been seen in history, and this will end this age.

II. The book of Jeremiah shows us the principle of being one with God: **A.** The principle of being one with God, which is the principle of the tree of life, versus the principle of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil is seen in Jeremiah 2:13, which reveals the two basic sins of God's people: Sin is to forsake God and do something by ourselves and for ourselves. **B.** God placed man in front of the tree of life, indicating His desire to be one with man, that is, to be man's life, life supply, and everything: When we receive His words by means of all prayer and petition by exercising our spirit, we get the Spirit, who is life.

III. To take, receive, and keep the word of God, we must be absolutely one with Him: **A.** The case of Gedaliah is the case of a person who was not one with God; although Gedaliah was faithful in caring for Jeremiah, God's prophet, he did not seek the Lord's word, because this was not his habit: To take, to receive, and to keep the word of God as the expression of His thought, His will, His heart's desire, and His good pleasure, we must be absolutely one with God, trusting in Him, relying on Him, and not having any opinion that comes from the self. **B.** The Lord told Jeremiah, "If you bring out the precious from the worthless, / You will be as My mouth" (Jeremiah 15:19): We must treasure the Lord's words more than all earthly riches so that we can speak oracles of God to dispense the unsearchable riches of Christ as the varied grace of God to all the saints.

IV. The secret of Israel's failures and defeats was that they had lost God's presence and were no longer one with God; we should always be one with our God, who is not only among us but also in us, making us men with God—God-men: **A.** As God-men, we should practice being one with the Lord, walking with Him, living with Him, and having our entire being with Him; this is the way to walk as a Christian, to fight as a child of God, and to build up the Body of Christ; if we have the Lord's presence, being one with Him, we have wisdom, insight, foresight, and the inner knowledge concerning things; the Lord's presence is everything to us. **B.** The stubbornness of the children of Israel in sinning against God was due to their not being one with God; if they had been one with God, they would have received God's word and would have known His heart, His nature, His mind, and His purpose; furthermore, they would have spontaneously lived Him and would have been constituted with Him to be His testimony on earth. **C.** Those who are not one with God do not take His will and good pleasure but express their opinions and pursue their preferences; to do this is to forsake God as the source, the fountain, of living waters and hew out broken cisterns that can hold no water.

V. In order to be one with God, we need Christ as the Shoot of David to be our redemption and justification; this ushers the Triune God into us to be our life, our inner life law, our capacity, and our everything to dispense Himself into our being to carry out His economy; this is the new covenant; eventually, we will know God, live God, and become God in life and in nature but not in the Godhead so that we may become His corporate expression as the New Jerusalem.

CP1:神を受け入れ、神を表現することが神のエコノミーである。あなたの実生活を神のエコノミーに結び付ける

OL1: God's desire to be one with man and for man to be one with Him can be seen in the resemblance of God and man in their images and likenesses. **Gen. 1:26** And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness... **OL2:** There was no "mankind" created by God in His creation; rather, what God created was after His own kind, that is, God-kind; God created man with the breath of life for a spirit that man may contact Him and receive Him. **OL3:** We are teaching and preaching the truth that God became a man in order to make man God, the same as He is in life and in nature but not in the Godhead; it is a great blessing to hear this truth.

Genesis 1 tells us that God created all the fish, the birds, the beasts, and the cattle after their kind. Although God created everything after its kind, God did not create "mankind."

If God did not create "mankind," then after what kind was man created? **Genesis 1:26** indicates that man is after God's kind. "Let Us [the Divine Trinity] make man [Heb. adam, denoting red clay] in Our image, according to Our likeness."

Daniel saw a vision of a Son of Man coming with the clouds of heaven, and He came even to the Ancient of Days—the God of eternity—and they brought Him near before Him. There was given Him dominion, glory, and a kingdom that all the peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. ...Daniel saw such a vision of Christ as the Son of Man before Christ's incarnation.

When we think of ourselves as God-men, this thinking, this realization, revolutionizes us in our daily experience. For example, a brother may be unhappy with his wife. But he remembers that he is a God-man, and immediately his attitude is changed. Then he will desire to be a God-man husband.

After hearing that God wants a group of God-men, how can you be content to be anything else? What do you want to be? Do you want to be a typical Chinese or a typical American? Do you want to be merely a Christian or a believer in Christ? We should all declare that we want to live the life of a God-man. Eventually, the God-men will be the victors, the overcomers, the Zion within Jerusalem. This will bring in a new revival which has never been seen in history, and this will end this age.

Application to new ones, Youth/College students

You were created according to the likeness of the Triune God, the Father, the Son and the Spirit. It is for you to receive God inside of you and express God. This is the basic concept of God's economy and the meaning of your life. You must apply this vision to your practical life.

For example, in your studies and club activities, you should pray, "Oh Lord Jesus, in my study and club activity, I want to empty myself and open to the Lord and be filled with Lord. And Let the Lord flow out from within and

magnify Him! This is Your plan for me, and the meaning of my life. Save me from studying and club activity according to my own lusts, pride and ambition. Let me fulfill my portion according to God's economy. May the vision of God's economy rule my study and club activity.

The Lord is very pleased when you exercise the spirit of faith to pray in this way. Never think that it is too difficult for you to live your life according to the vision of God's economy. You may still be unfamiliar with it, but the more you pray, the more you will be able to apply this vision to your practical life. Because God has planned this thing and the Holy Spirit is now trying to apply this to you.

Rom.8:26 Moreover, in like manner the Spirit also joins in to help us in our weakness, for we do not know for what we should pray as is fitting, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. You should consider carefully in the Lord and don't live a life that is contrary to the Triune God's work, the choosing of the Father, the redemption of the Son, and the application work of the Holy Spirit. **Jer.17:7** Blessed is the man who trusts in Jehovah And whose trust Jehovah is. **8** And he will be like a tree transplanted beside water, Which sends out its roots by a stream, And will not be afraid when heat comes; For its leaves remain flourishing, And it will not be anxious in the year of drought And will not cease to bear fruit.**9** The heart is deceitful above all things, And it is incurable; Who can know it?

FN「a tree transplanted beside water」: According to God's economy, the one who trusts in God is like a tree planted by water, signifying God as the fountain of living waters. A tree grows beside a river by absorbing all the riches of the water. This is a picture of God's economy, which is carried out by His dispensing. In order to receive the divine dispensing, we as the trees must absorb God as the water. The riches of the supplying God dispensed into us as the trees constitute us with God's divinity and cause us to grow into God's measure. In this way we and God become one, having the same element, essence, constitution, and appearance.

FN「deceitful」: 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.

Your heart is deceitful and lies. You need to know and recognize this and you need to be saved from your pride. But don't be discouraged, for God's dispensing can gradually transform your heart from glory to glory. Connect your practical life to the vision of God's economy. Then you will be blessed.

CP2: By feeding on the Word and opening to Lord's word completely, be one with the Lord express and serve the Lord

OL1: The book of Jeremiah shows us the principle of being one with God. **OL2:** The principle of being one with God, which is the principle of the tree of life, versus the principle of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil is seen in Jeremiah 2:13, which reveals the two basic sins of God's people. Sin is to forsake God and do something by ourselves and for ourselves. **OL3:** To take, receive, and keep the word of God, we must be absolutely one with Him. **OL4:** The case of Gedaliah is the case of a person who was not one with God; although Gedaliah was faithful in caring for Jeremiah, God's prophet, he did not seek the Lord's word, because this was not his habit.

Sin is a matter of leaving God and doing something by ourselves and for ourselves. This is exactly what the children of Israel did. They forsook God as the fountain of living waters for their supply, and, according to their opinion, they did whatever they could to work out something by themselves for their enjoyment

Matthew 10:37-38 says, "He who loves father or mother above Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter above Me is not worthy of Me; and he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me." A father, mother, wife, and children are the most precious things to a man. They are the most important things a man has in this life. When these are not compared with the Lord, there is nothing wrong in loving them. But when a situation arises where we have to choose between the two, which one will we choose?...We have to help the brothers and sisters know the real precious thing. We can ask new believers, "Whom will you choose?" If they are not clear about this, they will be lost when they face temptations in the future. The responsibility of providing proper guidance is on our shoulders. We have to tell the new believers, "If, for the Lord's sake, you have to draw a separation line between yourself and your parents, wife, and children, will you choose Him? For His sake, that is, for the sake of the Lord who died for us, we should choose to be His disciples and follow Him." Our own kin are precious, but they are no comparison to the Lord. Our Lord is more precious.

Jer. 15:19 Therefore thus says Jehovah,...If you bring out the precious from the worthless, you will be as My mouth. If we bring out the precious from the worthless, we will be as God's mouth. If we cannot tell the proper value of things, God will reject us and cast us aside....We have to see the importance of such a change in concept of value.

Application to the serving ones

Serve the Lord by being one with the Lord.

First, receive the Word by means of prayer and enjoy the life supply. Lord's word is the bread of life and you need to eat the Word every day and feed on it. Without eating and drinking the Lord, you end up forsaking God and hewing out the broken cisterns for yourself.

Second, open to the Lord's word completely and accept it

and be one with the Lord. This time, you should not tell your opinion. The people of Israel rejected the word of God because the word of God spoken through Jeremiah was different from their plan and they condemned God and Jeremiah. This is a warning to New Testament believers.

Sister's testimony: "After I had a big surgery in June at Matsuyama City Hospital, I couldn't stay by myself and moved to Kobe exhorted by my first son and his wife. I came to Kobe in July and started church life and I testify what I've been experiencing since then. Lord has said "Come to Me all who toil and are burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matt. 11:28). The rest here is the "perfect peace and satisfaction". I can testify that here is perfect peace in every aspect. In my previous living, it was always like this, "some aspects are good but another aspect is not good. It is OK in total" but there could not be that there was "perfect peace and satisfaction in every aspect". But in the church life, there is rest and unspeakable joy. "Whom having not seen, you love; into whom though not seeing Him at present, yet believing, you exult with joy that is unspeakable and full of glory," (1 Peter 1:8).

By reading the Bible with the brothers and sisters, I could come to know that Jesus Christ is the only God who took flesh and died on the cross on behalf of my sins and became resurrected to be the life-giving Spirit and entered into me. This word is true and there is no place to argue. I saw the gods I had habitually and traditionally were idols and lies. But these idols are common in the town I lived, so I felt difficult to deal with them. I had such concern, but by eating and drinking and enjoying the Word, my inward being was cleansed, strengthened and the concerns within disappeared. Because of my physical weakness, I cannot go back to Masaki-cho, Ehime prefecture right now to deal with the idols by myself but within my heart, I have completely dealt with the idols already in my heart. I joined the national conference in the end of September and I really enjoyed it. Brother Ed said "Christian life and the church life is the life of enjoying grace". There is rich flowing grace in the church life. I do not struggle by myself, but my Christian life and church life is just to open to the Lord and enjoy the Lord's grace every day. I will spend the rest of my days in the church life enjoying the Lord, being filled with the Lord, being one with the Lord to testify the Lord and express the Lord! Amen! Hallelujah!

Prayer: "Oh Lord Jesus, thank You for the church life where I can enjoy grace of the precious Lord. I eat and drink the Word by pray reading and receive the life supply. When I come to the Word, I open to the Lord completely, receive, accept and keep the Word. Telling my opinion to God is to reject God's word. In the church life, let me enjoy the perfect peace and satisfaction and become one with the Lord daily to testify the Lord to the people around and express the Lord. Amen!"

CP3: Be one with the Lord, not according to your own plans and desires, make Christ as the head, train and carry out the life of God-man

OL1: The secret of Israel's failures and defeats was that they had lost God's presence and were no longer one with God; we should always be one with our God, who is not only among us but also in us, making us men with God—God-men. **OL2:** As God-men, we should practice being one with the Lord, walking with Him, living with Him, and having our entire being with Him; this is the way to walk as a Christian, to fight as a child of God, and to build up the Body of Christ; if we have the Lord's presence, being one with Him, we have wisdom, insight, foresight, and the inner knowledge concerning things.

OL3: Those who are not one with God do not take His will and good pleasure but express their opinions and pursue their preferences.

The stubbornness of the children of Israel was due to their not being one with God. For example, Johanan, the leader of the remnant, strongly determined to go to Egypt to take refuge. He feared that the Babylonians would come to avenge the murder of Gedaliah. But God wanted them to remain in the Holy Land to be a remnant of His people. God would visit them and grace them and even use them to be His people as a testimony of the living God on earth. However, they altogether misunderstood God by their consideration and by their opinion.

Instead of being in a hurry to speak, Jeremiah waited for ten days. After ten days the word of Jehovah came to them through Jeremiah, telling them not to go to Egypt but to remain in Judah. Jehovah said, "If you will still remain in this land, I will build you up and not tear you down, and I will plant you and not pluck you up" (Jer. 42:10a). This indicates that He would bless them, and they would enjoy Him. However, if they did not listen to this word but went to the land of Egypt, they would die there. Concerning this, Jehovah said, "If indeed you set your faces to go to Egypt and go to sojourn there, then the sword, which you fear, will overtake you there in the land of Egypt, and the famine, about which you are worried, will follow hard after you there in Egypt; and you will die there. And all the men who set their faces to go to Egypt, to sojourn there, will die by sword, by famine, and by pestilence; and they will have no survivors or any who have escaped from the evil which I will bring on them" (vv. 15b-17).

First, Jeremiah shows us the basic sins of God's people—forsaking God and hewing out their own cisterns. Then the human heart is gradually exposed as being deceitful and incurable. We are wicked and hopeless, having a fallen nature that cannot change. In order to be one with God, we need Christ as the Shoot of David to be our redemption and justification. This ushers the Triune God into us to be our life, our inner life law, our capacity, and our everything.

Application to Business person / graduate students

As a business person or researcher, train yourself to be one with the Lord. Don't be swayed by the environment, rushed and weakened, and go down into the world like a person without a Lord. Jer. 41:17 ... in order to go and enter into Egypt 18 Because of the Chaldeans; for they were afraid of them... FN "enter into Egypt": When they were weak or in trouble, the people of Israel were often tempted to go back to Egypt, which typifies the world, and take Egypt as their refuge. Against Jehovah's will. The fact that Egypt did not help Judah when Judah was besieged by the Chaldeans is a sign that God's people should not trust in the world. 43:7 And they came to the land of Egypt (for they did not listen to the voice of Jehovah) ...

After the fall of Jerusalem, the remaining leaders became unbelieving and were tempted to flee to Egypt. But God's will was for them to stay in the land of Judah, not in Egypt. This shows that they did not seek the will of God, but trusted in their feelings, and relied on the world, Egypt. They asked the Prophet Jeremiah to expect God to support their plan. God explicitly denied their plans, but they did not obey Him.

For example, you are afraid or hated of your boss and start thinking about changing a job. At this time, you ask the Lord and brothers and sisters to support your plan. And you get angry if they don't support it. But please think twice. God's will for you is God's decision, not yours, and you are not God's counselor. Rom. 11:34 For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has become His counselor? 36 Because out from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen. Also, God knows what is best for you, but you do not. Because you don't know what's going to happen. Instead of acting as directed by your own thoughts, act in a way that makes Christ the head and grows into the head of Christ. Eph. 4:15 ...we may grow up into Him in all things, who is the Head, Christ, Gal. 6:7 Do not be deceived: God is not mocked; Anyone who goes to Egypt without listening to God will die by the sword, by famine, and by the plague. No one can escape the calamity. Train yourself to be one with God. Then you can have the presence of the Lord and have wisdom, insight, foresight, and the inner knowledge concerning things.

Prayer: "Oh Lord Jesus, I learn from the failures and defeats of the Israelites who walk according to their plans and desires without trusting in the Lord. May I can make Christ as the head and grow into Him. As god-man, I train myself to be one with the Lord, walk with Him, live with Him, and having our entire being with Him. May I be a business person or researcher with wisdom, insight, foresight, and the inner knowledge concerning things. Amen!"