

#1 God's Move in Man's History for the Carrying Out of His Eternal Economy

Bird's-eye view 2/20-26

The intrinsic significance of the twelve historical books in the Old Testament (Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 and 2 Kings, 1 and 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther) is the revelation that God's move in man's history prepares the way for God to carry out His eternal economy by His becoming a man that man may become God in life and in nature (but not in the Godhead), for the producing and building up of the church as the organic Body of Christ to consummate the New Jerusalem for His ultimate expression. **A** We must link the twelve books of history in the Old Testament to God's eternal economy; the Bible actually tells us only one thing—God's eternal economy, which is based upon His good pleasure, the desire of His heart; these twelve historical books were written in God's divine revelation for our admonition and enlightenment. Eph. 1:4 Even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blemish before Him in love, **B** The carrying out of God's eternal economy (with the procedure of His judicial redemption and the goal of His organic salvation) to prepare us to be His bride to bring Him back is the only way to solve the problems of today's world situation; this is the desire of God's heart, and He will accomplish it. **C** The Lord's second coming will resolve all the problems of the world, such as injustice, war, sickness, famine, education, sinful establishments, the suffering of all creation, and earthly governments. Rev. 11:15 And the seventh angel trumpeted; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign forever and ever. **D** The book of Zechariah reveals that the crucial point and major content of God's move in man's history are the two comings of Christ for the testimony of Jesus, the building of God: **A** Zechariah 9 through 11 speaks of Christ's lowly first coming which was humble and intimate: **1** Christ came in a righteous way with salvation for God's people as a King, but as a lowly King, a humiliated King, riding not on a majestic horse but upon a donkey, even upon a colt of a donkey; this was fulfilled when Jesus Christ came into Jerusalem the last time. Zech. 9:9 Exult greatly, O daughter of Zion; / Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! / Now your King comes to you. / He is righteous and bears salvation, / Lowly and riding upon a donkey, / Even upon a colt, the foal of a donkey. **2** Christ was detested, attacked, rejected, and betrayed by one of His disciples for thirty pieces of silver,

the price of a slave; what is prophesied here was fulfilled in the Gospels. **3** Christ, the Fellow of Jehovah, came as the God-sent Shepherd to the children of Israel, as a man Christ was both a relative of the children of Israel and a Fellow of Jehovah; He was smitten as the Shepherd, and His disciples were scattered as the sheep. **4** Christ was wounded on the cross in the house of Israel, but He said, "I was wounded in the house of those who love Me"; the children of Israel killed Christ, but in this sweet word Christ counts their action as wounds from those who love Him. **5** Christ's side was pierced, and He became an opened fountain for sin and for impurity. Zech. 13:1 In that day there will be an opened fountain for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for impurity. **B** Zechariah 12 through 14 speaks of Christ's victorious second coming, which will be with power and authority: **1** Christ will come a second time accompanied by His saints, the overcomers. **2** His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east. Zech. 14:3 Then Jehovah will go forth and fight against those nations, as when He fights in a day of battle. **4** And in His feet will stand in that day on the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split at its middle toward the east and toward the west into a very great valley, so that half of the mountain will remove to the north and half of it to the south. **3** He will fight for the children of Israel, His chosen people, against the nations that besiege them and will save them from destruction. **4** At that time the whole house of Israel will look upon Him whom they have pierced, and they will mourn for Him; thus, all Israel will be saved. **5** Afterward, He will be the King to reign and rule over the nations; all the people will go up to Jerusalem year after year to worship Him, and all will be sanctified unto Him. **6** "Jehovah will be King over all the earth; and in that day Jehovah will be the one God and His name the one name." (Zech. 14:9) **D** The all-inclusive Christ is the history of God's move in man's history in order to gain the building of God for the manifestation of God: Rev. 19:7 Let us rejoice and exult, and let us give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready. **8** And it was given to her that she should be clothed in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteousnesses of the saints. **14** And the armies which are in heaven followed Him on white horses, dressed in fine linen, white and clean. **A** While Christ is skillfully working to sovereignly control the world situation in human history, He is skillfully working Himself into us in the divine history to make us the

masterpiece of His work, the poem of God, a new invention of God, expressing His infinite wisdom and divine design. **B** Christ in His humanity is the Angel of Jehovah, Jehovah Himself as the Triune God, standing with God's people in the lowest part of the valley in their humiliation to care for them, intercede for them, and bring them swiftly out of Babylonian captivity. [Zech. 1:8](#) ...a man was riding upon a red horse; and He was standing among the myrtle trees that were in the bottoms... **C** Christ is the last Craftsman used by God to break the four horns; the four horns are the four kingdoms with their kings—Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and the Roman Empire—also signified by the great human image with four sections in Daniel 2:31-33, the four stages of locusts in Joel 1:4, and the four beasts in Daniel 7:3-8, that damaged and destroyed the chosen people of God: [Zech. 1:20](#) Then Jehovah showed me four craftsmen. [21](#) ... These are the horns that have so scattered... but these have come to terrify them, to cast down the horns of the nations who have lifted up the horn against the land of Judah to scatter it. **1** The four craftsmen are the skills used by God to destroy these kingdoms with their kings; each of the first three kingdoms (Babylon, Medo-Persia, and Greece) was taken over in a skillful way by the kingdom that followed it. **2** The fourth Craftsman will be Christ as the stone cut out without hands, who will crush the restored Roman Empire and thereby crush the great human image as the totality of human government at His coming back. **3** This stone signifies not only the individual Christ but also the corporate Christ, Christ with His "mighty ones". **D** The corporate Christ, Christ with His overcoming bride, will come as a stone to crush the aggregate of human government in order to bring in God's kingdom. **E** Whereas Daniel 2 speaks of Christ coming as a stone cut out without hands, Revelation 19 speaks of Christ coming as the One who has His bride as His army. **M** [Ephesians 5 and 6](#) reveal that the church is both the bride and the warrior; in Revelation 19 we also have these two aspects of the church: **A** To be the bride in the divine history, God's move in man's history, we need the beautifying word of God, and to be the warrior in the divine history, God's move in man's history, we need the slaying word of God. **B** On the day of His wedding, Christ will marry His bride, the overcomers, who have been fighting the battle against God's enemy for years. **C** Before Christ descends to earth to deal with Antichrist and the totality of human government, He will have a wedding, uniting His overcomers to Himself as one entity. **D** Thus, Christ as the

Spirit, the processed and consummated Triune God, marries the church as the bride, the processed and transformed tripartite man: **1** The Lord Jesus, the Word of God, will slay Antichrist, the man of lawlessness, by the breath of His mouth, and He will bring Antichrist to nothing by the manifestation of His coming. **2** Out of Christ's mouth proceeds a sharp sword, that with it He might smite the nations. **F** After crushing the human government, God will have cleared up the entire universe; then the corporate Christ, Christ with His overcomers, will become a great mountain to fill the whole earth, making the whole earth God's kingdom. **V** The way to fulfill God's move in man's history for the carrying out of His eternal economy is by exercising our spirit to experience and enjoy Christ as the sevenfold intensified Spirit: **A** Zechariah 1:3 says, "Return to Me, declares Jehovah of hosts, and I will return to you, says Jehovah of hosts"; we need to exercise our spirit to return to the Lord with all our heart; this establishes the principle that we must return to the Lord first, and then the Lord will return to us. **B** Zechariah 12:1 says, "The burden of the word of Jehovah concerning Israel. Thus declares Jehovah, who stretches forth the heavens and lays the foundations of the earth and forms the spirit of man within him": **1** In His creation God made three crucial, equally important items—the heavens, the earth, and the spirit of man. **2** The heavens are for the earth, the earth is for man, and man was created by God with a spirit that he may contact God, receive God, worship God, live God, fulfill God's purpose for God, and be one with God. **3** The central government and most prominent part of man's being should be his spirit; a man who is ruled and controlled by his spirit is a spiritual man. **4** Zechariah charges us to pay full attention to our human spirit, that we may receive the Christ revealed in this book and may understand all that is revealed therein concerning Him. **C** We need to enjoy Christ as the sevenfold intensified Spirit in the following aspects. **V** With God's move, as the divine history, in man's history, there is the new creation—the new man with a new heart, a new spirit, a new life, a new nature, a new history, and a new consummation; we praise the Lord that we are in the divine history, experiencing and enjoying the mysterious, divine things for our organic salvation, so that we may make ourselves ready to become His overcoming bride to bring Him back.

CP1 Experiencing the nourishing Word and the killing Word, we become the bride and the warrior in God's move in man's history

IVA To be the bride in the divine history, God's move in man's history, we need the beautifying word of God, and to be the warrior in the divine history, God's move in man's history, we need the slaying word of God. [Eph. 5:25](#) Husbands, love your wives even as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her [26](#) That He might sanctify her, cleansing her by the washing of the water in the word, [27](#) That He might present the church to Himself glorious, not having spot or wrinkle or any such things, but that she would be holy and without blemish. [6:17](#) And receive the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which Spirit is the word of God, [18](#) By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints,

As the church, we are not only the Body, the dwelling place of God, the kingdom of God, the family of God, and the new man; we are also the bride and the warrior. As the bride, we must be beautiful, without spot or wrinkle, and be clothed in fine linen. As the warrior, we must be equipped to fight against God's enemy.

Because the self is the greatest enemy, we need to experience the killing power of God's word. As we pray-read, we are nourished on the one hand, but certain elements are killed on the other hand. Perhaps you are troubled by doubts, hatred, jealousy, pride, or selfishness. Do you realize that these things can be killed through pray-reading the word? The more we take in the word with its killing power, the more our pride and all the negative elements within us are put to death. By pray-reading, the inward adversary is slain. After a time of pray-reading the word, we may discover that the adversary who was attacking us has disappeared. In a very practical sense, he has been slain by the word we have taken into us.

In Ephesians 5 the word is for nourishment that leads to the beautifying of the bride. But in Ephesians 6 the word is for killing that enables the church as the corporate warrior to engage in spiritual warfare.

[Application to young people, college students, new ones](#)

Testimony 1 When I first saw brothers and sisters doing pray reading in the meeting hall, I was very surprised. I had never experienced praying the Word of God in short segments, reading it aloud and repeating it with others. I have to admit, I found it very strange. But the brothers and sisters who were pray reading were lively and

attracting. Therefore, I decided to imitate them anyway. At first I started the pray reading with a sense of discomfort, but as I repeated it over and over again, I began to realize that the Word of God was becoming more and more tasty. After the pray reading, there is the joy of enjoying the Word with the brothers and sisters. Thus the old man in me who found pray reading strange has been dealt with. We are blessed to be refreshed by pray reading each morning and at the meetings. Even when I am sleepy or tired, I feel my spirit inside is revitalized when I pray read with the brothers and sisters. I thank the Lord that we are given an environment where we can pray read the Word together. **Testimony 2** When I attended the training in Taiwan, one of the classes asked us to pray-read Genesis 1:1. When I read the portion of Brother Lee's writing about pray-reading, it was full of light, but I was just reading it over and over again and didn't have much feeling. At that time, I remembered the testimony of Brother Yoriki. When Brother Yoriki read Brother Lee's message and realized that while Brother Lee was rejoicing over the Word, he was not rejoicing at all, he asked the Lord, "Why can't I rejoice like Brother Lee?" I also imitated brother Yoriki and prayed to the Lord, "Oh Lord Jesus, like brother Lee, may these words be released to me, may they fill me with light, may I enjoy them." After praying this way, I pray read the same verse again, and the inner tension, lack of openness, formality, and other negative things were killed, and sweetness came out from the inside, which I enjoyed and rejoiced very much. At the end of the pray reading, I was overflowing with joy and gave praise to the Lord. Through pray reading of the Word, the negative feeling from the self was killed, and together with other trainees, many people were saved by boldly preaching the gospel in various places in Taiwan.

Soon thereafter, the corona pandemic began. We, the church, accelerated the white horse of the Gospel, as the move of God, while the black horse of death of the Corona Pandemic ran in human history. I can testify that it is important to pray read the Word and kill doubts, pride, etc. in order to fight as warriors of the gospel in the church. **Prayer** Oh Lord Jesus, I need God's beautifying Word to be the bride in the divine history, i.e., in God's move in human history, and I need God's killing Word to be the warrior. The more I receive the Word that has the power to kill, the more my inner pride and all negative elements are brought to death. Nourish me and equip me as the warrior through pray reading of the Word.

CP2 Exercise our own spirit and enjoy Christ as the sevenfold intensified Spirit and consummate God's move

V The way to fulfill God's move in man's history for the carrying out of His eternal economy is by exercising our spirit to experience and enjoy Christ as the sevenfold intensified Spirit.

C1 Christ is a man with a measuring line in His hand, measuring God's people in order to test, judge, examine, and possess them for His kingdom.

2 "I will be her wall of fire round about, declares Jehovah, and I will be the glory within her." (Zech. 2:5)

a That the wall of the city of Jerusalem and the glory within her will be Jehovah Himself indicates that Jehovah as Christ will be the protection of Jerusalem at her circumference and her glory at her center; this shows the centrality and universality of Christ in God's economy.

b Today Christ is the glory in the center of the church, and He is also the fire burning around the circumference of the church for her protection; in the New Jerusalem the Triune God in Christ will be the glory at its center, and this glory will shine through the transparent wall of the city to be its protection of fire.

3 Christ is the One sent by Jehovah of hosts and is also the Sender, Jehovah of hosts, for he care of His people, who are very dear to Him; whoever touches them touches the pupil of His eye.

4 Christ came as a Shepherd, shepherding the flock with two staffs—one is called Favor (grace), and the other is called Bonds (binding); grace is for our being mingled with God, and binding is for our being bound into oneness.

a While the Lord is so favorable to us, we should ask Him to send us even more favor, more grace, more "rain".

b After being visited by the Lord as the Shepherd, every weak sheep among God's people becomes a horse of majesty.

c Often during our time of morning revival, the Lord whistles to us, calling us and gathering us to Him; the Lord's whistling is not shrill but mild and gentle, somewhat like the singing of a bird.

Zech. 10:8 I will whistle for them and gather them, for I have redeemed them; and they will multiply as they have multiplied.

d The Lord strengthens us in Himself so that we may walk about in His name. Often after we enjoy such a loving visitation, our situation changes. In His visitation He encourages us to seek more blessings...We are not that bold or strong, but after the Lord's visitation with His dear touch, we are strengthened to become horses of majesty in battle.

Application to business persons, graduate students
Rev. 1:4 ...who is and who was and who is coming, and

from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, **FN** the seven Spirits The seven Spirits are undoubtedly the Spirit of God...As seven is the number for completion in God's operation, so the seven Spirits must be for God's move on the earth. In essence and existence, God's Spirit is one; in the intensified function and work of God's operation, God's Spirit is sevenfold...At the time this book was written, the church had become degraded; the age was dark. Therefore, the sevenfold intensified Spirit of God was needed for God's move and work on the earth.

Testimony I can testify that it is not too difficult to experience the sevenfold intensified Spirit in real business life, but we can experience and enjoy it simply by turning our hearts to the Lord and exercising the spirit.

I was so occupied by religious concept that when I heard about the sevenfold intensified Spirit, I thought I might experience it in the meetings, but in real business life, I unconsciously took it that I should work sevenfold harder. And the harder I tried, the more tired I became, so I was anxious, wondering how long I could keep trying. And often, I felt that I could not work any harder and was uncertain about the future. In fact, despite my hard work, it didn't work out very well. While I was struggling in this way, the Lord had mercy on me and told me as follows, "O fool, I am the sevenfold intensified Spirit. You do not need to, and cannot, intensify your efforts sevenfold at all. Just turn your heart to Me and exercise your spirit to experience and enjoy My sevenfold intensified Spirit." Later, when I felt weak, I began to pray as follows, "O Lord Jesus, even though I am weak, there is no need for me to rush or struggle. I just turn my heart to the Lord, exercise my spirit, and set my mind to the spirit. Then I can be intensified sevenfold." By praying in this way, my spirit was intensified and burned sevenfold, even in the busy business life. As the spirit burned, I was able to make progress in my work, but at the same time Satan's attacks also intensified. In response, I declared the following, "Satan the devil, I am a man in the Lord, a member of the Body of Christ. I command you, get out of here!" My secret is to hold fast to my church life, and when I find attacks from Satan in the business life, I prayed and repelled him. Once the enemy was defeated, I was able to make great progress in business and in the church. Even in business life, dealing with the attacks from enemy is essential for success, and I can testify that ignoring the enemy can be a fatal failure.